



kansas roots! ■ January-February 1997 ■ Hutchinson, Kansas

Reno County Museum ■ PO Box 664
Hutchinson, KS 67504-0664

Sponsors: Hutchinson/Reno Co. Cultural Commission, Reno County Museum, Flag Theatre, & Hutchinson Art Association.
Underwritten by the Hutchinson Community Foundation.

Schedule of Events

Jan 13-26 **"Women of Nicodemus" exhibit**
Reno County Museum, 100 S. Walnut, Tues-Sat, 10-4:30; Sun, 1-4

Jan 16-19 **"Buffalo Soldiers" performances**
One man show, featuring Barrie Tompkins at the Flag

Jan 19 **Meet the Tompkins reception, 4 p.m.**
Flag Theatre, 310 N. Main, Thurs-Sat, 7:30 p.m.; Sun, 3 p.m.

Feb 1-28 **"Decisive Moments" exhibit**
featuring Michael Bracey of Chicago, Illinois

Feb 16 **Meet the artist reception, 2-4 p.m.**
Hutchinson Art Association Gallery, 405 N. Washington
Tues-Fri, 9-5 p.m.; Sat-Sun, 2-4

Feb 6-9 **"Lincoln"**
Command performances of a nationally touring show
Flag Theatre, 310 N. Main, Fri-Sat, 7:30 p.m.; Sun, 3 p.m.

Photo: "Patti Cake" 1987 Jackson, Mississippi by Michael Bracey

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Info packet
Elaine Deashears
10 So. Monroe
Hutchinson, Kansas
67501

*send
NHS
info*

kansas roots!





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"Educational
Packet"

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Hollywight
7823 Juniper
Prairie Village, KS
66208-4431

kansas roots!



sent 30
brochures
9/9



USA 20

The Neodesmus Historical Society

PO Box 139

Bogue, KS 67625

We are out of brochure
"The Neodesmian Historical
Society"

Our address

KS Travel Info Center
PO Box 45
Belleville, KS 66935

Thanks
Mary

Cog Railway 1870s

20^{USA}



The Nicodemus Historical Society
P.O. Box 139
Bogue, KS 67625

KANSAS TRAVEL INFORMATION CENTER
Route HCR 3 PO Box 618
Goodland KS 67735 Phone: (913) 899-6695

Your brochures help us fill mail requests or display travel and tourism information about Kansas. We have distributed all of the below listed brochures. Would you help us restock by sending 500 brochures to the above address? Storage space is limited, so please send no more than requested.

Historic Nicodemus

SWT
5/30
25

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

If your brochure is no longer available, please let us know, and we will remove it from our brochure inventory file.

Send - Nicolas
Ameygo

Please forgive me for having to leave early. I've got another rehearsal at 2pm. Please try to call me before you leave the city.

Thank you so much for the job you're doing. God Bless!

* DuWayne Davis, Director
of H "Good News Gospel Choir"

12000 Fleming # 308
Houston, Tx 77013
(713) 455-5250

Ramona Houston

4444 Cullen Blvd. #209

Houston, Tx. ~~#~~ 77004

(713) 741-2135

Please send a ready list. (Bulb). sold.

sent
4/11/94

Rea Paxson
BX 487 Amherst, 67659

Say 1st / Thursday / AM
Soil Conservation Group
10-20 people

Tour

9:30

\$5.00 / Tour
per person

Sent info: 6/18/86

RESOURCE MATERIAL

THE WESTERN MIGRATION OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN AND THE FRONTIER EXPERIENCE Revised 1994

Contents

African American Military Regiments/**Buffalo Soldiers**
African American Towns/**Nicodemus, KS**
African American Town Builder & Politician/**Edward P. McCabe**
African American Migrants/**Exodusters**

Written by Angela Bates, President of the Nicodemus Historical Society, historic Nicodemus, Kansas (soon to be a National Park).

ORDER FORM

Teachers Book	-----	x	\$30.00	\$-----
Student Book	-----	x	\$ 6.00	\$-----
Shipping/Handling:		-----	\$1.25 ea	\$-----

Ship To:

Phone: -----

Make checks Payable to:

The Nicodemus Group P.O. Box 70 Bogue, Kansas 67625
(913) 674-3311



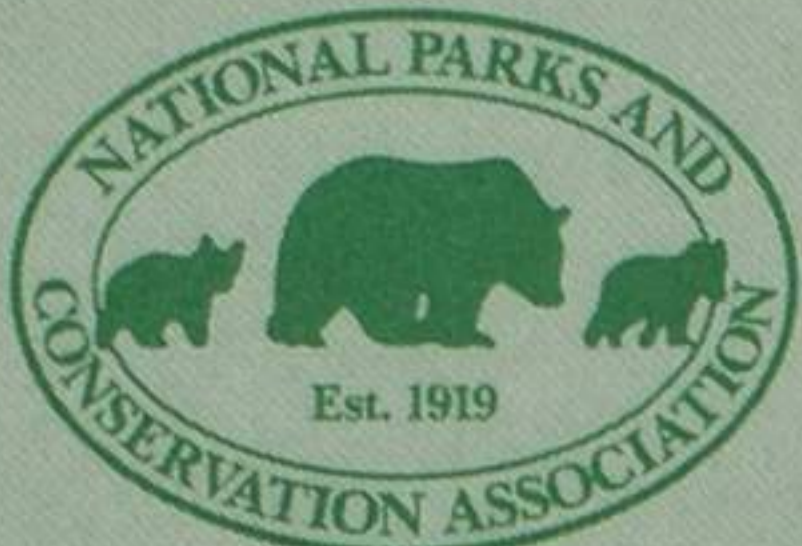
Hello Angela,

My officers and I have decided that we will not have time to take a tour of Nicodemus at this meeting. We thank you for your information and will keep it on file for possible use later.

Thank you for your help.

Rea Patson,

KACD auxiliary president



National Parks and Conservation Association

1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

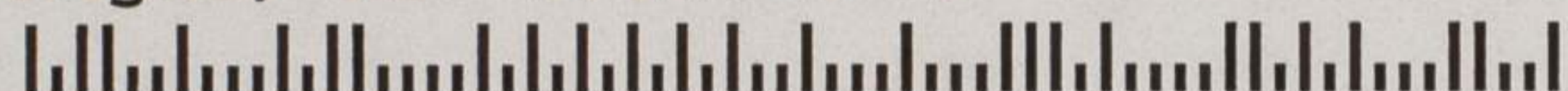
Citizens Protecting America's Parks

RENEWAL NOTICE

[] YES, Tom, you can count on me to renew my NPCA Membership and help save America's national parks for future generations.

I have enclosed my contribution of:

#BWNBCWB
#08696551#
Nicodemus Historical Society
RR 2 Box 139
Bogue, KS 67625-9719



- Active, 1 yr, \$25
- Active, 3 yr, \$60
(A \$15 Savings)
- Contributor, 1 yr, \$35
- Other \$ _____

01/00

RA0A81EC

Pledge for Parks

I want to charge my contribution to my:

- Mastercard VISA
- American Express

Credit Card No.

Expiration Date

Bank No.

Signature

Please make any address corrections above. Please detach and return the above portion of this notice with your check payable to NPCA.

Take 2 easy steps to renew:

- ↑ **1.** Return above form with your gift in the enclosed envelope.
- ↓ **2.** Sign and carry your temporary membership card.

National Parks and Conservation Association

MEMBER

Nicodemus Historical Society

Identification No. 08696551

Expiration 01/01

Member Since 12/92



Robert Ken

CHAIRMAN

MEMO

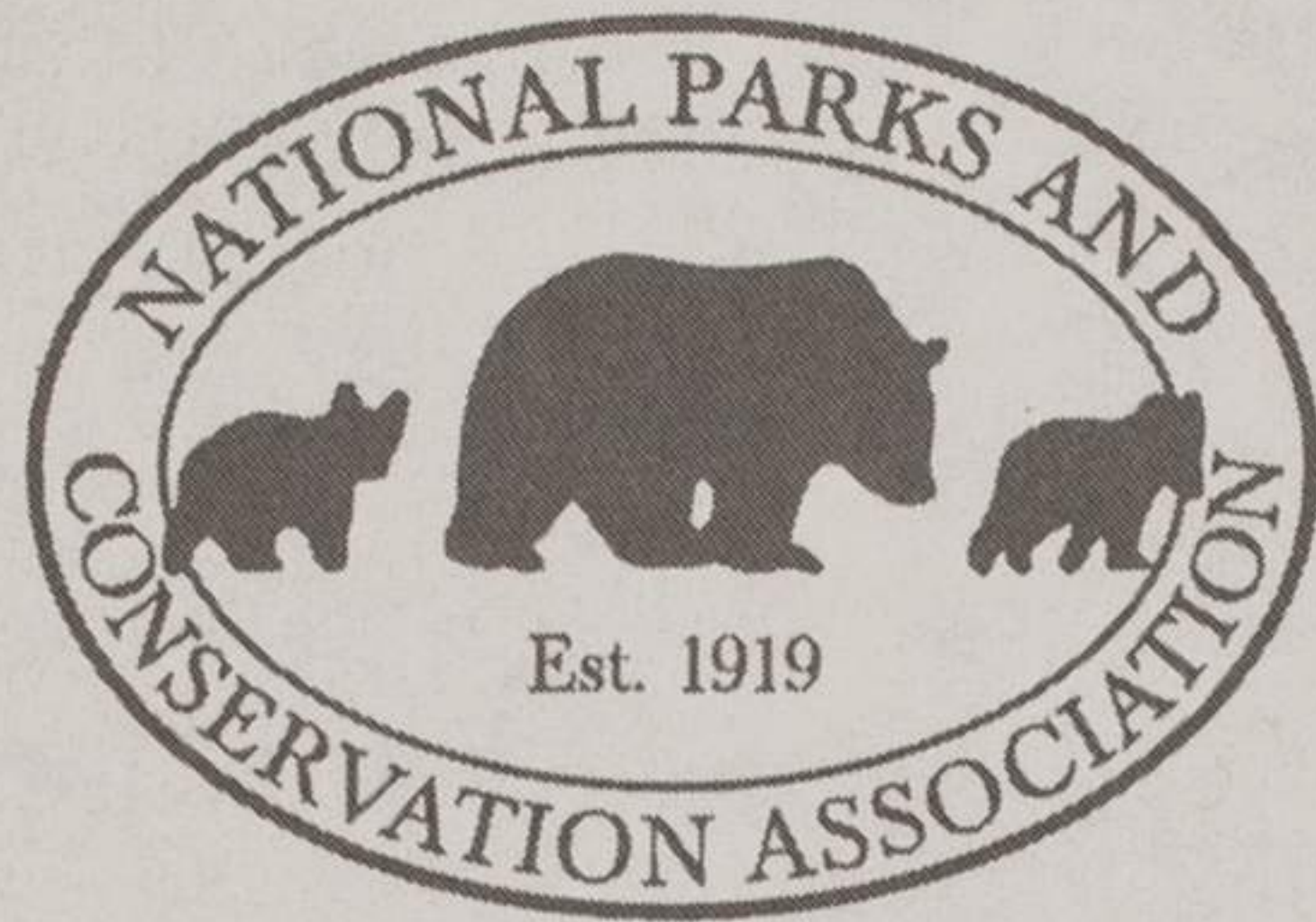
TO: Nicodemus Historical Society, NPCA Member
FROM: Tom Kiernan, NPCA President

NPCA is America's only private organization dedicated solely to protecting, preserving, and enhancing the U.S. National Park System. Because of you, and 400,000 people like you, the parks stand a chance of being around for our children and grandchildren. But we can't do it without you! The threats against the parks are never-ending—please send your generous renewal contribution today!

I also want to help the parks everyday! I have read the enclosed Top 10 list and pledge to do my part for the parks! I have checked the Pledge for Parks box above.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Active (1 year).....	\$	25	Library.....	\$	22
(3 years).....	\$	60	Defender.....	\$	50
Contributor (1 year).....	\$	35	Supporter.....	\$	100
(3 years).....	\$	87	Guarantor.....	\$	250
Student (to age 22).....	\$	18	Trustee.....	\$	1,000



For over 79 years, NPCA has provided stewardship as America's only citizens' watchdog organization dedicated exclusively to the protection of our national parks and the wildlife which they shelter. Because we are a non-government, citizen funded association, our work depends almost entirely on the dues and contributions of our concerned and loyal members. Never has your help been more urgently needed for our parks and for NPCA's programs to save them, not only for our own enjoyment — but for the generations who will come after us.

All but \$3, which covers a subscription to National Parks, of your annual dues are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. A copy of the latest financial statement or Annual Report filed by National Parks and Conservation Association may be obtained by contacting NPCA, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036; 1-800-NAT-PARK. If you are a resident of one of the following states, you may obtain information directly by contacting:

Residents of the following states may request financial statements and other information from offices indicated (the toll free numbers are for use only within the respective states): Arizona: Financial information filed with the Secretary of State is available for public inspection or by calling toll free 1-800-458-5842. Florida: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING 1-800-435-7352, TOLL FREE, WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Kansas: The Kansas registration number is 204-874-2. The annual financial report for the preceding fiscal year is on file with the Secretary of State. Maryland: Copies of documents and information submitted by NPCA are available from the Office of the Secretary of State, Statehouse, Annapolis, MD 21401, 1-800-825-4510. New Jersey: INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING 201-504-6200. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. New York: New York residents may obtain a copy of our annual report by writing to the Office of Charities Registration, 162 Washington St., Albany, NY 12231. North Carolina: A COPY OF THE LICENSE TO SOLICIT CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AS A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION OR SPONSOR AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, SOLICITATION LICENSING BRANCH, BY CALLING (919) 733-4510. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Pennsylvania: A copy of the official registration and financial information of TSF may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement. Virginia: Commonwealth of Virginia, State Office of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23208 (804) 786-1343. Washington: Currently registration with the Washington State Secretary of State, as required by law. Registration number 434-120-105. West Virginia: Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement. For copies of current financial statements you may send a written request to the address listed above or call NPCA directly at the telephone number listed above.

National Parks and Conservation Association

1776 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

1-800-NAT-PARK

Founded in 1919

Citizens Protecting America's Parks


NATIONAL PARKS AND
CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION



Est. 1919
MEMBER

Please accept this decal as a gift from NPCA. You are under no obligation to pay for it or return it.

RE2

 Recycled Paper

**IMPORTANT: MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL ENCLOSED**

*Your first class stamp on this
envelope allows us to use vital
funds to save our National Parks.*



NO POSTAGE
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IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

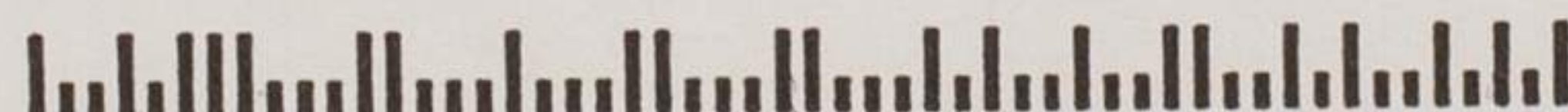
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 10100 WASHINGTON DC

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NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 97202

WASHINGTON DC 20077-7435



Sacramento Cal

5351⁴⁷² Ave Apt 137
95824

The Nicodemus Historical Society

I am sorry that I have been so long replying to your paper for membership. But your application was sent to the wrong address & it was only through Luck that I rec. it at all. I am glad that some one is trying to keep Nicodemus alive. And the only bad thing about it is that so much of the history will never be told because most of the old saints that knew the history are gone. I say that I was a farmer stockman there for 70 years & I feel that there is where my roots are Graham County was good to me I had a good life there.

I am sending a little history of my father that you can print in your paper with a donation of \$10.00 for membership.

Very Truly yours
George & Minerva Sayers

G. M. Sayers Has 86th Birthday

(By the Nicodemus Correspondent)
G. M. Sayers of Hill City celebrated his 86th birthday anniversary with a dinner and open house at the Nicodemus township hall on Wednesday, October 20.

Mr. Sayers, who came to Nicodemus in 1887, served 27 years and 8 months as postmaster. During that time he owned 280 acres of land in this township which he farmed alone until his sons were old enough to help with the farmwork. He also operated a store from which he sold groceries, cured meats, drugs and school supplies.

He attended the academy in Stockton and taught school eight terms. For a number of years he served as clerk on the school board in Nicodemus. Later he served as the first clerk of Bogue rural high school district for 16 years. He was trustee and assessor of Nicodemus township for four years.

He is a member of the First Baptist Church in Nicodemus. He was a teacher in the Sunday School for 40 years and was also the Sunday School organist. He was treasurer and clerk of the church at the time the present building was built; and was a member of the senior choir a number of years.

At the family reunion dinner which was held at 4:30 p.m., Alpha Griffie, Betty and Ruth Jones of Hill City, Patricia and Phyllis Scroggins of Kansas City, served. The table was decorated with a white tablecloth with decorations of large red roses and green leaves. A centerpiece of pansies, daisies and chrysanthemums decorated the center. A pink and white birthday cake with candles also centered the table. This cake was baked by Mrs. James Berry of Denver. Mrs. Ollie B. Scruggs furnished music during the dinner.

All of Mr. Sayers' six sons were present, the first time they had all been together for 41 years. They were: Rev. and Mrs. Raymond T. Sayers and Mr. and Mrs. W. Curtis Sayers of Chicago, Illinois; Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Sayers of Hill City; Andrew Sayers of Stockton, California; Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Sayers and Assistant Attorney General Wendell P. Sayers of Colorado. His brother, Atty. and Mrs. W. L. Sayers of Hill City; old time friends, Mrs. Annie B. Cannon of Denver, Mr. and Mrs. George Washington of Speed; and 35 other guests were

also served.

Open house was held from 5:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. Mrs. Raymond T. Sayers of Chicago, baked and brought a birthday cake to Mr. Sayers. This cake, along with many others, were served.

A program was rendered. Two most outstanding numbers were a sextette by his sons, Raymond, Andrew, Calvin, Curtis, Irvin and Wendell; and a quartet by his daughters-in-law, Mrs. Raymond T. Sayers, Mrs. Curtis Sayers, Mrs. Calvin Sayers and Mrs. Irvin Sayers. He received many useful and beautiful gifts with cash gifts of \$25. from each son. Pictures were taken during the dinner and at the W. L. Sayers home with a group picture of Mr. Sayers and his sons taken at Robbins Studio.



1800 North 33rd Street (68583)
P.O. Box 80669
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-0669
(402) 472-2007 or Toll Free 800-228-4630
Telex: 484340 FAX (402) 472-1785

September 11, 1990

Angela Bates, President
Nicodemus Historical Society
RR 2, Box 131
Nicodemus, KS 67625

Dear Angela:

The program THE EXODUSTERS is from THE BLACK FRONTIER series produced by the Nebraska ETV Network. The cost to purchase a copy of this sixty-minute program is \$33.20. The price assumes delivery on VHS videocassette for audiovisual use and includes all shipping and handling fees.

To order the program send your order, accompanied by a check, to the letterhead address. Please allow three weeks for delivery.

If you wish to purchase additional copies for resale, your cost is \$21.22 when ordered in quantities of 5 or more. Once again, the price assumes delivery on VHS videocassette and includes the shipping and handling charges.

Please call or write if I can be of further service.

Sincerely,

Stephen C. Lenzen
Stephen C. Lenzen (ch)
Associate Director


SCL:ch

[Handwritten initials and signatures]



P.O. Box 80669
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-0669

A service agency of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln,
KUON-TV and the Nebraska ETV Network

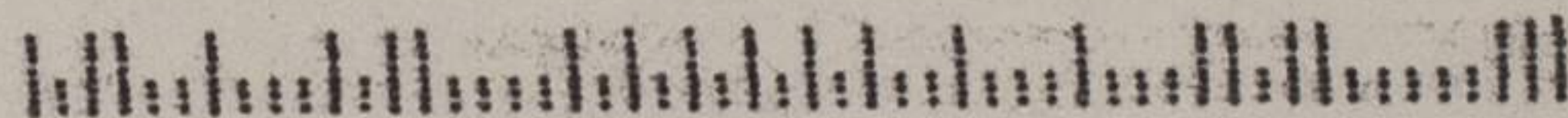

**Nebraska
ETV's
Year of the
Environment**

LINCOLN NE 685
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11 SEP
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LINCOLN
SEP 11 1990
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ANGELA BATES, PRESIDENT
NICODEMUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
RR2, BOX 131
NICODEMUS, KS 67625



Tenn
686-1290

Angelabooks

3-22-91

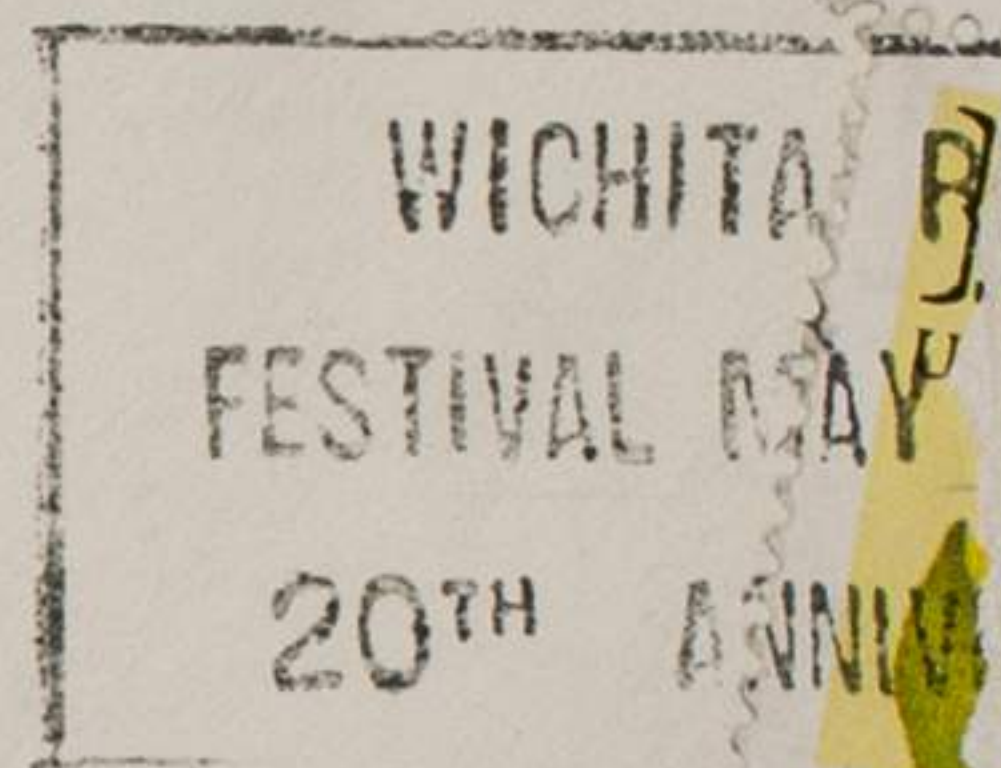
Angela

Thank you +
I'd like you
to send me
2 more books.

Schubert
Freedom Books
1345 N. Grove
Wich KS
67214

The only all Black town west of the Mississippi

FREEDOM BOOKS
1345 N. Grove
WICH. KS 67214



ATTN: Angela BATES
The Nicodemus Historical Society
R.R., Box 131
Nicodemus, K.S. 67625

COME-C KANSAS

Coalition of Multicultural Education Company of Kansas
801 North Fourth * Hill City, Ks * 67642 * 913 674-2874

March 30, 1991

Angela Bates
1015 Main # 8
Hill City, Ks 67642

IN RE: Dissolution Agreement and proposal

Dear Angela:

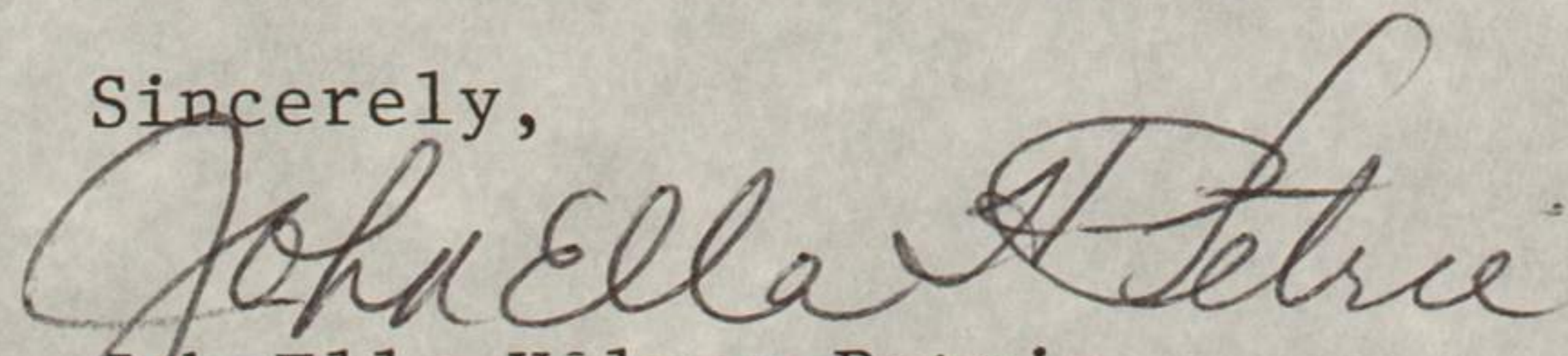
After reviewing our "Dissolution Agreement", we saw several problem areas. I have attached a sheet with our concerns.

At the Coalition meeting on Thursday we discussed the possibility of buying the Middle School booklet/teacher's guide from you. Would that be something you would consider? We will be prepared to discuss this with you in detail either at your convenience in Topeka or on April 18th in Hays Kansas. We are very flexible. We don't however have anymore meetings planned out here until late May and that will be much to late for either of us to discuss a buy-out.

We have made drastic changes in the multicultural materials for elementary schools and would like to see the same changes for the Middle Schools. One area of concern that came up was-- several areas across Kansas (Bogue for example) still have the K-8 elementary system. What do we do in these situations?

Angela, you have stated to me several times that you feel the Middle School market has been tapped out, well maybe not if we have a new product and approach. That is what we want to offer. Take some time and think about listening to us before you discard this idea. It could benefit us all.

Sincerely,


Johnella Holmes-Petrie
Director

Enclosure

cc: Tammy Counts
Gywnn Hayes

DISSOLUTION AGREEMENT concerns:

Paragraph 1 -- the booklet does not address minority history only black history. Therefore, that statment should be deleted or an amendment stating the correction.

Paragraph 3 -- Since neither one of us have the right to use KBHERG we feel the recording stating that your company is "formerly" known as! should stop immediately. It is unfair to our company.

Paragraph 4 -- Since KBHERG funds paid for everything (excluding the computer) in your office we find it only fair that some of that material be divided with our office, ie files, directories, forms etc. Only artwork was addressed.

Paragraph 5 -- Revenues from work in progress. What does that mean. It is also stated that my book was in progress. This needs to be clarified. It's a grey area. Programs should be addressed as the Buffalo Soldier presentation that is in use and its format used during '90/'91 school year only.

We wish to use part of the Buffalo Soldier in our elementary presentation and parts of the uniform in our history trunk.*

We should make sure that it is cleared up about Black History and Minority History presentations are not solely Angela's.

Paragraph 6 -- Omit. Maybe it should just include a notification claus if entire business is sold-out-right. That would leave us room to negotiate copyrights and publishing rights etc.

*We are not using any of your presentation materials. Information about the Buffalo soldier will be included in the same format presentation we used for the Nicodemus presentation. Of course we will not develope any kind of one-man show presentation like the one you have developed. That would be unfair to your company. I do agree 100% that,that is your "baby". We do wish you all the luck in the world with that project.

* Broad level
* Buffalo

C O M E - C Kansas
801 N. 4th
Hill City, Ks 67642

Angela Bates
Nicodemus Group
P. O. BOX 70
Bogue, KS 67625

* Jy/H.S.

* Present, ^{our} for E. Schwab



THE SOUNDS OF KANSAS

Route 1
Inman, KS 67546

Angela Bates
1015 Main St. #8
Hill City, KS
67642

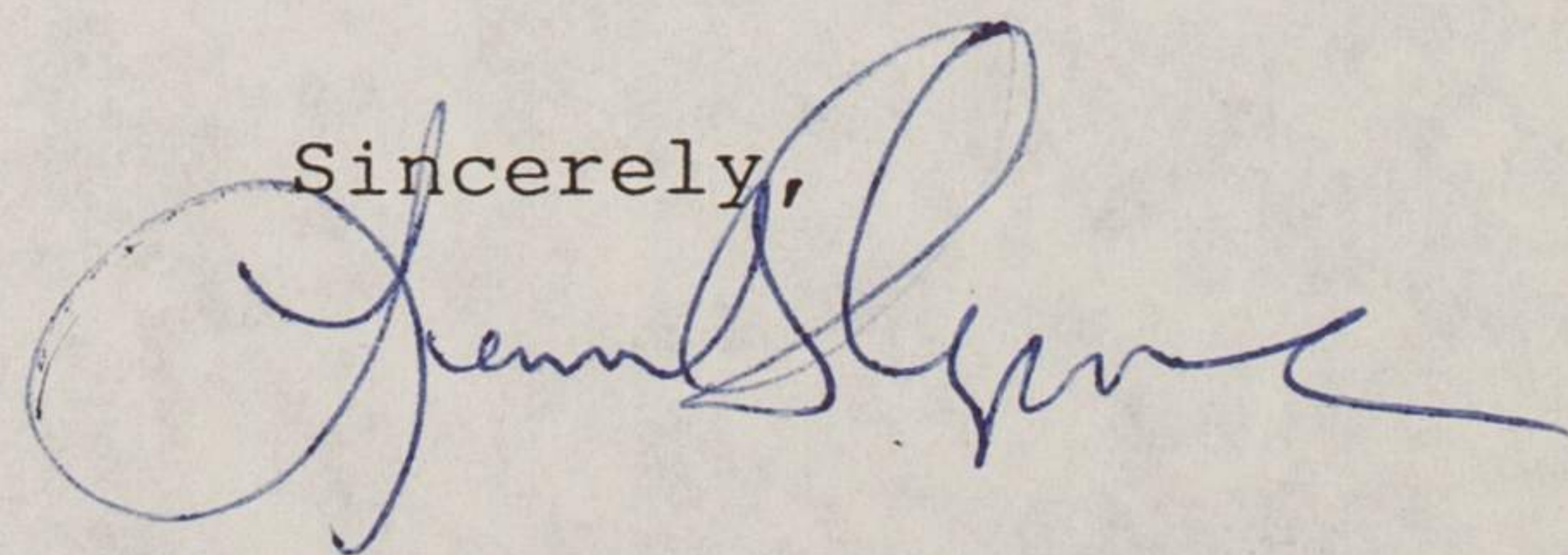
LEMUEL SHEPPARD
305 W. LINDBURG
PITTSBURG, KANSAS 66762

Dear Presenter,

I am in the process of booking dates for my spring and summer outdoor and festival season. As of this date I have dates scheduled in April, June, July, September, and October. June and July seem to be busy months across the region. My plans are to tour in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas.

If you would like me to performed for you, please give me a call. I have a press kit, cassette tape, and a video tape available upon your request. Thank you for your consideration. I will look forward to hearing from you. in the future.

