

























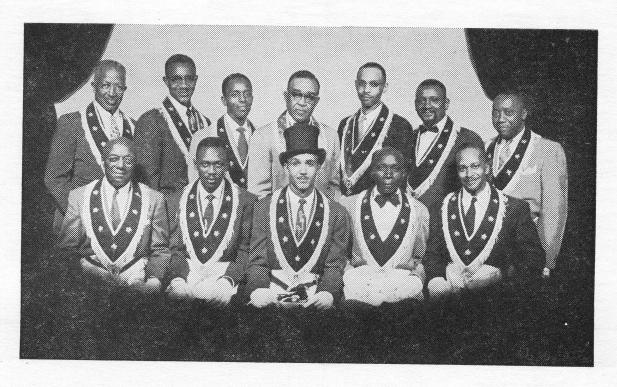




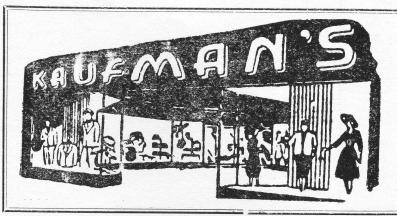




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News-Gazette Photo By Bob King

LOCAL ARTISTS BRING BLACK HISTORY TO LIFE ...pictured are (from top) L. Nolan, M. Mitchell and P. Caston

Mural Depicts Local Black History

By KAREN D. ROBINSON News-Gazette Staff Writer The City of Champaign's got roots.

As far back as the 1850s, when the Illinois Central Railroad laid its first tracks just west of Urbana, and the first wood-burning trains roared through, blacks were coming to Champaign — to farm, to work for the railroad, to help build a

community.

In honor of that past, local black artists have devised a plan to illustrate the point that "blacks have a stake in the growth and development of Champaign."

The artists are painting a mural, depicting scenes from Champaign's black history on the north and west walls of the building adjacent to Mini Park I at the corner of Fifth and Park streets.

According to project coordinator Angela Rivers, this site was chosen because she feels that when you talk about the blacks in Champaign,

this is where it all began. "No matter what anybody else says," said 26-year-old Rivers, "this

is the oldest black neighborhood in Champaign. We just thought it would be a fitting place.

"The majority of the blacks in this neighborhood have been here since the turn of the century," she said.

"At least 10 families (hers included) have been here since 1860. They have just as much claim to the area as the first white families, and I just want to show not only the black community, but the city as a whole, that blacks do have a stake here."

Rivers said that the main purpose of the mural is to give blacks, especially the younger ones, "something they will be able to identify with."

"I think it's about time that some of the younger folks in Champaign had something that they can call their own," said Rivers. "They just don't have any place to go any more. At least this will give them something that they can be proud of...that they can say they worked on."

According to Rivers, the mural

started with an idea from Education Resources in Environmental Science (ERES) a local group devoted to "encouraging people to...create a better environment."

ERES representatives contacted Rivers and several other black artists and suggested that a mural be painted somewhere in the community.

After the Mini Park site was chosen, and the group got the go-ahead from the Champaign Park District, the next step, Rivers said, was trying to find the funds necessary for paints and supplies.

Rivers said that a division of CETA had offered to fund the project, but she was hesitant to go that route because of "all the restrictions."

Finially, she said, with no other funding in sight, they decided to go ahead and accept the CETA fund-

ing. With most of the major problems solved now, Rivers estimates that work on the project should progress

rather quickly.



LOCAL ARTISTS BRING BLACK HISTORY TO LIFE pictured are (from top) L. Nolan, M. Mitchell and P. Caston

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Sadat Set

By BROOKS JACKSON
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON — President Carter will meet with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin at Prime David on Sept. 5 to resume direct Middle East peace negotia-

White House press secretary Jody Powell said the three leaders will meet "to seek a framework for peace in the Middle East."

Powell said all were agreed there is "no task more important than the search for a permanent settle-

The meeting is the first major The meeting is the first major breakthough in Middle East peace efforts since Sadat suspended negotiations last January. It will be the first meeting between Sadat and Begin since last December.

The meeting was arranged by The weekend to try to resume negotiations at the foreign minister level. Vance is in Alexandria, Egypt, today.

Egypt, today.

The peace efforts had broken The peace efforts had broken down over an Egyptian demand for an Israeli commitment to surrender sovereignty over the West Bank and the Gaza strip.

The Israeli position has been that it would discuss the sovereignty of question after a five-year period of question after a five-year period of limited self-rule by Palestinian Arabs in the area. Carter briefed congressional leaders on the new development this morning.

