

Beecher Terrace Consulting Parties Meeting 18

Teleconference and WEBEX, December 1, 2022

Facilitator: Savannah Darr



Topics for Discussion	Contributor(s)	Start	Stop	Duration (mins)
Welcome and Introductions	Darr	6:00	6:05	5 mins
Beecher 1 - 4 Residential	MBS	6:10	6:20	10 mins
Mitigation Activities Update for Stage I <ul style="list-style-type: none">✦ Western Library African American Archives – Natalie Woods✦ Louisville Story Program – Darcy Thompson✦ Data Recovery & Public Participation – Anne Bader✦ Public Education and Outreach – Rebecca Ingram	Darr	6:20	6:50	30 mins
Baxter Community Center/Stage 5 Update	Hawkins	6:50	6:55	5 mins
Next Quarterly Meeting/Conclusion and Thanks	Darr	6:55	7:00	5 mins

SECTION 106 CONSULTING PARTIES MEETING

DECEMBER 1, 2022

FACILITATOR –

SAVANNAH DARR, LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT

PRESENTERS –

LAURA KINSELL-BAER & ASHLEY FOELL, MCCORMACK, BARON, SALAZAR

NATALIE WOODS, LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

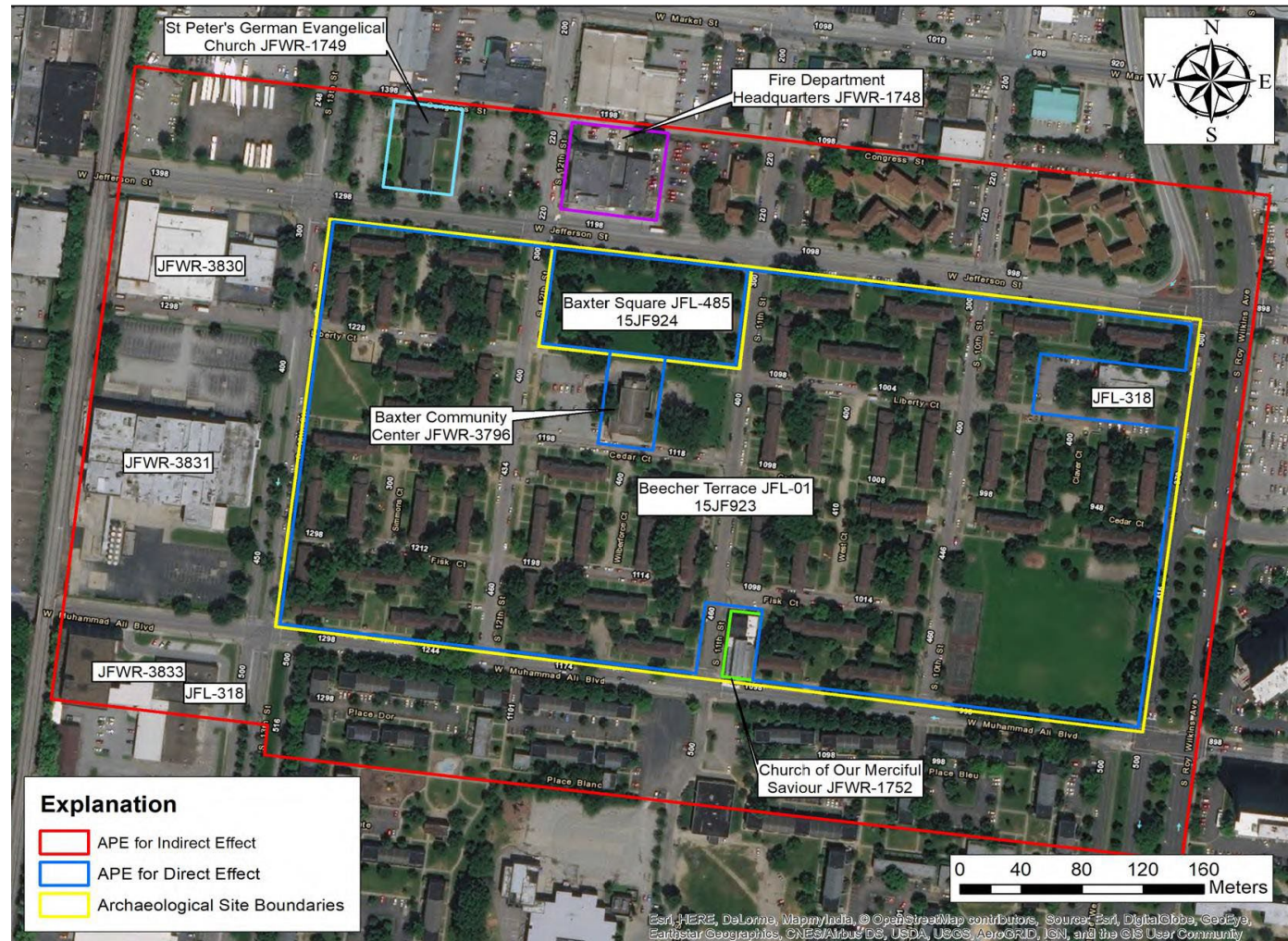
DARCY THOMPSON, LOUISVILLE STORY PROGRAM