Sincerely,



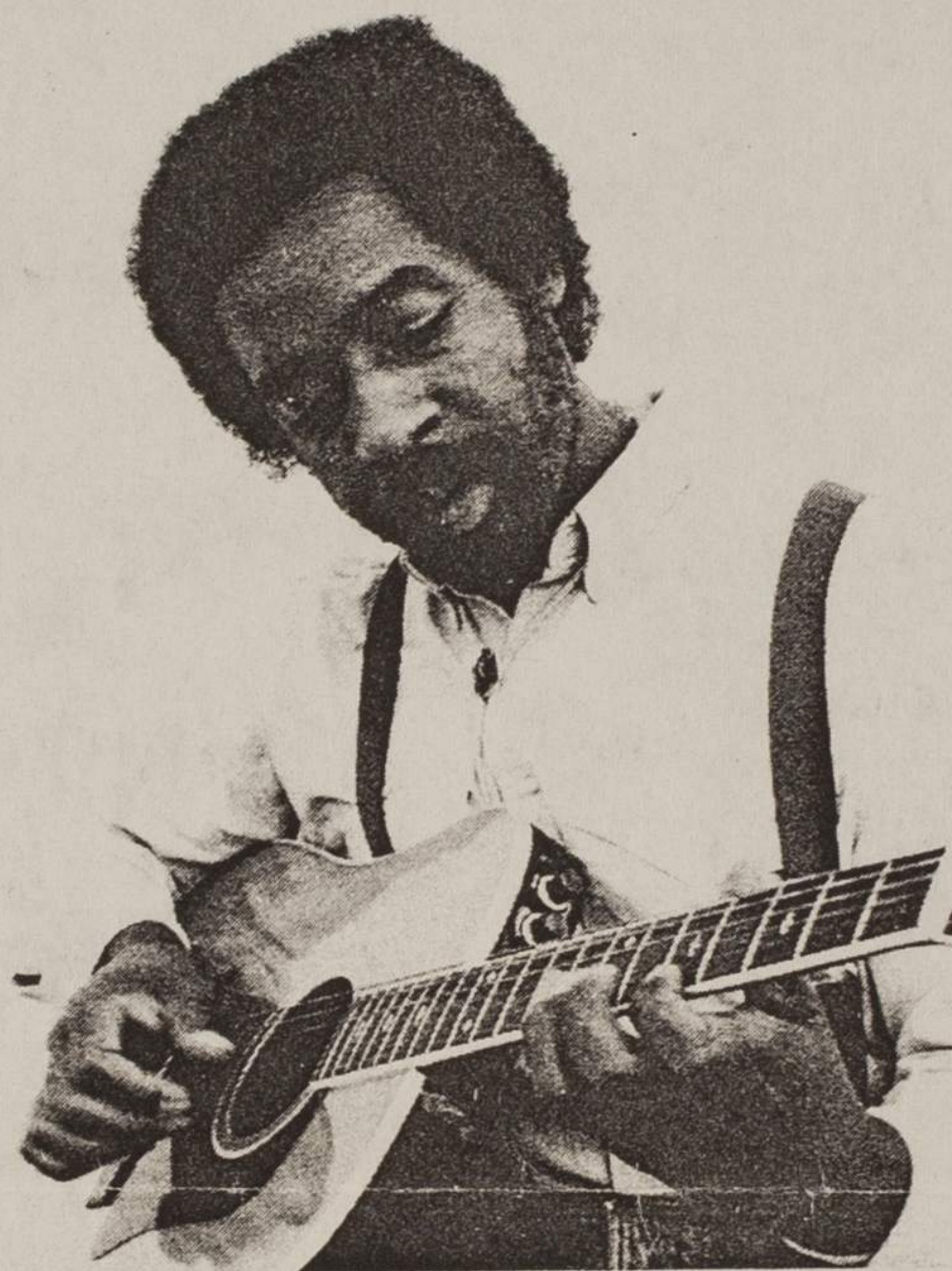
P.S. KAC Funds are released
July 1, 91. Call if you
would like to contract before July 1

Lemuel Sheppard

Alligator Records
"It is good to see someone
at his young age playing
this music."

Traditional Blues

Lemuel Sheppard combines original music as well as music from the 17th century through the pre-war era to paint a picture of the folk music of the American Negro. Accompanying himself on guitar or banjo, Mr. Sheppard entertains with songs, folklore and vernacular peculiar to this music. Whether it be a folk hollar or uptempo urban blues, each melody is interpreted with clarity and authenticity.



Joplin Globe

"As Lemuel sings and strums his guitar, you can almost hear the humming and moaning of long ago."

Manhattan Arts Council

"Lemuel is a genuine professional—good for the music business, good for music education, and good for the preservation of the folk and blues traditions."

Wyandotte County Historical Society and Museum

"Mr. Sheppard works well with all types of audiences."

Traditional Blues

Lemuel has performed with Dr. Eva Jessey in her world famous choir. He has also opened for Taj Mahal, the John Watkins blues band, and Sparky Rucker. Lemuel holds college degrees in music education, music performance, theory and composition. If your needs are for a small intimate concert, large outdoor festival, or school program, Lemuel is sure to satisfy!



Traditional Blues



Traditional Blues

For Booking Contact

Lemuel Sheppard
305 W. Lindburg
Pittsburg KS 66762
(316) 231-2379

Ms. Angela Bates
KANSAS Black History Education
and Research Group
P.O. Box 70 Bogue Kansas 67625



Lemuel Sheppard
305 W. Lindburg
Pittsburg, KS 66762



STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

JULY 2, 1991

Angela:

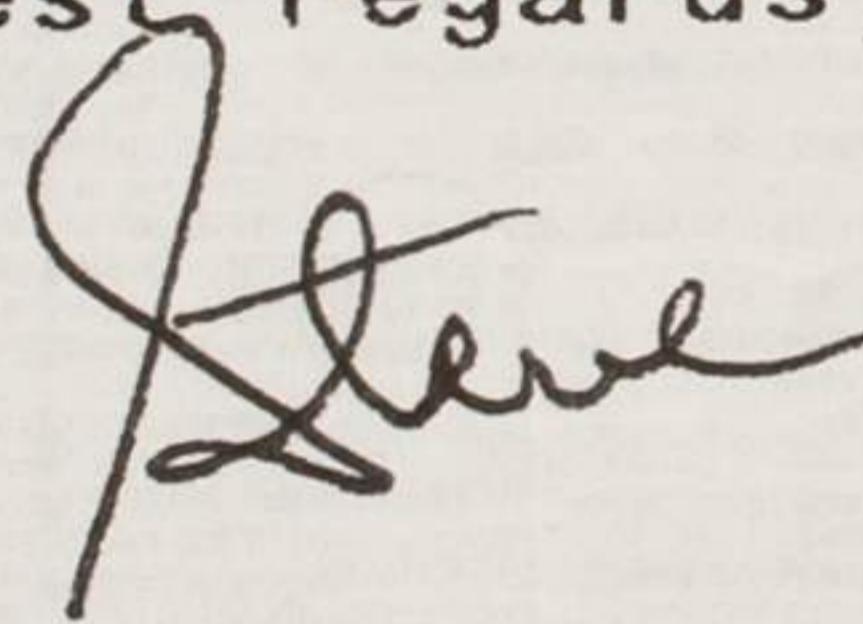
A little more publicity this morning in the K.C. Star.

I visited the Public Library today. The Promised Land is not available to be checked out. I copied several pages. Please send me a copy as soon as possible. I'd be happy to defray any costs.

Spoke today to Polly Bales. She likes you a lot. I plan to stop in Logan on the trip to Nicodemus-Stockton.

Hope to hear from you very soon especially about the book, T-shirts, and your next visit to K.C.

Best regards,



Classic Livia

If the old tractors attract you, plow your way to this show

Old tractors are, well, so *mechanical*. The machines that were among the first to relieve the burdens of humans and horses still draw crowds of appreciative admirers. Run them in a field. Or park them beside the rows. Even people who didn't grow up on farms stop to see.

No matter where you live, you'll enjoy displays and demonstrations of old tractors this month at the National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame, a mile northeast of Interstate 70 and Kansas 7 in Bonner Springs. Watch the grand old machines to your heart's contentment from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 13 and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 14.

Take a look at "Old 79," one of the first John Deere tractors, the ag center people say. The one visiting this show is a three-wheel drive model from 1918. It has been restored. The best time to examine this machine is at noon July 13. We're told that this tractor will be put to work pulling a plow. It's rare for such an old tractor to be worked. "Old 79" also will be on display from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 15.

Think, too, about watching a demonstration of old fashioned wheat threshing, using a 1938 Avery separator to be powered either by a Case steam engine or a 1936 restored J.I. Case tractor. Watch the threshing at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. July 13 and 14. Take a look, too, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 13 at an antique and classic tractor pull sponsored by the Two Cylinder Club.

Smooth times with Rawhide

And you thought all that ever happens at the Missouri State Fairgrounds is the Missouri State Fair. Your mind is about to be changed. How about



ABOUT TOWN

G. FRED WICKMAN

Visit the fairgrounds from 5 p.m. July 12 to 1 a.m. July 13; from 10 a.m. July 13 to 1 a.m. July 14; and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 14.

A cattle drive is planned. Indian art, dance, song and culture seminars are offered. And old-time fiddlers will tune for a contest. Art, crafts, re-enactments, a worship service and horseshoe pitching also are on the schedule.

See a rendezvous of mountain men and buckskinners. Their camps are open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 13 and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 14. The rendezvous has demonstrations of pioneering crafts, black powder shooting, primitive traders and food vendors.

Question about any of the events? Call the Sedalia Arts Council, (816) 827-3103.

School of the true meaning

Lanesfield School in southern Johnson County truly has been a place of education. It was built in 1869 at what now is 18745 S. Dillie Road, near U.S. 56. The school was within about 100 yards of the

heading down the road to Sedalia, Mo., for the Sedalia Rawhide Festival, also being called Missouri's Country Western Festival and Native American Culture Appreciation Days!

Santa Fe Trail. Early students could see the wagons roll by.

Children went to classes in that building from 1869 to 1963. And within the last few years Lanesfield School has been given an extensive restoration. It became part of the Johnson County Museum System. And it has served as a living history museum. The school was put back as it was at the start of this century. Visitors have been treated to spelling and geography bees, arithmetic contests and have practiced writing skills by using copy books.

Now the school is closed. But that's not sad. The reason for the closing is temporary. An interpretive center is being added. The 1,500 square feet in the interpretive center will allow space for an exhibit showing one-room schools as educational and community institutions. So, when the Lanesfield School reopens in October, you will have more to see and do. If you can't wait until then, ask about the project at 631-6709.

A reunion for townspeople

People who have lived in Nicodemus, Kan., are planning a reunion for July 26-28. Angela Bates has details. Call her at (913) 674-3311. A Kansas Citian, Stephen P. Katz, has organized a bicycle tour July 26-27 of Nicodemus and nearby towns. For information on the tour, to cover about 62 miles, ask Katz at 426-1001.

Other reunions:

■ Westport High School class of 1971 has its reunion Sept. 21-22. Board the Missouri River Queen at 5 p.m. Sept. 21 for a dinner and cash bar; the cruise is from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on the Missouri

River. Then go to a party and dance starting at 9 p.m. Sept. 21 at Cancun's Mexican Restaurant, 908 Southwest Blvd. A picnic is from 3 to 9 p.m. Sept. 22 in Antioch Park. Reserve for all events by Aug. 20. Call Mary Jane Tinoco Ramirez, 631-1747; John Rios, 444-9942; or Yolanda Garza Hernandez, 459-9363.

■ Central High School class of 1951 has reunion activities Aug. 30 through Sept. 1. Events of Aug. 30 are still being planned. A dinner will be held Aug. 31 at Crackerneck Country Club. And a picnic will occur Sept. 1 at Shelter No. 6, Lake Jacomo. Call Tom Board, 795-8694, so you can get on the list for these and other events to be announced later by reunion organizers.

On the town . . .

Support and education organization, the Epilepsy Group of Kansas, has meetings on Wednesdays at the First Baptist Church of Overland Park. Next time to gather is at 6 p.m. Wednesday at 8200 W. 96th St. Monthly newsletter also available for the asking. Call Stephen Lipe, 780-5204. Or, write to Epilepsy Group of Kansas, 14120 Summertree Lane, Olathe, Kan. 66062. . . . "Birdies Golf Tournament" raises money for the Association for Retarded Citizens of Johnson County and related agency, ARCare. Be on hand at 10 a.m. July 22, Oak Country Club, De Soto. Play in teams. It's three-man scramble format. Lunch at the club. Refreshments on the course. Dinner at Birdies Pub & Grill, 8889 W. 75th St., Overland Park. Door prizes offered. Birdies sponsors the tournament. Call 648-2317 or 722-6465.

STEPHEN P. KATZ
4515 Walnut Apt 210B
Kansas City, Missouri 64111
(816) 426-1001

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 1991

Nicodemus, Kan., Struggles to Remain A Citadel of Hope

In All-Black Town, Ex-Slaves
Found a Home, Identity
And Some Peace of Mind

By DENNIS FARNEY

Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
NICODEMUS, Kan.—Every man was
own Moses here, searching for a per-
al promised land.

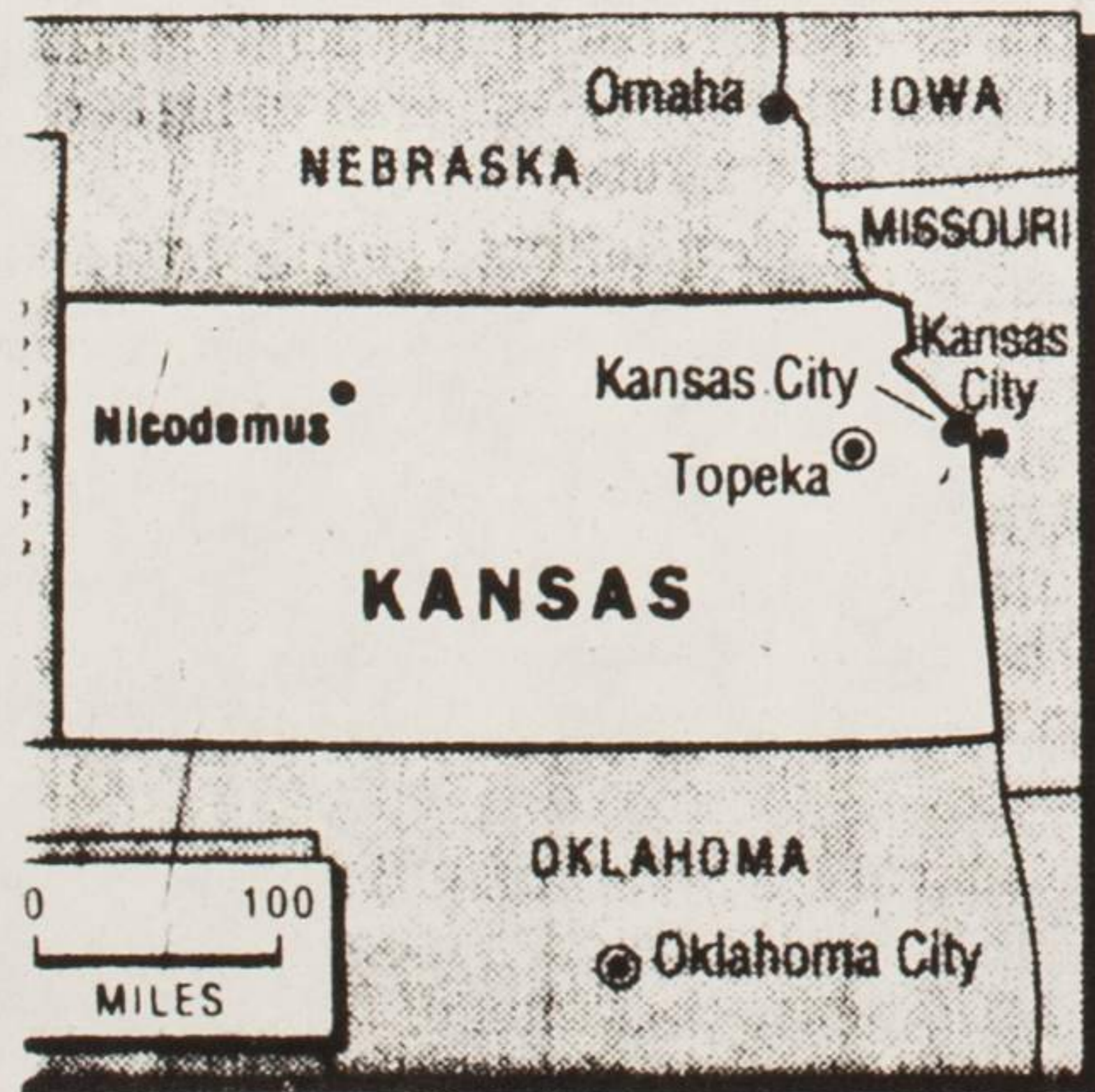
Nicodemus was settled by ex-slaves, af-
fleeing the nightriders and the repres-
sion of the post-reconstruction South for
millionist Kansas. It was the autumn of
1877. They had abandoned Kentucky's blue-
grass country for the raw emptiness of the
Kansas prairie; they burrowed into the
ground like animals and burned dried ma-
ize to keep alive. They would survive to
build an improbable town in an improbable
setting: all-black Nicodemus, all alone in
blackness on the high plains of western
Kansas.

Remains of the Day

But can capitalizing upon a unique past
ensure what now seems a precarious fu-
ture? On that question rests the survival of
Nicodemus, the most visible remnant of a
remarkable chapter of black history.

Nicodemus, billed by its 19th-century
promoters as "The Largest Colored Col-
ony in America," is fighting for its life.
The town and its surrounding farms total
more than 50 people. Its stores are gone,
its school long closed. Its vacant lots
are cluttered with old trucks and farm ma-
chinery. Its scattered houses could be en-
compassed in a few small blocks. Its only
assets are history itself—and a powerful
sense of community that keeps tugging ex-
tricate home.

Sixty-two-year-old Charlesetta Bates
comes home from Southern California,
where she kept house for the rich and fa-



rious and once served John Wayne her
people pie. Her sister Ernestine Van Duvall,
also has come back from California;
she made lemon pie for Walt Disney. Veryl
Switzer, a running back for the 1950s
Green Bay Packers, still journeys from his
administrative job at Kansas State Univer-
sity to his farm land just outside town.

Next month's annual homecoming, a
celebration not so much of a town but of an
extended family, will draw back hundreds
from as far away as both coasts. A public
television documentary is in the works.
Meanwhile Angela Bates, herself home to
nearby Hill City from stints in Washington,
D.C., and Denver, is dreaming even bigger
dreams.

Ms. Bates, 38, is pressing the Kansas
congressional delegation to have the town
declared a national historic site. "People
say there's nothing here," she says as
meadowlarks sing and the golden light of
late afternoon floods down on Mount Olive
cemetery. "But I feel so blessed that I
have Nicodemus. I have a place. I have
roots. I feel I've been selected to be from
this place."

There is something here that's rare in a
nation of interchangeable suburbs. It is a
Please Turn to Page A5, Column 1

Continued From First Page

sense of identity and of the continuity of
history. Buried on Mount Olive's little hill-
top is Angela Bates's great-great-grand-
mother, America Bates. The name is ap-
propriate, for what has unfolded here is a
uniquely American story—and, argues
Princeton historian Nell Irvin Painter, an
overlooked one.

The Western frontier had black home-
steaders, black soldiers and black cow-
boys, Ms. Painter notes. Yet the history of
the West is typically depicted as a "hyper-
Anglo" experience. "The myth is that the
cities were full of all these swarthy people
with curly hair," she says, "while the West
was the antithesis of all that. Actually,
blacks played their part in Western his-
tory. Nicodemus is an expression of black
frontier hopes."

Hope was in dwindling supply for South-
ern blacks in the white backlash that fol-
lowed the end of reconstruction in 1876. But
an escape route was opening as America
moved west with the railroads. By 1877
the frontier was here in western Kansas.
That year seven speculators—six blacks
and a white—incorporated this town. They
named it Nicodemus for a legendary slave
who managed to buy his freedom, and they
fired off handbills grandly addressed to
"the Colored Citizens of the United
States."

And they came, first from Kentucky,
later from Tennessee and Mississippi. By
1878, Nicodemus's population had soared to
nearly 700, including some whites. Nothing
in their experience had prepared the for-
mer slaves for the blazing heat, bitter cold
and wind-swept grass.

Willianna Hickman, a settler of 1878,
wrote of navigating across the open plains
by compass. Finally, she heard the joyful
shout: "There is Nicodemus!" Her account
continues: "I looked with all the eyes I
had. 'Where is Nicodemus? I don't see it.'
My husband pointed out various smokes
coming out of the ground. . . . The families
lived in dugouts. . . . I began to cry."

The first waves of settlers—who were
fairly well-organized and had at least some
financial reserves—helped plant an idea
which quickly spread far beyond this little
town.

An enterprising former slave who had
no part in the initial settlements, Benjamin
"Pap" Singleton, began drumming up mi-
grations to Kansas so huge that the mi-
grants came to be called the Exodusters.
The Exoduster movement reached fever
pitch in 1879, when 15,000 blacks poured
into Kansas during a single four-month pe-
riod. Frederick Douglass, the national
black leader, deplored blacks' abandoning
the South "as Lot did Sodom." Congress
held worried hearings. The Kansas gover-
nor feared his young state was about to be
overwhelmed by the destitute. Ultimately,
the fears proved exaggerated: The move-
ment faded away after 1880.

A few Exodusters settled here, although
most gravitated toward Kansas' bigger cit-
ies. But even as the Exoduster movement
was peaking, Nicodemus was on the verge
of decline. Bypassed by the railroads in
1888, it began its century-long downward
spiral.

Historic-site designation would bolster
tourism by making at least portions of the
town a unit of the National Park Service,
most likely bringing in an interpretive cen-
ter and federal restoration money. It would
also serve to celebrate sheer endurance
and, some argue, a matter-of-fact confi-
dence that contrasts with the shrunken ho-
rizons and shriveled hopes of the inner cit-
ies. "Here," declares Ernestine Van Du-
vall, "we don't worry about what we can't
do. We just do."

"I've been through it all, honey," says
Ora Switzer, an indomitable 88-year-old
widow who volunteers that she is being
courted again. The mother of NFL football
player Veryl Switzer, she can recall work-
ing the fields by mule. She can also recall
what her parents would say when she
would complain of an aching back. "They
told me I didn't have any business knowing

I had a back."

Residents tend to discount racial dis-
crimination as a major problem in their
lives. True, along Highway 24 there is an
abandoned stone-lined cellar where, legend
has it, early Nicodemus residents would
spend the night after a shopping trip to the
neighboring town of Stockton: Blacks
didn't feel welcome in Stockton after sun-
down in those days. On the other hand,
black children have long joined with white
in school at the nearby town of Bogue, and
today Nicodemus residents mingle easily
with whites in area towns.

Hard times, not hard attitudes, have al-

ways been the biggest problem hereabouts.
"No one could afford to be prejudiced,"
says 64-year-old J.R. Bates, Angela's fa-
ther. Sitting in their living room, he and
his wife, Charlesetta, talk of growing up
in a time when houses were still heated
with dried chips of manure, and when ren-
dered skunk grease, rubbed on the chest,
was a treatment for colds. They talk of the
iron realities—few jobs and low wages—
that drove them to California. And of how,
when they came back to retire, the same
realities remained.

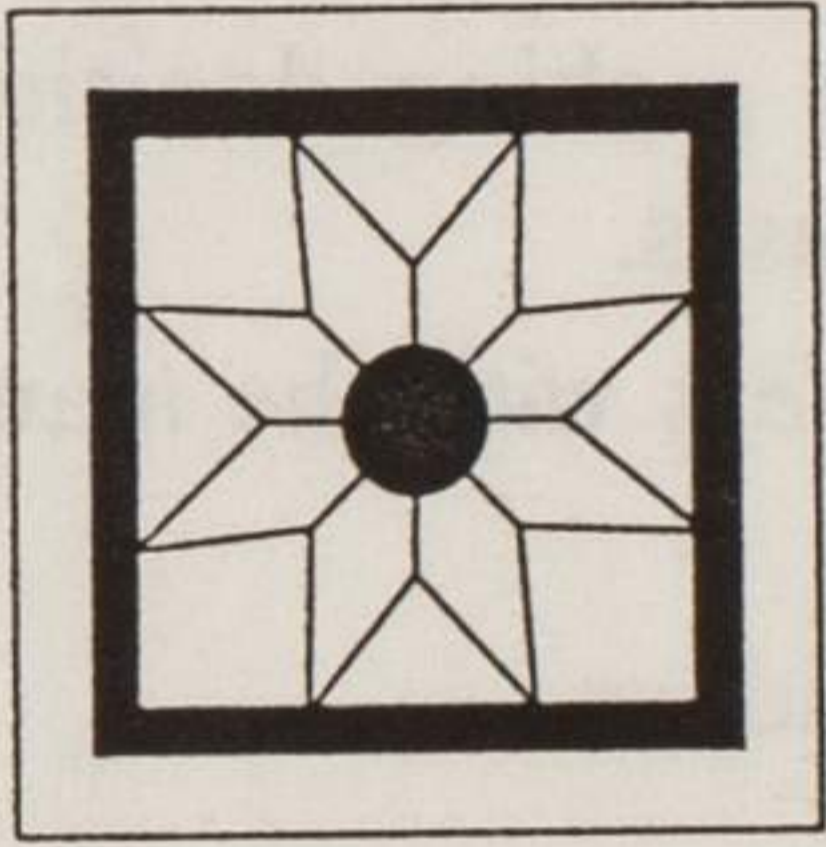
They have no desire to trace their roots
in the South. They are content to be here.

As they reminisce, a phonograph record
plays in the background: It is the Williams
Sisters, including Charlesetta Bates and
Ernestine Van Duvall, singing gospel mu-
sic. "We've come a long way, Lord," they
sing. "We've come a long way."

Mil & Marci Penner
Rural Route 1
Inman, Kansas 67456

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Angela Bates
1015 Main St. #8
Hill City KS 67642



Kansas Sampler Festival

Saturday, October 5, 1991

The *Kansas Sampler Festival* offers the 841 places and events listed in the Penner's books, *Kansas Weekend Guide* and *Kansas Event Guide* opportunities for promotion. Other places eligible upon approval.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR THE PUBLIC?

(Expected crowd - 5-10,000)

- Fun for the whole family
 - Discover all there is to see and do in our state.
 - Meet bed-and-breakfast owners.
 - Win door prizes
 - Sample food from across the state.
- (\$1 admission button)**

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- Thousands will be making decisions about where to visit in Kansas.
- Increase your business with the many promotional opportunities
- Network and share ideas.
- Free noon meal.
- First 100 to register will receive free copy of *Kansas Event Guide*.
- Let Kansas politicians become familiar with your interests.

HOW CAN I PROMOTE MY EVENT OR PLACE?

- The Sampler Parade
- Booths
- Stage Demonstrations
- Displays

THE SAMPLER PARADE

(tentatively 10 a.m. in Inman)

- A living brochure of Kansas events and places.
- Best way to visually attract people.
- Just walk carrying a sign,
- Or, display with a prop.
- Another part of the parade will be the Evolution of Agriculture
- Live radio coverage.

EXAMPLES: Go-carts, BMX riders, mountain men, reenactors, covered wagons, pancake racers, custom cars, bluegrass musicians, etc.

SAMPLER BOOTHS

(Tentatively 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Penner farm)

- Set up a booth in the country. Pond, flowers, 70 varieties of trees, and two acre prairie.
- Make your booth simple or sophisticated.
- Sell items if you wish but main purpose is to get people to travel Kansas.
- Encourage questions.
- Hand-out brochures.
- Space (inside tent, 8'x6') (outside, unlimited).
- Bring tables, chairs, and electrical cords if needed.

(Penner farm is 3 miles south and 1-3/4 east of Inman)

SAMPLER STAGE DEMONSTRATIONS

(Tentatively 1 to 5 p.m., Penner farm)

- Whet the public's appetite with a short demonstration of your event.
- A chance for another visual display.

EXAMPLES: Fiddling and picking, pioneer crafts, sheep-shearing, reenactments, bagpipes, pancake race, auctions, sky-diving, etc.

SAMPLER DISPLAYS

(Penner farm, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

- Set up teepees, rendezvous, antique tractors, etc.

THE STUMP

(Penner farm)

- All day long, people will be allowed to get on the stump for five minutes at a time, to pontificate about their concern or cause. Tell the public what a great event or place you have and why they will want to visit! Plead for funds or help. Your stump for five minutes.

DOOR PRIZES

(Penner farm)

- Great promotion. Public loves this.
- Everyone asked to donate something, if possible.

EXAMPLES: Museum or event passes, lodging, meal, crafts, etc.

BUHLER CHAMBER CUP OF OUTRAGEOUS RACES

(Buhler, afternoon)

- Bed, outhouse, turtle, and blind folded wheelbarrow racers, seed-spitters, etc., this is your chance to compete with others from across the state for the roving Chamber Cup.
- No charge to enter.
- Competitors can advertise their local event with a sign.
- Ask for more information on this great event.

THE RUN FOR UNITY

(Tentatively 8 a.m.)

- Our goal is to get a runner from at least 150 towns to carry a pennant with the town name and run as a group two miles to the farm.
- This is not a race.
- Ceremony before runners take-off.
- Purpose is to symbolize unity between towns across the state and to expose names of small towns.
- Great experience for those who participate.
- Grand entrance at farm to kick-off activities.
- Participants receive complimentary Run for Unity t-shirt.
- Runners must supply town pennant.
- Participate in parade after the run.

SAMPLER SING-ALONG

(evening, Penner farm)

- An opportunity to showcase samples of musical talent across the state.
- Does your town have music groups - high school, independent, or professional - who want to promote their talents or who just want to come and have fun?
- Sit on straw bales, eat peanuts, holler out song numbers, listen to special groups, or be one of the featured groups!
- Microphones and speakers supplied.
- Keyboard player available.
- You will be honored guests!

Without a doubt, this will be one of the best promotions in the state for events and places to see. It will grow each year. Please bear with us as we experience some growing pains. Consider all of the above opportunities available to you. The parade is one event that everyone can become involved. We need your help in finding runners and food booth operators! Our book *Kansas Event Guide* will make its debut on October 5th. Most of you are listed in either the *Kansas Weekend Guide* or the *Kansas Event Guide*. Booth Space Cost - Donation of 0 - \$25. **DEADLINE DATE TO REGISTER IS JULY 15.**

REGISTRATION BLANK

Your Name _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

over (continued on other side)

Count me in for the _____ parade; _____ booth; _____ stage demonstration; _____ car show booth; _____ threshing show booth; _____ display; _____ food booth; _____ door prize.

We will find a runner to carry our town banner _____

I know of someone interested in being a featured group at the Sing-Along: Contact: _____

I know of someone interested in the Chamber Challenge Cup in the category: _____ outhouse races; _____ bed races; _____ blindfolded wheel-barrow races; _____ seed-spitting contest; _____ turtle races; _____ other (_____)

Contact: _____

I agree to pay _____ \$0; _____ \$10; _____ \$15; _____ \$20; _____ \$25; Enclosed is a check _____; Bill me later _____.

I am interested in manning my booth on Sunday afternoon? Yes _____ No _____

I'm interested in selling \$1 admission buttons and earning 15% _____.

Call Marci or Mil at 316-585-2389 if you have questions! Don't be the only town not represented October 5!

You will be placed on our next mailing list when we receive your registration.

Please return this form to Marci Penner, RRR1, Inman, Ks. 67546 as soon as possible.

SAMPLER FOOD (Penner farm)

- A chance to promote cuisine offered across the state.
- We're looking for people interested in having food booths. Ethnic food booths will have first chance.

CAR SHOWS AND THRESHING BEES (afternoon)

- Inman will be hosting a car show. A threshing bee will be held at the farm. We invite car shows and threshing bees across the state to set up booths at these areas to advertise your own local event.

MEDIA COVERAGE

- Jerry Davies (of Davies Communications, Inc., McPherson, Ks.) will be coordinating statewide media coverage.
- Your hometown paper will be sent a news release.
- The Inman/Buhler local paper will carry stories and advertising opportunities will be available prior to the Sampler Festival.

POLITICIANS

- The State Department of Tourism and the State Chamber of Commerce membership office is in full support of this event and will attend.
- Local and state politicians will be invited to come mingle and do some stumping!

INMAN ACTIVITIES

Sampler Parade
Car Show
Model Railroad Car Display

Hobby and Toy Display
Merchant's Open House
Historic Building Displays
Auction
Ethnic Food Court

BUHLER ACTIVITIES

Early breakfast
Arts-and-Crafts Show
Chamber's Cup of
 Outrageous Races
Woodcutter's Contest
Pony Pull
Ethnic Food Court
Merchant's Open House
Evening Music Program

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

- The public can park their car and rely on a constant bus shuttle system to get to all three sites.

