1960s History and Culture


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Books


**Articles**


**Videos**


*Eyes on the Prize: America’s Civil Rights Years*. PBS Home Video, 2010.


**Collections**

A diverse, actively growing collection, the Museum Collection contains important primary and secondary resources of photographs, archival news footage, film, oral history interviews, documents, bibliographic materials and artifacts related to the 1960s American history and culture.

Please visit our [online collections database](#) for more information. For research assistance, please contact the Reading Room at readingroom@jfk.org or call (214) 741-6660 ext. 6646.

**Oral Histories**

For more information about the Oral History Collection

**The Rev. Earl Allen**

A civil rights activist, Allen was pastor of the Highland Hills Methodist Church in Dallas in 1963. A leader with the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), he helped organized a prominent 28-day civil

**The Rev. Wilfred Bailey**

As minister of the Casa View Methodist Church in the 1960s, Bailey served as a community leader and took a prominent position on civic matters, particularly in the area of racial integration. He was at the Trade Mart luncheon on the day of the assassination. Recorded October 15, 1999.

**Antony Anson Barnes**

Barnes and his mother left the United States in 1952 after she was exposed by the FBI as a Communist sympathizer in the 1930s. Barnes returned in 1961 and enrolled in the University of Texas at Austin. He was attending a Russian language class at the time of the assassination. Recorded January 9, 2008.

**Michael R. Beschloss**

A recognized presidential historian and author of several books, including The Crisis Years: Kennedy and Khrushchev (1991) and Presidential Courage (2007), Beschloss was seven years old at the time of the Kennedy assassination. Recorded June 12, 2007.

**Joanne Bland**

As a young child in Selma, Alabama, Bland participated in the famous civil rights march on "Bloody Sunday," March 7, 1965. Later that month, she joined Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on his march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. Her memories were recorded with those of other civil rights activists. Recorded February 28, 2006.

**Clarence Broadnax**

A longtime civil rights activist, Broadnax was the first African-American hairstylist hired to work at the Neiman Marcus department store in Dallas. A member of the NAACP and the Nation of Islam, he was one of the key organizers of the prominent 1964 protest of the downtown Piccadilly Cafeteria, and he was arrested on several different occasions during the civil rights movement. Recorded August 14, 2006, and June 11, 2008.

**Joyce Pate Capper**

The honorary consul to the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg since 1992, Capper was a longtime Fort Worth civic leader whose late husband, A.M. Pate, Jr., founded the Pate Museum of Transportation (1969-2009). As a member of the Junior League of Fort Worth in 1963, she attended President Kennedy's breakfast at the Hotel Texas. Also known locally as a presidential book collector, Capper was contacted by Marguerite Oswald in early 1964 who was desperate to sell Capper memorabilia related to Lee Harvey Oswald and the Kennedy assassination. Recorded July 14, 2010.

**Esteban Caras**

A member of Assault Brigade 2506, Caras served as part of the Bay of Pigs invasion force. Recorded October 29, 2000.
**Vivian Castleberry**

Considered the "grandmother of women journalists in Dallas," Castleberry was the longtime editor of women's news at the Dallas Times Herald. On the day of the assassination, she was waiting at the Trade Mart to cover Jackie Kennedy's visit to the city. After the shooting, Castleberry worked in the Times Herald newsroom and wrote several human interest stories that weekend. Recorded October 14, 1991, August 19, 2004, August 2, 2006, April 18, 2008, and August 5, 2009.

**George Charlton**


**Ed Cloutman**

A Louisiana native, Cloutman has devoted his entire law career to civil rights. Upon moving to Dallas in 1970, he became the lead attorney in the controversial court case to integrate the Dallas Independent School District. He remained with the case until 2003 and argued it before the U.S. Supreme Court. Recorded April 8, 2011.

**J R Compton**

Editor of the student magazine at the University of Dallas at the time of the assassination, Compton went on to serve in the Vietnam War and become a vocal anti-war critic. After working as a staff photographer at the Dallas Times Herald in the early 1970s, he was publisher of the left-wing underground newspapers Dallas NOTES and HOOKA. Recorded March 17, 2006.

**George and Jeannette Crawford**

The Crawfords were active in the civil rights and peace movements of the 1960s. They both recall Dallas as a city of hatred and anger at the time of the Kennedy assassination because of vocal right-wing extremism. Recorded June 12, 2009.

