# SECTION 106 CONSULTING PARTIES MEETING

#### **JUNE 6, 2019**

FACILITATOR -

CYNTHIA ELMORE, LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT

PRESENTERS -

GRETCHEN MILLIKEN, LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT

LAURA KINSELL-BAER, MCCORMACK, BARON, SALAZAR

NATALIE WOODS, LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

LAVEL D. WHITE, BLU BOI PRODUCTIONS

DARCY THOMPSON, LOUISVILLE STORY PROGRAM

ANNE BADER, CORN ISLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

KATHLEEN O'NEIL, LOUISVILLE METRO HOUSING AUTHORITY

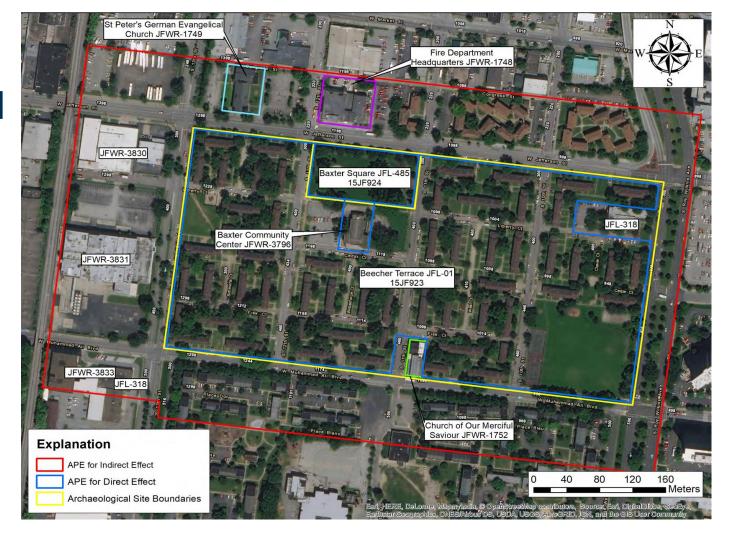
### Vision Russell Project Overview

- People
- Housing
- Education
- Neighborhood





# Area of Potential Effect



#### **Beecher Terrace Historic District**

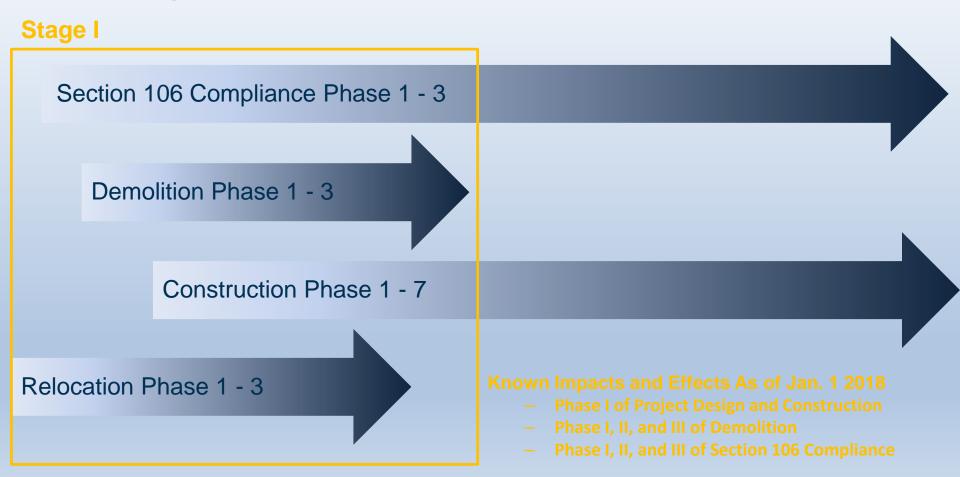




**Public Residential Units** 

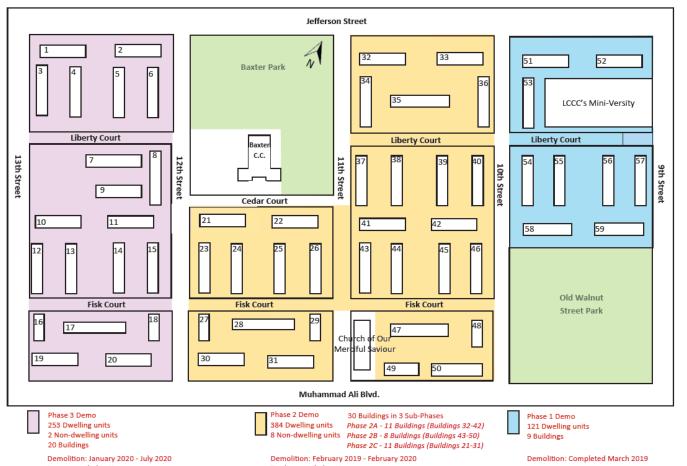
**Baxter Community Center** 

### **Project Time Line**



#### **Stage I: Demolition Update**

Beecher Terrace Demolition Plan - Revised 4-2-2019



Seven month duration

Twelve month duration

#### **Beecher I Residential Update**



#### **Senior Building**

- 4 Stories
- 117 Senior Units
- Management Offices
- On-Site Amenities

#### **Beecher I Residential Update**



## Western Library Archives

Natalie Woods – Branch Manager











## **Updates**

#### **Equipment Purchases**

- Scanner
- CPU
- Monitor
- Video Capture Device
- Adobe Licensing for the machine

More equipment will also be purchased. This is just to get started.

Discussing the storage space needed. Enough to get started, will be increased in the future.

Digitized items will be available on the Kentucky Digital Library website. Western Archives will have its own page.

#### Website Update:

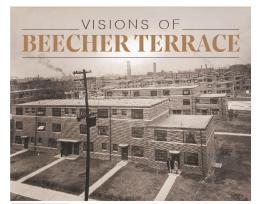
- Will be completely redesigned using WordPress and completed in-house by Library Staff.
