

# ARCHIVES GAZETTE



City of Seattle  
Seattle Municipal Archives

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Office of the City Clerk  
Legislative Department

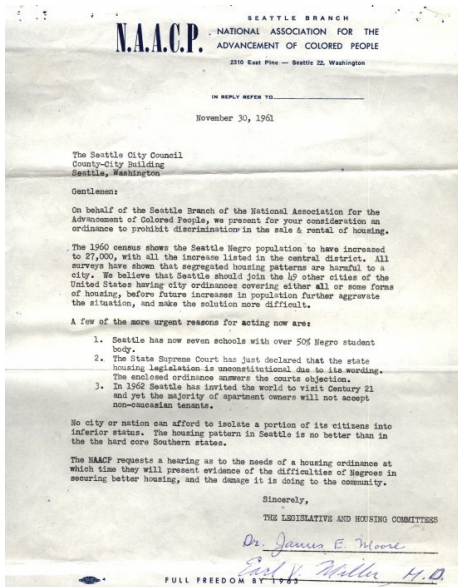
## Open Housing Exhibit at 2007 Seattle Race Conference

The Seattle Municipal Archives' Seattle Open Housing Campaign exhibit was featured at the 2007 Seattle Race Conference which took place November 3 at Seattle Center. The conference, "The Legacy of Racism in our Neighborhoods," also featured James Gregory, the director of the Seattle Civil Rights and Labor History Project at the University of Washington. Gregory reminded the audience of a piece of Seattle's past that people don't want to remember—racism.

The filmmaker Marco Williams presented excerpts of his film, "Banished," and discussed the making of the film and his interaction with people in three southern counties who evicted African-Americans from their communities.

Community organizers from several different organizations in Seattle presented their perspectives on what inspired them to become activists, why they keep going, and what advice they would give to newcomers. Carlos Marentes of the Comité Pro-Amnestia General y Justicia Social and Phil Lane, Jr. of the United Indians of All Tribes were among the panelists.

The organization The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond provided background on its workshops to build towards a common understanding and vocabulary for racism and suggested ways we can move beyond understanding the symptoms of racism to undoing the causes.



The NAACP Housing and Legislative Committees wrote to City Council on November 30, 1961, and requested Council consider their suggested ordinance on housing discrimination before the 1962 World's Fair.

Courtesy: Comptroller File 244098. Comptroller Files, 1802-01.  
Seattle Municipal Archives

## Rainier Beach Collection Processed

The Erlyn Jensen Rainier Beach Collection contains early real estate flyers and advertisements and features an early birds-eye view of Rainier Beach from about 1894.



Rainier Beach Bird's Eye view from south, 1895  
Item 1941, Map Index, Seattle Municipal Archives

Ruth Moore, Erlyn Jensen's mother, worked for C. K. Sturtevant, realtor and antique dealer in Rainier Beach. Her collection includes advertisements and pamphlets on real estate for sale in Rainier Beach around 1904, and scattered newspaper articles on the community through the 1980s. A small number of photographs also fill out the collection, including images of Rainier Beach and downtown Seattle.

**FRUIT, VEGETABLES  
CHICKENS AND CHILDREN**

That's what you can raise to perfection, if you own a home of your own in Sturtevant's

**Rainier Beach  
Home Garden Tracts**

The best and cheapest acreage property on the market today for home or investment. Rainier Beach is a beautiful place to live. Ask any of the hundreds of residents, or others who have bought property there.

Now Is Your Last Chance to Get Acres, Quarters and Halves at \$250, \$275, \$300 and Up  
On Terms of \$10 Down, \$10 a Month

Why do you continue to pay rent for a stuffy little house and lot in the city? Why not have some consideration for your wife and children? Be a man; get a home of your own; others have, you can

**REMEMBER!**  
It takes eight long years to make a half acre.  
How much more joy you get out of gardening, carpentering, painting, etc., when you are doing the work on your own property.

**CEDAR RIVER WATER**  
Same as is used in Seattle.  
Mains on every street.  
Every purchaser buying before July 24 and building within six months gets a water tap from main to property line free.