ANNE BADER, CORN ISLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

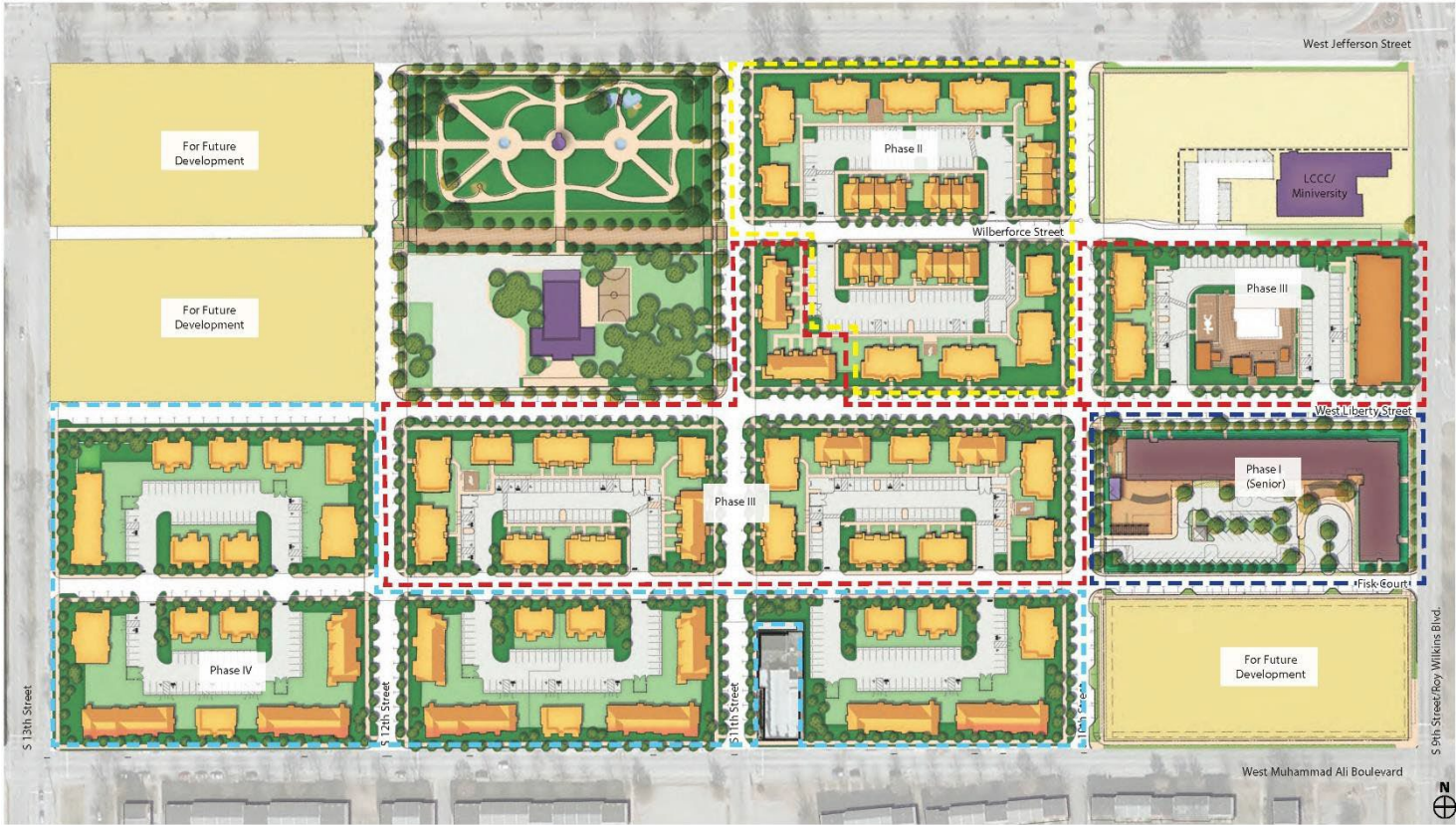
REBECCA INGRAM, JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JOHN HAWKINS, LOUISVILLE METRO HOUSING AUTHORITY

Area of Potential Effect



Beecher Phasing Site Plan



BEECHER TERRACE SITE PLAN — PHASING

BEECHER SITE / LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY / FEBRUARY 2022

Phase I Phase II Phase III Phase IV

Beecher Terrace - April 2022

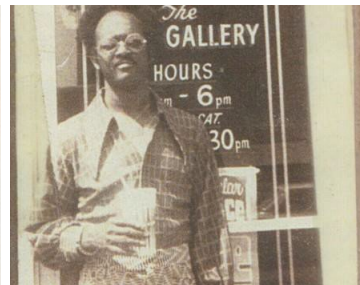


WESTERN ARCHIVES

Natalie Woods – Branch Manager

LOUISVILLE STORY PROGRAM

Cornerstones of Russell



Cornerstones of Russell



- The manuscript is finished
- The book cover is finished
- We have released a project video/ book trailer
- We are in the process of designing the book

Dec. 22: Finalize the book design

Jan. 5: Send book files to the printer (KOPA in Lithuania)