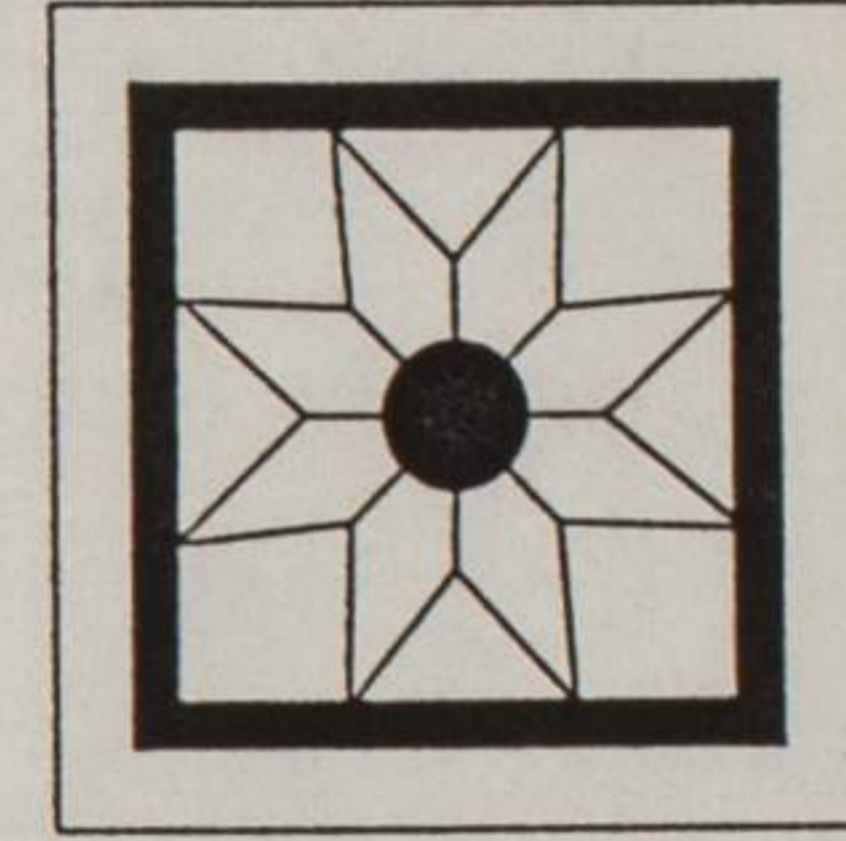
MOTELS

- We are working on discounts with motels in Newton, Hutchinson and McPherson.

Mil & Marci Penner
Rural Route 1
Inman, Kansas 67456

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Angela Bates
1015 Main St. #8
Hill City KS 67642



Kansas Sampler Festival

Saturday, October 5, 1991

To the Nicodemus Historical News Review

Dear Angela Bates, Editor,

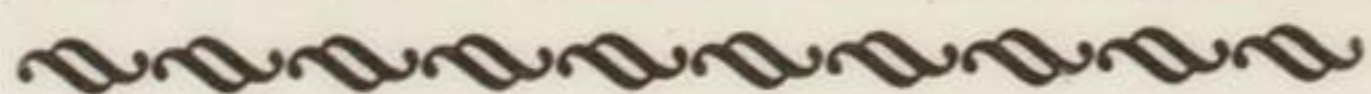
This correspondence is sent to ask you
to please cancel my subscription to the
Nicodemus Historical News Review.

Thank you for your sending it to me
in the past.

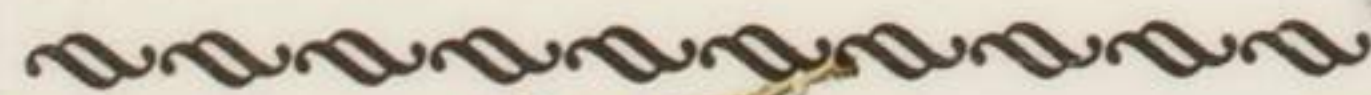
yours truly,

Julia Etta Parks
1042 SW Woodward
Topeka, Kans. 66604

SEAL



Julia Etta Parks
1042 SW Woodward Avenue
Topeka, KS 66604



*The Nicodemus Historical Society
R. R. 2, Box 139
Nicodemus, Kansas 67625*



HERE

EISTERHOLD ASSOCIATES

218 Delaware #111 Kansas City MO 64105-1261 (816)283-3537 (FAX)283-0544

February 18, 1992

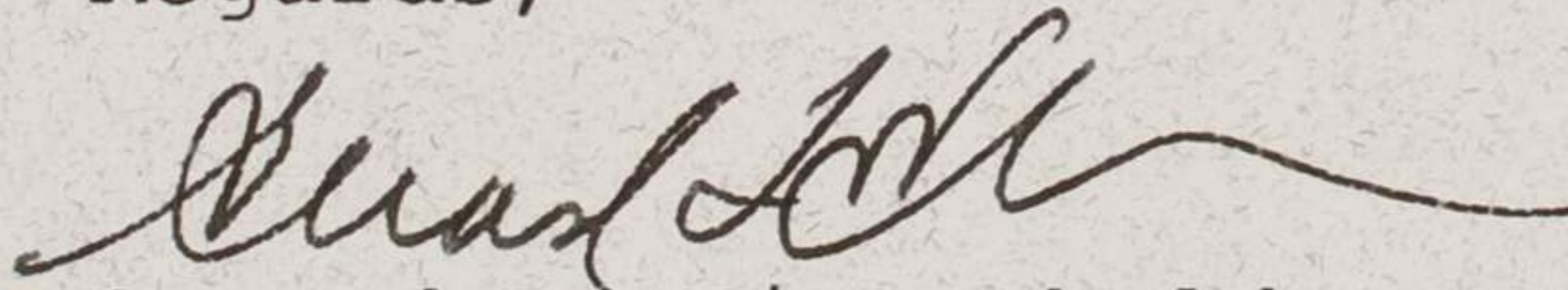
Angela Baker
Nicodemus Historical Society
P.O. Box 139
Bogue, KS 67625

Dear Ms. Baker;

It was a pleasure talking with you last week. I'm sending along some information about what we do, and some press on the Civil Rights Museum.

Good luck with your project, and please keep us abreast of its development.

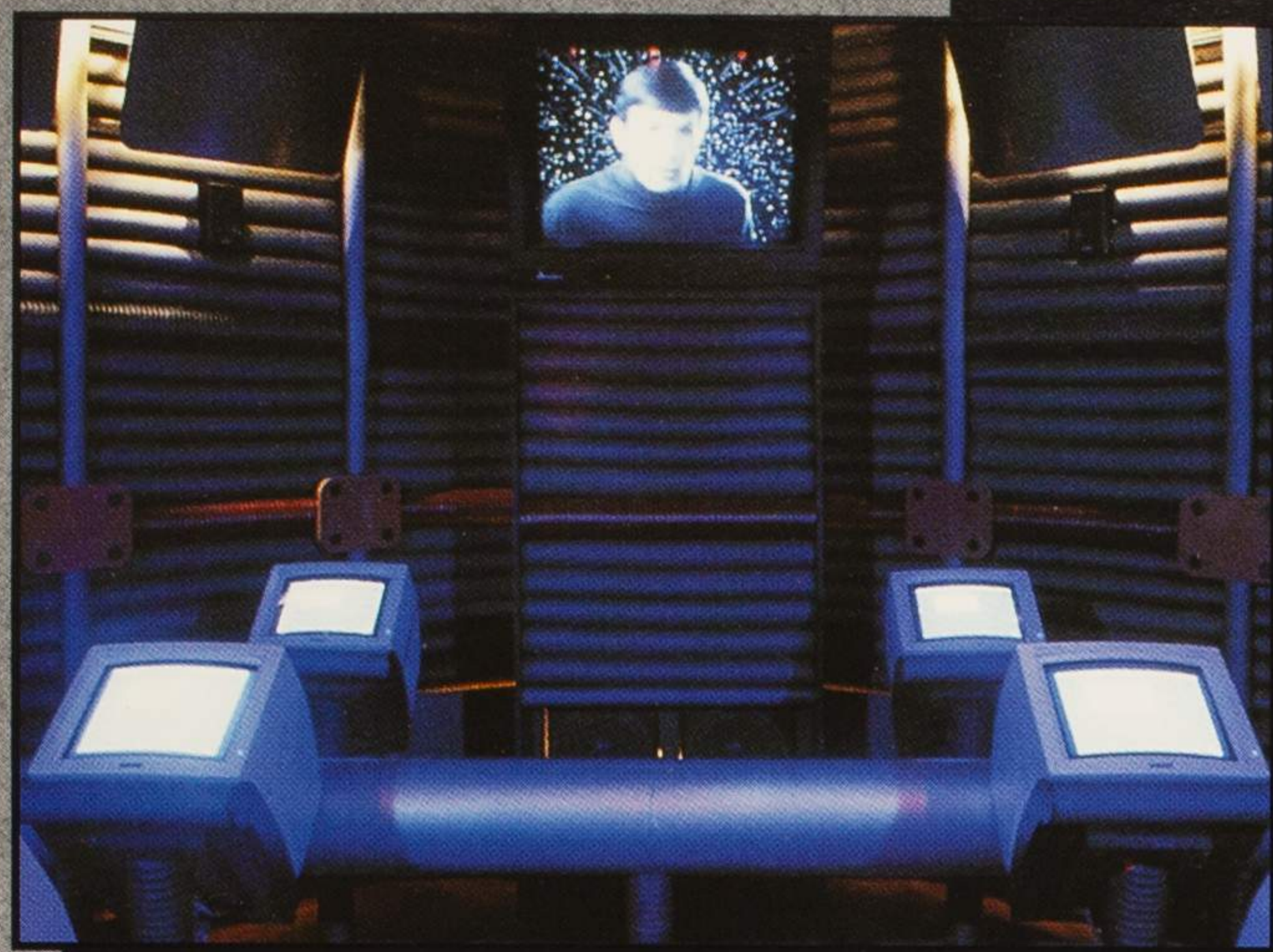
Regards,



Gerard L. Eisterhold
GLE/pc
enc.

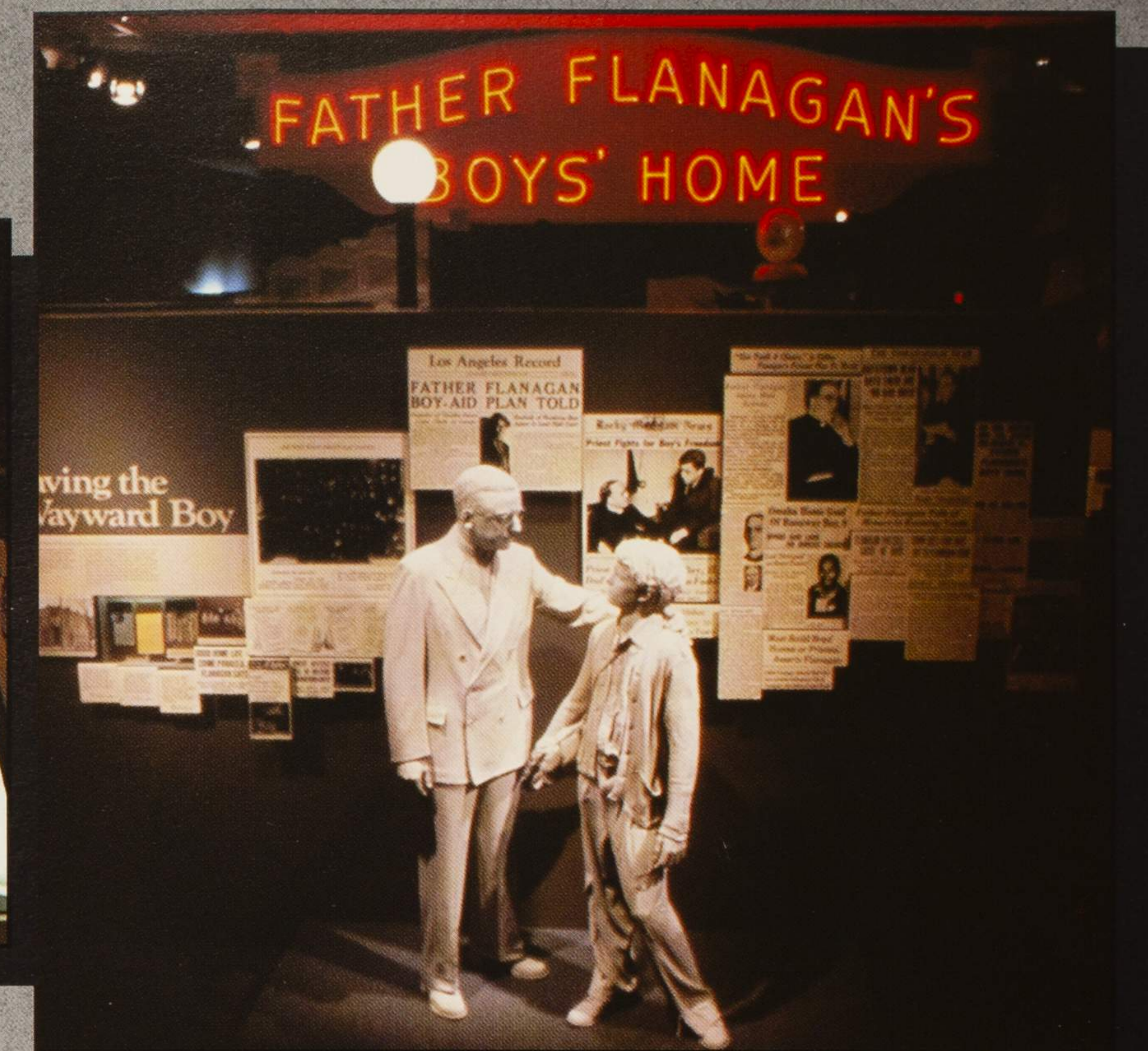
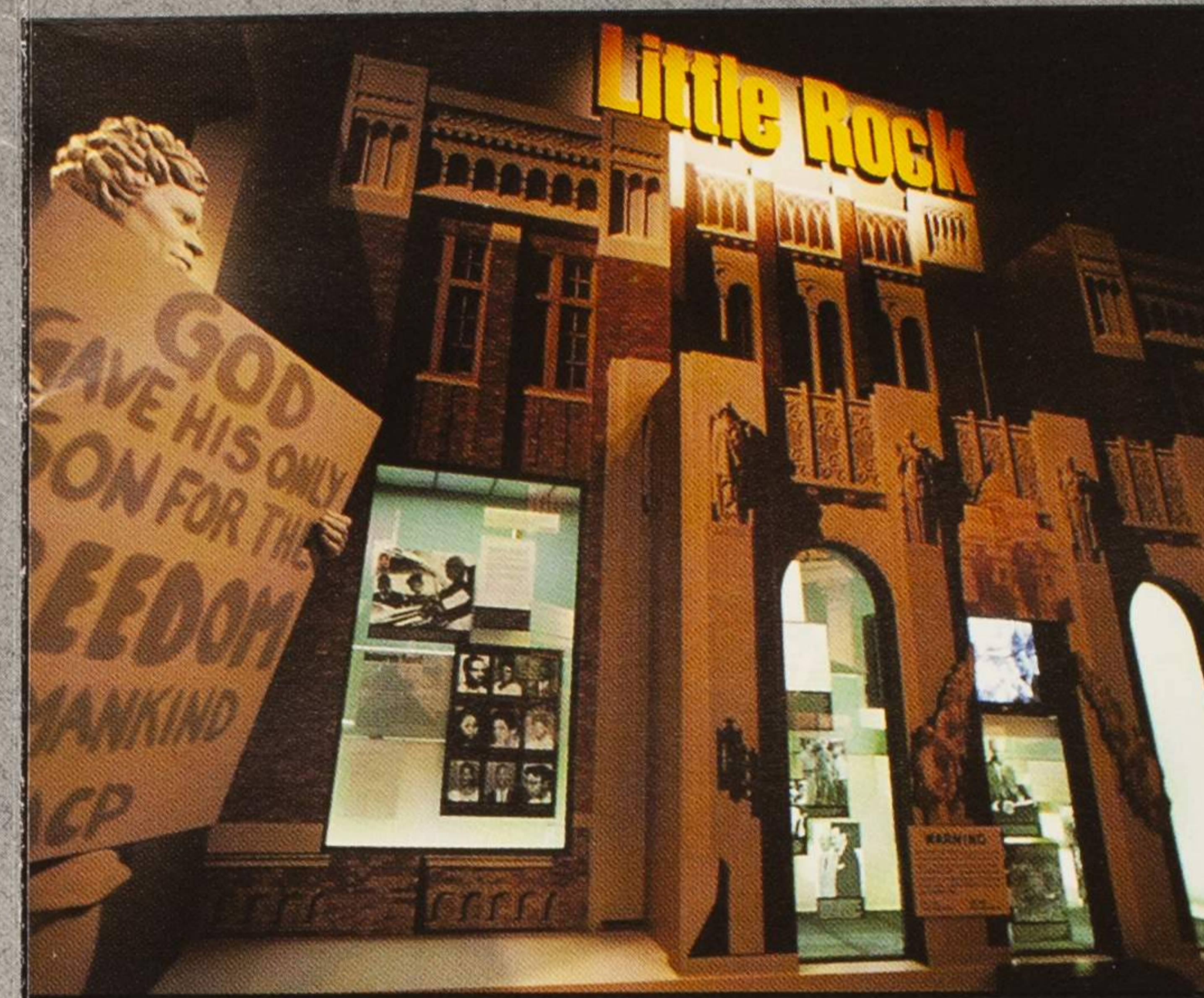
EISTERHOLD ASSOCIATES
INTERPRETIVE EXHIBIT SERVICES

Eisterhold Associates has over eleven years' experience designing and developing interpretive exhibits for museums and visitors centers. Our success is based on one underlying principle: exhibits are built to communicate ideas.



WINGZ TIME SHUTTLE

Throughout the creative process we consider the visitor: What will engage and hold their interest? How will it relate to their lives? Will this information help them make informed decisions? How will visitors be encouraged to discover and explore beyond the exhibit?



BOYS TOWN HALL OF HISTORY



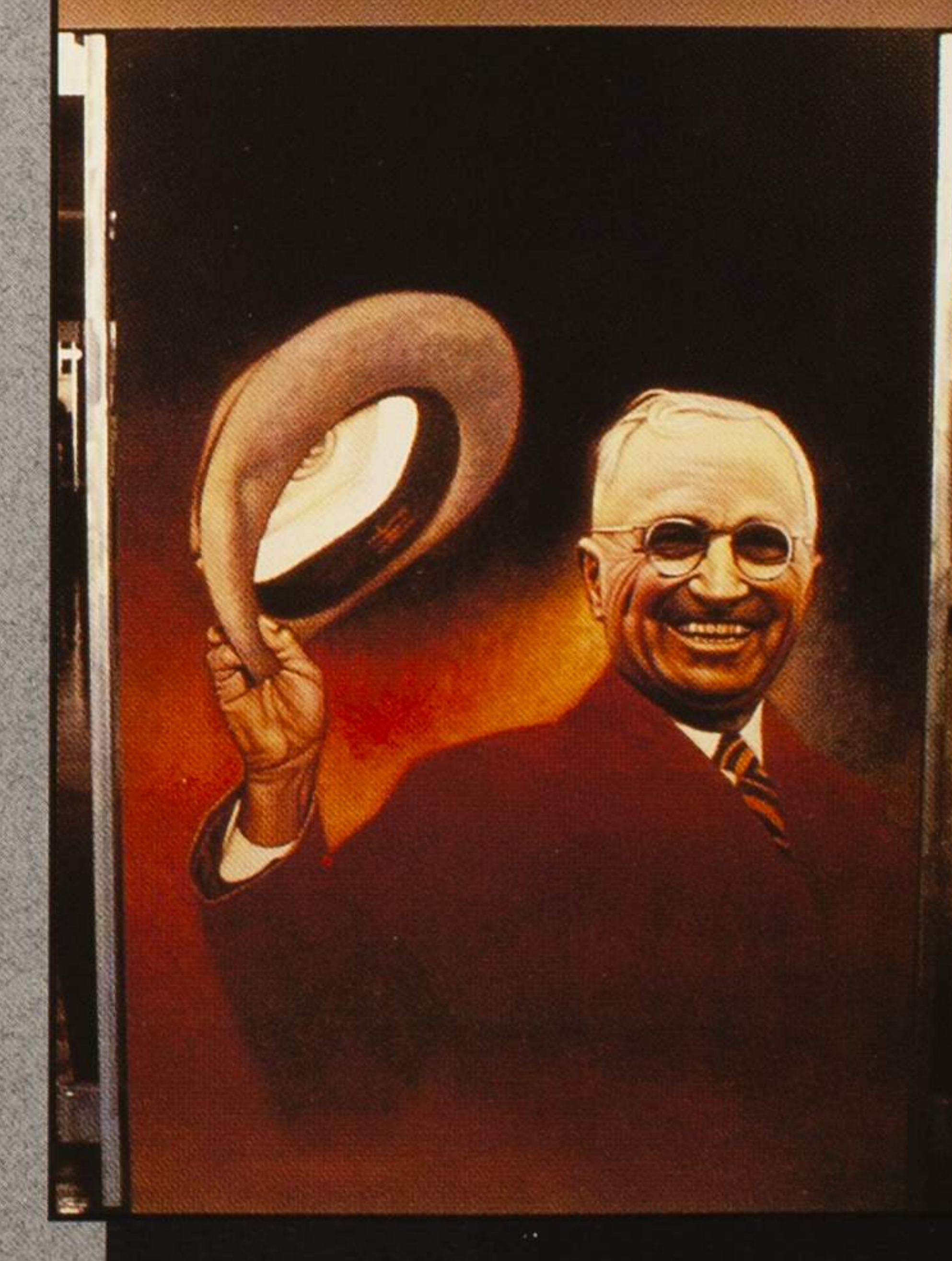
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK



NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

Eisterhold Associates works closely with the client to ensure that the project goals are carefully defined and realized. Early on, the communication intent of the exhibit is articulated, and a work plan is established that clearly outlines review and approval cycles, submittals, and production schedules.

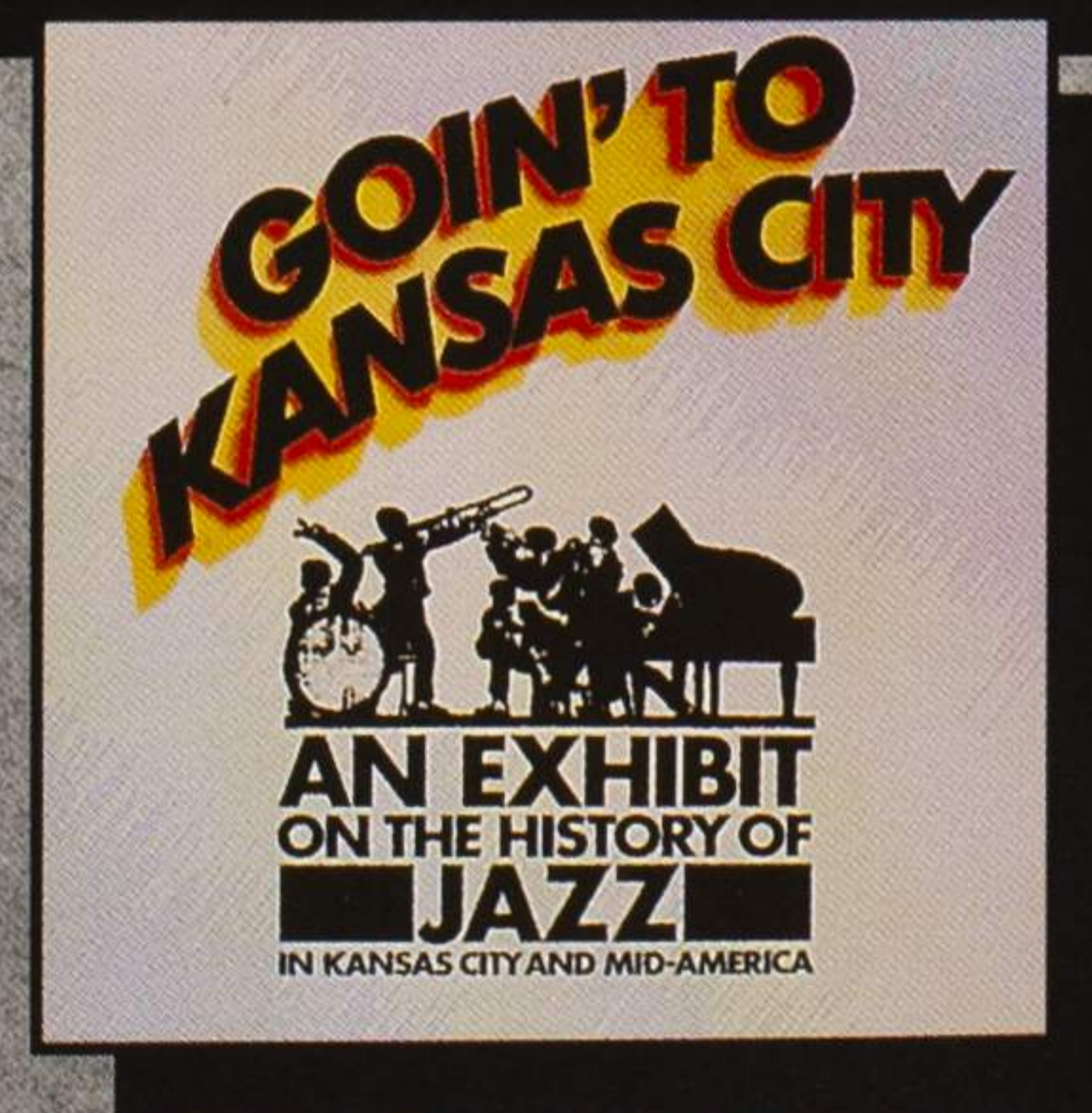
HARRY S. TRUMAN
A CENTENNIAL REMEMBRANCE

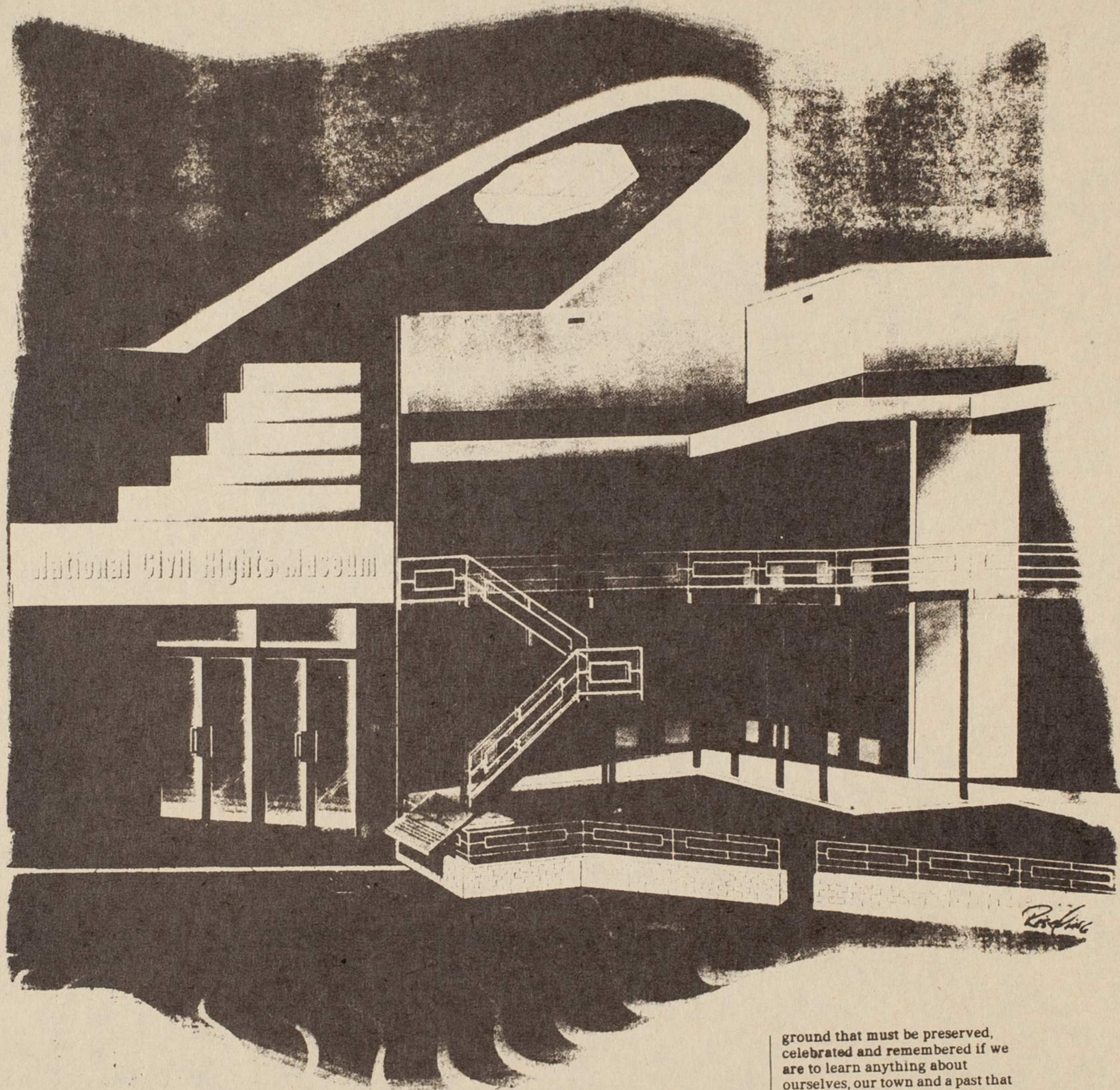


Gerard Eisterhold, the principal and senior designer, directs a core staff of designers, writers, and technical personnel. For each assignment, a team of professionals is assembled to match the particular needs of the project. This approach to exhibit planning lets the firm handle all aspects of exhibit design from story definition to interactive systems and graphics creation to exhibit fabrication.



What differentiates us is our demonstrated ability to weave together isolated objects and facts into a coherent whole. The story to be told is carefully studied and synthesized into a natural structure of connected ideas. The result: visitors are engaged and understand what they see, hear, and touch.





Building A Dream

Death of
Dr. King
created
indelible
mark here

Story by William Thomas
Illustration by Marc Risling
The Commercial Appeal

The Lorraine Motel in 1968 was cheap, it was handy, it was black-owned and it was the kind of no-frills place where the leader of the poor could stay without being called a fat cat or "de Lawd."

It was for these reasons that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. checked into a \$13-a-night room at the seedy, third-rate motel in a raggedy section of downtown Memphis. Outside, it hasn't changed that much. Inside, they're perma-pressing the history that altered America.

What's happening, on one hand, is this week's dedication of the National Civil Rights Museum within the motel complex. What's happening on the other is the recognition that this obscure corner at Mulberry and Butler is cherished

ground that must be preserved, celebrated and remembered if we are to learn anything about ourselves, our town and a past that haunts us.

It's about time, too.

More than 23 years have passed since Dr. King fell mortally wounded on the narrow cement balcony outside the second-floor suite — Rooms 306-7 — where he spent his final hours.

Though motel owner Walter Bailey turned the room into a modest shrine after the assassination, the Lorraine sank steadily toward oblivion until 1982. That's when D'Army Bailey and a nonprofit foundation rescued it from prostitutes, pimps, drug dealers and financial defeat.

Dr. King's green-painted, rust-spotted room and the balcony where he died will be the high point of the museum's civil rights re-experience when it opens later this summer.

What many have forgotten — or never knew — is that Dr. King stayed in the classier Rivermont Hotel when he first came to Memphis to help striking sanitation workers. The Rivermont was a secure high-rise Holiday Inn that charged \$29 a night — a steep rate for someone trying to identify with garbage collectors and lead a poor people's march on Washington, as Dr. King planned to do.

Thus, it was to clarify his image that Dr. King and his staff checked into the Lorraine in early April and planned a march to offset the disastrous effects of a previous demonstration that ended in riot. More than anything else, this riot was responsible for the breakup of Beale Street, a few blocks away, a shattering event from which the street never fully recovered.

Although his life had been

Please see MUSEUM, Page G9



Museum is fruition of dreams of motel owner, many others

Evolution of Bailey idea took years

By Wayne Risher
The Commercial Appeal

An assassin's bullet transformed the \$13-a-night Lorraine Motel into a historic site on April 4, 1968.

But it wasn't until 14 years after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was murdered that a small group of Memphians launched the first sustained effort to preserve the site on Mulberry.

This week, members of that group will help dedicate the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine. The \$9.25 million museum, owned by the State of Tennessee, tells the story of the American civil rights movement through pictures, interactive exhibits and audiovisual presentations.

Like Dr. King, the people who saved the Lorraine for posterity had a dream: To take a source of civic shame, a decaying symbol of the city's racial divisions, and turn it into a memorial.

Like many watershed events, their efforts were born of crisis and gradually gained support.

The project ultimately involved hundreds, perhaps thousands of volunteers. But many who were part of the struggle say the names that loom largest in the preservation are D'Army Bailey, Charles A. 'Chuck' Scruggs and the late A. W. Willis Jr.

Before the civil rights era, the Lorraine was a favorite with black entertainers, including Count Basie, Lionel Hampton and Aretha Franklin.

After King's death, the motel seemed suspended in time. Its owner, the late Walter Lane Bailey, (no relation to Circuit Judge D'Army Bailey or his brother, County Commissioner Walter Bailey) turned a couple of rooms into a shrine to Dr. King and to Bailey's wife and business partner, Lorraine, who died of a brain hemorrhage two hours after King was shot.

Within a few months of King's death, visitors were filing through the rooms or driving down Mulberry for a glimpse of the wreath-draped balcony. Motel business was bad, though, and Walter Bailey struggled to keep going.

In the late 1970s, he started working with those who wanted to convert the motel into a shrine to Dr. King.

