Department of Community Planning and Economic Development Collection
(CPED/MHRA/MCDA)

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection number: B577, Accession # 2019.017.0001 to 2019.017.0014
Collection repository: Hennepin History Museum
2303 Third Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Collection title: CPED Collection
Dates: 1930-2002
Extent: 14 boxes, 5 linear feet.
Creator: Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA), formerly known as the Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority (MHRA)
Language of the Material: English
Processed by: Michele Hagen, 2019

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

After the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, Minnesota State Legislature facilitated ways for local jurisdictions to create public housing and planning authorities. The Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority (MHRA) was created in 1947 by Mayor Hubert Humphry for this task. The MHRA developed new residential, commercial, and industrial areas that would become productive and useful for the city and its residents. These developments were to be accomplished through city and federal funding.

Public housing construction had been underway in Minneapolis for several decades by the time Robert Jorvig became the head of the MHRA in 1956. At this same time, planning was just being completed for the Gateway Center project. This project would include razing one-third of downtown Minneapolis, including its skid row. In 1958, Jorvig collaborated with the new city planning director Lawrence Irvin, with the shared goal of continuing the urban renewal plan in downtown.

The MHRA was the city’s public authority in charge of developing housing for a diverse, low-income population. Townhome and low apartment-style developments had been the architectural style of building, but by the end of the 1960s, the city had adopted the model of building high-rise housing units. Soon, 28 low income, high-rise apartments were built to serve the population.

In the 1970s, the MHRA began to develop scatter-site, single-family homes by acquiring and rehabilitating properties. In the 1980s, the MHRA merged with the Minneapolis Industrial
Development Commission to form the Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA). Then, in 2003, the MCDA, along with the City Planning Department, the Empowerment Zone, and the Minneapolis Employment and Training Program, combined to form the Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED).

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

This collection includes materials donated by the Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA). The bulk of the collection dates from the 1960s -1970s. Most of the materials were created when the MCDA operated as the Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority (MHRA). The majority of the collection is composed of photographic slides featuring images of the city of Minneapolis and redevelopment projects initiated by the MHRA, later known as MCDA. The collection also features photographic prints of redevelopment in downtown Minneapolis including the Gateway district, urban renewal, senior housing projects and other redevelopment projects. The collection contains a small amount of operational records from the MHRA.

The collection is arranged into three series.

- **Series 1: Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority (MHRA) Operational Records**
- **Series 2: Audio Recordings**
- **Series 3: Images**

Series 1 includes MHRA staff information sheets from the 1970s that focus on different projects, programming, and St. Anthony West redevelopment information. The St. Anthony West information includes worksheets, maps and disposition parcel details for the area.

Series 2 includes radio spots, trainings and other topics produced and recorded on a variety of media for the MHRA and MCDA. See ACCESS for further information on objects in this series.

Series 3 contains photographic slides, prints, negatives and glass plate negatives primarily depicting city and housing redevelopment in the Minneapolis area. The bulk of the material dates from the 1960s - 1970s. The series includes images from the Gateway district, public housing projects, cityscape images, city works images and more. Most of this collection is comprised of photographic slides. Digitized copies of many of these slide images are available on Hennepin County Library’s Digital Collections website. See the Collection Inventory for a list of photographs and their corresponding identifier numbers which may be available as digital copies.

**ACCESS**

- The collection is open for researchers and has no restrictions.
- Box 14 contains information from Hennepin County Library regarding the portion of the collection digitized in 2016. This metadata on an external hard drive is for internal use only.
- Series 2 contains magnetic tape audio recordings which may require a playback device not available from the museum at this time.
COPYRIGHT
The researcher assumes the responsibility for ensuring copyright is followed. When and where possible the archive will provide information related to the copyright owners, but it will be the responsibility of the researcher to ensure copyright laws are followed. Requests for permission to publish material in this collection should be directed to the Archivist.

RELATED MATERIAL
Additional items relating to the Minneapolis Community Development Agency can be found at the following:

- *Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority*. Hennepin History Museum archival collection B275.
- *MPHA History*. Minneapolis Public Housing Authority. Includes history of MHRA and MCDA. https://mphaonline.org

ACQUISITION
Part of the material in this collection was donated by Jim Sutherland, Commercial Development Manager for the Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA). Part of the collection may be attributable to a donation from Dorothy Burke, courtesy of the Hennepin County Library.
## COLLECTION INVENTORY

### Series 1: Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority (MHRA) Operational Records

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Staff information sheets. February-June, 1976.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>St. Anthony West redevelopment. Disposition parcel keys, forms, maps. Disposition parcels 1-6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>St. Anthony West redevelopment. Disposition parcels 7-39.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>St. Anthony West redevelopment. Disposition parcels 40-59.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 2: Audio Recordings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Audio cassette. “1 7/8 4 Complete.” 2019.017.0316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Audio cassette. “1 7/8 Training section No. 1” 2019.017.0317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Audio cassette. No label. 2019.017.0318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Audio cassette. “MHRA Today.” 2019.017.0319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Magnetic tape. “‘Elderly’ copy-dupe-but without buzzing.” 5-inch reel. 2019.017.0320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Magnetic tape. “‘Elderly’ final original.” 5-inch reel. 2019.017.0321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Magnetic tape. ”Rehab I. 12 min.” 3.5-inch reel. 2019.017.0323</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 3: Images

#### Sub-series 1: Images: Not digitized

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Photographs. MPHA. Architectural renderings. Some designated as housing for the elderly or senior citizen projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Photographs. MPHA. Architectural renderings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Photographs. Charts and maps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Photographs. Railroad crossing terminals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Photographs. Southeast Minneapolis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Photographs. Waterworks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Glass plate negatives and prints. (1) 3rd Avenue South bridge. (1) Waterworks.

Photographs. Non-local topics. Features Lijnbaan Plaza.

Photographic slides. City Hall historic pictures.

Photographic slides. Oil paintings, council chambers.

Photographic slides. “Playgrounds.”

Ortho film negatives. “Rehab Display.” 4” x 5”.


Note: Use identifier numbers when referencing items within the collection and when searching Digital Collections at the Hennepin County Library Special Collections.

Box
1 Photographic slides (transparencies). C02692-C03990
2 Photographic slides (transparencies). C03991-C05250
3 Photographic slides (transparencies). C05251-C06525
4 Photographic slides (transparencies). C06526-C07780
5 Photographic slides (transparencies). C07781-C09055
6 Photographic slides (transparencies). C09241-09390, C09821-C09822, C20066-C20165
7 Photographic slides (transparencies). C13729-C14986
8 Photographic slides (transparencies). C14987-C15075, C19575-C20065
9 Photographic slides (transparencies). C17050-C18339
10 Photographic slides (transparencies). C18340-C19574
11 Photographs. Housing, redevelopment, housing for the elderly. C09391-C09590
12 Photographs. Housing, redevelopment, housing for the elderly. C09591-C09820

"This publication was made possible in part by the people of Minnesota through a grant funded by an appropriation to the Minnesota Historical Society from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Any views, findings, opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the State of Minnesota, the Minnesota Historical Society, or the Minnesota Historic Resources Advisory Committee."