- Allows for complete control of content and better use of money.
- Will purchase software needed to use on website, compatible with WordPress.

Will remake the Separate Flame video that is show on archive tours and make portions available on website.

Soledad O'Brien – filmed inside the branch during spring break.

Serendipity Films – Free for All: Inside the Public Library movie – will feature Reverend Thomas Fountain Blue & Western Library.

## Visions of Beecher Terrace





Filmmaker Lavel White joins a panel of guests to discuss Beecher Terrace, the housing development built in 1939 in the Russell neighborhood of Louisville. The panel will tell the history of Beecher Terrace through personal stories and experiences, examining the past and present, and looking toward the future.

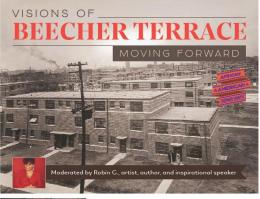
Moderated by Renee Murphy, ICPS Chief Communications Officer

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9 AT 5:30 P.M





Western Library
Call (502) 574-1779 for more info.
604 South Tenth Street





continue the conversation of the past and future of Beecher Terrace, the housing development built in 1939 in the Russell neighborhood of Louisville. We'll also get a sneak preview of the new Beecher Terrace documentary by filmmaker Lavel White.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 AT 5:30 P.M.





Western Library
Call (502) 574-1779 for more info.
604 South Tenth Street

## Visions of Beecher Terrace – The Promise of Tomorrow

Moderated by Robin G.

July 30<sup>th</sup>: 5:30-7:30 pm

Join us for a new panel discussion as we catch up on the latest updates, where the project is currently.

We will also learn about artifacts which been discovered and what the new site may possibly look like once completed in Phase 1.

Lavel White will also share official scenes from his movie: The Beecher Terrace Story.