"He knew he was sitting on a crown jewel," recalled D'Army Bailey, 49, a Circuit Court judge and president of the nonprofit Lorraine Civil Rights Museum Foundation, which will operate the National Civil Rights Museum.

"He (Walter Bailey) knew that that site had a destiny, and he in his own simple, limited way was trying to meet that by trying to find somebody to come in there with some money, some leadership, to turn that decaying old site into what it needed to be," said D'Army Bailey, who was involved in early efforts to save the Lorraine.

In a guest editorial in The Commercial Appeal on May 21, 1979, D'Army Bailey concluded: "At present the Lorraine stands in spite of the neglectful attitude which Memphis has shown toward it. But the facility is standing on borrowed time, fighting the ravages of physical and environmental decay and a surrounding neighborhood of crime. It is time for something to be done. Memphis is the keeper of a heritage which is not only local, but it is national and international as well."

But nothing was done about the once-thriving motel that had become a haven for prostitutes and down-on-their-luck boarders. By early 1982, Walter Bailey faced bankruptcy.

He was behind on mortgage payments on the motel building,



A photograph made April 6, 1968, shows the view out the window from which police said James Earl Ray fired, killing Dr. King. Several officers stand where Dr. King stood when he was shot.

Charles A. 'Chuck' Scruggs, founding chairman of the Martin Luther King Memphis Memorial Foundation, recalled how children emptied their piggybanks and people of modest means willingly donated to the cause. "Everywhere we went, people said, 'It's about time.'"

which he had added to the property three years before the King shooting. An April 26, 1982, foreclosure hearing was set.

The motel owner turned to Chuck Scruggs, station manager at WDIA-AM 1070, a black-oriented radio station that had recently raised more than \$200,000 for the bankrupt Delta town of Mound Bayou, Miss.

Scruggs said in a recent interview that back in 1982, WDIA employees were unanimous in their belief that the station shouldn't try to save the Lorraine so soon after the Mound Bayou effort.

Scruggs said he met with WDIA employees A. C. Williams, community relations officer; Carl Conner, program director; and Bill Adkins, then the top morning disc jockey.

"All of us agreed in the end that we shouldn't touch it," said Scruggs. "The public wasn't going to respond positively..." Before he would allow a final decision, however, Scruggs held another meeting a few days later. Opinions hadn't changed, but Scruggs decided to proceed.

"I felt that 'Hey, nobody has done anything up till now. If we don't act, yes, it may become a parking lot, much to our disgrace, much to the dismay of those who are yet to come...'"

As the foreclosure hearing approached, Scruggs called Jesse Turner, chief executive officer of the black-owned Tri-State Bank, and obtained a personal loan of \$10,000.

Scruggs said he called D'Army Bailey and asked him to handle the legal side of the effort

because he knew of the lawyer's interest in the Lorraine.

The late William B. Leffler, a U.S. Bankruptcy Court judge, postponed the foreclosure while the WDIA group made arrangements to buy the Lorraine for \$240,000. The \$10,000 loan to Scruggs was earnest money to hold the property until the balance was raised.

D'Army Bailey and Turner joined the WDIA employees as incorporators of the Martin Luther King Memphis Memorial Foundation.

Scruggs was founding chairman. Turner was secretary-treasurer.

In the next seven months the foundation raised only about \$90,000.

"I talked to the head of one of the banks and the head of one of the local companies. They both told me flat out they just weren't interested," D'Army Bailey said.

"It was hard because nobody believed it would work. Nobody could share the vision and the confidence. If I could have looked at it from a distance, I would have shared the vision, but not the confidence."

A foreclosure auction was held Dec. 13, 1982, on the steps of the Shelby County Courthouse.

Tri-State Bank's Turner agreed to additional loans of \$50,000, underwritten by James Smith, executive director of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, and Paul Shapiro, owner of Lucky Hearts cosmetics. The union already had contributed \$25,000 to the effort, and Shapiro, whose business adjoins the Lorraine, had given \$10,000.

The foundation bought the Lorraine for \$144,000.

Although the campaign fell short of the goal, foundation

officials had reason to be encouraged, Scruggs said.

"Ultimately, what we did was raise the level of consciousness beyond any point it had ever been in a 15-year period. We got people talking about it, people acting about it. While it started in the black community, it was not confined to the black community."

He recalled how children emptied piggybanks and people of modest means donated to the cause. "Everywhere we went, people said, 'It's about time.'"

With the property's future assured, foundation officials turned to building a community consensus about what to do with the motel. No easy task.

"We were concentrating on how to save the property. What happened later was an afterthought," said Williams, 74, who left the foundation board and retired from WDIA shortly after the motel was acquired.

Organizers knew what they didn't want, Williams said. "We knew it was too important a shrine to be neglected, to allow somebody to buy it and put up a hot dog stand or a furniture factory or whatever."

In early 1983, the foundation changed its title to drop Dr. King's name. The change was requested by The Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change Inc. in Atlanta, formed by Dr. King's widow, Coretta Scott King.

D'Army Bailey said the foundation spent 1983 and much

Please see MOTEL, Page G3



Michael Pavlovsky's sculpture, *Movement to Overcome*, depicts masses of people existing and struggling together.

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THE LOGO

The logo for the National Civil Rights Museum (see cover page) represents the human struggle for civil rights. The figure is both black and white, symbolizing the worldwide struggle for equality. Depicted in a "struggle" position, the figure is attempting to break free from the confinement of prejudice and oppression. The figure is "everyman," representing all races, sexes and religions while emphasizing the struggle by African-Americans in the 1950s and 1960s.

The logo colors — black, white and red — represent the races and the passion and emotion of the struggle for equality.

The logo was designed by Eddie Tucker, vice president, creative director of Archer/Malmo advertising agency.

WITNESS: ROSA PARKS

Mrs. Parks, 78, often called the mother of the civil rights movement because she started the bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala., by refusing to give up her seat to a white man.



"The story is that I wouldn't give up my seat because my feet hurt, but that's just something that got started. The truth is, this was not the first time I'd protested bus-seating in Montgomery. I'd had problems with that same driver in 1943. He'd evicted me, and told me to go to the back door of the bus. What I did was take another bus.

"What bothered me was seeing little children hurt by not being able to take a seat in the front of the bus. The children didn't know anything about segregation, so they would just sit down anywhere. Then, whoever was with them would jerk them out of their seats, and that experience would hurt them. So when I refused to give up my seat, it wasn't that my feet hurt; it was my act of civil disobedience."

WITNESS: SHELBY FOOTE

Foote, 75, Memphis novelist and Civil War historian, started writing his three-volume history of the war in 1954, the year the Supreme Court made its decision in Brown vs. Board of Education. Thus began the modern civil rights era, and Foote says the timing gave him a marvelous opportunity to watch three Southern governors — Orval Faubus, George Wallace and Ross Barnett — as they took their defiant stands.



"I am obligated to the governors of my native state (Mississippi) and the adjoining states of Arkansas and Alabama for helping to lessen my sectional bias by reproducing, in their actions during several of the years that went into the writing of this volume, much that was least admirable in the position my forebears occupied when they stood up to Lincoln. I suppose, or in any case fervently hope, it is true that history never repeats itself, but I know from watching these three gentlemen that it can be terrifying in its approximations, even when the reproduction — deriving, as it does, its scale from the performers — is in miniature."


**National
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Museum**

From Page G2

Motel

of 1984 trying to come up with an approach to developing the Lorraine. "It was back to the drawing board, back to figuring out 'how do we start the next begging campaign?'"

The foundation decided that to keep the motel from standing empty, Walter Bailey would run it without paying rent.

The Memphis Design Center, a program for architectural students, helped with a development plan and architectural model, which were used to make a video presentation. Actors James Earl Jones and Robert Guillaume volunteered to narrate the video. It was shown to city Mayor Dick Hackett and county Mayor Bill Morris in the fall of 1984.

The proposal at the time was for a facility called the "American Civil Rights Center." It called for demolition of the hotel and motel buildings and construction of a museum where the two rooms associated with Dr. King — 306 and 307 — would be reconstructed as an interior exhibit.

The effort received a major boost in early 1985 when Mayor Morris announced the Center City Commission would provide staff and technical support for the civil rights center.

Ann Abernathy, a lawyer, was assigned to the Lorraine project as the Center City Commission's special projects coordinator. She worked with the project from 1985 to 1988, before moving to Washington.

Ms. Abernathy said the foundation seemed to be floundering when the Commission entered the picture. The major problem was that nobody knew what a civil rights center was. They owned a building and they didn't know what they wanted to do with it.

She recalled a meeting in which she suggested some alternative uses for the motel: a school, a shelter for the homeless or a job training center. Foundation members were "furious," she said. "They said these are all fine, but we want to use this facility to educate people."

The foundation decided to have Ms. Abernathy write a request for proposals for a feasibility study of a civil rights

museum. City and county governments agreed to provide \$20,000 each for the study. After the foundation received a proposal from highly regarded former Smithsonian Institution official Benjamin Lawless, The Commercial Appeal and Future Memphis added \$5,000 each for the study.

Ms. Abernathy recalled that the tone for the study was set when foundation member A. W. Willis Jr. "communicated to me that the civil rights movement was not on Luther King, but the civil rights movement had been building since the 1920s. It didn't just happen in the 1960s."

Lawless, of Fort Washington, Md., proved to be on the same wavelength as foundation officials, agreed D'Army Bailey.

"There was no debate among any of us when we read Lawless's proposal," Bailey said. "He (Lawless) just was succinct, sensitive, creative and we knew this was the one we wanted to work with."

In the spring of 1986, Lawless delivered plans that would serve as the outline of the civil rights museum now nearing completion. He put an \$8.8 million price on the museum and foundation officials went to work trying to find the money.

"A. W. (Willis) was the guy who really moved this project through the state (General Assembly), and he had a lot to do with moving it through the County (Commission)," said Scruggs.

Willis, who died in 1988, was a respected legislator and Tennessee's first black representative since Reconstruction.

After a whirlwind lobbying campaign by Willis, D'Army Bailey and others, the General Assembly approved \$4.4 million for the project. The City Council and County Commission followed with \$2.2 million each.

After four years of struggling with the Lorraine, organizers felt the tide had turned when the General Assembly agreed to pay for half of the museum.



Then-Sheriff Bill Morris escorts Dr. King's killer, James Earl Ray, handcuffed and wearing a bulletproof vest, to his cell early July 19, 1968, after Ray's arrival in Memphis from London. Morris is now mayor of Shelby County.

By Jeff McAdory



Walter Lane Bailey created a small shrine in the room at the Lorraine where Dr. King was staying when he was slain.

"I was absolutely astonished that that was accomplished," Scruggs said.

When the city and county considered the funding request, some local residents complained that a museum at the Lorraine would only reopen old wounds of racial discord.

"It was not the most popular project," said Ms. Abernathy.

The problem was the location, and that many people felt the Lorraine was better forgotten and better left alone. It was very politically charged. It had been a black eye for Memphis for years."

As the museum's dedication approaches, foundation officials and others have been discussing how to recognize some of those who played important roles in the struggle to save the Lorraine.

Mayor Morris has suggested that Willis be singled out for special recognition. "If it were not for A. W.'s persistence, his political clout and his relentless cajoling, we would not be having the opportunity to open this exciting project on Independence Day," Morris said.

D'Army Bailey said he hopes the museum can set aside space later to house personal papers and archives of Willis and other local civil rights activists.

Scruggs would like to see Willis and others recognized, but says the project transcends personalities. "This is a people project. It's not about Chuck Scruggs, it's not about D'Army Bailey, it's not about A. W. Willis ... It's not about any of us. We were blessed with an opportunity and we took advantage of it, and thank God today we're about to see something happen today that hopefully will be the opening of the doors to our dreams."

Walter Lane Bailey didn't live to see the opening of the monument to the civil rights movement.

He died July 2, 1988, about four months after he rented his last room and the state put up a fence to safeguard the site during its transformation into the National Civil Rights Museum.

WITNESS: REV. FRANK McRAE

McRae, 60, Memphis Methodist minister and civil rights activist: "I'll never forget an old black man in a white shirt, stained blue tie and scuffed-up shoes carrying a sign saying, 'I AM A MAN.' Why? I wondered. What did it mean? Then I suddenly realized that all his life he'd been called 'Boy.' I was born in this town and I'd heard it, but it didn't seem important back then. Now I realized that here was a grown man with gray hair who for once in his life was saying, 'I AM A MAN.' And when I realized that, it was a very moving experience.

"The other thing I will never

forget is when military vehicles moved down the streets of Memphis and security bars went up on Beale Street. I'd seen that happen in New York, where people needed protection. But when it came to putting grills across windows in this city, I knew it was a new day and my hometown would never again be the same. And it is not."



WITNESS: MINERVA JOHNICAN

Ms. Johnican, 52, Shelby County Criminal Court Clerk and former county commissioner, demonstrated during the 1968 sanitation strike. Ms. Johnican said she has reservations about the scope of the new museum.

"I've had some questions about whether it's really going to be a civil rights museum that will draw scholars from all over the world. I just wonder if enough input from national people has been put into it. It could be another Memphis project that hasn't been dealt with on a national or international level." She said her concerns are based on occasional complaints from museum foundation board members who told her the board was dominated by chairman

D'Army Bailey. "There's a feeling that blacks aren't getting excited about the museum because D'Army and a group of whites out of Nashville put it

together." But, said Ms. Johnican, "Maybe excitement will grow once we see it. The excitement for me comes when I remember the civil rights movement ... I think once people see the museum they will reflect on that period of history and feel more a part of it."



WITNESS: FRANK AHLGREN

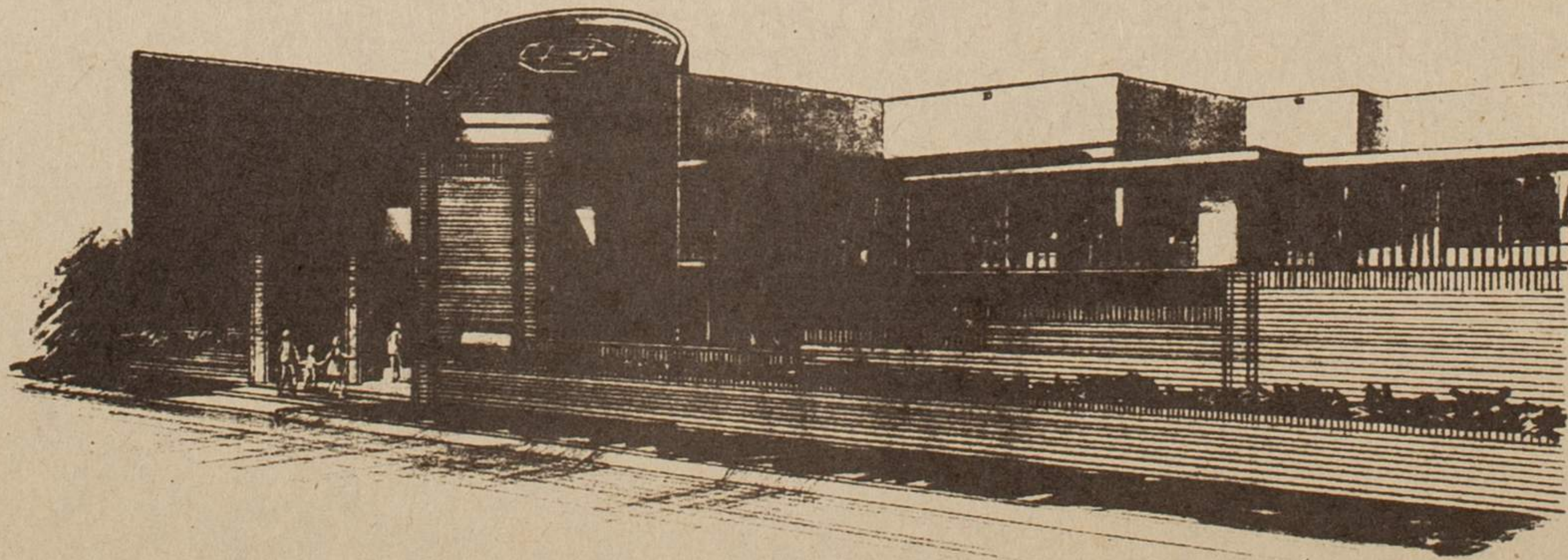
Ahlgren, 88, editor of The Commercial Appeal from 1936 through 1968, said blacks have made more progress in the South in the last 50 years than in the 150 years before that. "And there's a great difference between 1968 and 1991 in Memphis. The system of representation, for one thing, has increased the black presence. We're now contemplating a mayoralty race with a Negro candidate having a reservoir of possible votes larger than that of the white candidate. In '68, you wouldn't believe that would be possible." And only a few years earlier Ahlgren wouldn't have expected a black boycott of the newspaper over its *Hambone* comic strip about a black man.

"There was never anything in

the sense that he was a field hand. He didn't mean any harm to anybody, but a lot of the oncoming intellectuals in the Negro community thought it was a symbol of their days of discomfort and of slavery. It was just the image. And, yes, the boycott was successful in stopping it."



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**National
Civil Rights
Museum**

Ex-radical, now judge, feels the old fire still

By Michael Lollar
The Commercial Appeal

The FBI's dossier on D'Army Bailey shows he was investigated in the 1960s and 1970s as a security threat to President Lyndon Johnson and as a possible "Communist infiltrator" and Black Panther Party sympathizer.

"It's a flight of fancy, just another bizarre incident of the time," says Judge Bailey of the inch-thick file he got through the Freedom of Information Act. For him, it's another closed-but-not-forgotten chapter in the civil rights movement.

The yellowing dossier traces his arrest as a student protest organizer in Baton Rouge, La., as an activist-lawyer and as a radical Californian elected to the Berkeley City Council in 1971.

"Those were exciting, fun times," says Judge Bailey, veteran of the civil rights movement and president of the National Civil Rights Museum.

He gladly relives those memories as he digs through his

attic archives. A neatly landscaped lawn surrounds the stately brick home in Hein Park; downstairs, a meatloaf is baking, and sons Justin, 12, and Merritt, 10, play Nintendo on a big-screen TV.

Bailey also is a Circuit Court judge, and at 49 bears little resemblance to the indignant young lawyer cataloged in his attic.

"If you don't change with time, you stand rigid against the wind and will be ripped off like the trees," he says. If the FBI had persisted, it would have traced his career from Berkeley hell-raiser back to Memphis. Here he returned to practice law in 1974 with his brother, County Commissioner Walter Bailey.

He married Adrienne Leslie, former regional cosmetics sales representative; in 1983 he came in fourth in the Memphis mayoral race. He got a respectable crossover white vote that showed a flair for what Rep. Harold Ford of Memphis calls "good coalition politics." He would form a krewa as part of Carnival Memphis's historically

white secret societies and, last year, was elected to the judgeship.

"It hurts sometimes when you look at what still has to be done," he says. When he and his wife were not invited to some Carnival Memphis parties in East Memphis and as rising Carnival fees excluded much of the black community, he quit his Grand Krewe of the Nile.

Unlike the old days, he didn't "make a big ruckus over it. There were other fish to fry and other battles to be fought." As a priority, that social slight doesn't compare, he says, to alcohol, drugs, family disintegration "and the rest of the demons within our own community."

He and brother Walter, a year



D'Army Bailey

older, were "fairly well-sheltered," says their mother, Will Ella Bailey. They sat where they pleased in a black neighborhood theater, and she didn't expose them to segregated lunch counters.

Like their father, who died three years ago, they went to the private Rosebud School, a black school, then to LaRose Elementary and Booker T. Washington High School.

"D'Army Bailey wrote columns for his high school newspaper, the Tri-State Defender and the old Memphis World. Summers

and after school, he held jobs as a receptionist for a black doctor and as a drugstore deliveryman. He did a teenage radio "roundup," helped a grandfather build houses and worked as an orderly at John Gaston Hospital. "In every job, I was exposed to strong, productive men. They took life as it was and met the challenge."

He, and the FBI, say there was nothing "that really set me off" in those years. It was in 1962, as a student at Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., when occasional "quiet anger" grew into part of the movement. His brother, on a football scholarship, was allowed to finish at Southern, but D'Army was expelled in 1962 as a demonstration leader.

He enrolled at Clark University in Worcester, Mass., then Yale University Law School. His activism earned the FBI description "militant young Negro." In 1967, he spent a year in New York as national director of the Law Students Civil Rights Research Council, then as a consumer protection lawyer in San Francisco and served on the Berkeley City Council from 1971 to 1973.

In that epicenter of activism, he had a reputation as a black nationalist who angered even fellow radicals. The 1978 book *Experiment and Change in Berkeley* said Bailey referred to

a black moderate councilman as "Uncle Willie," the moderate mayor as the city's "chief pig" and a fellow radical councilman as "a spokesperson for the white ruling class."

During a summer recess, when his student supporters were away, a recall vote forced him off the council.

And back to Memphis. Much of the early rhetoric was for effect, Judge Bailey now says. "But I do know the same spirit and the same fire in the belly that kept me going these 30 years still: burns."

His wife, community relations and volunteer coordinator for the Memphis Food Bank, says the museum has consumed much of her husband's time. "Someone said the other day, 'I'll bet you'll be glad when it's finished so you can take a breather.' But there won't be a breather. There's always another project."

For Judge Bailey, it could be a future run for mayor, although, he said, "I'm not counting my days toward any one political objective." He may finish a book on the movement, teach, go fishing with his sons or come out fighting in whatever role it takes to bring change. As he says of his California political tactics: "You've got a duty to be clever enough to take maximum advantage of the leverage you've got."

Expert's vision first gave form to project in '86

By Wayne Risher
The Commercial Appeal

Critics have decried it as morbid and tasteless, but the laser beam following the path of an assassin's bullet is scheduled to be in place when the National Civil Rights Museum is dedicated Thursday.

The laser and less controversial exhibits in the \$9.25 million museum are reflections of Benjamin Lawless's five-year vision for the Lorraine Motel, where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was killed.

Lawless, a former Smithsonian Institution official, produced a 1986 report that became the blueprint for the Lorraine's conversion into the nation's first comprehensive exhibit tracing the American civil rights movement.

Architects, exhibit designers, engineers and contractors built on the foundation that Lawless and his team laid in about three months during 1986. The cast of characters in the museum's development has ranged from a Gallatin, Tenn., firm that outfits buses for country music stars to a Springfield, Va., company that makes laser shows.

The museum's completion has been delayed by state government's bidding process and an unusually rainy spring.

The partially completed museum will be dedicated and opened for free tours Thursday. It will remain open until Sunday, then close while the exhibits are completed. Officials hope to open the completed museum by Labor Day.

Areas or exhibits scheduled to be finished before the dedication include Rooms 306 and 307, which were associated with Dr. King's final hours; the People of Memphis exhibit, including a 1968-vintage garbage truck; a laser light tracing the path of the bullet that killed Dr. King; a courtyard that is overlooked by the King rooms; graphics of civil rights history in a changing exhibits gallery; a partially stocked gift shop; and an auditorium, where an introductory film will be shown.

It all started in 1985, when the Lorraine Civil Rights Museum Foundation received feasibility studies for a civil rights center at the Lorraine. Lawless was the only one of five bidders who included specific ideas for a civil rights center, recalled Ann Abernathy, a former Center City Commission employee who worked with the foundation from 1985 to 1988.

Lawless, who plans to celebrate his 66th birthday at the dedication Thursday, came to the project with sterling credentials: nearly 30 years directing exhibitions at the Smithsonian, "the Nation's Attic."

His first impression of the Lorraine? "Pretty gloomy. It was terrible. It looked pretty seedy. But that didn't bother me. I thought we could renovate it and make it historic."

Rather than telling the

foundation how he would do a feasibility study, "I took a leap of faith and showed them how I would do it (the museum) if I got the job." Lawless said recently from his office in Fort Washington, Md.

To create a story line for the museum, he went to black historians Spencer Crew, a Smithsonian curator, and James Horton, a history professor at George Washington University.

"Together we sat around and doped out this notion of what the story line ought to be. We really wanted to tell the story of the little person who was on the marches, who suffered the indignities."

Earlier plans contemplated tearing down the Lorraine and erecting a new building to house the museum.

"It never occurred to me to tear it down," said Lawless. "A horrible thing happened there, but I just think it's one of the more historic places in the United States, right up there with Gettysburg."

His original proposal included at least seven of the 15 main

"It never occurred to me to tear (the Lorraine Motel) down," said museum design consultant Benjamin Lawless. "A horrible thing happened there, but I just think it's one of the more historic places in the United States, right up there with Gettysburg."

exhibits that visitors will see: "Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education"; "Bus Boycott, 1956"; "Student Sit-ins, 1960"; "Birmingham Jail, 1963"; "Freedom Rides, 1961"; "Mass Protest Marches, 1963-1968"; and "The People of Memphis."

His proposal became ammunition in the foundation's successful bid for funding in the spring of 1986: State of Tennessee, \$4.4 million; City of Memphis, \$2.2 million; Shelby County, \$2.2 million. Four years later, each government provided an additional \$150,000 when bids exceeded estimates.

The state eventually agreed to manage construction and turn over the finished facility to the foundation.

The Lorraine was closed on Jan. 10, 1988, and its last resident, Jacqueline Smith, was evicted on March 2. She began



Jeanette Shumpert prays for Jacqueline Smith before Shelby County sheriff's deputies removed Ms. Smith from her protest site on the sidewalk in front of the Lorraine Motel last July 18.

living on the sidewalk to protest the project.

State Architect Mike Flitts, chief staff officer for the State Building Commission, was named state project coordinator.

Work began after a ceremonial groundbreaking on Jan. 27, 1989. Jimmy A. Patton Contractor Inc. of Little Rock removed asbestos from the motel buildings and tore down other structures in the block.

The state paid Bricks Inc. \$438,000 to renovate the hotel building at Huling and Mulberry to serve as an administration building for the museum.

Jameson-Vaccaro Construction Co. was hired to renovate the motel and build an adjoining museum to house the exhibit galleries. It received the biggest contract of the museum project, about \$4.1 million.

Last summer, Jameson-Vaccaro officials were cast as "the bad guys," said company executive Tony Vaccaro, when they went to court to have Jacqueline Smith and her belongings moved off the sidewalk adjoining the construction site. Ms. Smith's supporters moved her belongings to the other side of Mulberry Street, where she remains.

While work proceeded at the Lorraine, the exhibits were taking shape outside the city.

State officials initially negotiated with Lawless, who wanted to be the exhibit designer. The decision, though, was to seek bids for a designer, and to retain Lawless as an independent consultant.

Eisterholdllewellyn Exhibit Services landed the job of designer with a \$498,000 bid in December 1988. Its job was to take Lawless's ideas and translate them into graphics, audiovisual presentations and other ways of telling the story.

"I wrote the outline, and they wrote the book," said Lawless. At the time, Eisterholdllewellyn consisted of

Gerard Eisterhold and Anita Llewellyn, who worked together in Kansas City, Mo. They split up earlier this year, and Eisterhold, who is finishing the job as Eisterhold Associates, said he didn't want to talk about it.

Eisterhold said they began work on the civil rights museum by piling into a van and driving through the South to get a feel for civil rights sites: Little Rock High School, the Lorraine, the Ole Miss campus in Oxford, the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Ala., and Montgomery and Birmingham, Ala.

Back in Kansas City, they researched and considered how the exhibits would relate to each other. They or their associates, including historians Horton and Crew, consulted libraries, archives and television stations for documents, audiotapes and videotapes and other material.

From the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, they obtained audiotapes of a series of conversations between Kennedy and Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett made when Ole Miss erupted in racial violence in 1962.

Eisterhold's firm found a number of artifacts for the exhibits, including the briefcase used by lawyer Arthur Shores to carry Dr. King's letter from the Birmingham jail in 1963, riot gear used by Memphis police during the 1968 sanitation workers' strike; leaflets advertising Freedom Schools in Mississippi in the summer of 1964; an FBI poster seeking information about the murder of three civil rights workers near Philadelphia, Miss., in 1964.

However, Eisterhold said researchers decided early that it was more important to tell the story of the civil rights movement than to insist on artifacts.

In Greensboro, N.C., they were unable to get the Woolworth's lunch counter at which four students staged a sit-in on Feb. 1, 1960, sparking formation of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

The museum's sit-in exhibit will use stools from a Woolworth's in Kansas City, Kan., and a lunch counter from the old Downtown Kansas City Macy's, Eisterhold said.

To translate Eisterholdllewellyn's plans into reality, the state in January hired Design & Production Inc. of Lorton, Va., for \$2,062 million. The firm's credits include Mud Island's riverboat reproduction.

John Nichols, Design & Production's assistant project manager for the museum, said the firm coordinated a group of subcontractors to supply statues, audiovisual shows, graphics, buses and other props.

Studio EIS in Brooklyn, N.Y., supplied sculptured, monochromatic figures of Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott figure Rosa Parks, Memphis sanitation workers, student sit-in participants and other

Please see MAKING, Page G5

WITNESS: JULIAN BOND

Bond, 51, teaches politics of the civil rights movement at American University in Washington and is host of America's Black Forum on television. He was communications director of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (1960-65): "I think it's great there's going to be a museum anywhere and particularly good that it's going to be in the South and in Memphis. Not because Dr. King was killed in Memphis, but because he was killed leading a fight for sanitation workers. Clearly the unfinished business of the civil rights movement was to achieve economic justice."



WITNESS: BENJAMIN LAWLESS

Lawless, 65, is a museum design consultant who retired in 1981 after 28 years as director of exhibitions for the Smithsonian Institution. He describes himself as "merely a looker-on" to the movement who collected plywood huts from "Resurrection City" during the 1968 Poor People's March on Washington. In the Memphis museum, he said, "A lot of photographs are going to stop people in their tracks. I think older people will be triggered into remembering how it was, and younger people will say, 'Is this really possible?' The really thoughtful people will say, 'Is this over yet?' I think the thought I would like for people to take away is a feeling of constant vigilance about whether it could happen again. This museum ought to be a reminder that it did happen and could happen — that we have to be good citizens." Like any museum, it should be refined through the years, he said. "I hope they keep massaging this exhibit until they get it right."



CONGRATULATIONS
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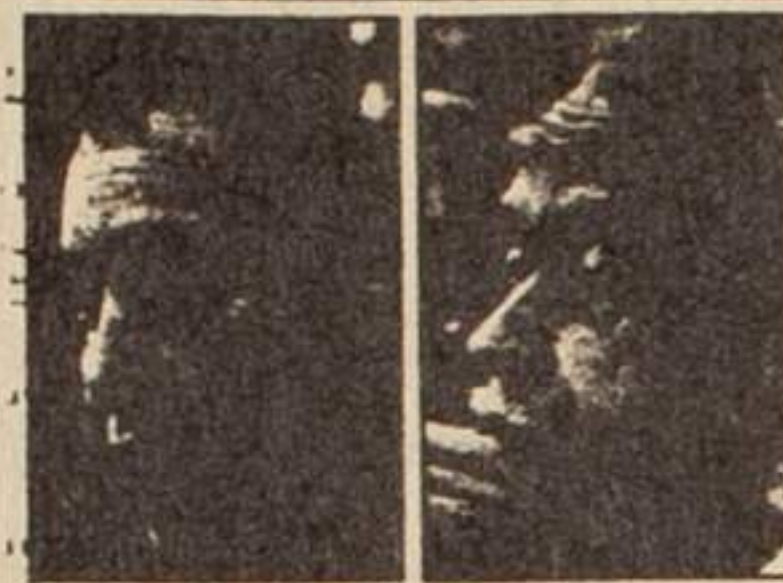


**Jameson-Vaccaro
Construction Co., Inc.**

A round of applause
to all who had a hand
in building the
National Civil Rights Museum.

National Civil Rights Museum

**WITNESSES:
MAXINE SMITH
VASCO SMITH**



Maxine Smith, 61, Memphis school board president and executive secretary of the Memphis Branch NAACP, and her husband, Vasco Smith, have been at the forefront of civil rights in Memphis: "Hopefully we're worthy of having this historical edifice in this city despite our slowness to make creative change. Maybe this museum will be a reminder to Memphis... We have been given a chance to stand tall, but we should stand tall more than structurally. The manifestation of Dr. King's dream should be felt throughout this city."

County Commissioner Vasco Smith, 70, board member and former vice president of the Memphis Branch NAACP, said the civil rights museum "is a monument to the work of Dr. King and to many other individuals. Those who fail to remember the past are condemned to repeat it. People need to be reminded of the hard work, blood, sweat and tears of the movement, so I think the museum serves a good purpose."

From Page G4

Making

exhibits. Memphis Scenic built piles of garbage around a Memphis garbage truck that dates from the 1968 sanitation strike.