**Walter Cronkite**

A legendary broadcast journalist, Cronkite was managing editor and anchorman of the CBS Evening News during the Kennedy years. On November 22, 1963, he reported the news of the president's death on live television. This interview was recorded in conjunction with the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum. Recorded April 14, 2004.

**Col. Walt Cunningham**

America's second civilian astronaut, Cunningham in 1968 was the lunar module pilot for Apollo 7, the first manned mission in the Apollo program. He joined NASA in October 1963, less than one month before the Kennedy assassination. Recorded October 4, 2007.
The Rev. Richard Deats

A civil rights and peace movement activist in the 1960s, Deats participated in a Dealey Plaza rally in 1969 that was interrupted by Nazi protestors. He was living in Boston at the time of the Kennedy assassination. Recorded August 7, 2006.

Carolyn Dennis

An ardent JFK supporter, Dennis attended one of Senator Kennedy's speeches during the 1960 presidential campaign. She became an early civil rights and peace movement activist during the Kennedy years and continued to participate in marches and protests throughout the 1970s. Recorded June 23, 2008.

Robert Drew


Mary Eastwood

Eastwood worked for the U.S. Justice Department during the Kennedy years and attended a reception at the White House two days before the assassination. A distinguished feminist, she was later a founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW). Recorded September 17, 2010.

Dr. Ellen Fitzpatrick

A noted media personality and professor of history at the University of New Hampshire, Fitzpatrick saw President Kennedy at Amherst College in October 1963. Years later, at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, she examined thousands of letters mailed to Jackie Kennedy following the assassination. The result of her research was the book Letters to Jackie: Condolences from a Grieving Nation (2010). Recorded March 11, 2010.

Sonia Pressman Fuentes

A respected feminist, author and lawyer, Fuentes began to actively participate in women's rights activities in 1963. She was the first female attorney in the Office of the General Counsel at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and was later a founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW). Recorded August 23, 2010.

Lynda Harrell

A native of Independence, Missouri—where she frequently saw former President Harry Truman—Harrell felt that the Kennedy assassination triggered a period of national skepticism that impacted the remainder of the 1960s. Recorded April 20, 2010.
Jerry Haynes

Best known as "Mr. Peppermint" on WFAA-TV/Channel 8 for many years, Haynes was a spectator in Dealey Plaza at the time of the assassination. He then went live on the air with WFAA-TV program director Jay Watson within 15 minutes of the shooting. Recorded January 10, 1995, and January 23, 2004.

Bishop Mark Herbener

Herbener was pastor of the Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Dallas throughout the 1960s and 1970s, during which time he was actively involved in the civil rights movement. He held a memorial service for President Kennedy following the assassination. Recorded February 1 and September 6, 2006.

Steve Herman

Growing up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Herman was a politically active Kennedy supporter. He was preparing for his lead role in his high school's senior class play when the assassination took place. Later, while in college, he protested the Vietnam War. Recorded August 13, 2009.

Ed Hogan

Longtime WFAA-TV newscaster and the host of the popular Dialing for Dollars program, Hogan watched the motorcade pass and then went to Channel 8 studios. Later that day, he covered the scene at Parkland Memorial Hospital for ABC News. Recorded on December 27, 2002.

Drew Hunter

Hunter was the creative director of the Southwestern Historical Wax Museum in Grand Prairie, Texas. This museum, which first opened at Fair Park in September 1963, featured a Kennedy assassination section--including a reproduction of the sixth floor "sniper's perch"--for more than two decades before it was destroyed by fire in September 1988. Recorded August 13, 2010.

Phil Johnson

A longtime gay rights activist in Dallas, Johnson started the first gay organization in Texas in 1965. In 1972, he was one of the leaders responsible for the first gay pride parade in downtown Dallas, which originated at the Kennedy Memorial. Recorded October 17, 2006.

J. Erik Jonsson

A notable mayor in the years following the assassination (1964-71), Jonsson was a longtime community leader who is credited with helping Dallas through that traumatic period. As president of the Dallas Citizens Council in 1963, he met the presidential party at Dallas Love Field and later announced to the crowd at the Trade Mart that the president had been shot. Recorded June 30, August 17, and November 10, 1992.