~Jan. 27: Printing and binding complete, books ship via sea freight

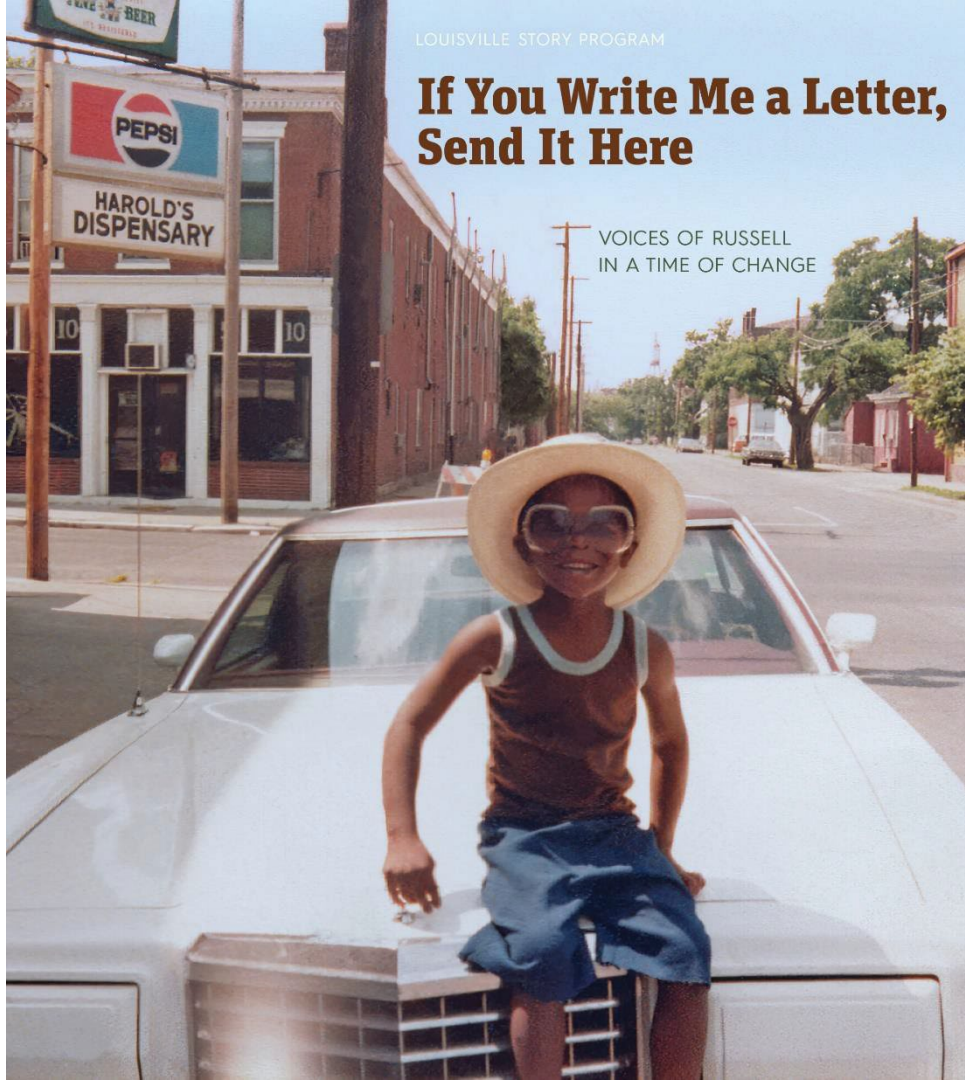
~March 24: Books arrive at LSP office

April 13: Book launch event at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage

LOUISVILLE STORY PROGRAM

If You Write Me a Letter, Send It Here

VOICES OF RUSSELL
IN A TIME OF CHANGE



The book cover!



A Conversation With Myself, or Maybe With God

Demetrius McDowell

There's this thing that we say, "Being Black is dangerous, but man, it's lit." I grew up around Sheppard Square and then later in Southwick. In the projects, even though you might have to duck from a few bullets and be cautious of who you talk to and how you walk, you're gonna have the time of your life. There's definitely part of my childhood that I wouldn't take back, but it was a dangerous time.

I feel like Black kids who come up in that scene have a PTSD that we don't even notice. As kids, we see too much. We grow up too fast. We're not pampered or shielded in any type of way. Not to take anything from the middle class, because their parents worked hard. I can't take anything from people who did what they were supposed to, but we don't have those examples. We can't get our foot in the door. We have to get through so much before we can even get the opportunity to succeed. So, for a lot of kids it's like, "Fuck that, gimme a bag. I'm gonna sell some dope and get some money."

At thirteen years old I started snorting powder cocaine. Dealing with the shootouts I was in was easier when I was high. My era was the late '80s during the crack epidemic, so I definitely knew to stay away from crack. Just like heroin, anybody that tries it, you're about to be hooked. I didn't drink. I smoked a little weed and tooted powder. We were hanging with twenty-one-year-old guys, and I was hustling these streets, getting my money.

I got my first adult charge at thirteen years old when I took a gun to Southern Middle School. A little dude had brought a gun to school and threatened my cousin. My cousin was a good guy, and I was that bad kid. Only reason I came to school was to let this guy know I'm out here carrying too: *Hey, they didn't stop making guns after they made yours.*

I don't know how it would've turned out. Maybe God intervened. I cut class and was walking the hallway and the principal caught me and sent me to in-school detention. I fell asleep and a chrome Lorcin .380 fell out of my pocket onto the floor. The teacher said, "What is that?" I said, "Oh, it's just a BB gun." I turned around like I was gonna give it to him and then ran out. I didn't get caught until two or three days later. The charges were minor in possession of a handgun on school property and minor in possession of a handgun. Back then, for anything gun-related, you were charged as an adult at age thirteen and over. So, that's what went to circuit court. I was facing one to five years as a thirteen-year-old for felony charges.

They say possession is nine-tenths of the law, and since I ran, they never actually caught me in possession of a gun. They just saw what it looked like, and I said it was a BB gun. They never could prove anything and that's why it eventually got pushed back down to juvenile court. But it took two years for that case to clear. I didn't go to school at all for a year because I couldn't come on JCPS property with a felony gun charge on the books. I was in school in the streets, bouncing around, sleeping on couches at my auntie's house or in Iroquois Housing Project, or at this crack house on 35th and Broadway. That's when I first really got into selling drugs. I was working for somebody and I was the little guy learning the ropes. I got five dollars on every twenty-dollar sale. I wasn't making any profit. I didn't have the clientele who were buying fifty or a hundred dollars worth.

