Civil Rights Movement


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Books


Harvey, James C. *Civil Rights during the Kennedy Administration*. Hattiesburg, University & College Press of Mississippi, 1971.


Articles


Videos


Collections

The Museum’s Collection provides audio, visual, documentary resources, and artifacts related to the Civil Rights Movement. Artifacts and documents include campaign ephemera, newspaper clippings, letters and photographs. Audio and video recordings include oral history interviews, home movies and archival news footage.

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

For more information about the Oral History Collection

The Rev. Earl Allen


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.

Mavis Belisle

A sophomore at the University of Texas at Austin in 1963, Belisle contributed to the university newspaper and was locally involved in the Civil Rights Movement. From 1966 to 1969, she served in the Peace Corps in Micronesia in the western Pacific. Recorded September 13, 2010.

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.

Carroll Brown

As a student at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, Brown became one of the earliest civil rights activists in Dallas by organizing a 1960 drugstore sit-in. Brown, one of the few white activists in the city, played a prominent role in local protests from 1960 to 1967. Recorded August 6, 2008.
Gloria Brown

Brown was a student teacher at an all African-American school in Marshall, Texas, at the time of the assassination. She moved to Dallas less than one year later. Recorded November 9, 2010.

Earnestine Cole

A Florida native, Cole was one of five African American students selected for the first school integration in her community. Later in the 1960s, she became active with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Recorded November 9, 2010.

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.

Betty Culbreath

A longtime community leader, and director of Dallas County Health and Human Services for more than two decades, Culbreath became active in the civil rights movement while attending the University of Texas in Austin. She participated in protests and sit-ins, including a filmed altercation that aired on local television. Recorded April 26, 2011.

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 Folsom

Mayor of Dallas from 1976 to 1981, Folsom was a longtime real estate developer and served as president of the Dallas School Board during the racial integration of the 1960s. Recorded September 5, 2001.

Jody Furnish

A Dallas social worker in 1963, Furnish saw the Kennedys arrive at Dallas Love Field Airport. Throughout the 1960s, she was locally active in the civil rights movement. Recorded August 21, 2008.

Mary Greene

A longtime Dallasite, Greene served as a Kennedy campaign worker in 1960 and became involved in the civil rights movement locally throughout the 1960s. Later, she was involved in the creation of Sesame Street for PBS and served in the Carter administration. Recorded March 9, 2006.
Edward Harris

A vocal African-American activist in Dallas, Harris fought for civil rights during the 1960s with local organizations such as the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. In 1968, he attended the National Black Power Conference in Philadelphia. Recorded February 6 and September 6, 2006.

Princella Hartman

Interviewed around her 100th birthday, Hartman shared memories of the African-American community in Dallas. Owner of a Dallas rooming house and actively involved in voter registration drives, she was working in an elementary school cafeteria at the time of the assassination. Recorded May 9, 2006.

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.

The Rev. Peter Johnson

A lifelong crusader for civil rights throughout the South, Johnson served on the staff of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and worked for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). He began working for civil rights in Dallas in 1969. Recorded February 23, 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.

Katherine Kendrick

Kendrick was one of only two female school bus drivers in Long Island, New York, in 1963. She recalled that many in the African American community felt that President Kennedy was assassinated because of his views on civil rights. Recorded July 1, 2010.

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.
Lois Louise

A social studies teacher at an all African-American school in Dallas in 1963, Louise shared insight into race relations in the city and her students' reaction to President Kennedy's death. In 1965, Louise opened a clothing store called Dashika House, which was the first store in south Dallas owned by an African-American woman. Recorded May 18, 2007.

Al Maddox


Alphonse C. Matthews

A 32-year veteran of Southwestern Bell, Matthews recalled the telephone chaos that occurred on November 22, 1963. As an African-American living in Dallas, he also provided impressions of segregated life and race relations in the 1960s. Recorded September 25, 2002.

Soundra McDuff

McDuff worked at the Dal-Tex building in Dealey Plaza in the early 1960s. She was traveling to Dallas by bus from Oklahoma City at the time of the assassination. Later she participated in occasional civil rights activities in the downtown area. Recorded April 20, 2010.

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.

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.

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.

Lu Mitchell

A Dallas-based songwriter and folk singer for more than 45 years, Mitchell performed at numerous civil rights and peace movement rallies, including vigils held in Dealey Plaza. She saw the presidential motorcade as it exited Dallas Love Field and wrote a poignant ballad that weekend in memory of President Kennedy. Recorded May 13, 2008.

Valda H. Montgomery

As a child in the 1960s, Montgomery was part of a prominent African-American family in Montgomery, Alabama. She observed the aftermath of the 1955 bus boycott and the activities of the civil rights Freedom Riders, and had contact with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Her memories were recorded with those of other civil rights activists. Recorded February 28, 2006.

Dr. Darwin Payne

A reporter for the Dallas Times Herald in 1963, Payne was in Abraham Zapruder's office shortly after the assassination and covered the events of that weekend, visiting the Texas School Book Depository and Oswald's rooming house in Oak Cliff. A prominent Dallas historian, Payne is now professor emeritus of communications at Southern Methodist University. Recorded January 20, 1995, November 21, 1999, October 23, 2003, and April 20, 2006.

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.

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.