**STREETS CLEARED  
SIDEWALKS LAID**  
Grand Views of Seattle, Lake and Mountains  
Soil a Deep Sandy Loam, Free From Stones

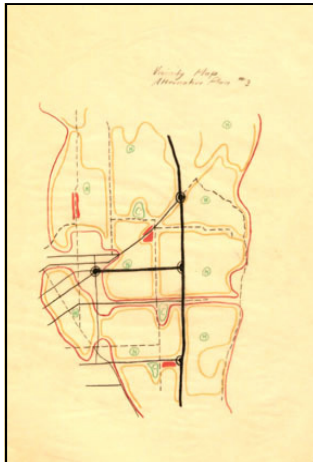
Copies of Abstract to Each Buyer  
Good Healthful New Homes  
Schools Stores Churches

**C. K. STURTEVANT, Owner** 301 Easton Block  
or Rainier Beach

"Fruits, Vegetables, Chickens and Children—That's what you can raise to perfection if you own a home of your own in Sturtevant's Rainier Beach Home Garden Tracts."  
Erlyn Jensen Rainier Beach Collection, 9940-01.  
1/2, Seattle Municipal Archives

## Maps Recently Cataloged

Several sets of neighborhood maps documenting Leschi, Madrona, and the Central Area were recently cataloged and digital copies made available on the Map Index. They were created by the Planning Commission as part of neighborhood land use planning in the 1950s and 1960s. The maps include information on zoning, lighting, transportation and topography.



Vicinity map alternative plan #3 [sketch for Minor neighborhood study], 1961. Item 2006, Map Index, Seattle Municipal Archives.

## Fifty Years Ago

In 1957 the Engineering Department began air pollution research through an air monitoring station. The samples from the station were sent to the United States Public Health Service center in Cincinnati, Ohio for analysis and testing for "particulate matter and radiological count" according to the 1957 Annual Report.



Air monitoring station, February 1957.

Item 54123, Seattle Municipal Archives

The Air Pollution Control Board was created by resolution in 1955. In 1958, resolutions abolished this board and created the Air Pollution Control Advisory Board. It was disbanded in 1967 with the creation of the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Agency. Both boards were responsible for studying air pollution and advising the City Council on methods and legislation to combat air pollution.

By mid-1957, the Board concluded that "an air pollution problem does exist in this area; that this problem will increase unless control measures are begun; and that regional control is essential—supported by a state agency." (*John D. Spaeth to A. C. Van Soelen, July 18, 1957, Engineering Unrecorded Files, 2602-02, Seattle Municipal Archives.*) The City supported a 1957 State law relating to the control and prevention of air pollution.

Complaints of air pollution in 1957 concerned the Sand Point Naval Air Station and the Orthopedic Hospital. The Board welcomed voluntary cooperation from Fisher Flouring Mills.

## Washington State Local Records Grant

The Seattle Municipal Archives recently received a Washington State Archives Local Records Grant for map preservation and conservation. The maps are unique, unpublished and document physical development and infrastructure of Seattle's transportation, water supply, and sewer systems, as well as shorelines and land use. The State's Imaging and Preservation Services will be used to digitize some of the larger maps in the Archives. Funds from the grant will also be used for conservation of maps rich in historical data but inaccessible due to their poor condition. Access to the maps will be provided through the existing Archives Map Index. The grant work will take place in 2008 and 2009.

## Recently Cataloged Photographs

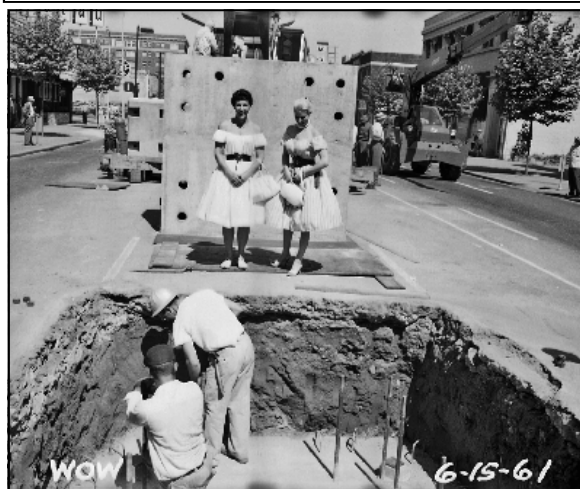


Monorail construction on Fifth Avenue, and completed in time for Century 21 or the World's Fair.

Item 64802  
June 15, 1961  
Seattle Engineering Department Photographs, Seattle Municipal Archives

Below: Mystery girls posing near monorail construction. The photographer was clearly impressed.

Item 64805 June 15, 1961 Seattle Engineering Department Photographs, Seattle Municipal Archives



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