Mom was trying to keep her hands on me, but I'm a young Black man: it's hard to raise us. You have to be tough. You can't really be listening to everything your mother's saying. You're *supposed* to, and the mothers try as best they can, but you just can't get through to

*Sample
draft
of
interior
layout*

Data Recovery / Public Participation

Anne Bader

BEECHER TERRACE ARCHAEOLOGY

Corn Island Archaeology LLC, a cultural resources consulting firm in Jeffersonton, 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 American professionals, and native-born 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 site 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.



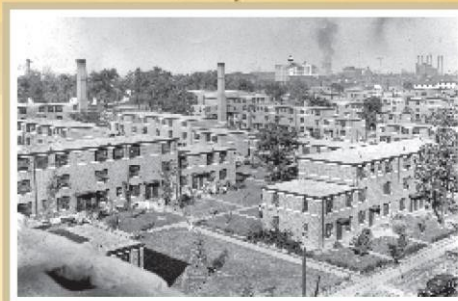
A Sam Booker pottery crock



Recovered Coca-Cola bottles



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.

Report update

Report is outlined and laid out in four volumes

Introduction and
project history

The neighborhood
and people

Field methods and
lot descriptions

The recovered
artifacts



The goal is to maintain some distinctions between the findings and the more highly technical material:

For ease of reading without lengthy
disruptions to the flow of the narrative

So that it is more interesting and suitable
for public consumption

What's left to be done?



Botanic analysis

- This is nearly completed and we should have the report on the seeds and plant remains by the end of the year

Faunal analysis

- The analysis of the bones is underway. We selected a sample of the bones to be analyzed; 3,750 are being studied
- This work will not likely be finished until spring 2023

Graphics

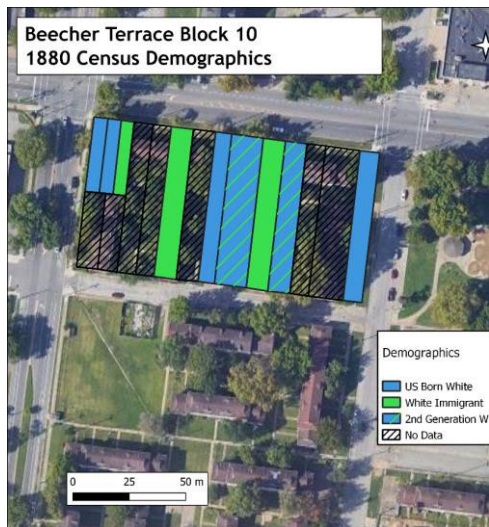


Photographs

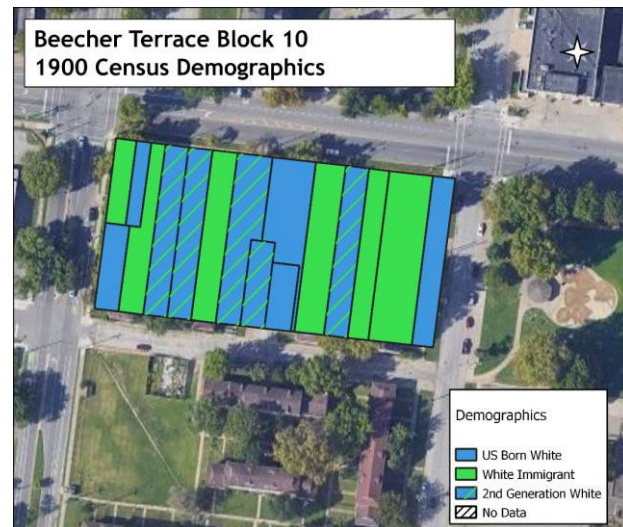
63,928



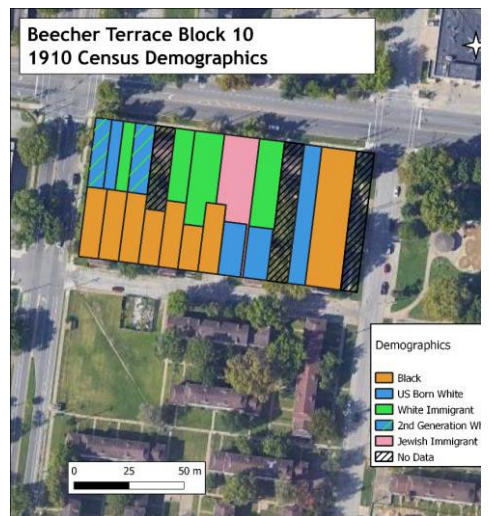
Beecher Terrace Block 10
1880 Census Demographics



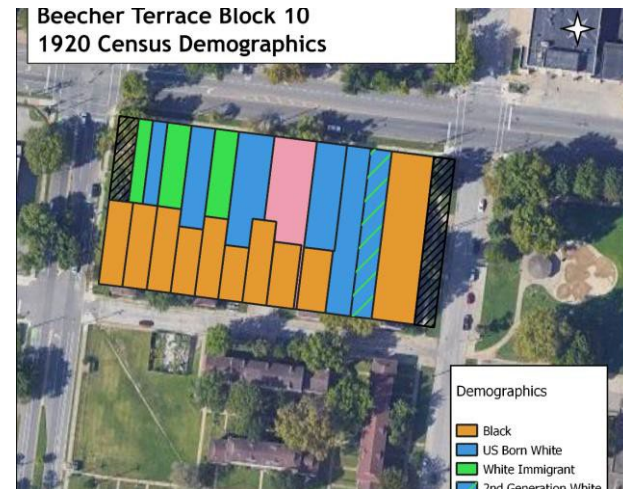
Beecher Terrace Block 10
1900 Census Demographics