Margaret H. Jordan

The first African American graduate of the Georgetown University School of Nursing, Jordan attended the March on Washington rally on August 28, 1963, and heard Dr. Martin Luther King’s
iconic "I Have a Dream" speech. Since moving to Dallas in the 1980s, she has been an active community leader, serving on the boards of institutions such as the Dallas Museum of Art and the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Recorded March 29, 2011.

**Roger Kallenberg**

Kallenberg's family was active in the Dallas Jewish community and knew Jack Ruby and the Zapruder family. After graduating from college in 1967, Kallenberg became locally involved in the civil rights and peace movements. Recorded July 20, 2010.

**David Koenig**

A noted Disney historian and the author of four books about theme parks and animation, Koenig detailed the November 23, 1963, closing of Disneyland in Anaheim, California, in memory of President Kennedy--the first unscheduled closing in the park's history. It was the only such closing until September 11, 2001. Recorded August 7, 2007.

**Morine Kovich**

A newspaper reporter during World War II, Kovich ran a public relations and mailing company out of her home in Dallas during the 1960s. Later in life she was an environmental, mental health, and children's rights activist. Recorded October 28, 2009.

**Tom Landry**

Longtime coach of the Dallas Cowboys football team, Landry recalled the infamous game the Cowboys were forced to play against the Cleveland Browns shortly after the assassination on Sunday, November 24, 1963. Recorded April 18, 1995.

**Opal Mitchell Lee**

Lee was a dedicated civil rights activist in Texas and California throughout the 1960s and 1970s. She worked for a variety of organizations, including as a specialist with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Recorded June 29, 2011.

**Dr. Glenn M. Linden**

A longtime associate professor of history at Southern Methodist University, Linden was one of the founding board members of the Dallas County Historical Foundation. A prolific writer on the Civil War, he was also the author of Desegregating Schools in Dallas: Four Decades in the Federal Courts (1995). Recorded August 4, 1997, May 24, 2006, and June 9, 2008.

**Capt. James Lovell**

Lovell joined NASA in 1962 and became a recognized Apollo astronaut. He served as command module pilot during the Apollo 8 mission in 1968 (the first mission to orbit the moon) and as commander of the Apollo 13 mission in 1970. At the time of the assassination, he was with his friend, astronaut Neil Armstrong, who would later become the first man to walk on the moon in July 1969. Recorded January 17, 2007.
The Rev. Bill McElvaney
The founding pastor of St. Stephen Methodist Church in Mesquite, Texas, McElvaney was involved in the 1960s desegregation of the Mesquite Independent School District in Dallas County. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, he was a vocal peace activist and participated in silent protests in Dealey Plaza and other local sites. Recorded February 10, 2006.

Frances McElvaney
The wife of prominent civil rights and peace movement activist the Rev. Bill McElvaney, Frances McElvaney became involved in the women's rights movement in the late 1960s. As part of this effort, she helped organize controversial classes for young women at Northaven United Methodist Church in Dallas. Recorded January 14, 2008.

Ernest McMillan
An outspoken African-American activist in the 1960s, McMillan was attending Morehouse College in Atlanta at the time of the assassination. During the 1960s, he was a prominent member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Recorded January 25 and September 6, 2006.

Eva McMillan
A longtime African-American community leader, McMillan was actively involved in voter registration drives and prison reform in Texas. In the late 1960s, she and her family were key members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Recorded April 12, 2006.

Walter R. Mears
A Pulitzer Prize-winning political reporter for the Associated Press for more than forty years, Mears covered every presidential election from 1960 to 2000. He spent time with Senator John F. Kennedy on the campaign trail, attended Kennedy press conferences and his 1963 funeral, and later wrote the book The Kennedy Brothers (2009). Recorded August 27, 2010.

Richard A. Nunis

Dr. Ralph H. Poteet
Poteet served as superintendent of the Mesquite Independent School District in Dallas County from 1964 to 1986. During that time, he oversaw the desegregation of Mesquite schools. He was assistant superintendent at the time of the assassination. Recorded March 10, 2006.