**Ruth Sanders**

An African American community leader and longtime civil rights activist, Sanders was working at the Dallas YWCA at the time of the Kennedy assassination. Recorded October 13, 2010.

**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.

**Jimmie Travis**

Travis joined the civil rights movement in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1961. During his efforts, he was shot and wounded by members of the Ku Klux Klan. His memories were recorded with those of other civil rights activists. Recorded February 28, 2006.

**Harold Vaughan**

A campaign secretary for the Boston area during John F. Kennedy's senatorial campaign in the 1950s, Vaughan had personal contact with JFK and arranged several of his appearances and public events, particularly in local African-American communities. He maintained political ties to the Kennedy family and later worked with Ted Kennedy on his early senatorial campaigns. Recorded July 25, 2007.

**Mary Vogelson**

A Dallas native, Vogelson worked as an economist in the Labor Department during the Kennedy presidency. Her husband, Justice Department lawyer Jay Vogelson, was assigned to work with the Warren Commission in 1964. Upon her return to Dallas in 1968, Mary Vogelson became a prominent activist for civil rights, fair housing rights, and women's rights. Recorded March 5, 2008.

**Ronald Wilson**

One of the few African American U.S. Marines stationed at the barracks at 8th and I Streets in Washington, D.C. in 1963, Wilson participated in the funeral services for President Kennedy. Recorded December 5, 2009.
YouTube
The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza Channel

28 Days at the Piccadilly
A panel discussion with participants in a 1964 civil rights protest at Dallas' Piccadilly Cafeteria. The program featured Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist Bob Ray Sanders and civil rights activists Clarence Broadnax and the Reverend Earl Allen.

Living History with Eddie Griffin
An interview with Fort Worth native Eddie Griffin, who was outside the Hotel Texas when the Kennedys arrived on November 21, 1963. At the height of the Civil Rights Movement, Griffin traveled across the country and became active with the Black Panthers.

Living History with Reverend William McElvaney
An interview with Dallas-area pastor Reverend William McElvaney, who speaks about his involvement in the 1960s desegregation of schools in Mesquite, Texas and his participation in Vietnam War protests that took place in Dealey Plaza.

The Vital South and Presidential Elections, 1960-2012
The program featured political scientists Earl Black of Rice University and Merle Black of Emory University discussing how Southern politics have changed since 1960 and the growing importance of the South in presidential elections and national politics. Southern Methodist University political scientist Dennis Simon moderated.

Websites
American Experience: The Presidents - John F. Kennedy
Presidents Web site presents over 25 hours of Presidents programming as streaming video. It also builds on the enormous collection of research materials developed for the award-winning broadcasts. The site includes a summary page for each chief executive, provides Featured Presidents, an in-depth look at the presidents in the broadcast series line-up, and includes links to presidential sites, a detailed bibliography, collections of primary sources, and more. Of special note is an expanded Teacher's Guide for each of the featured presidents, which provides instructional activities and suggestions for using the programs in the classroom.

American Rhetoric - John F. Kennedy: Civil Rights Address
Database of and index to 5000+ full text, audio and video versions of public speeches, sermons, legal proceedings, lectures, debates, interviews, other recorded media events, and a declaration or two.

The Dirksen Congressional Center - Civil Rights Documentation Project
The Dirksen Congressional Center is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization in Pekin, Illinois, that seeks to improve civic engagement by promoting a better understanding of Congress and its leaders through archival, research, and educational programs.

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum - Civil Rights Movement

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.

Library of Congress - Civil Rights Resources Guide

The digital collections of the Library of Congress contain a wide variety of material related to civil rights, including photographs, documents, and sound recordings. This guide compiles links to civil-rights resources throughout the Library of Congress Web site. In addition, it provides links to external Web sites focusing on civil rights and a bibliography containing selections for both general and younger readers.

Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum - Radio and Television Remarks upon Signing the Civil Rights Bill (July 2, 1964)

The Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. The Library houses forty-five million pages of historical documents which include the papers from the entire public career of Lyndon Baines Johnson and also from those of close associates. These papers and the vast administrative files from the presidency are used primarily by scholars.

Miller Center of Public Affairs - John Fitzgerald Kennedy: Domestic Affairs

A comprehensive collection of material about the Presidents of the United States and the history of the presidency. This web site features essays about the President's life before, during, and after each presidential term. It additionally provides information about the First Lady and cabinet officials of each administration.

National Archives - The Civil Rights Act of 1964 [also 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."
National Civil Rights Museum - www.civilrightsmuseum.org

The National Civil Rights Museum, located at the Lorraine Motel, the assassination site of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., chronicles key episodes of the American civil rights movement and the legacy of this movement to inspire participation in civil and human rights efforts globally, through our collections, exhibitions, and educational programs.

Lesson Plans

EDSITEment: Lesson Plans from the National Endowment for the Humanities - edsitement.neh.gov

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. Civil rights related resources are available for all grade levels on this site.

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

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National Civil Rights Museum - Educator Resources

The National Civil Rights Museum is committed to providing educators with resources and materials to aid them in teaching the struggle for freedom and justice to today’s students. Here you will find links to e-Learning activities, the NCRM Teacher’s Curriculum Guide, worksheets, primary source analysis guides, scavenger hunts, and much more.