D & P hired Corporate Communications of Richmond, Va., to produce audio and video presentations such as the introductory film, *Cornerstone of Freedom*, that will be shown in the museum auditorium.

"We received 24 hours of photos of garbage" from Memphis State University, which keeps archives on the sanitation strike, Nichols said.

He said Corporate Communications filmed a re-enactment of the incident in which Mrs. Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in 1955, igniting a citywide bus boycott by blacks.

For the laser tracing the path of the bullet fired by James Earl Ray, D & P hired Audio-Visual Imaging for \$198,000.

M & W Enterprises of Nashville prepared buses for the Montgomery boycott exhibit and an exhibit on the Freedom Rides.

For the Montgomery exhibit, a former Knoxville city bus used in filming the Rosa Parks movie, *The Long Walk Home*, was bought in Hollywood. Guided by photos of 1955 Montgomery buses, M & W painted,



Gerard Elsterhold

upholstered and refurbished the bus, then rubbed off the new paint to give the bus an appropriately worn look, said M & W found Neil

Wildeboer. Illustrating the Freedom Rides, Greyhound that was firebombed outside Anniston, Ala., in 1961 required more spectacular preparation.

Wildeboer said the state bought a General Motors bus that had once served Greyhound's rival, Trailways. M & W refinished it to look like a Greyhound of the early 1960s, complete with a dog emblem from a bus memorabilia collector in South Carolina.

The refinished bus was taken to the Tennessee State Fairgrounds in Nashville. As Wildeboer, Elsterhold and others watched, the bus was doused with kerosene, set afire and allowed to burn until it resembled the firebombed Greyhound in news photos from 1961. A firebomb wasn't used because it would have burned too unpredictably, Wildeboer said.

Lawless says he is pleased with the finished product's treatment of the unfinished business of civil rights.

He believes the museum will continue to evolve as history unfolds and more people come forward to tell their stories of the civil rights era.

"What we're dealing with is current history, history on the make. It's hard to be distant, lofty. All we know is what we think happened. I'm sure that over the years, this history will be changed and modified and adjusted."

A CIVIL RIGHTS CHRONOLOGY

Civil rights has been an issue every day of the nation's history. But the movement that redefined the South and changed the country marched at full stride through the 1950s and 1960s.

Here is a chronology of major events during those years.

1954

MAY 17: By a unanimous vote in *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, the Supreme Court rules that segregation in education is unconstitutional. The ruling overturns the "separate but equal" doctrine that had legitimized segregation in education since 1896. Segregated school districts are integrated the following autumn in some states, but defiant politicians and groups opposing desegregation emerge in the South.

1955

AUG. 28: Emmett Till, a 14-year-old from Chicago, is lynched in Leflore County, Miss., for whistling at a white woman.

NOV. 25: The Interstate Commerce Commission outlaws segregation on interstate buses and in bus terminal waiting rooms. The order is ignored in some communities.

DEC. 5: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the 26-year-old pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, urges blacks in Montgomery, Ala., to boycott city buses, four days after Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white man. The boycott ends Dec. 21, 1956, when city leaders agree to a settlement favorable to the protesters.

1956

MARCH 12: Sen. Harry F. Byrd of Virginia and 100 other congressmen release the "Southern Manifesto," pledging the South will fight integration. The document is signed by all Southern senators except Estes Kefauver and Albert Gore of Tennessee, and Democratic Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas.

JUNE 1: Alabama bans most NAACP activities within the state, accusing the civil rights organization of planning and financing an illegal bus boycott in Montgomery.

NOV. 13: Supreme Court rules interstate bus segregation unconstitutional.

1957

JAN. 10-11: The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is founded in Atlanta. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is elected its first president.

MAY 17: The Prayer Pilgrimage to Washington on the third anniversary of the *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision draws about 30,000 to the Lincoln Memorial.

AUGUST: The Civil Rights Act of 1957, the first civil rights bill in 82 years, is passed by the House and Senate and signed into law. It strengthens voting rights for blacks and creates the national Commission on Civil Rights.

SEPT. 24: President Dwight Eisenhower reluctantly sends federal troops to Little Rock to enforce a court order to desegregate Central High School. The move ends almost three weeks of well-publicized tactics by Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus to thwart the order, including using the state militia to keep a small group of black students from enrolling at Central. The confrontation is the first civil rights battle to receive significant national television coverage.

1959

JUNE 26: Prince Edward County, Va., abandons its public school system rather than

comply with an integration order.

1960

FEB. 1: Four black college students sit down at an F. W. Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., and refuse to leave. The sit-in, a demonstration method that had previously met with limited success, grows and attracts national attention.

APRIL: The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) grows out of the sit-ins. Marion Barry becomes the organization's first president.

NOVEMBER: With strong support from blacks, John F. Kennedy outpicks Richard Nixon to win the presidency. One factor that may have helped his narrow victory: a call he made to Coretta Scott King while her husband was in jail.

1961

MAY 4: Thirteen riders leave Washington for New Orleans by bus on a trip designed to expose segregation in bus terminals. The Freedom Ride encounters mob violence in Anniston, Birmingham and Montgomery, Ala. A bus is burned, black and white Freedom Riders are savagely beaten, and local and state authorities offer little police protection. Atty. Gen. Robert Kennedy finally orders 600 federal marshals to Montgomery to maintain order. Evidence would later reveal police involvement in the violence. The Freedom Ride continued through Mississippi to Jackson, where riders, their ranks swelling, are arrested and jailed under state Jim Crow laws.

SEPT. 22: The Interstate Commerce Commission issues another desegregation ruling for interstate bus and rail terminals. The order is ignored in some communities.

NOV. 17: The Albany Movement is born to fight segregation in Albany, Ga. Hundreds of protesters, including Dr. King, are jailed in the months that follow.

1962

APRIL: The Voter Education Project, a private, tax-exempt organization to register black voters in the South, is started. Though often overshadowed by marches, boycotts and sit-ins, black voter registration efforts in the South play an important role in bringing about change.

OCT. 2: Two people are killed during rioting at the University of Mississippi in Oxford over the enrollment of James Meredith, the school's first black student. The Kennedy administration sends in more than 20,000 troops to restore and maintain order.

1963

APRIL: The Birmingham Campaign begins with lunch counter sit-ins in the Alabama town described by Dr. King as the most segregated large city in the United States. Marches, boycotts and other demonstrations follow. The nation and the world are shocked by photographs of police dogs and fire hoses being used against protesters under the direction of Birmingham Police Chief Eugene "Bull" Connor.

JUNE 11: Alabama Gov. George Wallace vows "segregation now, segregation forever," before the first two black students are registered at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa; there is no violence.

JUNE 12: Medgar Evers, NAACP field secretary, is shot to death in the doorway of his home in Jackson, Miss.

AUG. 28: An estimated 200,000 people converge on the Lincoln Memorial for the March on Washington, the largest protest in the nation's history.

1964

JUNE 21: Three civil rights voter registration volunteers — James Chaney, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman — disappear in Neshoba County, Miss. Their bodies are found in an earthen dam in August. The county sheriff and deputy sheriff are among 19 suspects in the murders.

JULY 2: President Lyndon Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act of 1964, forbidding discrimination in public housing and employment.

JULY: Blacks riot in the Harlem section of New York. One person is killed, 140 injured and 500 arrested. Black riots begin in other Northern cities, including Brooklyn, Chicago and Philadelphia.

DEC. 10: Dr. King is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

1965

FEB. 21: Black nationalist leader Malcolm X is assassinated in New York.

MARCH 7: Civil rights marchers are beaten by Alabama police at the Pettus Bridge in Selma, abruptly ending the first attempt at a Selma-to-Montgomery march to protest the denial of voting rights to blacks in Selma. Thousands of marchers return to Selma two weeks later to successfully complete the march, with the eyes of much of the nation upon them.

MARCH 9: Three white ministers are beaten in Selma while assisting civil rights workers. Rev. James J. Reeb, 38, of Boston, dies two days later.

AUG. 6: President Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act of 1965, providing federal examiners to register black voters who have been turned away by state officials. Black political participation rises.



Prof. John Salter, Joan Trumpauer and Anne Moody stage a sit-in May 28, 1963, at a downtown Jackson, Miss., lunch counter amid the taunts of a crowd of teenagers who cover them with mustard, ketchup and sugar. Salter was beaten several times on the back and head, but remained on his stool.

Marchers at the peaceful demonstration demand an end to discrimination in education, employment, housing and other sectors of society. Dr. King delivers his stirring "I Have a Dream" speech.

SEPT. 15: Four black girls are killed when the 16th Street Baptist Church is bombed in Birmingham.

AUG. 11: In the Watts section of Los Angeles, 35 people are killed, 883 injured and 3,598 arrested in the worst urban rioting so far. Damage is estimated at more than \$200 million. The rioting is traced to alleged white police brutality toward a black youth charged with drunken driving.

OCT. 19: The House Un-American Activities Committee begins hearings in Washington on the Ku Klux Klan.

DEC. 3: Three white Klan members are convicted by an all-white jury in Alabama on charges of conspiracy in the murder of a white civil rights worker from Detroit who was slain during the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The case is one of an increasing number of prosecutions of violence against freedom workers. Three white businessmen charged with the killing of Mr. Reeb are acquitted a week later.

1966

MAY 16: With differences over militancy within the freedom movement deepening, Stokely Carmichael is named president of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. The NAACP distances itself from the "black power" doctrine two months later, and the Black Panther Party is born in Oakland, Calif., in October.

JUNE 26: A March Against Fear organized by James Meredith ends at the state capitol in Jackson, Miss. Meredith was shot during his first attempt to pull off the march three weeks earlier.

1967

MARCH 22: Alabama is ordered to begin desegregation

of its public schools, marking the first time an entire state has been placed under a single injunction to end school discrimination.

APRIL 4: Further splintering the civil rights movement and driving away some white supporters, Dr. King attacks U.S. involvement in the war in Vietnam in a speech in New York.

JUNE 12: The "long hot summer" of riots begins in Newark, N.J., site of the worst riot since Watts two years earlier. Riots break out in several other cities, including Detroit, Buffalo, N.Y., and New Haven, Conn.

JUNE 19: De facto school segregation is ruled unconstitutional in the District of Columbia.

1968

FEB. 29: The National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders concludes that the rioting that swept across many cities the previous summer was the byproduct of two vastly different societies in America: "one black, one white, separate and unequal."

APRIL 4: Dr. King is assassinated at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis. Riots break out in more than 100 cities. Eleven days later, the sanitation strike that brought Dr. King to Memphis ends.

MAY 11: The Poor People's Campaign, a demonstration Dr. King had planned before his death, begins in Washington.

JUNE 8: James Earl Ray, the accused assassin of Dr. King, is arrested at London's Heathrow Airport, two days after Sen. Robert Kennedy (D-N.Y.) is assassinated in Los Angeles.

1969

MARCH 10: James Earl Ray pleads guilty and is sentenced to 99 years in prison for the murder of Dr. King.

OCT. 29: The Supreme Court orders an almost immediate end to all school segregation, replacing an "all deliberate speed" order under which some school districts were still dragging their feet in opposition to busing. The Memphis school system later becomes one of the systems placed under court order to end segregation.

Compiled by Cornell Christian from these sources: The Negro Almanac: A Reference Work on the African American, edited by Harry Ploski and James Williams; Free at Last? The Civil Rights Movement and The People Who Made It by Fred Powlledge; Parting the Waters: America in the King Years 1954-63 by Taylor Branch; Eyes on the Prize: Reader and Study Guide, edited by Clayborne Carson, David J. Garrow, Vincent Harding and Darlene Clark Hine; The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture, edited by Charles Reagan Wilson and William Ferris.

WITNESS: SPENCER CREW

Crew, 42, is a historian and curator at the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. He is one of two historians who researched the civil rights movement to prepare exhibit text and quotes for the museum. "What you'll find in the text is that it's really not focused on the leaders so much as it was the people involved. There's a lot of information from the participants and not always the

headline-makers. I think it's important to see that part of the process. You've got to give them a lot of credit for really believing that something is important enough to sacrifice almost everything for."

By Michael Lollar
The Commercial Appeal
Graphics by Deborah D. Young



The strongest force in America's civil rights movement was gunned down on the balcony of what is now the National Civil Rights Museum.

Identifying the museum with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. inspires deep feelings and strong emotions. Exhibit designer Gerard Esterhold said the museum will be a "powerful thing." To protester Jacqueline Smith, it will be a "Disneyland of fear" that turns the plight of blacks and the poor into entertainment.

For foundation president D'Army Bailey, the museum won't be "the hate or hostility or brutality found inside. It's there to convey the beauty of man's idealism, the ultimate victory of goodness over meanness and evil."

A laser exhibit at the museum entrance will trace the path of the bullet as it crossed Mulberry Street to the balcony where Dr. King was shot. Reflected from a wreath on the motel window, the laser will be a "beacon in the sky" for a struggle that visitors first will see depicted in a bronze sculpture in the lobby.

The sculpture, *Movement to Overcome* by Michael Pavlovsky, depicts masses of people "existing and struggling together," the artist said. The museum recounts the major events in that struggle. Exhibits to be complete when the museum opens later this summer include:

The National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel

450 Mulberry Street
Memphis, Tenn. 38103
Phone (901) 521-5699

Admission Prices

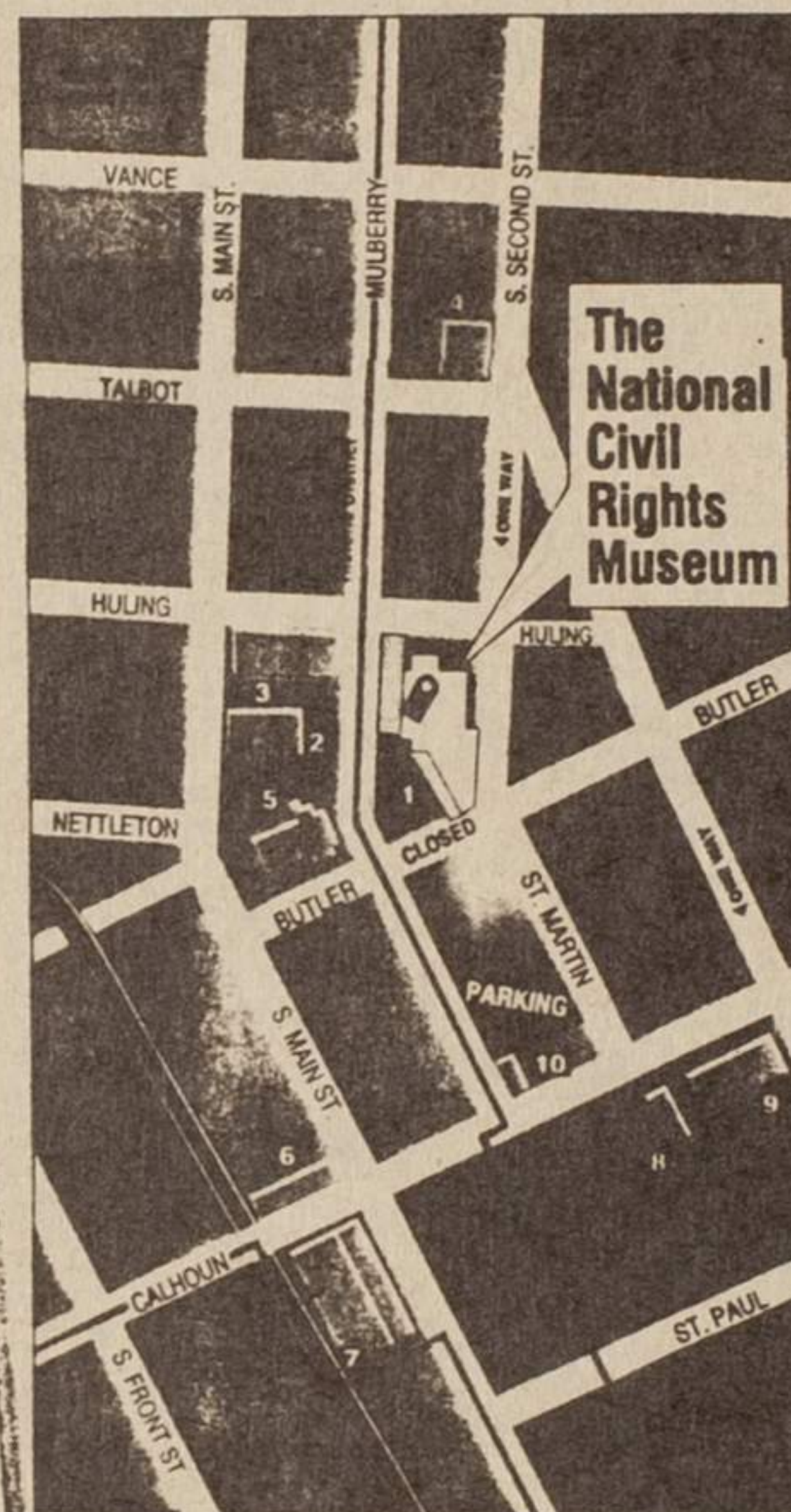
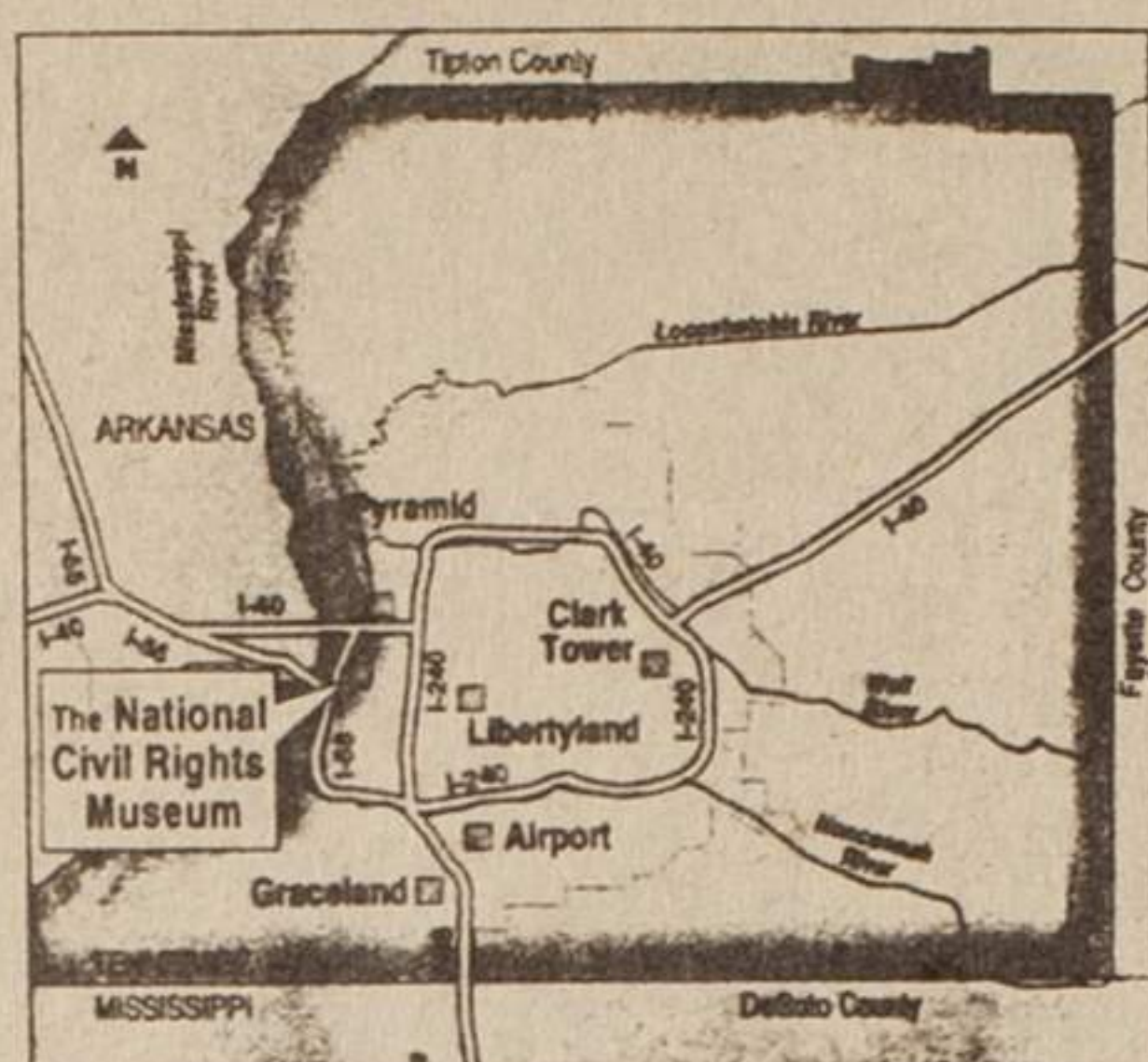
\$5 adults
\$4 seniors and students with identification
\$3 children 6-12
Age 5 and under free
Free admission 3-5 p.m. Mondays

Hours:

Official dedication ceremony Thursday, 11 a.m. to noon. Museum will be open noon to 5 p.m., Friday, Saturday and next Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for free public preview tours of construction to date. The museum will close July 8 for construction completion. Grand opening is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 31, at 10 a.m.
Hours (Once the museum officially opens)
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday-Saturday
1-5 p.m. Sunday (September through May)
1-6 p.m. Sunday (June through August)
Closed Tuesday

The museum is operated by the nonprofit National Civil Rights Museum. It was built with money provided by the State of Tennessee, the City of Memphis, Shelby County, with additional support from these private sponsors: AutoZone Inc., Dunavant Enterprises, Federal Express Corp., First Tennessee National Corp., Hyde Foundation, Malone & Hyde, Plough Foundation and Promus Companies.

LORRAINE



- KEY**
South Main Street Historic District Border
1. The National Civil Rights Museum (Lorraine Motel, 1925) (450 Mulberry) The Lorraine Motel has accommodated famous guests such as Cab Calloway, Count Basie, Nat King Cole and Aretha Franklin. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel April 4, 1968.
 2. 418 S. Main St. (1912, renovated 1982) Private condominium, owner Robert McGowan. The building where James Earl Ray shot Dr. King from a small bathroom window in the rear of the former rooming house.
 3. Theatre Works (renovated 1987) (414 S. Main) Available for theater and dance performances.
 4. WLOK (1977) (363 S. Second) Locally and minority owned commercial radio station.
 5. Fire Station No. 2 (1952) (474 S. Main) Its design was influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright.
 6. Ernestine's and Hazell's Sundry (1947) (531 S. Main) Restaurant served some civil rights march participants.
 7. Central Station (1914) (545 S. Main) Amtrak train depot, former site of the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Depot.
 8. Marmalade restaurant (1982) (153 E. Calhoun) Live jazz, blues and rhythm & blues performances.
 9. Former site of the Post Office (1928) (161 E. Calhoun) Replaced by the newer center at 555 S. Third.
 10. Tri-State Defender (1951) (124 E. Calhoun) Minority-owned newspaper.
- Sources: South Main Street Historic District; Who's Who in Memphis Business (1991); Memphis, An Architectural Guide

INTRODUCTORY EXHIBITS

For many Americans, Dr. King, Rosa Parks and John F. Kennedy are ultimate symbols of the civil rights movement.

But more than 350 years earlier, the first Africans in America rattled the chains of slavery.

The first museum gallery is made up primarily of quotes and photographs dedicated to the early years of the struggle. As early as the 1600s, slaves resisted by pretending to be ill. Some escaped, burned crops, broke tools, injured work animals, killed their masters or committed suicide.

Besides those who died in bondage, heroes who emerged include Nat Turner, Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman and John Brown.

Sojourner Truth, a former slave, refused to give up her seat in the white section of a Washington streetcar during the Civil War.

The gallery ranges from quotes by early heroes to formation of the Ku Klux Klan in Pulaski, Tenn., in 1866, to the role of the church in the movement. Part of the spirit that helped sustain the movement is captured by Sojourner Truth: "I think of the great things of God, not the little things."

BROWN VS. THE TOPEKA BOARD OF EDUCATION

In 1890, Louisiana blacks challenged a law requiring railroads to provide separate but equal cars for blacks and whites.

When Homer A. Plessy, a black, sat in a whites-only coach, he was arrested.

When Plessy vs. Ferguson went to the Supreme Court in 1896, the court upheld "separate but equal" facilities, legally formalizing segregation.

A 1930s film will be a focal point, showing differences between well-funded white schools and bare-bones black schools in the South.

In 1950, Thurgood Marshall, director of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, chose five federal lawsuits as test cases. A Topeka, Kan., suit in the name of 7-year-old Linda Brown challenged separate-but-equal laws as violating the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

The Supreme Court ruled on May 17, 1954, that separate-but-equal schools are "inherently unequal." It was the first major turning point in the civil rights movement.

LITTLE ROCK

Brown vs. Board of Education gave no guidelines for desegregation.

A few white school systems admitted blacks. Others closed. In Little Rock, the school board planned to integrate Central High School with a few blacks beginning in 1957.

Gov. Orval Faubus surrounded the school with Arkansas National Guardsmen to prevent nine blacks from entering on opening day. Nineteen days later, the blacks entered, but were escorted home when a mob stormed the school. President Dwight Eisenhower sent in members of the 101st Airborne Division, including a bodyguard for each black student. Taped news segments and photographs will capture the drama.

In 1958, Faubus closed the schools and helped set up the Little Rock Private School Corporation. About half the white students enrolled in private schools. A third attended schools outside the city, and 643 white students and most black students did not attend any school.

In 1959, a desegregated and public Central High reopened without incident.

MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT

A Montgomery, Ala., city bus is the focal point. Visitors who sit on the bus activate audio sequences of statements bus drivers might have made in 1955.

That was the year seamstress Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man.

When Mrs. Parks was arrested, she became the focal point of a citywide bus boycott. Black leaders formed the



(Additional buildings to the left)

Montgomery Improvement Association and voted for newly arrived minister Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to head the group.

After 13 months, the Supreme Court made bus segregation unconstitutional.

With success of the boycott, civil rights leaders formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to plan other mass actions. Dr. King was its president until his death.

SIT-INS

Visitors may sit at a lunch counter, the enduring symbol of sit-in demonstrations against public facilities still segregated in 1960.

On Feb. 1, 1960, four black college students sat at a segregated lunch counter in a Woolworth's store in Greensboro, N.C. Denied service, they read books until closing time and returned the next day. There had been earlier sit-ins, but this one captured the attention of the press. Protesters sat in at segregated stores in the South and chain-store affiliates in the North.

News footage shows mobs attacking protesters and police using fire hoses and tear gas to break up disturbances.

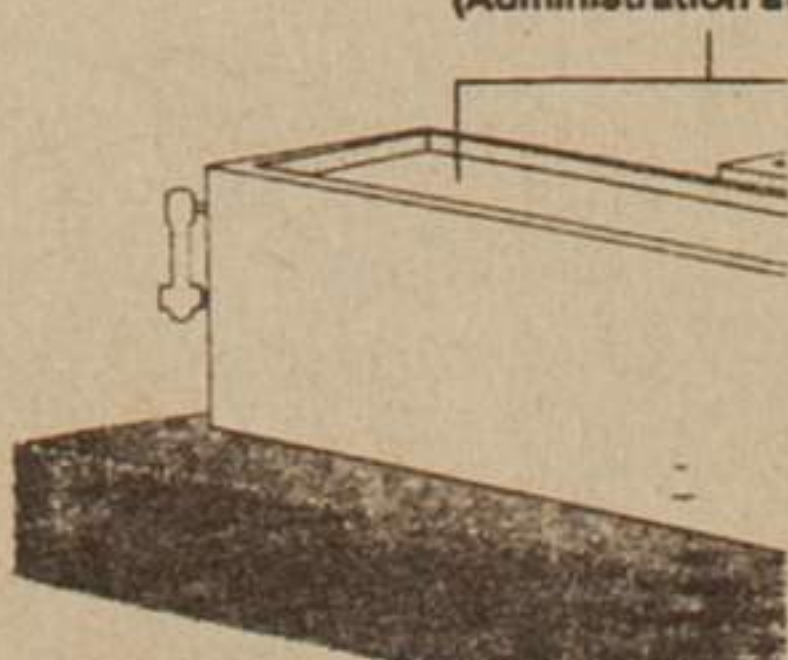
FREEDOM RIDES

A charred bus is the reminder in this gallery of the 1961 freedom rides organized to expose the South's refusal to comply with desegregation rulings.

Segregated interstate transportation was ruled unconstitutional in 1946 and segregated waiting rooms and terminals outlawed in 1960. Yet, the South still had separate terminal facilities, and blacks were often forced to the backs of buses.

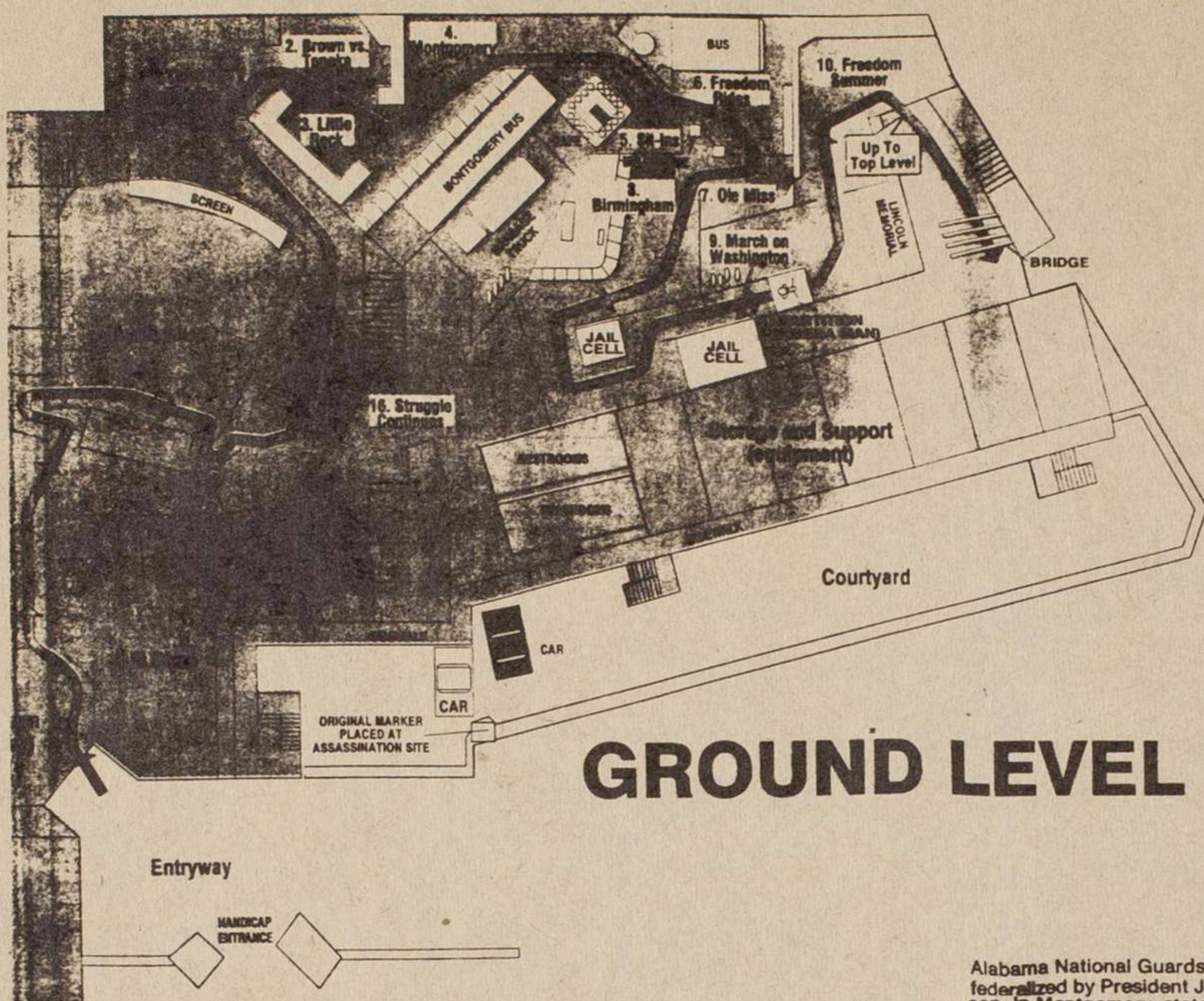
Thirteen freedom riders — seven black and six white — left Washington May 4, 1961, on two buses, a Greyhound and a Trailways, planning to use formerly whites-only terminal facilities across the deep South. Three riders were arrested and two beaten in South Carolina. In Anniston, Ala., the Greyhound met a mob which chased the bus out of town, throwing bricks, rocks and a smoke bomb through the windows. As riders

Area not included in Administration



AERIAL VIEW

The National Civil Rights Museum



GROUND LEVEL

climbed out, the bus went up in flames. With National Guard escorts, the rides later resumed with more than 300 riders eventually filling jails in Jackson, Miss.