A White House official told reporters that the summit is not exters that the summit is not extensed to produce a settlement but only to narrow differences between

tions.

The official, who spoke to reporters on condition that he not be named, said the three-way summit is being called "not because prospects for peace are so good but because the risks have in fact ri-

"The Egyptian president said were new negative elements. And the bargarining table. "This initiative was lately as return to direct talks. "The sproining to the gloomiest periods in the proficial said Carter hopes the summit at the presidential retreat "will encourage the parties to resume more direct negotiations themselves."

The breathrough came after one of the gloomiest periods in in the profracted American effort to get the two combatants back to the bargaining table.

Only last week, Sadat denounced Israel for injecting what he said were new negative elements. And the Egyptian president said he did not favor a return to direct talks. "This initiative was taken because lately in the Middle Eastern situation there has been an evident slowdown in the momentum to wards peace," the Carter administration official said.

"There have been intensified polemics and it's become clear that the parties, instead of moving towards peace, have been drifting away from it," he said.

Holding Martin-Trigona Inveiled

News-Gazette Staff Writer
Lawyers for Champaign County
State's Attorney Thomas Difamis
Tuesday began unraveling the first
threads of Anthony R. MartinTrigona's real estate holdings.
At a lengthy hearing in Champaign County Circuit Court:

— Two Chicago banks were ordered to show cause why they
should not be cited for contempt of
court for failure to respond to a
court for failure to respond to the
proceeds from two of Martin-Trigona's real estate
holdings, which are believed to be
extensive but are hidden in secret
land trusts.

Difanis a result of a jury's determination that Martin-Trigona three weeks
ago as a result of a jury's determination sagainst banks they believed
thold land trusts on behalf of
Martin-Trigona in a number of local court
Trigona in a number of local court

cases, represented both Martin-Trigona and the Harris bank at the hearing.

Martin-Trigona was not present for the hearing.

After Circuit Judge John Shonkwiler turned down Bradley's argument that the bank was not obliged to disclose the land trusts, a bank official testified about the trusts.

The banker, Kenneth Piekut, testified that Martin-Trigona was beneficiary of trusts that own properies at 603 W. High St., U; 2310 Sumac Drive, C; and 2214 Brett Drive, C.

Shonkwiler ordered all three properties turned over to the sheriff for sale, with the proceeds of the sale to go to Difanis.

However, Difanis' share of the proceeds likely will be limited by the fact that mortgages, predating the fact and Sumac Drive properties.

However, Frederick Grosser, one of Difanis' lawyers, said he be lieved it possible that the LaSalle lieved it possible that the LaSalle lieved it possible that the LaSalle bank and Officials of the LaSalle Bank and Officials of the LaSalle Bank and Officials of the LaSalle Bank and Trust Co of the Citzens Ban

Still another bank, the Lakevic Trust and Savings Bank of Chicag complied with its citation by maing trust records to the court.

Rivers: Angela

memories and visions of north Champaign and the mural at Fifth and Park Streets. Chicago-based artist Angela M. Rivers will be visiting Champaign-Urbana from Octo-ber 12-17 to facilitate conversations about

family's long history in Champaign County. Since then, she has been an arts educator Rivers designed and executed the Park Street mural in 1978 to honor her own and consultant. Since then,

All events are free and open to the public.



Neighborhood



Monday, October 12 1:00-3:00 Walkathon Past the Mural, Booker T. Washington Elementary School, 606 E. Grove St., C. Organized by the Booker T. Washington Parent-Teacher Association.

Tuesday, October 13
3:30-5:30 PM Neighborhood Memory Workshop, Conference Room, Douglass Branch Library, 504
E. Grove St., C. Free and open to the public. To E. Grove St., C. Free and opregister, call 217-333-7094.

Wednesday, October 14 1:06-1:50 PM Interview with Angela Rivers on WILL Radio's The Afternoon Magazine with host Celeste Quinn (580AM). 5:00-6:00 PM Meet at the Mural: Informal Discussion about the Mural and its Themes with the artist and others involved, corner of Fifth and Park Streets,

Thursday, October 15
5:15-7:00 PM Public Lecture: "Revisiting Murals, Animating Neighborhoods," Mumford Hall 103, 1301 W. Gregory Dr., Champaign on the south quad, C. Free parking will be available in nearby lots after 5pm.



Sponsored by the Frances P. Rohlen Visiting Artists Fund College of Fine and Applied Arts with additional support from the Community Informatics Initiative University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Questions? Contact Sharon Irish, slirish@illinois.edu http://www.cii.illinois.edu/rivers























