Gay Revi
Revi was a school teacher in Pennsylvania when she joined the Peace Corps in 1963. She was serving in Sierra Leon in West Africa when the assassination took place. Upon her return to the United States in 1966, she actively protested against the Vietnam War. Recorded April 1, 2011.
Bob Ray Sanders

A respected longtime newspaper, radio and television journalist in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Sanders was attending high school at an African-American school in Fort Worth in 1963. On Thanksgiving Day that year, his marching band performed a memorial tribute to President Kennedy. Sanders was later an active supporter of the civil rights and peace movements of the 1960s and 1970s. Recorded September 6, 2006, September 19, 2007, and June 11, 2008.

Jan Sanders

The wife of Judge Barefoot Sanders and a close friend of Judge Sarah T. Hughes, Sanders was with Hughes at the Trade Mart luncheon on November 22, 1963, and later traveled with her to Washington, D.C., for President Kennedy's funeral. A longtime community leader, Sanders was a civil rights and women's rights activist and was also involved in the peace movement of the 1960s and 1970s. Recorded January 31, 2006.

Harmon Schepps

The founder of Schepps Dairy in Dallas, Schepps attended the Trade Mart luncheon on November 22, 1963, and later visited Jack Ruby in jail. An acquaintance of Ruby since the mid-1950s, Schepps manufactured the sign for the Carousel Club. Recorded January 13, 2009.

Millie Seltzer

On November 22, 1963, Seltzer took her six children to Dallas Love Field to see President Kennedy's arrival. Beginning in 1966, she and her husband, the late Dr. Holbrooke Seltzer, became prominent anti-Vietnam War activists in Dallas and participated in weekly silent protests in Dealey Plaza. Recorded January 10, 2006.

Father Thomas Shepherd

A onetime recruiter with the NAACP, Father Shepherd later founded the civil rights organization, Awareness, Inc. While living in Kentucky in the mid-1960s, he participated in a march with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Recorded July 21, 2011.

Lee R. Slaughter, Jr.

A longtime conservative business leader, Slaughter was an active supporter of Congressman Bruce Alger and served on the Dallas Citizens Council for twenty-five years. Slaughter saw the Kennedy motorcade on Lemmon Avenue and enjoyed a brief verbal exchange with the president. Recorded August 5, 2010.

Robert and Ellen Solender

Robert Solender was the head of the advertising department at the Dallas Times Herald in 1963. Ellen Solender was the vice president of the Dallas chapter of the League of Women Voters. Both of them attended the Adlai Stevenson event on U.N. Day and were at the Trade Mart luncheon on the day of the assassination. Recorded October 27, 2004.
Bernadine Stetzel

An American painter, quilt maker and woodcarver, Stetzel specialized in naive or primitive art. Beginning in 1968, she responded to the Kennedy assassination by creating a series of seventy-one paintings that depict the life and death of President Kennedy. Recorded July 7, 2011.

George Stevens, Jr.

As chief of the United States Information Agency's motion picture division in the 1960s, Stevens produced the celebrated documentary John F. Kennedy: Years of Lightning, Day of Drums. As the first director of the American Film Institute, he was involved in the opening of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and has produced The Kennedy Center Honors since the program's inception. Recorded November 21 and 22, 2003.

Dr. Dolores Tadlock

An educator and author, Tadlock served in the Peace Corps from 1964 to 1966 and was part of the first group assigned to work in West Bengal, India. Upon her return to the United States, Tadlock and her husband became active Vietnam War protestors. Recorded July 30, 2008.

Marshall Terry

A longtime Texas novelist, Terry began teaching at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in 1954 and has long been considered an expert on Dallas and SMU history. Recorded June 18, 2003.

Alexander Troup

Troup's late parents were part of the local arts community in the early 1960s and owned the Gallery Trohafole, later named the C. Troup Gallery, in Dallas. The Troups sold art to many prominent residents, including Tom Landry, Henry Wade and Abraham Zapruder. Recorded July 18, 2011.

John Updike

A two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, Updike was a prolific American novelist, poet and literary critic. He was at a dental appointment in Massachusetts when he learned that President Kennedy had been shot. He wrote a short piece in the New Yorker in response to the assassination. Recorded January 10, 2008.

Ambassador William vanden Heuvel

A distinguished lawyer and former representative to the United Nations, vanden Heuvel was Attorney General Robert Kennedy's assistant in the Justice Department during the Kennedy administration. Recorded November 21 and 22, 2003.