Hank Thomas, now 50, was one of the Greyhound riders. He plans to be at the museum's July 4 dedication. "It's a part of history that we must keep alive."

OLE MISS

James Meredith applied to the University of Mississippi at Oxford, re-lighting the "states rights" fuse that almost led to an explosion in Little Rock four years earlier. School desegregation had been the law of the land since 1954, but Meredith had to sue to force his admission. That was the easy part.

Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett claimed state sovereignty, defying orders by President John F. Kennedy to admit Meredith. For four days state highway patrolmen, sheriff's deputies and local police blocked Meredith's path.

The gallery includes an audio display with the awkward taped telephone conversation between a determined Kennedy and Barnett on Sept. 30, 1962.

Kennedy dispatched federal troops to escort Meredith to class. Two people died in a riot that night, and Kennedy dispatched more troops. During the next six weeks, snipers fired shots at Meredith and a bomb exploded in his dormitory.

He graduated with a degree in political science Aug. 18, 1963. On his gown he wore an upside-down version of the "Never" slogan which segregationists had worn to show their determination.

"PROJECT C": BIRMINGHAM

The "C" in the gallery title is for "confrontation," epitomized by Birmingham public safety commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor. Birmingham was targeted in 1963 because of open racism and laws forbidding public "mixing of the races."

As sit-ins and marches progressed, newsreels show Connor unleashing dogs on protestors and turning fire hoses on children. Kennedy then pushed sweeping civil rights legislation and said, "The civil rights movement owes Bull Connor as much as it owes Abraham Lincoln."

Dr. King, accused of inflammatory tactics, defended himself in his famous "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." A copy, on display in this gallery with a recreation of Dr. King's Birmingham jail cell, explains his unwillingness to wait.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON

The city-by-city desegregation effort was not changing the widening economic gap between blacks and whites. Union organizer A. Philip Randolph helped organize the 1963 "March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom."

On Aug. 28, 1963, an estimated 250,000 people walked from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial. Televised coverage at the memorial helps dramatize the focus on economic and political rights, education, jobs and housing.

FREEDOM SUMMER

In spite of headway in the late 1950s and early 1960s, huge numbers of Southern blacks were not registered to vote. In 1964, more than 1,000 volunteers, mostly white Northern college students, began 44 projects in Mississippi, including voter registration, schools, community centers, medical care and legal aid.

A Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) was organized with the aim of replacing the all-white delegation at the Democratic National Convention in August.

The gallery will include news footage from the convention in Atlantic City, N.J., where President Lyndon Johnson tried to arrange a compromise between the rival delegations.

(Additional buildings to the left)

SELMA

Selma, Ala., was majority black in 1965, but blacks were only 1 percent of registered voters in Dallas County. Intimidation, tests and repeated delays kept blacks from the polls.

Staffs of the SCLC and SNCC targeted Selma for demonstrations and voter registration projects. Dr. King was arrested along with hundreds of demonstrators as blacks were slowly registered.

Protest leaders then decided to march from Selma to the capitol in Montgomery. And Selma officials provided grist for front-page coverage in every major newspaper and on television, with mounted troopers clubbing marchers on streets filled with tear gas.

They are among the most dramatic photographs in this gallery, which also will include a re-creation of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, which served as a bottleneck for marchers twice stopped there by armed troopers.

The march was repeated under the protection of 1,800

Alabama National Guardsmen federalized by President Johnson. In Montgomery, state troopers prevented marchers from delivering a voting rights petition to Gov. George Wallace, but five months later Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law.

MARCH AGAINST FEAR

Activists were increasingly dissatisfied with the slow pace of change in the South, and some mounted individual campaigns in hopes of speeding the process.

James Meredith, the student who had integrated Ole Miss in 1962, said he still did not feel blacks could move freely or safely. To dramatize his fear (and encourage voter registration) he set out from Memphis on June 5, 1966, planning to march 220 miles to Jackson, Miss.

On the second day of his march with a few friends, Meredith was wounded by a white man who stepped from the underbrush and fired three shots. Movement leaders vowed to

continue the march. When Meredith recovered, he led the marchers to Jackson where SNCC's Stokely Carmichael urged blacks to "build a power base in this country so strong we will bring (whites) to their knees every time they mess with us."

Photographs of Meredith, his march and those who continued his effort will be focal points of this gallery. In his effort, Stokely Carmichael used the term "black power." SNCC and others were moving away from Dr. King's nonviolent philosophy.

In Louisiana, a black group called "Deacons for Defense and Justice" formed in Bogalusa and added 50 chapters across the state with arsenals of grenades, machine guns, pistols, rifles and shotguns. The group inspired "black pride" and made white extremists think twice about causing trouble.

CHICAGO

In the summer of 1966, Dr. King and the SCLC chose Chicago as a battleground over urban slums, segregated public schools and de facto segregation.

The city is this gallery's symbol of urban struggle and mobilized reaction. Photographs in the gallery, of white crowds pelting marchers with bricks and bottles, are reminiscent of city after city in the South and of racial conflicts that observed no boundaries.

Migration from the South had helped quadruple Chicago's black population from 1940 to 1960, and the Urban League claimed as early as 1956 the city was "the most segregated city in the United States."

In the summer of 1966, tempers flared when firefighters turned off hydrants in ghettos. A three-day riot killed two and injured hundreds before the National Guard restored order. The Freedom Movement then moved demonstrations from ghettos to all-white neighborhoods where residents attacked marchers. Promises from the city quieted some marchers, and growing protest of the Vietnam War diluted manpower more.

MEMPHIS

In 1968, Dr. King planned a massive march on Washington as a Poor People's Campaign. The path would first lead to Memphis.

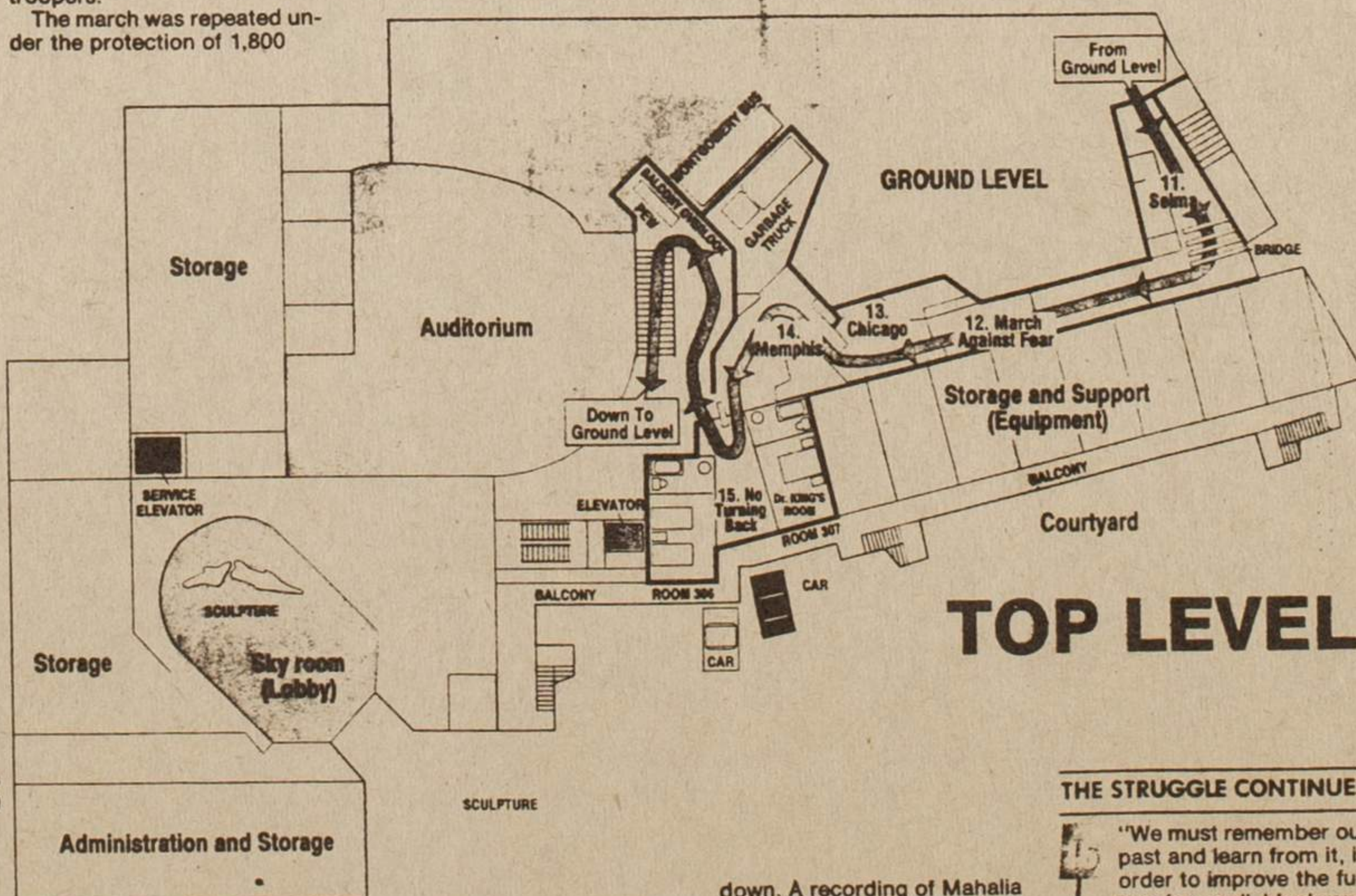
The city had been largely untouched by the serious racial confrontations of other Southern cities, but all it needed was a real spark. On a rainy Jan. 30, the city sent more than 20 black workers home with partial pay, but paid white workers for the full day. In February, two black workers died in a garbage-truck accident.

One of those barrel-shaped trucks is a vivid reminder in this gallery of the movement's demands for equal working conditions for black employees. The gallery also includes newsreel footage of the growing protest and its violent outcome.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees used the sanitation workers' plight as an organizing opportunity, persuading 1,300 sanitation, road and sewer workers to stay home. The city's patrician mayor, Henry Loeb, said the strike was illegal and refused to negotiate.

Daily marches, a boycott of downtown businesses and rallies brought Dr. King to Memphis, where he led a march on March 28. The enduring symbol of the march was its "I Am A Man" banners and signs, but the march ended in looting, riots and a curfew enforced by the National Guard. Dr. King planned a second march for April 8. In preparation, he returned April 3, checked into the Lorraine Motel and delivered his "Mountaintop" speech at Mason Temple, in which he said he had overcome the fear of death.

The next day he was shot on the balcony of the Lorraine and pronounced dead at St. Joseph Hospital. Four weeks later, Rev. Ralph Abernathy led the poor people's march, from Memphis to Washington, that Dr. King had planned. "We must prove to white America that you can kill the leader but you can't kill the dream," Abernathy said.



TOP LEVEL

THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

"We must remember our past and learn from it, in order to improve the future for us all. Ideals and dreams, organizations and individual efforts, commitment and dedication are just as important — and necessary — today as they were a few decades ago. The struggle will continue, with determination and courage . . ." says a panel in this area.

To that end, the museum asks visitors for their parting thoughts. A bulletin-type marker board is provided "to offer your own thoughts about what you have seen in the museum, or what you feel constitutes the important civil rights issues facing our society today and in the future."

down. A recording of Mahalia Jackson singing *Precious Lord*, Dr. King's favorite hymn, will play in the background.

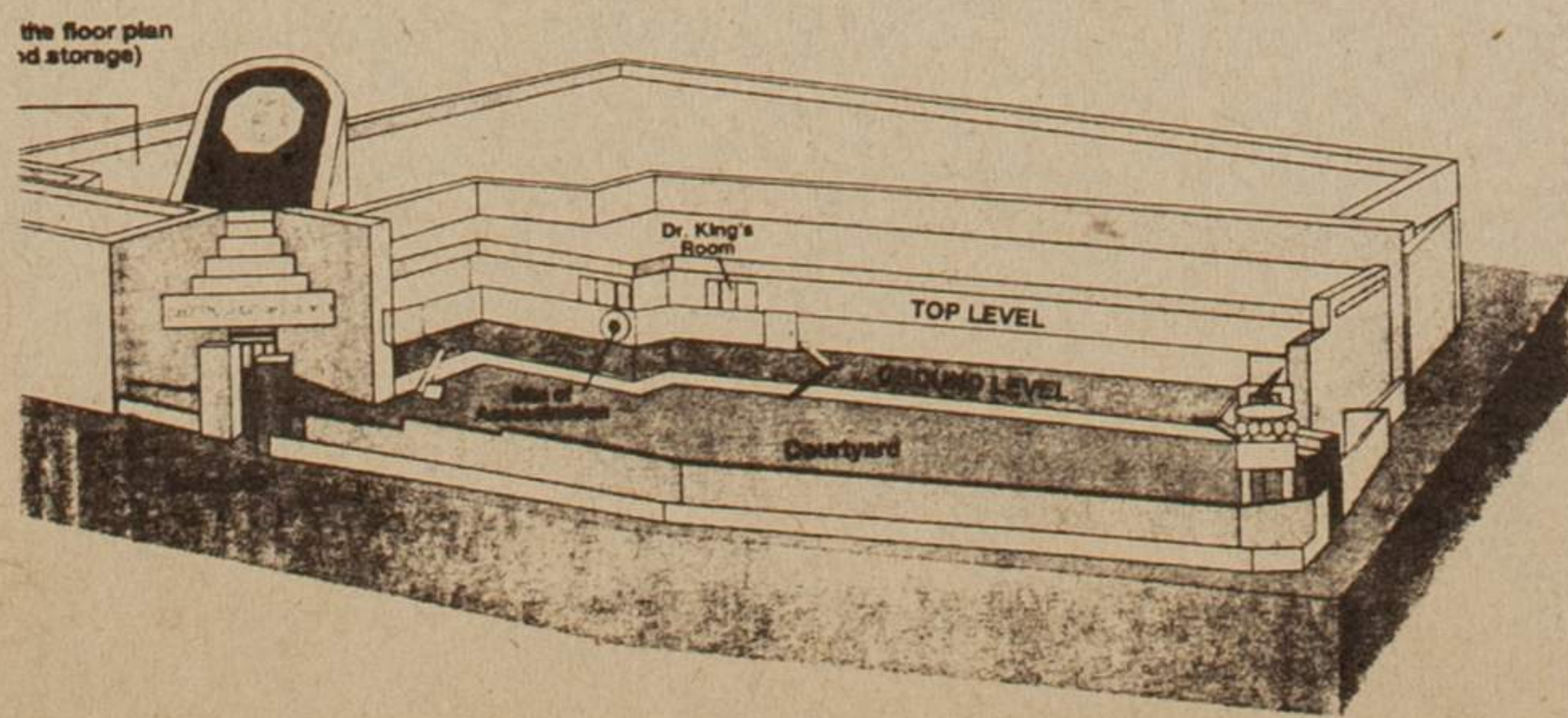
Beyond the room, visitors also will see a retrospective of Dr. King's philosophy in excerpts from his own speeches and the teachings that inspired him. A pew from his Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery sits in the lobby area.

At this point, visitors can stand at an interior balcony with a panoramic view of most of the museum. But, from city bus to charred Greyhound to sanitation truck, it's not over, says the introduction to the last exhibit.

NO TURNING BACK

Dr. King had been the most powerful presence in the movement. His methods of "nonviolent resistance" incited change by forcing Americans to face the problems of the underprivileged.

This gallery includes the restored room Dr. King occupied at the Lorraine and the balcony where he was gunned




**National
Civil Rights
Museum**

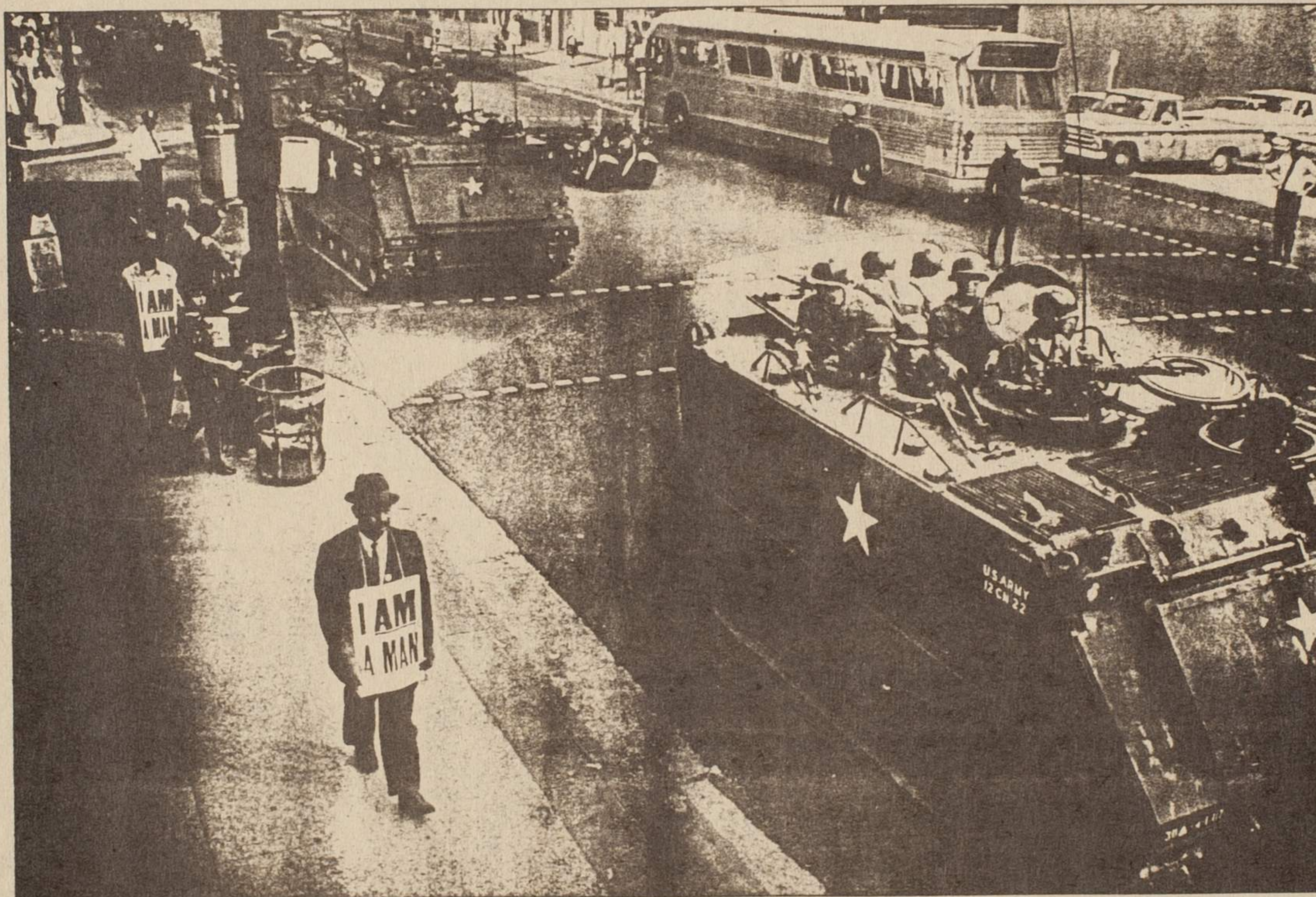

An aide clears the way for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rev. Ralph Abernathy as they lead a March 28, 1968, demonstration that broke up in disorder.



Trash piles up on the southwest corner of Second and Union after 930 of 1,100 city sanitation workers walked off the job Feb. 12, 1968. The workers demanded AFSCME be recognized as their bargaining agent and sought action on a series of grievances.

WITNESS: TOMMY LEE SMITH

Smith, 64, city sanitation worker: "The worst thing was the way people talked to you. Some of them acted nasty, cussing and calling you 'nigger' and things like that. You had to let it roll off, or you'd get fired. You had to do it, and nobody liked that." Smith carried an "I AM a Man" banner during the strike. "It felt pretty good." Afterward: "Things got better, but not all at once. It's different now. I like it better. You don't have to work from sunup to sundown. The pay's better. We used to have to go in the backyard and drag it (garbage) out. Now we get it on the curb. It's a whole lot better now, a lot faster."



National Guard armored personnel carriers escort sanitation workers on Main Street March 29, 1968, the day after a march led by Dr. King disintegrated when some youths chose window-breaking over nonviolence.



Abe Schwab (left), Beverly Schwab and Michelle Johnson react in astonishment at the sight of armored military vehicles on Beale Street on March 29, 1968. They were cleaning up glass from windows broken the day before at Schwab Brothers at 163 Beale.

'68 strike, violence ended city's calm and Dr. King's life

Until Feb. 12, 1968, Memphis seemed a peaceful city in a turbulent land.

Beginning with the stormy desegregation of Little Rock's Central High School a decade earlier, racial unrest had swept through the South — student sit-ins and freedom rides; the bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala.; James Meredith at Ole Miss; police dogs in Birmingham; the beating of demonstrators in Selma, Ala. Memphis joined the upheaval

when many of the city's 1,300 sanitation workers struck in February 1968. Two black workers had been crushed to death, and on a rainy day, blacks were docked while white supervisors got paid in full. Mayor Henry Loeb called the strike illegal. Seventy-five black ministers and several white clergymen backed the workers. The strike escalated; garbage piled up.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was preparing to lead a march



A Memphis police officer uses a stick on a youth who was looting a store at Main and Beale on March 28, 1968. Violence broke out during a scheduled march in support of striking sanitation workers. One person was killed, more than 200 arrested, and a 7 p.m.-5 a.m. curfew was imposed.

on Washington. He made a detour through Memphis and led a protest march that ended in a riot. One person was killed, 60 were hurt, 300 arrested. King felt his nonviolent reputation had been damaged, and he vowed to return.

King and his aides were preparing for a second march when he was killed by a sniper's bullet at the Lorraine Motel. A curfew was invoked, the National Guard was called out and military vehicles patrolled the streets. America rioted.

Twelve days later, a compromise was struck and the garbage strike was over.

National Civil Rights Museum

From Page G1

Museum

threatened and he was aware of his vulnerability, Dr. King declared he had conquered his fear of death — and he acted accordingly. Shortly before 6 p.m. on April 4, he stepped outside his room, leaned against the iron railing of the balcony and talked casually with his staff as they prepared to go to dinner before the rally at nearby Clayborn Temple. Then, from a back window of a rooming house 205 feet away, came a heavy-caliber bullet that exploded against Dr. King's right jaw, tore through his neck, severed his spinal cord and hurled him back against the wall. It was H. Rap Brown who said violence was as American as apple pie, and in that moment of senseless destruction and national loss, it seemed Brown was right. Small places often make large histories: the cockpit of Charles

Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis, Lincoln's box at Ford's Theatre, John Glenn's orbiting space capsule, the back seat of John Kennedy's convertible in Dallas, the spot where Dr. King fell in Memphis.

He was still sprawled on the balcony when Joseph Louw, a photographer with the Public Broadcast Laboratory, snapped the picture that has become one of the most terrible but historic images of the civil rights years.

The picture shows a small group of men and a woman — Andrew Young, Jesse Jackson and Ralph Abernathy among them — standing on the balcony, pointing in the direction from which the shot came.

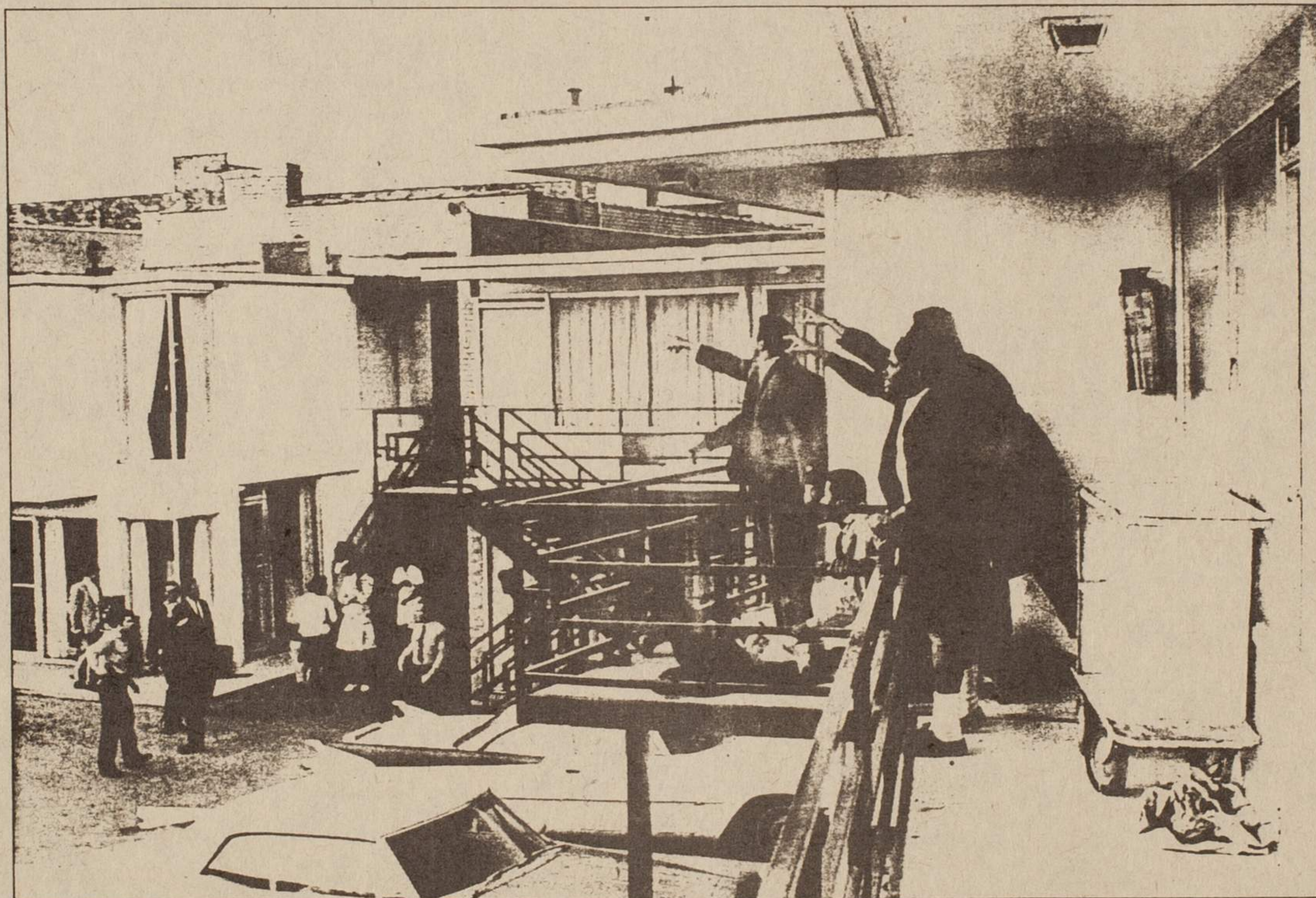
There are other images from the civil rights years: nine black kids facing angry mobs at Little Rock's Central High School; Rosa Parks refusing to give up her bus seat in Montgomery, Ala.; the lunch counter sit-ins, the freedom riders, the dogs and fire hoses in



Birmingham, the voters' march from Selma to Montgomery, James Meredith's march from Memphis, south against fear. There's more. But none is more compelling than the images of Dr. King's

rooms and the balcony where he died. For it is here that time, space and violence converged, leaving us with a history that — given the National Civil Rights Museum — we are not likely to forget.

Rev. Jesse Jackson and Dr. King confer at a Mason Temple mass meeting April 3, 1968, the night before Dr. King's death. He told a crowd of 2,000 that a march planned for April 8 had to proceed to refocus attention on the sanitation workers' strike, even though the march was banned by a federal injunction. "If the police dogs and fire hoses in Alabama couldn't stop us, an injunction in Memphis, Tenn., can't," Dr. King said.



April 4, 1968: Aides stand over the dying Dr. King and point toward where the assassin's shot came from. The photograph was made by Joseph Louw who was working on a documentary.



Coretta King leads a march on Memphis City Hall on April 8, 1968. At left are sons Martin Luther King III and Dexter King. At right is Rev. Ralph Abernathy. An estimated 19,000 people participated.

WITNESS: HENRY LOEB III

Loeb, 70, was Memphis mayor during the 1968 city sanitation workers' strike. He was said to have an aggressive, sometimes confrontational style, which many blamed for the situation that led to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Loeb, who lives in Forrest City, Ark., still sponsors Henry Loeb's Dutch Treat Luncheon in Memphis each month. A stroke in 1988 left him unable to communicate verbally. Through the years, Loeb gave no indication he felt he was wrong in his dispute with the sanitation workers or that he would change the way he handled it. Supporters have pointed to his strong conservative fiscal record as mayor and said Loeb's actions were based on concern for the city tax dollar and not any racial motivation.



In a meeting with foreign journalists in 1971, Loeb said: "I intensely regret the death of Dr. King here, but we do not like to remind ourselves of something that has hurt the community so much. We are looking ahead, not back." As Loeb left office in January 1972, The Commercial Appeal editorially discussed his "apparent inability to tolerate differences with his own opinion." The editorial also said, in part: "Henry Loeb has acted as a man without doubts who did what he believed was right for the city. We all have to respect him for that."



With a shotgun hidden under his desk, Mayor Henry Loeb shakes hands with Rev. Joseph P. Toney on April 5, 1968. At center is Rev. Nicholas L. Vieron of Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church. They were among 300 ministers from the city's two largest ministerial groups who marched from St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral to City Hall and implored Loeb to recognize the sanitation workers' union and grant a union dues checkoff.



Some cried as marchers, led by Dr. King's widow and other black leaders, arrived at City Hall on April 8, 1968.

CREDIT DUE

The photographs on these two pages are from The Commercial Appeal and Memphis Press-Scimitar files. Photographers included Robert Williams, Charles Nicholas, Barney Sellers, William Leaptrott (deceased), Ken Ross (deceased), Sam Melborn (deceased) and Jack Thornell of The Associated Press. Photographs from the Press-Scimitar files were provided courtesy of the Mississippi Valley Collection at Memphis State University.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

A week of celebration and remembrance is planned to mark the historic dedication of the National Civil Rights Museum. Here are the related events:

TODAY

■ **PRAISE GOD:** Ministers and choirs participate in a citywide church service at 3 p.m. at Mason Temple, 930 Mason, where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his last public speech. Guest speakers: Rev. Jesse Jackson and Rev. Joseph Lowery. Admission free.

MONDAY

■ **"THE STRUGGLE REVISITED,"** symposium, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Clough Hall at Rhodes College. Focus of the first day is "The Law vs. Determination." Civil rights leaders and lawyers who have distinguished themselves in civil rights issues will conduct small group sessions. Luncheon speaker, Jamil Al-Amin (H. Rap Brown). Tickets \$50 for three days, or \$20 per day; \$5 per day for students;

luncheon, \$10, \$5 for speaker only. Tickets available in advance by calling 521-9699 or at the school. Registration begins 8:30 a.m.

■ **AN EVENING WITH MAYA ANGELOU** at the Orpheum begins at 7:30. Ms. Angelou is best known for her best-seller, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. She will read her poetry and other works during the performance. Free and open to the public.

TUESDAY

■ **"THE STRUGGLE REVISITED,"** symposium, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Clough Hall, Rhodes College. Focus of the second day is "Organizing the Dream." Civil rights activists, Dave Dennis and Bob Moses will speak on their experiences during the movement. Tickets available in advance by calling 521-9699 or at the school. Registration begins 8:45 a.m.

■ **"A SALUTE TO LEGENDS"** banquet at The Peabody, 6:30 p.m. Entertainment by Guy Carawan, the Original Freedom

Singers, and Pete Seeger. Master of ceremonies: Julian Bond. Speaker: Coretta Scott King. Honorees: Rosa Parks and Mrs. King. Admission, \$50 per person. Call 521-9699.

WEDNESDAY

■ **"THE STRUGGLE REVISITED,"** symposium, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Brownlee Hall, LeMoyné-Owen College. Third day's focus is "The Media and the Movement." Speakers will explore how each affected the other. Luncheon speaker, Dick Gregory. Tickets available in advance by calling 521-9699 or at the school.

■ **A NIGHT ON BEALE STREET.** Enjoy the restaurants and clubs. An unstructured evening.

THURSDAY

■ **DEDICATION CEREMONY,** 11 a.m. to noon at the National Civil Rights Museum, 450 Mulberry. Speakers include D'Army Bailey, Benjamin Hooks, Gov. Ned McWherter and Rosa Parks for the dedication. Actor Morgan



James Meredith drags himself to the side of U.S. 51 in Hernando, Miss., on June 6, 1966, after a sniper shot him during his March Against Fear to Jackson. Meredith finished the march three weeks later.

