



ArchivesSpace

# **Milepost to Self-Government Oral History Project**

## **An inventory of Milepost to Self-Government Oral History Project at DC Public Library**

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

[peoples.archive@dc.gov](mailto:peoples.archive@dc.gov)

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## Summary Information

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|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Repository:</b>               | People's Archive, MLK Library                    |
| <b>Creator:</b>                  | District of Columbia. Public Library             |
| <b>Title:</b>                    | Milepost to Self-Government Oral History Project |
| <b>ID:</b>                       | OHP013   |
| <b>Date:</b>                     | 1993   |
| <b>Physical Description:</b>     | 0.75 Linear feet                                 |
| <b>Physical Description:</b>     | 2 Boxes  |
| <b>Language of the Material:</b> | English  |

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## Biographical / Historical

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The DC Public Library was founded in 1896 by an act of Congress "to furnish books and other printed matter and information service convenient to the homes and offices of all residents of the District.

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## Scope and Contents

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On February 27, 1993, the DC Public Library held a public panel entitled "Milestone on the Road to Self-Government." The panel was part of the 20th Annual Conference on Washington, D.C. Historical Studies. Panelists included John Bonner Duncan, Walter E. Washington, John Hechinger, and Charles Horsky, prominent D.C. politicians who played key roles in the city's transition from the three-commissioner-led government to home rule in 1973. The panel was recorded and a separate interview was conducted in 1993 with Hechinger in which he reflects on his life, business, race relations, and his role as the District's first Chairman of the City Council. The latter was part of a planned post-World War II Washington documentation project led by the Library and the D.C. Archives. The two sets of recordings were later combined into a single oral history project focused on documenting and interpreting the political development of a major metropolitan community since the end of World War II. The project includes audio recordings and transcripts of a panel discussion of the transition to home rule and a

follow-up interview with one of the panelists. Topics include the formation of the D.C. city government, D.C.'s relationship with the federal government, the roles of interviewees in business and government, and race relations.

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## Arrangement

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Series 1: Transcripts Scope and Contents Materials in this series include transcripts of the panel discussion and interview. There is no transcript for 12-03. Series 2: Interviews Scope and Contents Materials in this series include master and patron copies of the panel discussion and interviews on audio cassette.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW  
Washington, DC  
[peoples.archive@dc.gov](mailto:peoples.archive@dc.gov)

### Custodial History

The D.C. Public Library conducted these interviews and panel discussion as a part of the Annual Conference of Washington D.C. Historical Studies Conference in 1993. Tapes and transcripts were officially transferred to the Library shortly after their completion. There is no transfer documentation between Library departments.

### Processing Information

After transfer to the Library, tapes were duplicated with use copies and placed in a cabinet. The originals were placed into off-site cold storage. Transcripts for the panel discussion and interview have been bound and cataloged into the Library's book collection. In 2014, the tapes and transcripts were digitized and in 2017, the collection was reprocessed. Copies of the transcripts were placed into folders and boxed. Audio cassette tapes were arranged and boxed for long-term storage. All administrative documents, including releases, were placed into the control file.

## Conditions Governing Use

The Library holds copyright for items in this collection with a signed release. There are no restrictions on the use of these collection materials. Reproduction of an oral history without a signed release is not permitted.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Oral History
- Home rule -- Washington (D.C.)

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series 1: Transcripts

#### Scope and Contents

Materials in this series include transcripts the panel discussion and interview. There is no transcript for 12-03.

| Title/Description   | Instances |          |
|---|-----------|----------|
| Charles Tignor Duncan, John Bonner Duncan, Walter Edward Washington, John Walter Hechinger, Charles Antone Horsky, 1993 February 27 | Box 1     | Folder 1 |
| John Hechinger, 1993 July 30  | Box 1     | Folder 2 |

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### Series 2: Interviews

#### Scope and Contents

Materials in this series include master and patron copies of the panel discussion and interview on audio cassette.

| Title/Description   | Instances |              |
|---|-----------|--------------|
| Charles Tignor Duncan, John Bonner Duncan, Walter Edward Washington, John Walter Hechinger, Charles Antone Horsky, 1993 February 27 | Box 2     | Folder 13-01 |

|   |       |              |
|---|-------|--------------|
| Charles Tignor Duncan, John Bonner Duncan, Walter Edward Washington, John Walter Hechinger, Charles Antone Horsky, 1993 February 27 | Box 2 | Folder 13-01 |
| Charles Tignor Duncan, John Bonner Duncan, Walter Edward Washington, John Walter Hechinger, Charles Antone Horsky, 1993 February 27 | Box 2 | Folder 13-01 |
| John Hechinger, 1993 July 30  | Box 2 | Folder 13-02 |
| John Hechinger, 1993 July 30  | Box 2 | Folder 13-02 |
| 2nd Milepost on the Road to Self Government   | Box 2 | Folder 13-03 |

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