## **Beecher Terrace Documentary**

Lavel D. White

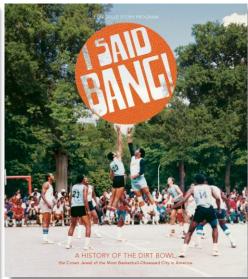


## **Louisville Story Program**

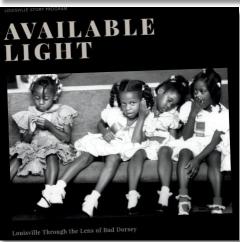
**Darcy Thompson** 











## LOUISVILLE STORY PROGRAM

## Cornerstones of Russell

Progress Report for
June 2019 Beecher Terrace Consulting Parties Meeting











## Work completed this past quarter

- Continued outreach to current Russell residents
- Continued outreach to photographers and their families
- Conducted and recorded additional interviews with Russell residents
- Transcribed some of the interviews we have conducted
- Began combing through relevant archived oral histories at the University of Louisville
- Established a year-long course at Central High School for the 2019-20 school years

### A Sampling of People We Are Working With

- Mr. Steve Beecher Terrace resident who repairs bicycles for neighborhood young people
- Jackie Floyd president of Russell Neighborhood Association
- Leborah Goodwin former student of Russell photographer Nat Brown, former member of West End Photographic Society
- Sylvia Arnett proprietor of Syl's Lounge
- Pam Haines proprietor of Sweet Peaches, grassroots service provider
- Terry Silver retired professional boxer who learned how to box in a gym in the basement of a Beecher Terrace building
- Elmer Lucille Allen native of W. Chestnut Street, acclaimed chemist and visual artist
- Rev. Sanders/ Dr. Nacobi former pastor of Lutheran Church in Russell, proprietor of Ancient Kemetic Institute in Russell

### Work slated for the upcoming quarter

- Establish weekly writing workshop at a senior living facility in Russell (likely Russell Apartments)
- Begin making our way through photographer Nat Brown's archives (starting in August)
- Major fieldwork focus on outdoor gathering spots in present-day Russell (24<sup>th</sup> St., Elliott Park, "Muhammad Ali Park", Mr. Steve's place at Beecher Terrace)
- Record walking oral histories with Russell residents
- Continue research (existing oral histories, street maps, etc.)
- Map out the Central High School course with our partner teacher

#### **Data Recovery / Public Participation**

#### Anne Bader

#### **BEECHER TERRACE ARCHAEOLOGY**

Corn Island Archaeology LLC, a cultural resources consulting firm in Jeffersontown, is currently conducting archaeological investigations at Beecher Terrace. Their work is a necessary part of the Choice Neighborhood Implementation grant that was awarded to Louisville in December 2016. Grant dollars, along with additional funding, will be used to relocate Beecher households, raze the existing buildings and redevelop the site into a new energy-efficient, mixed-income housing community.

Archeological work first began in January 2017 when preliminary excavations were done across the site. The buried objects (artifacts) found during Corn Island's initial work demonstrated that Beecher is eligible for the National Register of Historic Place. After a year-long consultation process, further study was approved for the site.

Before Beecher Terrace was developed in 1939, the 31.4 acre site contained more than 380 historic lots on its 12 blocks. A sample of these lots have been selected for further excavation. The majority of the work will occur within the archaeological site designated "15JF923". Numerous buried structures, including privies, cisterns, and foundations from late 19th and early 20th century residential and commercial buildings, are located within this area.

Lots were chosen to sample segments of the population that once lived in the area. Extensive research through census and deed records have provided the names, occupations, and ethnicities of the former occupants, with included both eastern and western European immigrants, African Americans.

A major objective of the current archaeological project is to tell the story of specific individuals and families, especially of the multiple educated professional African Americans who contributed to this

community. The stories of eastern European immigrants will also be examined,
Together, information on these two groups will fill a gap in the data on Louisville's historic population.

The artifacts recovered during this project will be washed, labeled, and stored at the University of Louisville to be available for future study. Some of the artifacts will go on display here at Beecher Terrace.

To learn more about this project, please go to www. VisionRussell.org where regular updates will be provided. Information on when you can visit the sile to learn more from the archaeologists' work will be posted on the website. You can also watch for updates and news on the Facebook page for Corn Island Archaeology.





ecovered Coca-Cola bottle



Chamber pots recovered from the site



Original Beecher Terrace buildings, circa 1940's.