Freeman will introduce Ms. Parks. Masters of ceremonies: Cybill Shepherd and Blair Underwood. Public invited. Admission free. Free entertainment outdoors through 5 p.m.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY, JULY 4-7

■ **PUBLIC PREVIEW:** Free tours of the museum, noon to 5 p.m. July 4 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

READ MORE ABOUT IT

Here is a list of books for adults and children relating to the civil rights movement. They are available at the Public Library and Information Center, 1850 Peabody.

■ **We Shall Overcome: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Black Freedom Struggle,** edited by Peter J. Albert and Ronald Hoffman, Pantheon Books, 1990

■ **Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-1963,** by Taylor Branch, Simon & Schuster, 1988

■ **Martin Luther King Jr.,** by Robert Jakoubek, Chelsea House Publishers, 1989

■ **Let the Trumpet Sound: The Life of Martin Luther King Jr.,** by Stephen B. Oates, New American Library, 1982

■ **My Lord, What A Morning: An Autobiography,** by Marian Anderson, Viking Press, 1956

■ **All God's Children Need Traveling Shoes,** by Maya Angelou, Random House, 1986

■ **If Beale Street Could Talk,** by James Baldwin, Dial Press, 1974

■ **Conversations with James Baldwin,** edited by Fred L. Standley and Louis H. Pratt, University Press of Mississippi, 1989

■ **At the River I Stand: Memphis, the 1968 Strike, and Martin Luther King,** by Joan Turner Beltus, St. Luke's Press, 1990

■ **Children of Crisis: A Study of Courage and Fear, Vol. 1,** by Robert Coles, Atlantic, Little Brown, reprint, 1977

■ **Women in the Civil Rights Movement: Trailblazers and Torchbearers, 1940-1965,** edited by Vicki L. Crawford, et al., Carlson Publishers, 1990

■ **September, September,** by Shelby Foote, Random House, 1978

■ **When and Where I Enter,** by Paula Giddings, Bantam, 1985

■ **Gemini: An Extended Autobiographical Statement on My First Twenty-five Years of Being a Black Poet,** by Nikki Giovanni, Bobbs-Merrill, 1972

■ **Black Protest in the Sixties,** by August Meier, Elliott Rudwick and John Bracey Jr., M. Wiener, 1990

■ **Sula,** by Toni Morrison, Knopf, 1974

■ **Free at Last: The Civil Rights Movement and the People Who Made It,** by Fred Powledge, Little Brown, 1991

■ **The Color Purple,** by Alice Walker, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1982

NONFICTION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

■ **Martin Luther King Day,** by Linda Lowery, Carolrhoda Books, 1987

■ **Don't Ride the Bus On Monday: The Rosa Parks Story,** by Louise Meriwether, Prentice-Hall, 1973

■ **Three Who Dared,** by Tom Cohen, Doubleday, 1969

■ **Jackie Robinson and the Story of All-Black Baseball,** by Jim O'Connor, Random House, 1989

■ **Frederick Douglass and the Fight For Freedom,** by Douglas T. Miller, Facts on File, 1988

■ **And Still We Rise: Interviews With 50 Black Role Models,** by Barbara Reynolds, USA Today Books, 1988

■ **A Long Hard Journey: The Story of the Pullman Porter,** by Patricia and Frederick McKissack, Walker, 1989

■ **They Took Their Stand,** by Emma Gelders Sterne, Crowell-Colliers Press, 1968

■ **Blacks in America, 1954-1979,** by Florence Jackson, F. Watts, 1980

■ **The Civil Rights Movement in America From 1865 To The Present,** by Patricia and Frederick McKissack, Childrens Press, 1987

■ **Rosa Parks,** by Eloise Greenfield, Crowell, 1973

■ **The History of the Civil Rights Movement,** (a series of eight books) published by Silver Burdett.

Guest list to include Mrs. King, Rosa Parks

Here's a who's who of civil rights figures and other dignitaries who have agreed to participate in dedication week events for the National Civil Rights Museum:

■ **Rosa Parks** — She refused to give up her bus seat to a white man on Dec. 1, 1955, and her subsequent arrest led to a 381-day boycott of the Montgomery, Ala., city bus line. A young Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. aided the boycott. Mrs. Parks later moved to Michigan and worked from 1965 to 1988 for U.S. Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.). Mrs. Parks, 78, founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development in Detroit in 1987. She is scheduled to attend a banquet at The Peabody at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and the dedication ceremony at 11 a.m. Thursday.

■ **Coretta Scott King** — Since the assassination of her husband, Mrs. King has dedicated her life to building the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta. During Dr. King's public career, she occasionally substituted for him as a speaker and spoke on her own. In recent years, she has addressed peace rallies, helped mobilize the 20th anniversary March on Washington in 1983 and worked for other causes, such as the Full Employment Action Council. She is scheduled to speak at the banquet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at The Peabody.

■ **Julian Bond** — He represented Dr. King's legislative district in the Georgia state house and went on to serve from 1974 to 1987 as a state senator from Atlanta. Bond, 51, lives in Washington and hosts *America's Black Forum*, the country's longest-running black-owned television show. He narrated portions of the *Eyes on the Prize* public television series. He is scheduled to participate in a symposium, "The Law vs. Determination," Monday at Rhodes College, the banquet Tuesday and the museum dedication Thursday.

■ **Dick Gregory** — The black activist and comedian participated in the civil rights movement of the 1960s and is known for his hunger strikes, anti-drug activities and "The Bahamian Diet." He will be a guest speaker at a luncheon at noon Wednesday at LeMoyné-Owen College.

■ **Cybill Shepherd** — The Memphis actress starred in the television series *Moonlighting* and movies including *The Last Picture Show*. Museum officials said she was interested in supporting the museum because of her involvement in the recent filming of a movie based on Shelby Foote's novel *September, September*, which has an emotional civil rights theme. She is scheduled to participate in the dedication ceremony Thursday.

■ **Rev. Jesse Jackson** — Director of the Rainbow Coalition,



Rosa Parks is fingerprinted in February 1956 by a Montgomery, Ala., police officer during a city bus boycott that lasted 381 days. The boycott began with her arrest the previous December for refusing to give up her seat to a white man. Mrs. Parks is scheduled to attend Tuesday's banquet, where she will be honored, and Thursday's dedication.

founder of Operation PUSH, Jackson, 49, ran unsuccessfully for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 1984 and 1988. He will speak at 3 p.m. today at Mason Temple, 930 Mason, where Dr. King made his last public address.

■ **Joseph Lowery** — The Methodist minister was a co-founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which selected Dr. King as its first president in 1957. Lowery has been SCLC president since 1977. He will join Jesse Jackson as a speaker at Mason Temple this afternoon.

■ **Benjamin Hooks** — The native Memphian has been NAACP national executive director since 1977. He is a lawyer and ordained minister and formerly served as a Criminal Court judge in Memphis. He is scheduled to participate in the dedication ceremony Thursday.

■ **Maya Angelou** — Poet and author of 10 best-selling books, Ms. Angelou, 63, is best known for her book *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. "An Evening with Maya Angelou" is scheduled at 7:30 Monday at The Orpheum.

■ **Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin (H. Rap Brown)** — A former chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, he became an outspoken advocate of black power in 1966. He converted to Islamic faith during a prison term resulting from a conviction for a saloon holdup in New York. Upon his release, he opened a grocery store in Atlanta. He will speak Monday at a luncheon at Rhodes College.

■ **Pete Seeger** — The 72-year-old folk singer and songwriter wrote such classic songs as *If I Had a Hammer*, along with Lee Hays, and *Where Have All the Flowers Gone?* Along with Guy Carawan and the Original Freedom Singers, Seeger is scheduled to perform at the banquet Tuesday at The Peabody.

■ **Morgan Freeman** — The Memphis-born film, stage and television actor, 54, grew up in Charleston and Greenwood, Miss., and Chicago. He appeared in *Lean on Me*, *Glory*, and *Driving*

Miss Daisy, all released in 1989, and currently is in *Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves*.

■ **James Farmer** — He is a founder and former national director of the Congress of Racial Equality, which was one of the country's leading civil rights organizations during the 1960s. He is scheduled to participate in the banquet and a civil rights symposium Tuesday.

■ **David J. Dennis** — A Congress of Racial Equality organizer in Louisiana and Mississippi in the 1960s, he was the supervisor of Michael Schwerner, one of three

young civil rights workers slain in 1964 near Philadelphia, Miss. He is scheduled to participate in the banquet and a civil rights symposium Tuesday.

■ **Robert Moses** — A field secretary of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in 1961 and 1962, he coordinated SNCC activities in Mississippi. He was co-director of the Council of Federated Organizations from 1962 to 1964. He is scheduled to participate in the banquet and a civil rights symposium Tuesday.

—Compiled by Wayne Risher

WITNESS: JOAN BEIFUSS

Ms. Beifuss, 60, author of *At the River I Stand*: "The movement in the Sixties was a time of high idealism. Real freedom and equality seemed possible. There would be troubles and even death, and nothing would be easy. But the possibility was there. It was a kind of fierce joy I felt about the whole thing."

"But the resurrection didn't come. There were good changes and bad choices. But the great, wrenching, necessary transformation in our common life together didn't come. It was not so much that idealists became pragmatists, which is necessary in



a political world, but the pragmatists lost their idealism. To blunt the pain of that loss, we all became cynics about this country and about ourselves. The freedom and equality that was a true goal in the Sixties is still a true goal. We'll get there yet. And it's good to have those images of the Sixties movement to hearten us on the way."

Civil Rights Museum Debuts in Memphis

By Anne Funderburg

MEMPHIS, TENN.—The National Civil Rights Museum opened to the public here on September 28, 12 weeks after its formal dedication ceremony on July 4. The culmination of a \$9.25-million project that has weathered delays and criticism, the museum was launched in 1982 when a group of black civic leaders purchased at a foreclosure sale the Lorraine Motel, the site of the April 1968 assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. The motel—located not far from Mem-



D'Army Bailey, who led the effort to establish the National Civil Rights Museum, speaks at its opening.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES/STATE OF TENNESSEE

phis's historic Beale Street, downtown's famous entertainment district—had become a seedy place frequented by prostitutes and drug users. But the Lorraine also attracted visitors who viewed the building, because of its association with King's death, as a symbol of the civil rights movement. One of these individuals was D'Army Bailey, then a Memphis attorney and now a Tennessee circuit court judge.

"We felt that because the Lorraine drew people from all over the world, this was a unique opportunity for this city to initiate a campaign to transform it into a facility that would teach about (Continued on Page 2)

Civil Rights

(Continued from Page 1)

the civil rights struggle," says Bailey, who has led the preservation effort as the president of the Lorraine Civil Rights Museum Foundation.

Because the motel was deteriorating, the architects recommended that most of the building be razed, with the exception of the wing that contains Rooms 306 and 307, where King had stayed and outside of which he was killed. They decided to save the motel facade so that the new construction could be attached to it, incorporating the facade and King's rooms into the museum building.

Rooms 306 and 307 were restored to their

appearance at the time of King's death, using photographs taken by the police and by a local photographer. Some of the original furnishings were still in the motel. Other furnishings "were re-created as much as feasibly possible [to appear as they did on] April 4, 1968," says Fred Royals of McKissack McKissack & Thompson, the museum's architects. "The key area is all as original as possible."

The motel signs "were put back in the same exact location," says Royals. "They're not the originals because they were in such bad condition. We have re-created them, using the old ones as templates, although some of the old pieces and parts were used."

In addition to King's rooms, the museum features 14 exhibits that trace the evolution of the civil rights movement. Chronologically,

the major exhibits progress from the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision in 1954 to the Memphis sanitation workers' strike and King's death in 1968.

"Most of the main exhibits feature a set piece that tries to give people a feeling of what the scenario was and where it took place. Played against that is an interpretive exhibit that explains the sequence of events and their significance," explains exhibit designer Gerard Eisterhold.

One exhibit re-creates King's cell in the Birmingham jail, and a videotape shows demonstrators clashing with Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor, Birmingham's public safety commissioner and a staunch segregationist who was King's chief antagonist. To evoke the 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery, designers built a scale model of the

Edmund Pettus Bridge, which has become a symbol of that march.

In an exhibit representing student sit-ins, mannequins are seated at a lunch counter while the taunts of white segregationists—actual voices from the 1960s—are broadcast through speakers behind them.

A restored 1955 Montgomery city bus commemorates Rosa Parks's refusal to sit in the back of the bus. Parks and the bus driver are portrayed by mannequins. When the driver's prerecorded "voice" demands that Parks give up her seat, she remains motionless.

Because the exhibits rely heavily on audio-visual multimedia effects, some people have criticized them. *Time*, for example, has said that the "museum will push the barriers of good taste in its quest to create a sense of historical immediacy and emotional context for

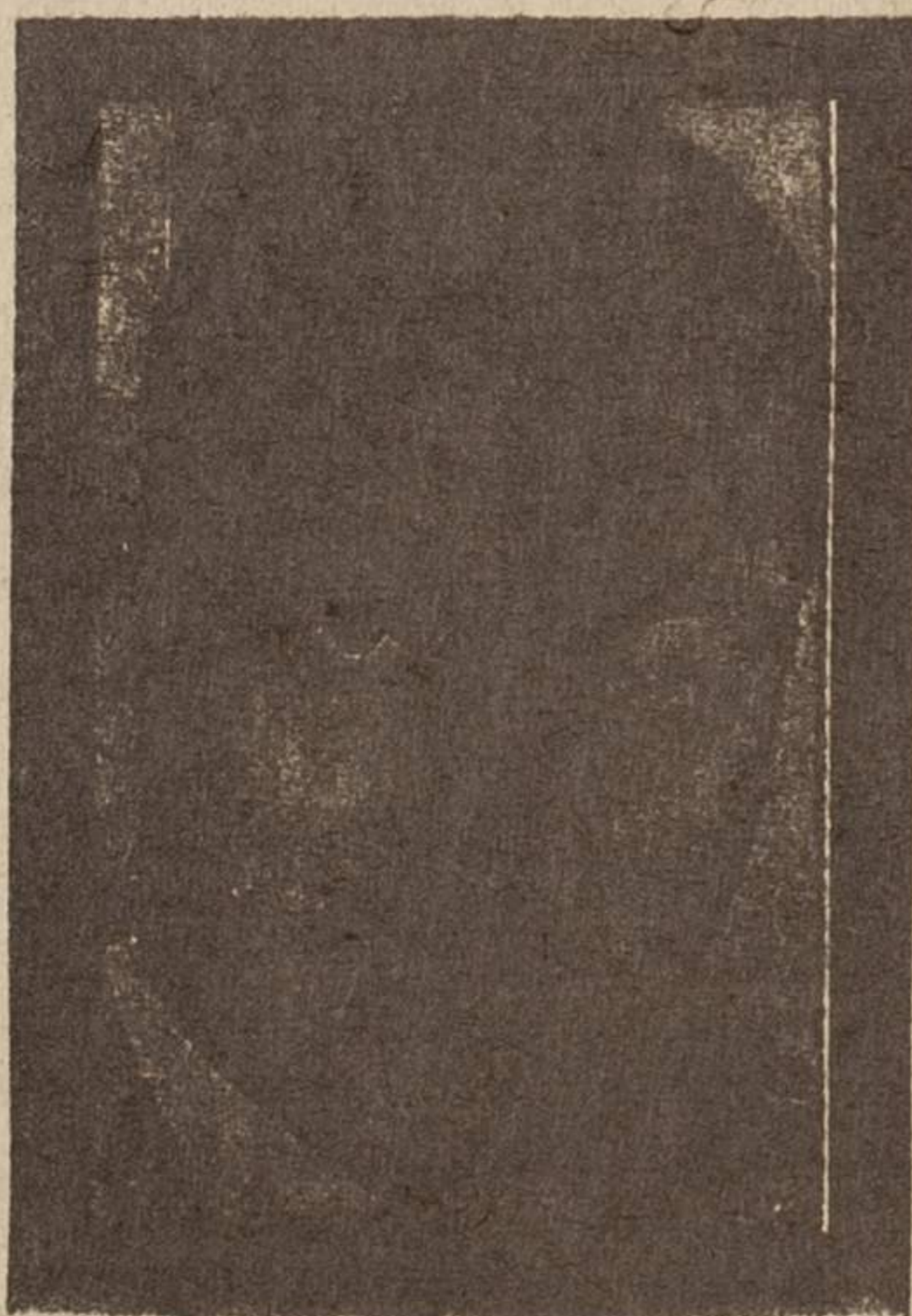
Dixie Living

The Atlanta Journal  THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 1991

Keeping the Dream

SOME SAY THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT DIED ON THE BALCONY OF MEMPHIS'S LORRAINE MOTEL. NOW A MUSEUM IS TRYING TO BRING IT TO LIFE FOR NEW GENERATIONS.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. didn't die for a museum, says opponent Jacqueline Smith.

By Keith L. Thomas
Staff writer

Y MEMPHIS, Tenn.
ou want to be here. But you really don't.
The cold concrete walkway outside Rooms 306 and 307 of the Lorraine Motel is just a narrow path covered with footprints left in the chalky construction dust.

Run-down buildings, junk-strewn lots, "For Sale" signs and old black men with the blues stretch beyond the second-story railing. Hidden slightly by tree branches and bramble, the roof of a red brick building juts at an angle across the street. What once was Bessie Brewer's flophouse, where James Earl Ray fired from a bathroom window, is for sale. It seems close. Maybe a stone's throw away. Just a stone's throw from the balcony of the Lorraine Motel, where a bullet struck Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on the evening of April 4, 1968.

The place, some say, where the civil rights movement died.

A place that makes your stomach ache. The kind of place you have to see, have to feel at least once.

Even if you don't want to.

OPENING National Civil Rights Museum

A week of concerts and symposiums culminating in a grand opening Thursday with civil rights figures including Rosa Parks, Julian Bond and the Rev. Jesse Jackson. 450 Mulberry St., Memphis. 901-521-9699.



Johnny Crawford/Staff

The Lorraine Motel in Memphis is now the National Civil Rights Museum. "We just couldn't let the site go," says the Rev. Joseph E. Lowery. "Some of our most precious blood was shed there."

And that's the whole point.

Come Thursday, the Fourth of July, a laser beam will stream from the balcony of the old motel tracing the path of the bullet that killed Dr. King. The balcony will become the central exhibit of the National Civil Rights Museum, a tribute to his life and the civil rights movement. The old 32-

room, L-shaped motel has been gutted, remodeled and transformed into the \$9.25 million museum, which will be dedicated with a week of ceremonies that start today.

The dedication includes a who's who of civil rights: the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the Rev. Joseph E. Lowery, NAACP president Benjamin Hooks, Rosa Parks, former Geor-

Please see LORRAINE, Back page ▶

Lorraine: As museum opens, protester still cries 'sellout'

Continued from M1

gia legislator Julian Bond, and Coretta Scott King, who once balked at the notion of turning the motel into anything except a pile of rubble.

At first, the museum sounded like a tacky cross between Atlanta's King Center and Disney World, with visitors suffering simulated indignities and racial insults from a cast of life-size dummies. What steered the exhibits toward legitimacy and good taste was advice from noted historians, civil rights pioneers and experts from the Smithsonian Institution.

But state Circuit Judge D'Army Bailey, 49, the driving force behind the motel-turned-museum, stubbornly insisted that the laser remain.

"No way the laser was going," he says. "No way. To me, that represents the eternal light. Having it shoot toward the heavens is symbolic. It means the dream isn't dead. It means he may have fallen here, but his spirit lives on. Hell, I want people to be able to see that damn laser miles away."

Different views of the dream

Judge Bailey is not the only King disciple fighting to keep a vision of the dream alive.

Memphis born and raised, he is a prime example of the success that the movement helped some African-Americans achieve: expensive house in a posh, integrated neighborhood, fine car (a Jaguar), degrees from Clark University (Worcester, Mass.) and Yale, great job, social, political and economic clout. A master of his universe.

Then there's his most stubborn opponent over the museum: Jacqueline Smith, 40, who has been protesting the project since she and the other few Lorraine tenants were evicted in March 1988. Until then, she lived and worked at the motel as a bookkeeper, desk clerk, maid and part-time tour guide.

Miss Smith represents the flip side, the dream deferred. Her world: a spot on the sidewalk across from the motel, second-hand clothing, little money, worn-out shoes, no job, protesting for the rights of the disadvantaged. She is Don Quixote and the Lorraine her windmill.

The old motel brings them together, and keeps them apart.

"This place, this spot, shouldn't be remembered as the place where Dr. King died," Judge Bailey says. "It should be remembered as the place where the dream is being kept alive."

Miss Smith agrees that the dream should be kept alive.

"We don't need another museum," she says, sitting in front of a sign that reads "D'ARMY IS A SELLOUT" in big red, painted letters. "Around here, we need affordable housing, health-care centers, day-care centers.

"Look at it this way. They don't want tourist attractions in the ghetto. So you know what? The ghetto has got to go."

Miss Smith, who has a court order keeping Judge Bailey away because she got tired of him "trying to sell her on the museum,"



Judge D'Army Bailey, with a bus from the Freedom Ride exhibit, has been the driving force behind the museum.

has no plans to end her one-woman vigil, even when the museum opens to the public Aug. 31.

"This is not what Dr. King died for," she says. "I don't see how D'Army Bailey and the people behind the museum can live with themselves."

'To keep the fires burning'

Memphis has been living with the death of Dr. King for 23 years. Racial tension simmered below the surface in 1968 when he came to help striking sanitation workers. Though the population is almost evenly split between black and white, Memphis has never elected a black mayor. Poverty, drug-related violence and unemployment still are major problems in the black community.

The Lorraine was central to the black community in Memphis even before the civil rights era. The motel was one of the few places where blacks could get a room. Dr. King stayed at the motel several times, as did Count Basie, Lionel Hampton, Aretha Franklin and Jackie Robinson.

During the decades after Dr. King's death, the motel became a dilapidated eyesore. Still, tour buses and out-of-town visitors flocked by to snap pictures or simply to look.

Although many local officials wished the motel would just go away, the tourists kept coming.

Judge Bailey was almost a tourist the first time he drove past the Lorraine after years away from Memphis as a student up North and then as a lawyer in California. Inspired when he heard Dr. King speak during his college years, the former student protester thought that seeing the motel again would be a way to honor him.

The motel, he found, was surrounded by drugs and decay, prostitutes and pimps.

"It was more like a blight on Memphis and the whole civil rights movement," Judge Bailey says. "And I was determined to change that."



Jacqueline Smith, a former Lorraine desk clerk, has protested the museum for more than two years. The sign sums up her low opinion of Judge Bailey.

In 1982, Judge Bailey and the Lorraine Foundation, a non-profit group of investors, bought the motel for \$144,000 at a foreclosure sale. Plans to turn the motel into a museum bogged down several times, but finally a funding agreement was struck, with the state, Memphis and Shelby County paying almost all of the \$9.25 million cost.

Constant rain and cost overruns forced the foundation to push the opening date back from July to August. (The dedication ceremonies still will be July 4.) At one point, Miss Smith's presence on the site was blamed for slowing construction crews. A judge eventually ordered her to

move across the street, 50 feet from the site.

Oddly enough, the Lorraine became a rallying point for Memphis and the movement.

"Frankly, the statement being made here is more important than one of an economic nature," Memphis Mayor Richard Hackett says. "The statement is that Memphis wants to be a major player in documenting the success and achievements of individuals involved in the civil rights movement."

Memphis officials already are running a trolley line through the area to better connect it with downtown.

"This is something that can

keep the fires burning," says the Rev. Hooks, who serves on the museum's board of directors.

"For folks who are too young to remember the movement, this will be the perfect teacher. For those who have firsthand memories like myself, it'll be like going home. It'll be somewhere we can go to recharge our batteries."

Even Mrs. King, who once called the proposed project "morbid" and threatened to sue over the planned use of her husband's name, appears content with the outcome. She will speak Tuesday at the "Salute to Legends" banquet at Memphis's Peabody Hotel.

"We just couldn't let the site go," says the Rev. Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. "Some of our most precious blood was shed there."

'This is what Memphis needs'

Across the street from the site, Jacqueline Smith sits behind a table covered with remnants of Dr. King, the idol she never met.

Born and raised in Memphis, she once was a promising contralto who auditioned for New York's Metropolitan Opera. Bad luck and personal setbacks killed her singing career.

Her battle against the museum has made her a reluctant celebrity, with stories appearing on national news shows and in major publications.

People from Panola, Miss., to New York have come to see Miss Smith. She keeps a bulky scrapbook of newspaper clippings, photos and autographs of folks who have dropped by to lend moral support, from rappers Public Enemy to former first daughter Amy Carter.

The books and photos on Miss Smith's protest table are not for sale. They are for people to read.

"Dr. King didn't do what he did for money," she says. "You know, some people have asked me about joining in on the protest. But I like being out here alone because I can control myself. I can't control others. I mean, it has been rough, but I'm not giving up."

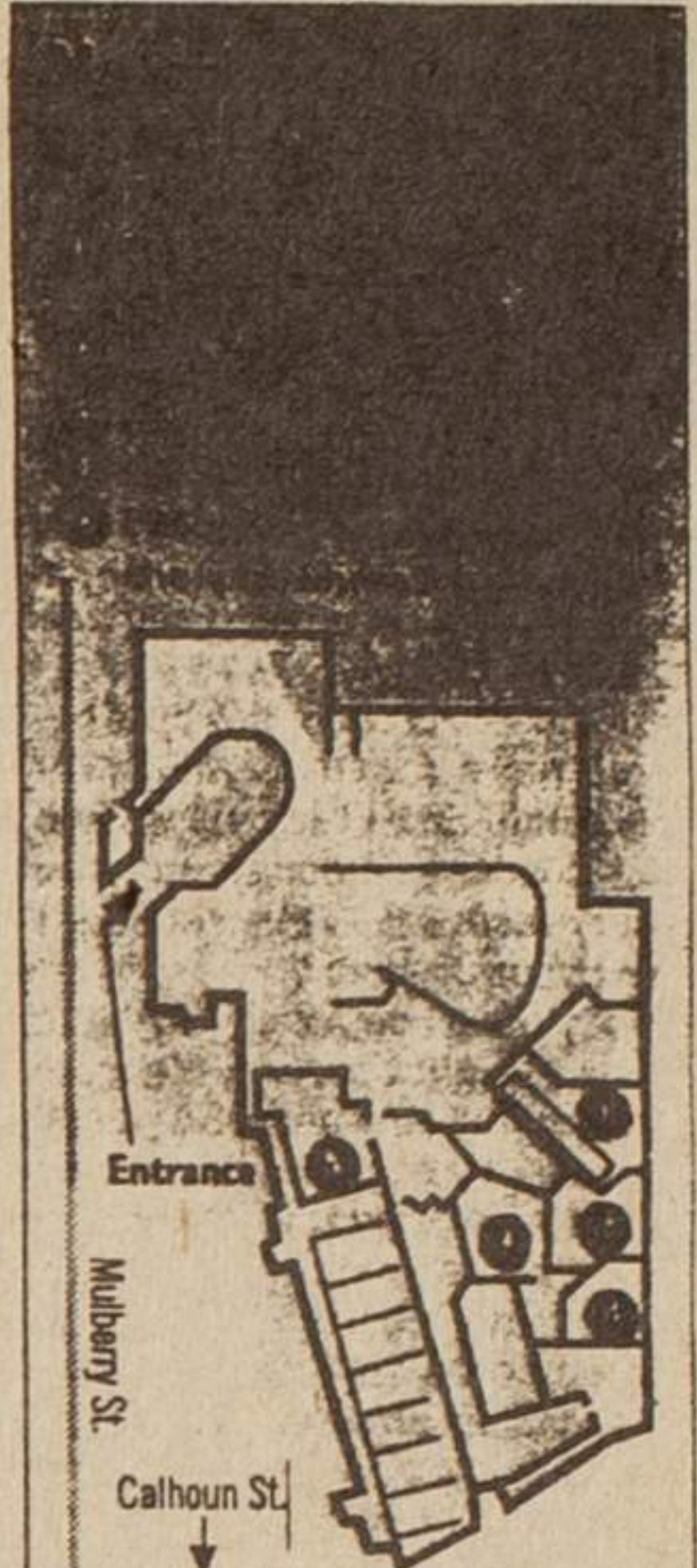
D'Army Bailey doesn't expect her to.

"Jackie is a very determined individual, and I admire her for that," he says. "But she's wrong on this one. Very wrong."

"If we had turned the Lorraine into public housing or, say, a hospital, sure it would have helped. But that would have been limited. Now we have the potential to inspire and educate everyone, black and white. And who knows? The statement is that Memphis wants to be a major player in documenting the success and achievements of individuals involved in the civil rights movement."

Miss Smith thinks the issue is not about what the museum, the movement or Memphis needs.

"This is about Dr. King's dream," she says. "His dream of helping the poor and disadvantaged. That's what I heard him say, heard him preach. Maybe the museum people heard something different."



Ralph Megginson/Staff

Seat yourself at back of bus to feel history

Designed to have a "you are there" feel (or "in-yo-face" in some cases), the National Civil Rights Museum uses photos, videos, recordings, memorabilia, scale models and authentic items to dramatize 14 moments from the movement. The exhibits run from the Supreme Court's 1954 school desegregation ruling to the 1968 assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Here's a look at some highlights:

Montgomery bus boycott. Climb aboard a restored city bus, take a seat up front and hear an irritable driver order, "Move to the back," the message that Rosa Parks (represented by a real plaster statue in the front) and countless other Southern blacks heard before the boycott began Dec. 5, 1955. It ended Dec. 21, 1956, with a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that Alabama bus segregation was unconstitutional.

Student sit-ins. A restored department store lunch counter is populated with life-size statues of student protesters. Sit down among them and watch sweeping video screens and audio material from the 1960 campaign.

Freedom rides. A burned-out vintage Greyhound bus recalls the 1961 firebombing near Anniston, Ala. Details of the riders' attempts to desegregate interstate travel come from photos and eyewitness accounts.

Birmingham. A life-size video environment puts visitors in the middle of the 1963 conflict between civil rights protesters and police. It comes complete with snarling dogs, fire hoses, racist crowds and former police Commissioner "Bull" Connor on bullhorn. Also on display are a replica of Dr. King's jail cell (where he wrote his famous "Letter From a Birmingham Jail") and the worn leather briefcase that attorney Arthur Shores used to smuggle it out.

Rooms 306 and 307. Forming the emotional heart of the museum, the room that Dr. King occupied (307) and the room he stepped in front of on the balcony (306) have been restored to 1968 form, down to the furniture, linen and design. A laser beam traces the bullet's path, then shoots straight through a metal wreath toward the heavens.

The dedication ceremony is set for 11 a.m. Thursday at the museum, 450 Mulberry St., Memphis. Special guests include Rosa Parks, Julian Bond, Benjamin Hooks and Tennessee Gov. Ned McWherter. Memphis-born actress Cybill Shepherd and actor Blair Underwood ("L.A. Law") will be masters of ceremonies. The museum will be open for free tours 10 a.m.-5 p.m. through Sunday. It will then close for completion of the exhibits and reopen permanently Aug. 31. 901-521-9699.

The search for Klan robes and riot gear

By Keith L. Thomas
Staff writer

The Ku Klux Klan robe (white, 100 percent cotton) came from an African-American collector who looked for such a garment for years. He decided it was just too "creepy" to keep.

The garbage truck, the classic cylinder-shaped one used during the 1968 strike that drew Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to town, came from a Memphis salvage yard.

Tracking down original items from the civil rights movement takes skill, determination and, perhaps more importantly, dumb luck.

"It's very much like being a detective," says Gay Clemenson, 44, a researcher with Eisterholdlweilyn Exhibit Services, the Kansas City firm charged with finding authentic memorabilia for the National Civil Rights Museum.

It's no easy task. "Can you imagine calling up someone and asking if they have a Klan robe they'd like to sell?" Mrs. Clemenson asks.

For 2½ years, the people at

Eisterholdlweilyn (named after the founding partners) have been scouring the nation — especially the South — for items from the civil rights era. Among the things they've unearthed:

► Riot gear used by Memphis police during the 1968 strike by sanitation workers.

► A "Freedom Ride" button.

► A 1965 handbill advertising a Selma-to-Montgomery march for voting rights.

► An FBI poster soliciting information about the deaths in 1964 of James Cheney, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman in Mississippi.

► Pews from Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, where Dr. King served as pastor in the mid-1950s.

► Rarely seen local TV footage of the desegregation disturbance at Central High School in Little Rock, Ark.