Beecher Terrace Block 10
1910 Census Demographics



Beecher Terrace Block 10
1920 Census Demographics



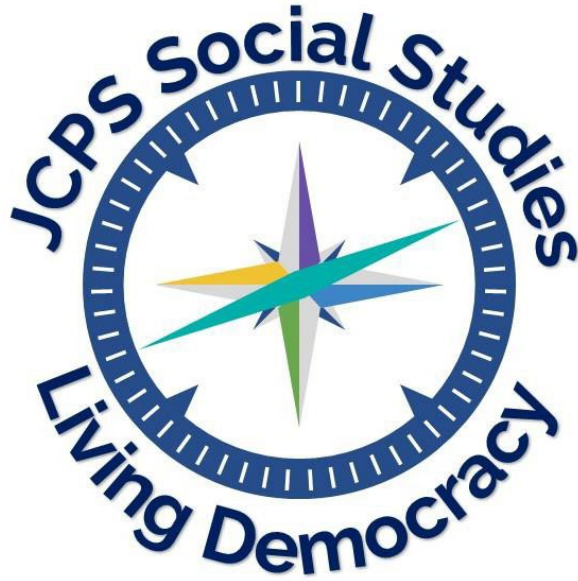
Other Project Tasks

Per the PA, the report is due to be completed by the end of June 2023.

Once the report is reviewed and accepted, the artifacts will be transferred to the University of Kentucky for permanent curation

- It would have been best to curate at the University of Louisville, but that would have cost double the fees at UK
- Some artifacts will be retained for displays as needed. We need to discuss where the displays will be and which artifacts to withhold
- The West of Ninth Street exhibit was closed and the artifacts on display there were returned to Corn Island. We were fortunate to be able to salvage to the interpretive signage and artifact labels so that these could be reused in the future displays





Vision Russell Inquiry Design Modules for Localized Social Studies Instruction

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Compelling Question: How can a community...



Supporting Questions

1. What is a community? (Pro...
2. What are examples of char...
3. What does our community...

Compelling Question: What decisions shape a...



Supporting Questions

1. What was the plan for urban renewal in L...
2. How did urban renewal shape the way ou...
3. How did this urban renewal shape the pec...
4. How is Louisville continuing urban renev...

Compelling Question: Do Governments Always Have Citizen...



Supporting Questions

1. How were historically Black neighborhoods...
2. How did redlining negatively impact the con...
3. How has the city of Louisville worked to co...
4. How has redlining affected other areas of Lo...

Compelling Question: How can we ensure equitable access to healthy food?



Supporting Questions

1. How does the government classify “healthy” food?
2. What is a food desert and why do they exist?
3. How do food deserts affect communities?
4. How can we eliminate food deserts?

Compelling Question:
How can a community change over time?



Supporting Questions

1. What is a community? (Present)
2. What are examples of changes in the community? (Past)
3. What does our community need to grow for the future? (Future)

Compelling questions that we ask as citizens of our community

Supporting questions that we ask to answer our larger questions, can be specific for disciplines within Social Studies

Aligned with state standards to help students practice skills and disciplinary language in a local context

Compelling Question: What makes a community work?

Kentucky Academic Standards for Social Studies

2.I.Q.2 Identify supporting questions that help answer compelling questions about communities found in North America.

2.H.CO.1 Describe events in North America that illustrate how people from diverse cultural groups attempted to work through conflicts to solve a problem.

2.E.MI.1 Describe how examples of capital, human, and natural resources are related to goods and services.

2.I.U.E.4 Construct responses to compelling and supporting questions, using reasoning, examples and details, about the diversity of communities in North America.

2.I.CC.2 Construct an argument with reasons and details to address a civic issue in a community in North America.

Staging the Question

Discuss what makes us proud of our community. Discuss what we'd like to see changed in our community.

Opportunities to engage with each other as community members

Tasks that focus on skill development and application of learning from sources.

Supporting Question 1	Supporting Question 2	Supporting Question 3	Supporting Question 4
What was the plan for urban renewal in Louisville in the mid-1900s?	How did urban renewal shape the way our city looks?	How did this urban renewal shape the people living in our city?	How is Louisville continuing urban renewal today, but doing it differently?
Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task
Write a summary of Louisville's plan for urban "renewal."	Explain how decisions shaped the way our city looks.	Explain how urban renewal shaped the lives of individuals living in our city.	Create a claim, backed with evidence that answers the supporting question.
Featured Sources	Featured Sources	Featured Sources	Featured Sources
<p>Source A: Buchanan v. Warley (1917)</p> <p>Source B: Race of Household map, Works Progress Administration 1938-1939</p> <p>Source C: Summary of Housing Act of 1949</p> <p>Source D: Excerpt from "Confronting Racism in City Planning and Zoning"</p> <p>Source E: Map of sites slated for clearing during urban renewal</p> <p>Source F: Table: <i>Neighborhoods Suggested for Detailed Urban Renewal Study</i></p>	<p>Source A: Image of Walnut Street before and after urban renewal</p> <p>Source B: Excerpt from "Urban Renewal and Lost Louisville" -Filson Historical Society</p> <p>Source C: Worst: Louisville went crazy with the wrecking ball in the name of "Urban Renewal", <i>Broken Sidewalk Contributors</i>, February 8, 2016</p>	<p>Source A: James Everett Recalls Beecher Terrace and "Old Walnut" in the 40s.</p> <p>Source B: WDRB article: "Once a booming strip of black business, Walnut Street faded from Louisville's memory for failed Urban Renewal"</p> <p>Source C: Documentary "The Beecher Terrace Story" Blu Boi Entertainment, LLC.</p>	<p>Source A: WLKY Article: "Louisville getting national recognition for A Place of Promise initiative in Russell neighborhood"</p> <p>Source B: Louisville Metro Housing Authority Russell Neighborhood Survey Summary Table</p> <p>Source C: Excerpt: Vision Russell Revitalization Plan</p> <p>Source D: Vision Russell Revitalization Plan: Map of Land Use</p> <p>Source E: <i>Wave 3 News Story:</i> Beecher Terrace welcomes old residents into brand new units</p>