Archaeology is a means of learning about how people lived long ago.

It provides more detailed information on past day-to-day living than is usually found in history books or other written records.

By examining the objects that people left behind as trash, archaeologists can piece together details of their activities at home, in the workplace, and other institutions like school and church. Because there was no regular trash collection service, items that could not be burned were often thrown into the privy (outhouse), where they remain preserved for archaeologists to find.

The objects archaeologists find can help reveal a location's use, the dates it was occupied, the income level of its occupants, along with the kinds of food they ate, and sometimes, even their religious affiliation and ethnicity. Artifacts collected from a site can also show where people bought the necessities for daily life, whether it locally or from big cities in the east. Recovered medicine bottles can tell us information about the types of ailments that plagued residents. Changes in artifact collections from one decade to another might show periods of economic hardship or prosperity, All of this and more can be learned from the study of recovered artifacts.



Archaeologists uncovering a beehive-dome cistern at Beecher Terrace.

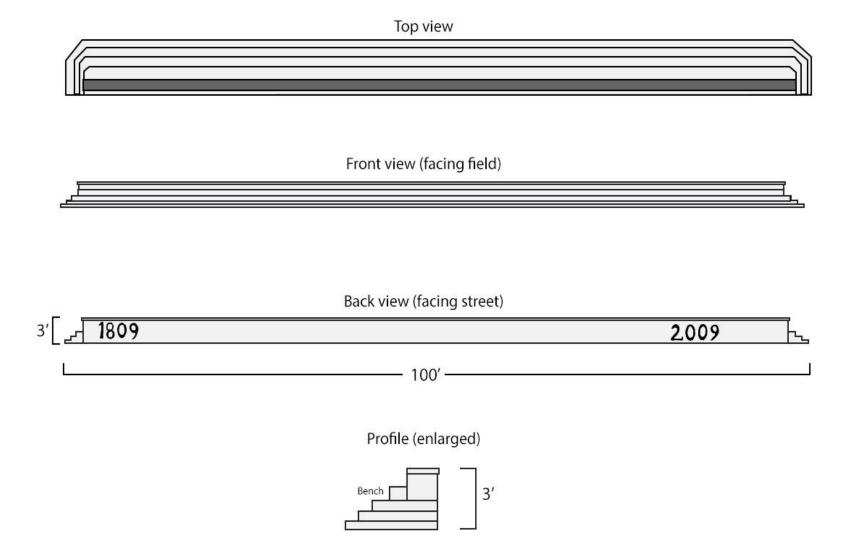


Corn Island Archaeologists at work in an excavation trench



Recovered artifacts ready for washing and cataloguing.









Unidentified African
American softball
team posing at
Beecher Terrace in
1950 – Courtesy,
University of
Louisville Digital
Collections





Guy Tedesco working on the mural in 2009, photo courtesy Louisville Visual Art



Design preparation and tile assembly - Courtesy Louisville Visual Art.