Like the best gumshoes, the company sent queries to the usual suspects — about 200 collectors and history buffs nationwide. The final list of contributors ran the gamut: local and national museums, police departments, public libraries, prin-

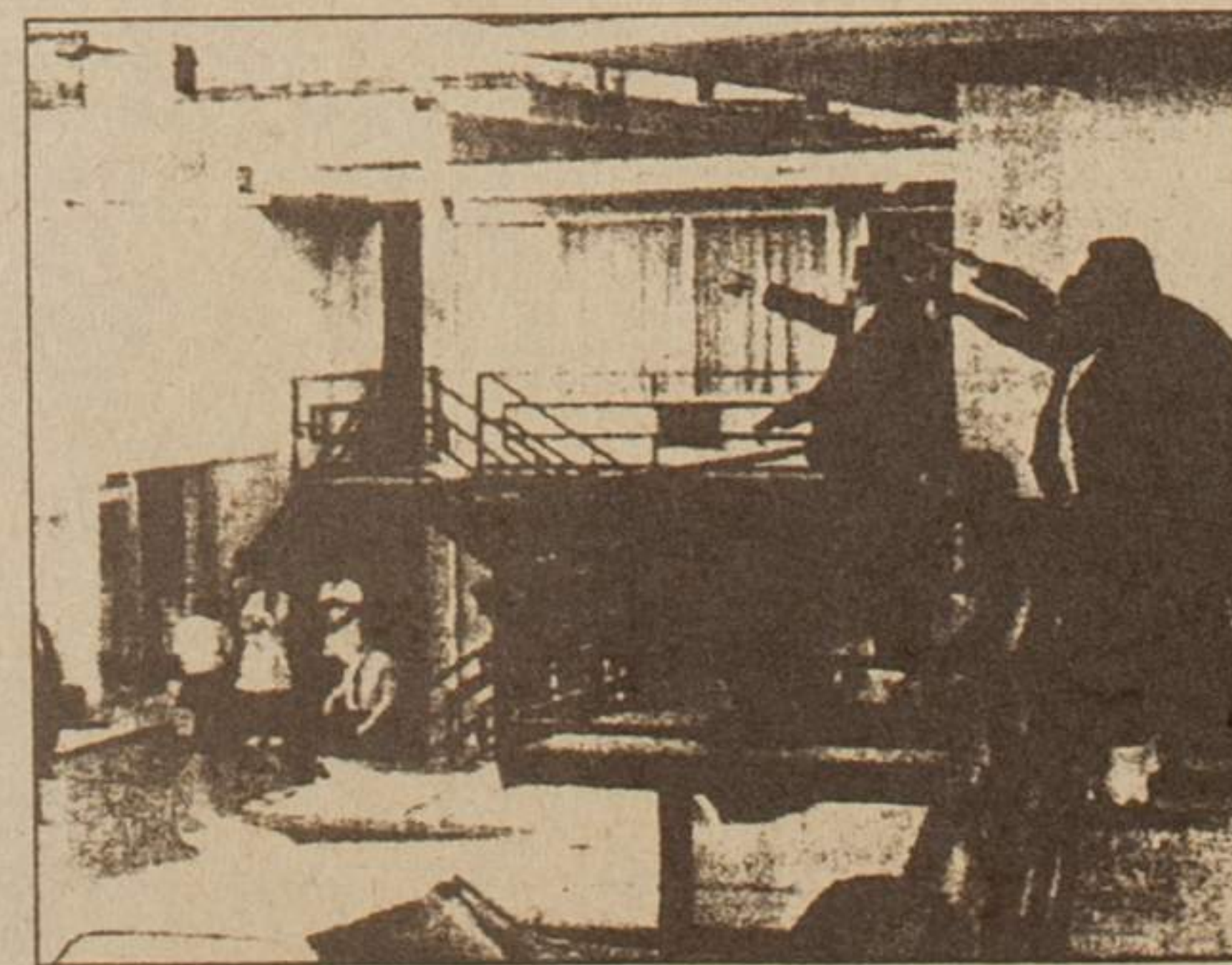
cipal movement figures, churches, everyday citizens.

A little less than a third of the museum's \$9.25 million budget was spent on the collection and re-creations. About 1,200 items have been assembled, with stuff still pouring in.

"Some people were more than happy to donate things," Mrs. Clemenson said. "Others were a bit reluctant. I think some people are beginning to realize the historical value of these items."

Many already understand the dollar value. One news-photo service quoted prices of \$400 to \$3,000 for a vintage image. A TV station wanted \$15 for each second of film. The asking price for a slightly used Klan robe, complete with hood: about \$300.

Items that couldn't be secured — such as Dr. King's Birmingham jail cell, reportedly stored in a warehouse and definitely not for sale — had to be recreated. That was the job of Design and Production Inc., a Virginia firm that has worked on everything from the Carter Presidential Library to Universal



The Associated Press

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot at the Lorraine Motel, now a museum, Studios' King Kong exhibit.

"It really wasn't that hard fabricating some of these items," says project manager Alan Lepp. "For things like the Edmund Pettus Bridge replica and Central High School facade, we had the actual structures to work from."

Other times, the museum used a stand-in. For example, the lunch counter from the Greensboro, N.C., Woolworth's — where

four students staged a historic sit-in in 1960 — wasn't available. Mrs. Clemenson says a North Carolina museum has dibs.

Design and Production Inc. ended up getting vintage stools from a Woolworth's in Kansas City and an old lunch counter from the city's downtown Macy's. Both were authentic in a way. Like Greensboro, downtown Kansas City was the site of student sit-ins.

Travel



FEARLESS TRAVELER

*In Memphis,
Commemorating
The Dream*

By James T. Yenckel
Washington Post Staff Writer

A few drops of blood still stain the second-floor balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis where Martin Luther King Jr. fell when he was struck by an assassin's bullet. They have been carefully preserved as the dramatic and tearful climax to a superb new museum, the National Civil Rights Museum, which will be formally dedicated Thursday.

The museum, a 10-year, \$10 million project, incorporates a large portion of the old motel where King was slain April 4, 1968. Since then, the motel has become a place of pilgrimage for many mourners. The museum is a tribute both to King and to the multitudes of other Americans of all races who contributed—some also with their lives—to the civil rights movement.

Despite its somber conclusion, the museum's central theme—the black struggle for equal rights—is generally upbeat. The civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s was a fundamental turning point in the nation's history, finally achieving for the black minority the constitutional rights promised when the Civil War brought slavery to an end more than a century and a quarter ago.

In several fascinating exhibits, the museum recalls great civil rights victories over often imposing odds. One is the 1955-56 Montgomery bus boycott in Alabama, which first brought King to national attention.

The boycott was sparked when Rosa Parks, a Montgomery seamstress, was arrested after she refused to give up her seat to a white passenger. For 381 days, the city's black citizens, led by King—who had gone to Montgomery as a pastor—walked to work and school or found other means of transportation.

See FEARLESS, E2, Col. 1

FEARLESS TRAVELER

FEARLESS, From E1

The boycott ended only when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that racial segregation on the city's bus lines was unconstitutional.

This important win gave major impetus to the civil rights movement. In the new museum, the events are retold in photos and signboards. But the highlight of the boycott exhibit is a large yellow and green Montgomery bus from the 1950s. You can climb aboard, but if you choose to sit in a front seat a recorded voice will order you to the rear. Parks, who started it all, is scheduled to attend this week's dedication.

The museum's focus is on the years 1954 to 1968, when the movement was at its height. The year 1954 marks the Supreme Court decision, *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, that made segregation in public schooling illegal. Certainly 1968 is a logical concluding date, because of King's death. But also by this time the movement was splintering. King's plea for nonviolence was being strongly challenged by black power advocates.

In this 14-year time frame, 15 exhibits chronicle such important chapters in the civil rights movement as the lunch-counter sit-ins; the desegregation of Little Rock's schools; the bloodied freedom bus rides into the South; James Meredith's enrollment at the University of Mississippi in Oxford; King's famous letter from his Birmingham jail cell; the glorious March on Washington, where King gave his inspiring "I have a dream" speech; and the tragic first attempt to march from Selma to Montgomery, interrupted when participants were attacked and beaten.

The story remains enormously compelling, and its impact will be

heightened by the museum's high-tech audiovisual accompaniment. Old TV newsreels that capture the segregationist hatred that the civil rights movement unleashed are sure to stun younger visitors who had not been born when the movement began. Indeed, some exhibits are especially designed so that visitors will "feel the horror the demonstrators experienced," says D'Army Bailey, who heads the National Civil Rights Museum Foundation.

A civil rights activist in his youth, Bailey was expelled from college because of his involvement in protest demonstrations. Ultimately, he obtained a law degree from Yale, and he recently was elected to an eight-year term as judge of the Circuit Court of Tennessee in Memphis. He describes many of the leaders in the movement as old friends.

A guiding hand since the museum's inception, Bailey sees its primary purpose as educational. Perhaps fewer than one-third of Americans today have a firsthand knowledge of the long struggle for equal rights in this country. For older generations who were witnesses, he says, "I think the museum will serve as a national center of remembrance for those who helped, who suffered and who struggle still."

Bailey hopes too that the museum will become a motivational force for young blacks. King was an exceptional person, he says, but most of the participants in the movement "were ordinary people" who nevertheless managed to turn around an entire nation. "Kids should understand that they can make a difference. I want them to see that you don't have to be a Martin Luther King to make a change."

And he sees it having an inspirational purpose, especially for the

black community. "It's aimed to give our people a sense of courage, of pride and of spirit. And it's aimed to ignite another generation of protest."

The dedication at 11 a.m. Thursday culminates a week of ceremonial events bringing many participants in the civil rights movement to Memphis. Coretta Scott King, King's widow, will be the guest speaker Tuesday at a "Salute to Legends" banquet honoring Parks and others. Tomorrow through Wednesday, some of the movement's veterans will recount their experiences at scheduled symposia.

The museum at 450 Mulberry St. will be open to the public for preview tours from Thursday through next Sunday. However, the general opening has been postponed until Aug. 31. Heavy rains this spring delayed construction, and the installation of several major exhibits is incomplete.

The museum complex, owned by the state of Tennessee, occupies about two square blocks in what was once an industrial area within a predominantly black neighborhood. The complex is about three blocks south of Beale Street, Memphis's famous entertainment district, and not much farther from the city's commercial center. Plenty of parking is provided.

After King's death, the Lorraine Motel went into decay. Until the museum acquired the structure, says Bailey, it was a haven for "prostitutes, pimps, drug dealers and other unseemly elements. It was an embarrassment to all."

Much of the two-story motel was demolished, but the museum retained the yellow-brick, L-shape wing where King was staying and where he was shot. A new auditorium, entrance gallery and exhibit hall were constructed around it in the same yellow-brick color. King's room and a similar room two doors away through which he passed to

reach the balcony are being furnished as they were the day of his death. Outside, a row of cars dating from the '50s and '60s will be parked as they might have been back then.

At least one person, Jacqueline Smith, a former resident of the motel, is upset at the alterations. Since 1988, when she was evicted, she has taken up a nearly around-the-clock vigil from across the street in protest and vows to continue "as a constant reminder of what's gone wrong." She contends the motel should shelter the homeless and other unfortunates as a more fitting tribute to King's memory.

The museum's modernistic entrance gallery is dominated by a soaring bronze sculpture, "Movement to Overcome." It depicts a multitude of figures attempting to ascend what looks like two soaring mountain peaks. Artist Michael Pavlovsky, however, conceived the work as a wall. The teeming figures are said to symbolize the timeless nature of the struggle to overcome injustice wherever it is found.

A 10-minute video presentation in the 100-seat auditorium provides a brief historical look at race relations in America from slavery to the 1950s. The museum's exhibits, obviously carefully chosen, carry the story from there.

To challenge the Jim Crow laws, civil rights activists launched a campaign in 1961 called the Freedom Rides. They boarded public buses and headed south, where some were met by violence. In Anniston, Ala., one Greyhound bus was stoned and burned. This event is depicted by a large, burned-out bus. According to Bailey, the museum acquired an old Trailways bus, painted it Greyhound's colors and had it burned until it looked like the Anniston bus.

In 1965, demonstrators set out on a protest march from Selma to Montgomery, the state capital. At the Edmund Pettus Bridge on the outskirts of Selma they were beaten back by state patrolmen. In the museum, visitors cross a replica of the bridge between life-size photo images of armed troopers in helmets.

From the Lorraine Motel balcony, you can see across Mulberry Street to a window in the former boardinghouse where James Earl Ray fired the shot that killed King. A laser

beam is projected symbolically from that direction to the blood spots on the balcony pavement, and then the beam soars into the sky. A permanent wreath will decorate the balcony where King fell.

I was in college in California when the Montgomery bus boycott began, and I followed its developments with fascination. And yet as I walked through the National Civil Rights Museum on a preview tour, I was amazed and saddened at how much of the movement's history I had forgotten. This museum should ensure that it won't be.

Throughout the country, the history of black Americans is told in many places—restored homes, black churches, Civil War battlefields, parks, statues and other monuments, black colleges, city museums, old theaters, courthouses and, ultimately, cemeteries. Many of these sites highlight heroic deeds, and a few recall somber tragedies. Notable accomplishments in science, the arts, business, education, entertainment, sports and other pursuits also are not overlooked.

And black history is told in many ways. Alabama's Bureau of Tourism publishes a free guidebook describing more than 150 historical sites in the state, including the Florence home of W.C. Handy, the "father of the blues." Boston has mapped out a Black Heritage Trail, a walk through a part of Beacon Hill that became the center of the city's black community from 1800 to 1900. Along the way is the African Meeting House, the oldest black church building still standing in the United States.

At least seven places significant in American black history have been designated national historic sites or monuments. They are:

■ *Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.* The site preserves the Oaks, the home of educator Booker T. Washington, who founded the college for blacks. Also on the site is the George Washington Carver Museum, displaying memorabilia of the botanist who developed 300 byproducts from peanuts and sweet potatoes.

■ *Frederick Douglass Memorial Home, Washington, D.C.* An orator, statesman and publisher, Douglass

was a leading black spokesman in the late 19th century.

■ *Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site and Preservation District, Atlanta.* Located here are King's birthplace, church and grave site.

■ *Boston African American National Historic Site.* Within a concentrated area of Beacon Hill are numerous black history sites of the pre-Civil War period.

■ *George Washington Carver National Monument, Diamond, Mo.* Established in 1943, the monument, which preserves Carver's birthplace, was the first national memorial to the achievements of a black.

■ *Booker T. Washington National Monument, Hardy, Va.* Washington's birthplace and early childhood home are preserved here.

■ *Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site, Richmond.* A leader in Richmond's black community, Walker in 1903 was the first American woman to establish a bank. Her large Victorian home is open to tours.

In addition, many city museums and other places reflecting the black experience in this country are of major interest. Among them:

■ *Civil Rights Memorial, Montgomery.* The names of activists who died in support of the civil rights movement are etched in a marble table beside a fountain. Maya Lin, architect of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, was the designer.

■ *Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center, Jackson, Miss.* Depicts the troubled history of blacks in Mississippi.

■ *Jefferson National Expansion Memorial National Historic Site, St. Louis.* This is the site of the Old Courthouse, where the famous Dred Scott case was heard. Dred Scott was a slave, and his case accentuated the differences between anti- and pro-slavery Americans prior to the Civil War.

■ *National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center, Wilberforce, Ohio.* One of the nation's largest black history museums. Other black history museums can be found in Columbia, S.C.; Macon, Ga.; Annapolis; Cleveland; Los Angeles; Oakland; Denver; Austin, Texas; Chicago; Detroit; and Dallas.

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June 19, 1992

Angela Bates
1015 Main #8
Hill City, KS 67642

Dear Angela,

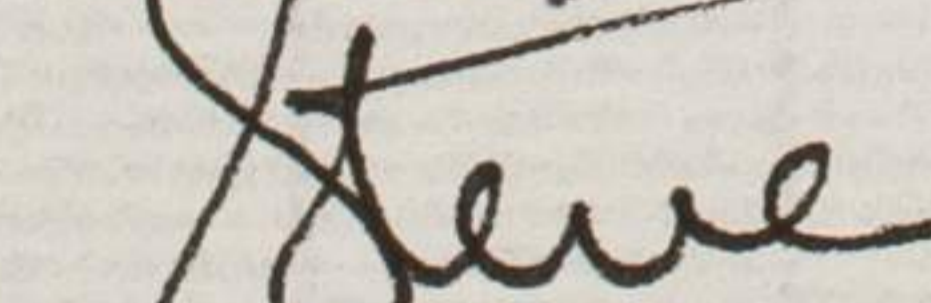
I've tried reaching you by phone all morning but got a busy signal. I'll continue to try.

We're going to have to cancel on this year's bike tour. It seems that everyone has some other priority. Sunday, August 2, is a major cycling event here in Kansas City. Even my significant other can join me.

Please understand it has nothing to do with Nicodemus. I leave next week for St. Louis, Chicago and after the July 4 weekend, travel to Aspen and New Mexico with Carol until July 19. The book has been an incredible success having sold over 2500 copies in 5 weeks. I've been on every radio and TV talk show. I now plan to take it to St. Louis and other cities for next year. I trust you received your copy.

Let's stay in touch and please let me know when you'll be in K.C. I can probably get you on several talk shows.

Yours truly,


Steve Katz

July 7, 1992

Jeannette S. Cogan
4208 Brenau Ave. #4
Dayton, OH 45429

Dear Ms. Cogan:

Thank you for your lovely letter. It is an inspiration to have the interest and support of persons like you. Enclosed I have provided you some information regarding The Nicodemus Historical Society and our efforts.

We hope that you can attend next year's celebration, July 30th-August 1st. This year's celebration is July 31st-August 2nd, and we have a host of folks from Senator Dole to our Governor Finney, and a delegation of folks from Kentucky.

I have recently taken a couple of trips to Kentucky where I have been doing research. Lexington and Georgetown, Kentucky is where the settlers of Nicodemus were from. On one trip I assisted in shooting footage for a Nicodemus documentary, which will be shown on PBS stations in the fall.

The book "Promise Land on the Solomon: Black Settlement at Nicodemus, Kansas" is currently out of print and will be reprinted in October. We will put you on the list to get a copy.

I hope you will continue to support our efforts and become a member of the historical society.

Thank you again for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates,
President



some day I will visit
Nicodemus. Last summer
I enjoyed a ten day trip
to the Southwest by Amtrak
and Bus which was lovely.
But no big plans for this
summer. My daughter lives in
Maine so I hope to visit her
for the lovely autumn colors

Sincerely
Jeannette S. Cozart

July 1, 1992

Dear Angela Bates
I have read and re-read your
most interesting story of the
town Nicodemus in the recent
issue of National Parks and
want to tell you how much
I enjoyed it. I wonder where
I could get a copy of "Promised
Land on the Salmon River-Black
settlement of Nicodemus, Kansas
by Kenneth Hamilton. I inquired

at our Public Library and
a Book store but neither had
any info on the book. Maybe
it is out of print.

I found Hill City on the
map so just presumed that
Nicodemus was near it. I
have done much traveling
in my eighty-three years
and have traveled through
your state many times. This
is the first time I ever heard
of Nicodemus - such an unusual
name - so I wanted to know
more about it. A person never
gets too old to learn something
new.

Jeannette S. Cogan
4208 Brenau Ave. #4
Dayton, OH 45429

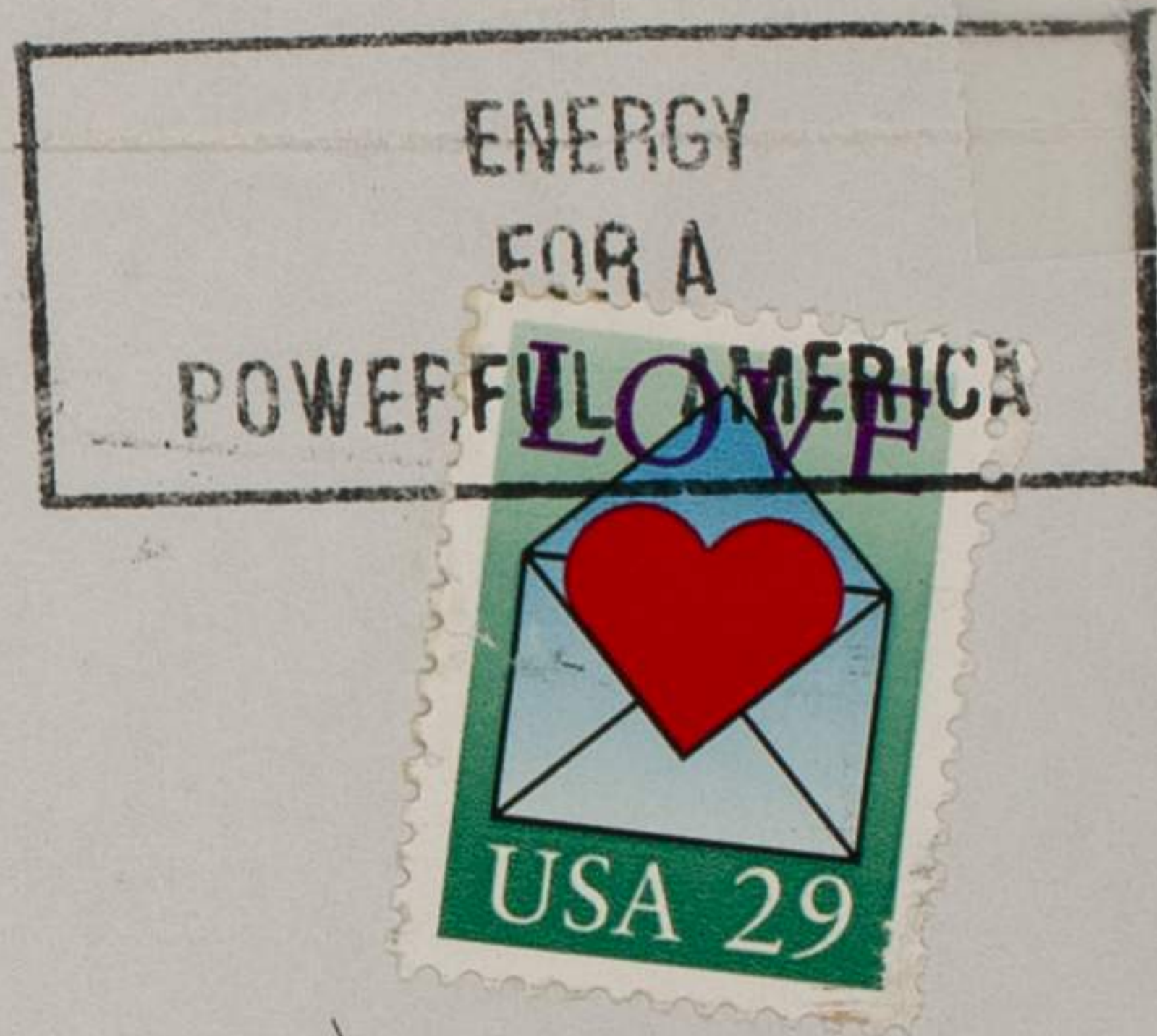
Seemed like a strange
group of people as the Masons
and Stars were mentioned.

Seems sad, doesn't it, that
the town started out with
such high hopes and then
in just a short time, it was
almost a thing of the past.

I am a retired teacher
and have always enjoyed
stories of the history of our
country.

Good Luck in getting
Nicodemus listed as a National
Historic Site. Many thanks for
any information and maybe

Jeannette S. Cogan
4208 Brenau Ave. #4
Dayton, OH 45429



DAYTON, OH 454 PM 07/02/92 DCR#12

Ms. Angela Bates
Hill City, Kansas

67547

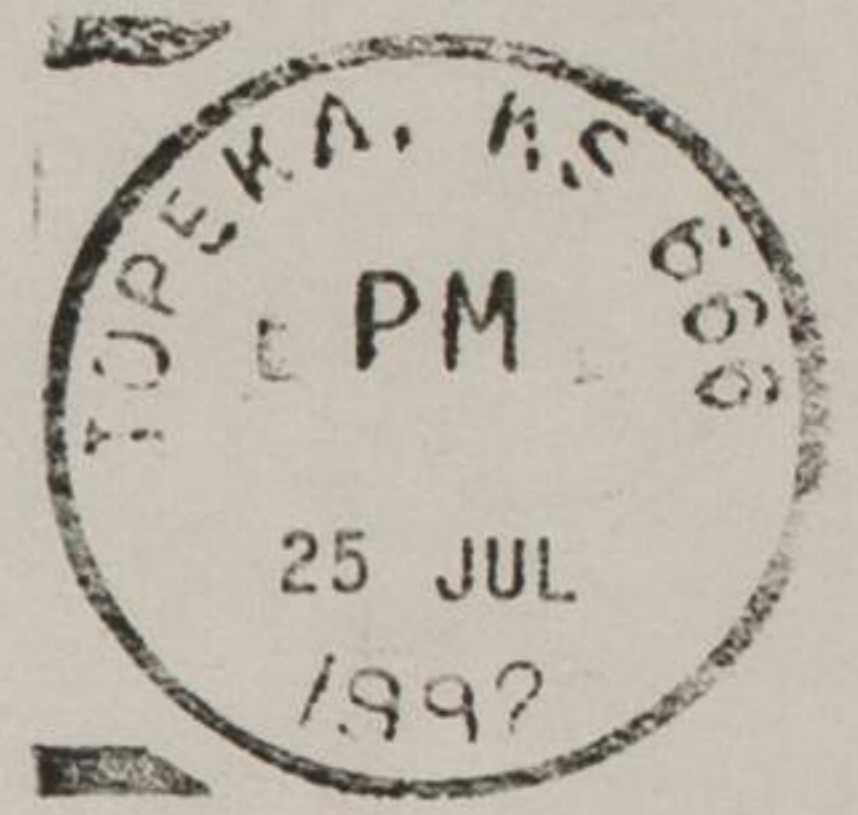
President of
Nicodemus
Historical Society

RT# Box 11
Plainville Ms 67663



Nicodemus Historical Society
Box 139
Bozue, MS 67625

Harrison
218 Elm
Marion KS 66861



Necodemus Historical Societ
P.O. Box 139
Boque, KS 67625

5056 Newtown Road
Lexington, KY 40511
August 11, 1992

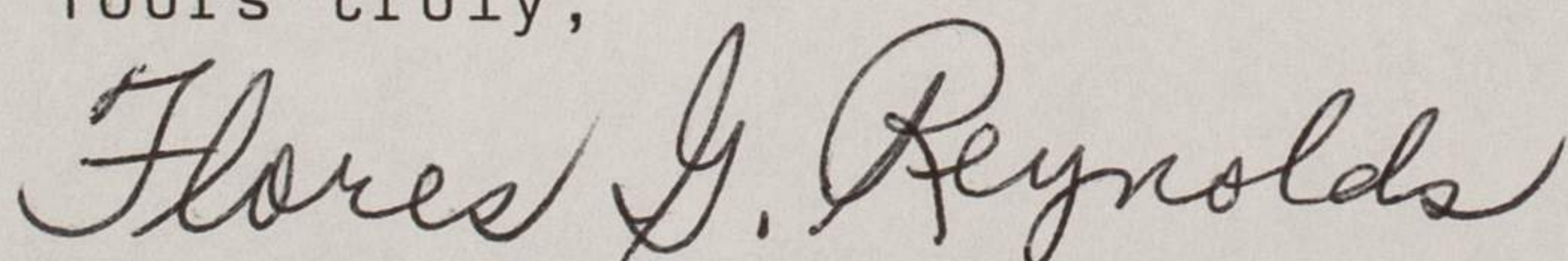
The Nicodemus Historical Society
R. R. 2, Box 139
Bogue, KS 67625

Dear Sir or Madam:

Part of our vacation included a trip to Nicodemus. We learned of the existence of Nicodemus from a meeting in Georgetown, KY. While we visited Nicodemus we visited with Mrs. Ora Switzer and her son, Freddie. During our conversations with them, I learned of a book entitled, Promised Land on the Solomon: Black Settlement at Nicodemus, Kansas. I have been unable to find this book here in Lexington. Would you please let me know how I might obtain a copy?

Thank you very much for your helpful expedience.

Yours truly,



(Mrs.) Flores G. Reynolds

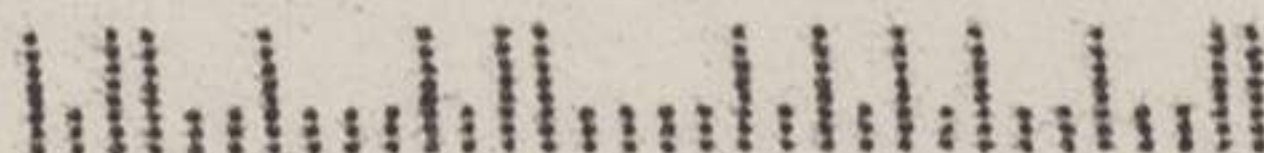
Mrs Flores Reynolds
5056 Newton Road
Lexington KY
40511

R

*Sent info 8/17/92
wants to order BK*



The Nicodemus Historical Society
R. R. 2, Box 139
Boque, KS 67625



**Bob*

Horizon Aerial Photos Inc.



P.O. BOX 702 - PLAINS, KANSAS 67869

PHONE: 316-563-9406

PHONE: 800-622-0875

FAX: 316-563-9596

316 - 563-7856

Mrs Angela Bates
Nicodemus Historical Society
Hill City, Kansas

August 18, 1992

Dear Mrs Bates:

Please find enclosed the proofs of the aerial photographs we took on Sunday, August 2nd.

I apologize for not being able to deliver the photographs to you personally at this time, but I did want you to have a chance review the photographs and our proposed price list as soon as possible. I have also enclosed a copy of our price list of the various size photographs with frames, Christmas cards and other products available.

We are in a position to fill any orders within 5 to 7 working days from the date we receive an orders.

SIZE PHOTO	QUANTITY	PRICE
8 X 10 (WITHOUT FRAME)	0 - 10	\$15.00
	11 - 25	\$13.50
	26 - 50	\$13.00
	51 OR MORE	\$12.00

The above prices are for any one particular print, and processed in the quantities indicated. I would suggest that you try to settle on one particular view and offer that photograph to the interested persons.

I would like to work with you and the Society in an effort to market the photographs to anyone who might be interested.

I would also be willing to send complimentary photographs to Senator Dole or any Department of Interior Officials that you feel might be interested, or that the Historical Society might benefit from.

I appreciate your interest in our service, and I look forward to your reaction to the photographs and the opportunity to meet you. Feel free to call our toll free number, 800-622-0875. Thanking you in advance, I am

Yours Very Truly
HORIZON AERIAL PHOTOS, INC.

Larry Black
Larry Black
President

110-D

- one that was in Newsletter

May 9, 1993

Larry Black
Horizon Aerial Photos Inc.
P.O. Box 702
Plains, Kansas 67869

Dear Larry:

Enclose please find a check for \$15.00. We would like to have a copy of #110-D photo of Nicodemus. We used the photo on one of our newsletters, which of course someone ordered it. Please send it as soon as possible.

We are gearing up for our 115th Emancipation Celebration, which is July 30,31, and August 1. For our next newsletter, which will also be the commemorative program, we are selling ads to help support us in our efforts. Please reveiw the ad sheet and consider taking out an ad to support us. If'd you'd like we could use the photo with the copy over it, for a full page ad - maybe the back page? It would prove to be very attractive.

Also, if you want us to really promote these aerial photos of Nicodemus, we can erect a display in our offices (on the townsite now) durng our celebration. I would suggest that you consider doing a large framed print of Nicodemus - 11 x 25. Provide us with your brochures and we'll try and drum up some business for you also.

I think the aerial photo is an excellent concept to promote Nicodemus. I am pleased you ceased the opportunity.

I'd like to go up with you some time - it would be fantastic.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Sincerely,

Angela Bates

Horizon Aerial Photos



P.O. Box 702 • Plains, Kansas 67869
316-563-9406

Duplicates With Frames

Duplicate # _____ Date Taken _____

30 x 40	300.00
24 x 36	275.00
20 x 24	175.00
16 x 20	125.00
11 x 14	90.00
8 x 10	50.00

CHRISTMAS CARDS — 3½" X 7"

25 FOR \$34.95 • 50 FOR \$64.95

Personalized Calendars (8 X 10 Photograph) \$24.00

SPECIAL

16 X 20 and 25 Cards

\$149.95



110-A

8-2-1992

Kodak PROFESSIONAL PAPER • PAPIER • PAPEL



110-13
8-2-1992



110-C

8-2-1992

Kodak PROFESSIONAL PAPER

Kodak PROFESSIONAL PAPER

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110-D

8-2-1992

3





110-E

8-2-1992



110-6

8-2-1992



110-H

8-2-1993



110-I

8-2-1992



110-5

8-2-1992



110-K

8-2-1992



110-L

8-3-1992