Senator Harris Wofford

A onetime civil rights advisor to both President Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Wofford also served as associate director of the Peace Corps (1962-66) and U.S. senator from Pennsylvania (1991-95). He wrote the book Of Kennedys and Kings: Making Sense of the Sixties (1992). Recorded September 21, 2010.
Dr. Louise Young

A longtime women’s rights and gay rights activist, Young was profoundly influenced and inspired by President Kennedy. She served as a young campaign volunteer in the 1960 election and was attending high school in Oklahoma at the time of the assassination. Since the late 1970s, Dr. Young has been an active leader with the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Recorded July 12 and September 22, 2006.

YouTube

The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza Channel

Call to Action: La Calle to City Hall

A panel discussion featuring Latino political leaders Adelfa Callejo, Frank Hernandez, and Dr. Roberto Calderon, who shared their stories of Latino activism in the 1960s and 1970s. Moderator was Dallas Morning News reporter Mercedes Olivera.

50 Years of Service: Peace Corps Volunteers, 1961-2010

Five decades of Peace Corps Volunteers reflected upon how the experience changed their lives and made a difference in the countries where they served. Documentary filmmaker Allen Mondell moderated the conversation with his fellow returned Peace Corps Volunteers Jonathan Braddick, Rodney Davis-Gilbert, Paula Selzer and Sharon Sugarek.

Living History with Ernest McMillan

An interview between Ernest McMillan, a civil rights activist and member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, an organization that promoted desegregation through peaceful protest. He was an outspoken African American activist attending Morehouse College in Atlanta at the time of the assassination.

Websites


Browse the entire American Experience series featuring over 200 films. Watch full films online, download teacher’s guides, go behind the scenes, and learn more about your favorite films.

Digital History – The 1960s

Provides an overview of the decade and includes a digital textbook. The 1960s are revealed through documents, events, people, music, film, and images.

The History Channel - The 1960s

The History Channel presents a broad overview of America during the 1960s era. The site offers videos, audio files, speech transcripts and photographs to reveal the turbulent and historic events that defined the time. It provides brief biographies about people and groups such as Gloria Steinem and the Black Panther Party. The site also explores complex themes and events such as civil rights,
NASA and the Vietnam War protests. The History Channel website covers the 1960s from its optimistic and ambitious beginning, to the rise of counter-culture and the eventual polarization and resentment that affected the entire country.

**John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum - JFK in History**

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum is dedicated to the memory of our nation's thirty-fifth president and to all those who through the art of politics seek a new and better world. This collection of articles on discuss the major historical events of the 1960s that affected the Kennedy presidency.

**PBS - The Sixties: The Years that Shaped a Generation**

The companion Web site to the series is designed to give viewers an overview of the pivotal events and people in the Sixties. For access to expanded content about the decade, we included links to related sites available elsewhere on PBS.org which explore particular topics in more depth.

**Victoria and Albert Museum - History of 1960s Fashion and Textiles**

Article on fashion in the 1960s.

**Lesson Plans**

**EDSITEment - Lesson Plans from the National Endowment for the Humanities**

EDSITEment offers a treasure trove for teachers, students, and parents searching for high-quality material on the Internet in the subject areas of literature and language arts, foreign languages, art and culture, and history and social studies.

**John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum - Curricular Resources**

The JFK Presidential Library & Museum developed many wonderful educational resources and lesson plans divided up by grade level.

**Library of Congress - For Teachers**

Explore the fight for voting rights as well as the racial history of the United States in sports and schools. Study maps, baseball cards and political cartoons as well as pamphlets, legal documents, poetry, music, and the personal correspondence and oral histories of the famous and the ordinary. Lesson plans on civil rights are created by teachers for teachers.

**National Archives - Teaching Sources**

The Our Documents initiative is a cooperative effort among National History Day, The National Archives and Records Administration, and USA Freedom Corps. To help us think, talk and teach about the rights and responsibilities of citizens in our democracy, we invite you to explore 100 milestone documents of American history. These documents reflect our diversity and our unity, our past and our future, and mostly our commitment as a nation to continue to strive to "form a more perfect union."
PBS - The Sixties: The Years that Shaped a Generation

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The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame - Lesson plans

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum’s education programs have become one of the most celebrated and award-winning emanating from any fine arts museum in the nation. Music gives us a microphone to speak to the world. And music has the power to bring generations, nationalities and people together. Now more than ever, it’s critical to study and understand how music is changing our world as well as reflecting it.