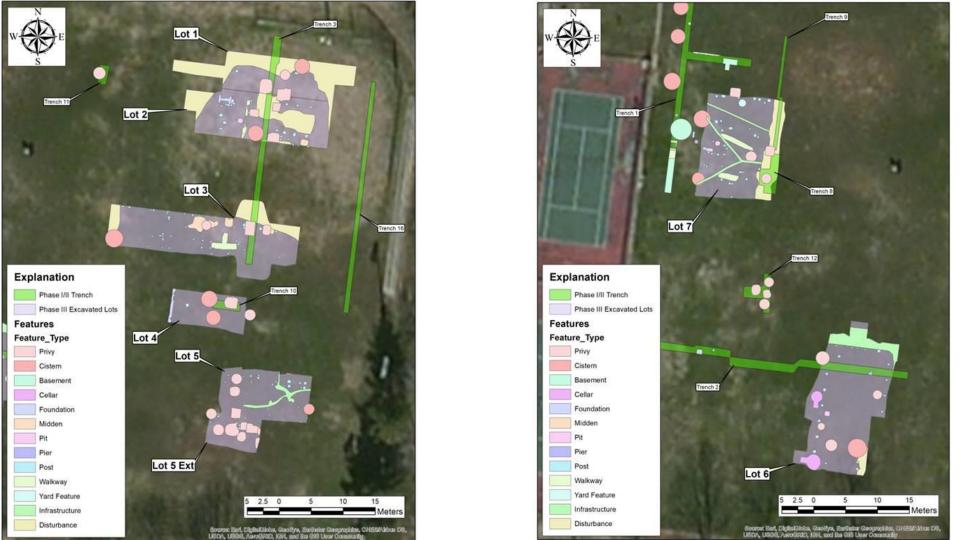


Participants painting Farmington on the mural - courtesy Louisville Visual Art.



Lots Excavated
During the Data
Recovery of
Block 1

Old Walnut Street Park



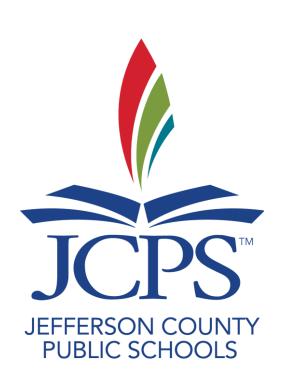
### **Educational Outreach & Data Recovery**





**Western Branch** 











Families at the Center of Results

#### **The Davis Bottom History Preservation Project**

One-hour documentary (KET)

Oral History DVD with resident interviews

Companion Website

Digital Media Archive

#### **Beecher Terrace Educational Components**

- 30-minute documentary film Lavel White
- Louisville Story Program book Darcy Thompson
- Digital Media Archive of African American History in the Russell neighborhood at Western Library – Natalie Woods
- Archaeological Data Recovery Corn Island
- Elementary, Middle, and High School curriculum unit JCPS and all
- Exhibit at Frazier History Museum, Permanent exhibit onsite at new Beecher Terrace / Baxter Community Center
- Companion webpages at <u>www.visionrussell.org</u> with information, images and educational materials

## Public / School-Age Educational Module Estimated Timeline

#### **Summer 2019**

Finalize scope of work and Intergovernmental Agreement with JCPS

#### **Winter 2019**

Second Phase of onsite archaeological work begins

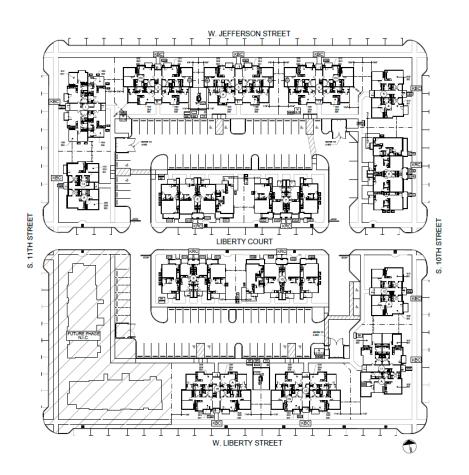
#### Fall 2020

Earliest estimated date for completed Archaeology Report

#### Fall 2021

Earliest date for educational module completion (one year after final archaeology report is completed – per LOR)

#### **Beecher 2 Residential Update**





#### **Beecher 3 & 4 Update**









#### Phases 1 - 4



## **Future Letter** of Resolution

### **Quarterly Meeting Schedule**

Future Quarterly Consulting Parties Meetings First Thursday, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

- Early December 2018 Thursday, December 6, 2018
- Early March 2019 Thursday, March 7, 2019
- Early June 2019 Thursday , June 6, 2019
- Early September 2019 Thursday, September 5, 2019

#### **Project CONTACTS**





- RELOCATION BENEFITS CATHY HEAD, (502) 569-3479
- CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS KATHLEEN ONEIL, (502) 569-3461
- EVENT CALENDAR TINA WOODS, (502) 569-3460
- RUSSELL NEIGHBORHOOD GRETCHEN MILLIKEN (502) 574-3158
- HISTORIC PRESERVATION CYNTHIA ELMORE, (502) 574-2868









Write us at www.visionrussell.com