Use of primary and secondary sources to help students investigate the questions and address the tasks.

SQ #2: What is a food desert and why do they exist?

Source B: [“The State of Food: A Snapshot of Food Access in Louisville” - Mayor’s Healthy Hometown Movement Food in Neighborhood Committee](#)

Annotation: (Click the link for more information) The following maps are a part of a report on food deserts conducted by Louisville’s “Mayor’s Healthy Hometown Movement Food in Neighborhood Committee.”

Map 1: Louisville Supermarket and Superstore Access

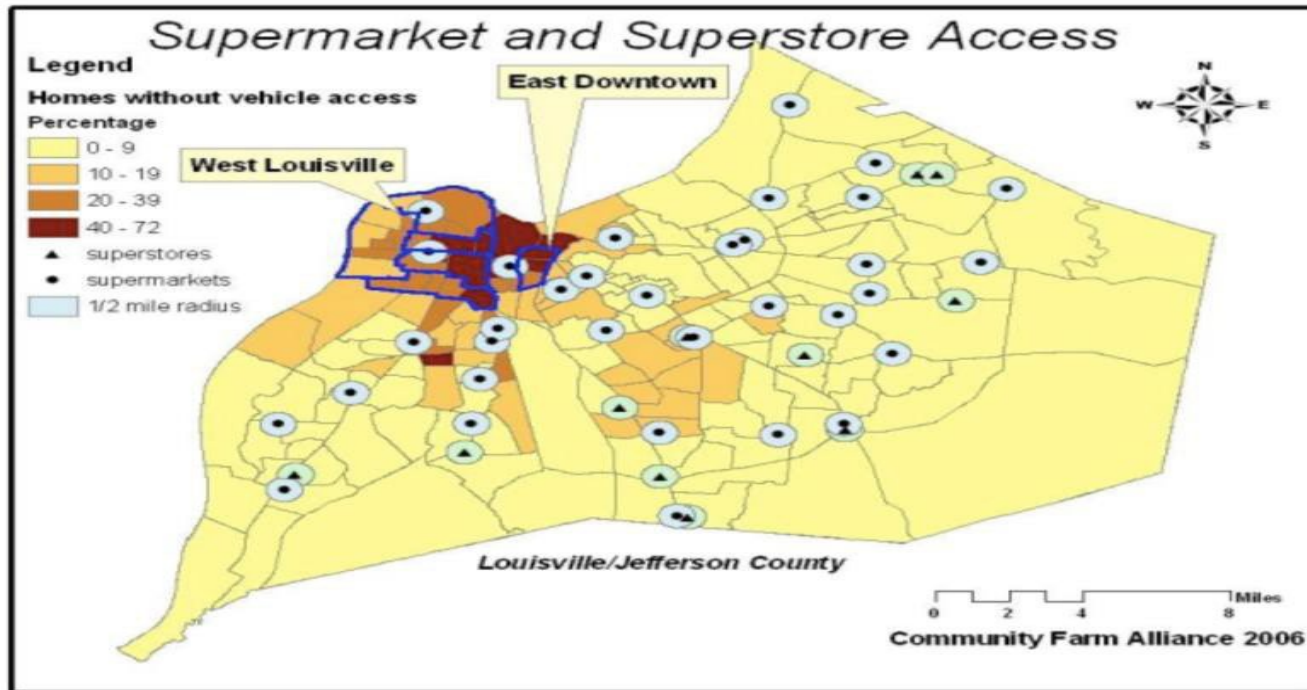


FIGURE 1 - SUPERMARKET AND SUPERSTORE ACCESS FROM “BRIDGING THE DIVIDE”

SQ #2: How has our community changed over time? (Past)

Source B: Image Bank: [Railroad Overpass Murals, Vision Russell](#)

Annotation: The provided image bank sets feature how the Russell neighborhood has changed over time. The areas of railroad overpasses are often not typically visually pleasing. The Russell neighborhood and Louisville Metro had artists come in and beautify several overpasses.

Image Set 1: Muhammad Ali Boulevard Overpass Mural Design



Sources include maps, charts, graphs, testimonials, oral histories, local and national journalism, local, state, and national government documents, documentaries, and images and IDMs allow for additional teacher sources to be added as

SQ #3: How did this urban renewal shape the people living in our city?

Source C: [The Beecher Terrace Story a documentary film by Lavel D. White \(Full-length Movie\)](#)
[Produced and Directed by Lavel D. White, Edited by Eric Stemen, Blu Boi Entertainment, LLC. Copyright 2020](#)

Annotation: The Beecher Terrace Story was filmed and produced by Lavel D. White of Blu Boi Entertainment. The documentary was developed at the request of the Louisville Metro Housing Authority to ensure that this historic apartment site's important role in shaping the Russell neighborhood and the city is not forgotten. Over the last several years, Louisville Metro Government, LMHA, Russell stakeholders and numerous other partners have been working to transform the Russell neighborhood. As part of this work, Beecher's obsolete apartment buildings are being demolished to make way for a new energy-efficient, mixed-income community. Since opening in 1939, Beecher Terrace has been home to thousands of families who were influenced by its strong sense of community. The Beecher Terrace Story includes interviews with several former residents and neighborhood stakeholders who articulate the community's rich history through their personal stories and anecdotes. The film also highlights the changes that have taken place at the site over the decades, and the important role Beecher Terrace is playing in the future of the Russell neighborhood.

Sources were drawn from the Vision Russell website as well as the work created by fellow partners, such as Lavel White.



Notice the variety of tasks students are asked to participate in - from creating arguments, imagining their future communities, conducting surveys, to engaging with local officials – all based upon their learning about their local communities.

Summative Performance Task	<i>What decisions shape a city?</i> Construct an argument that addresses the compelling question using specific claims and relevant evidence from historical and contemporary sources while acknowledging competing views.
Taking Informed Action	<p>UNDERSTAND: Think back to the list you made at the beginning of the inquiry about what you do and do not like about your neighborhood or community. Pick one thing from the list you would like to improve in your community.</p> <p>ASSESS: Come up with a plan for how to improve the area you picked to improve in your community. This may include interviewing others who live in your community and getting feedback or creating a survey for members of your community to complete and provide feedback. Research who gets to make the decisions that shape your community as well as how to use your voice to show concerns to these leaders or organizations.</p> <p>ACT: Write a letter or email to the appropriate leadership that states your concerns about your community and includes your plan for improving this aspect of your community.</p>

Summative Performance Task	<i>Do governments always have their citizens' best interest in mind?</i> Construct an argument that addresses the compelling question using specific claims and relevant evidence from historical and contemporary sources while acknowledging competing views.
Taking Informed Action	<p>UNDERSTAND Compile demographic data on the socioeconomic representation of your neighborhood.</p> <p>ASSESS Identify how redlining and urban renewal affected the area you live in.</p> <p>ACT Contact community leaders about actions they may take to increase equity in your neighborhood.</p>

Supporting Question 3
Assess & Act
What does our community need to grow for the future? (Future)
Formative Performance Task
Explain what you would like to see change in our community to make it better.
Featured Sources
<p>Source A: <i>Students' experiences provide a list of the items they want to see changed in the neighborhood. Categories can include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Religion ● Community Events ● Roads/Sidewalks ● Restaurants ● Community members <p>Source B: <i>Students can interview individuals in their community and their stories can help inform about changes they want to see in the community.</i></p>

Supporting Question 4
Act
How can we eliminate food deserts?
Formative Performance Task
Investigate local and national initiatives to create an action plan for addressing food deserts in Louisville.
Featured Sources
<p>Source A: Survey Results</p> <p>Source B: <i>Student selected sources from research about</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Louisville Another US city

Supporting Question # 3 How Has Louisville Worked to Correct Social Issues in the 21st century?

Source A: [HOPE VI/CHOICE, Louisville Metro Housing Authority](#)

Annotation: In 2015, Louisville began an initiative to revitalize the Russell Neighborhood. The plan called for the tearing down and rebuilding of the Beecher Terrace public housing as a first step to breathe new life into the community.

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS

Choice Overview

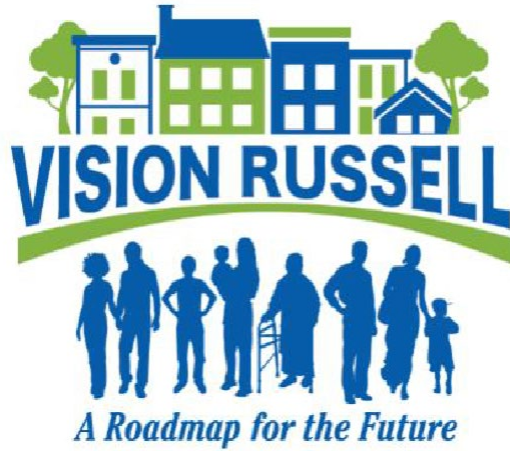
The Choice Neighborhoods program leverages significant public and private dollars to support locally driven strategies that address struggling neighborhoods with distressed public or HUD-assisted housing through a comprehensive approach to neighborhood transformation. Local leaders, residents, and stakeholders, such as public housing authorities, cities, schools, police, business owners, nonprofits, and private developers, come together to create and implement a plan that revitalizes distressed HUD housing and addresses the challenges in the surrounding neighborhood. The program helps communities transform neighborhoods by revitalizing severely distressed public and/or assisted housing and catalyzing critical improvements in the neighborhood, including vacant property, housing, businesses, services and schools.

Choice Neighborhoods is focused on three core goals:

1. Housing: Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood;
2. People: Improve outcomes of households living in the target housing related to employment and income, health, and children's education; and
3. Neighborhood: Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets, including safety, good schools, and commercial activity, that are important to families' choices about their community.

LMHA received a Choice Neighborhood Grant for the Beecher Terrace Housing Development. Please explore this site by visiting www.VisionRussell.org.

Sources reach as far back as 1917 and cover a span of time up to 2021



Blu Boi Entertainment



LOUISVILLE
STORY
PROGRAM

WESTERN ARCHIVES
Natalie Woods - Branch Manager

the
Frazier
History Museum



Baxter Community Center



**COMING SOON... a NEW and IMPROVED
Baxter Community Center**



**BT BEECHER
TERRACE**

VISION:RUSSELL
A Roadmap for the Future

THE BEECH
INC.
Education is the Key to a Successful Future.



**LOUISVILLE
PARKS
AND RECREATION**



BCC Expansion and Renovation



Funding Secured – Total of \$11,615,000

- **\$2,315,000 in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds from *Louisville Forward***
(\$3,685,000 in ARP funds was also awarded for the Park at 13th and Ali)
- **\$1,950,000 in Choice Neighborhoods grant funds from the *Department of Housing and Urban Development***
- **\$6,349,500 in *Louisville Metro Housing Authority* funds**
- **\$1,000,000 grant from *James Graham Brown Foundation***

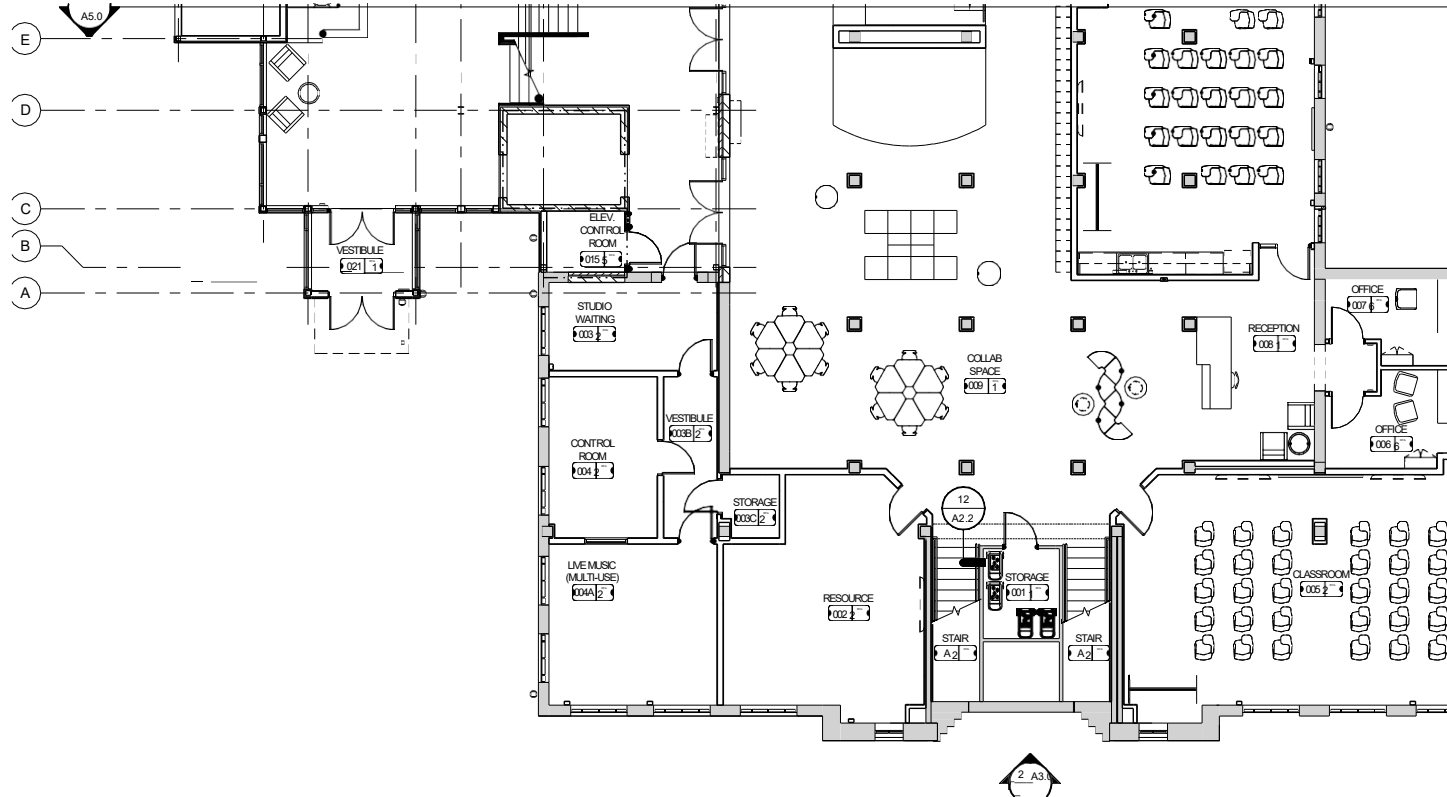
BCC Expansion & Renovation



- *Churchill McGee* selected as the General Contractor (GC)
- Projected Timeline:
 - Contract execution with GC and site mobilization starting in December 2022
 - Construction Start in Early 2023
 - Anticipated Grand Opening in Summer 2024

BCC Expansion & Renovation

- Multi-Use Audio-Visual (A/V) Lab *in the lower level next to The Beech*
- In discussions with AMPED about potential programming opportunities



Quarterly Meeting Schedule

Future Quarterly Consulting Parties Meetings

First Thursday, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

- Early March 2023 – Thursday, March 2, 2023
- Early June 2023 – Thursday, June 1, 2023

Project CONTACTS



- **RELOCATION BENEFITS - CATHY HEAD (502) 569-3479**
- **CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS - KATHLEEN O'NEIL (502) 569-3461**
- **EVENT CALENDAR – TINA WOODS (502) 569-3460**
- **RUSSELL NEIGHBORHOOD – MICHAEL KING (502) 574-0032**
- **HISTORIC PRESERVATION – SAVANNAH DARR (502) 574-5705**



Write us at www.visionrussell.com