

BlackBerry Patch, Bronzeville and Pointdexter Village

Visual	Audio
	MUSIC UP AND UNDER
(1) Title: Black Exodus	NARRATOR: No pattern of migration has transformed America's socioeconomic structure more than the mass exodus of African Americans in the first half of the twentieth century.
Image: Map	NARRATOR: An estimated 1.5 million African Americans left the predominantly rural South to live and work in northern cities in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio.
Image: Stock images	NARRATOR: Bronzeville was a name created by James Gentry, an African American writer from Chicago. He used the name to refer to black neighborhoods, which were welcoming of black men and women of all shades. By 1910 blacks in Columbus adopted the name.
Image: Title: Settlement: Bronzeville	NARRATOR: In the early 1900's the area just east of Downtown Columbus was populated by African American residents. The majority of this population established the "East Long Street Community known as Bronzeville.
B-Roll	NARRATOR: Bronzeville, a neighborhood where tens of thousands of residents thrived decades before; has drastically declined over the years to a place where the average income has left families in extreme poverty; and where the residential population has withered to a few thousand.
Images: Title	NARRATOR: In this episode of "Forgotten Neighborhoods" we will explore how

	African Americans in Columbus took a leading role in shaping Bronzeville (a-city-within-a city), which provided increased economic and political opportunities for African Americans and their community.
B-roll	NARRATOR: Bronzeville a once thriving community finds itself trying to hold on to traditions and rich history while facing the effects of urban renewal and gentrification.
Images	NARRATOR: The Bronzeville community included people from all walks of the economic ladder -- doctors, lawyers and laborers, store owners and clerks -- and became known beyond Columbus for the jazz and blues that rang from its theaters and nightclubs.
TITLE: The Beginning of Bronzeville Image: Black Press Advertisements Quotes of personal accounts if applicable	NARRATOR: World War I caused industrialized urban centers in the North, Midwest and West to experience a scarcity of qualified laborers, due in part to the slow tide of European immigrants coming to America. With a high demand for war production items, factories, shipyards and manufacturing plants enticed Blacks to venture north.
Interview	Subject matter expert about the Great Migration promises of the North.
Text	NARRATOR: There were significant moments that helped Bronzeville establish itself as a thriving community. Firstly, it became incorporated in October 1936; secondly, on March 3, 1937, Bronzeville's 40,000 residents elected Rev. Dr. N. L. Scarborough of Trinity

	Baptist Church as mayor.
Image	NARRATOR: Rev. Scarborough established an all African American cabinet to address the economic, political and social interests of Bronzeville. Scarborough's cabinet was comprised of eight departments, which consisted of the Department of Education, Public Welfare, Finance, Public Relations, Legal Affairs, Better Business Relations, and the Department of Recreation.
Images	NARRATOR: The governing body of Bronzeville was comprised of notable leaders within the community. Such as, Attorney Charles W. Warfield, a Republican influential and a senior member of the law firm of Warfield, Walters and Curtis. Elmer Burns, who was aligned with Roy Wilkins who would later become executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Other community leaders assisted Scarborough's empowerment agenda, such as Nimrod B. Allen, the Urban League's executive secretary and founder of Frontiers of America, Inc. (later Frontiers International Inc.), a national club that focused on developing leaders. He also helped found the Columbus Urban League where he later became the director and served for 23 years.
Interview	Subject Matter Expert Discuss the political structure that made up Bronzeville. The important contribution of Nimrod Allen and Rev. Dr. N. L. Scarborough

Images or B-roll of the neighborhood	NARRATOR: In the 1930's in the midst of the great depression, millions of people were without jobs. The African American community suffered tremendously and the housing conditions of the Blackberry Patch reflected the breakdown in the community. Homes began to resemble shacks; many without indoor plumbing or heat.
Text: Poindexter Village is born	NARRATOR: Bronzeville underwent a major transformation when Blackberry Patch was demolished by the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) to build Poindexter Village, a sprawling two-story; 325-unit housing complex that expanded over 27 acres.
Image	NARRATOR: CMHA barred Blacks from all federal projects except Poindexter Village. For many who resided there; the development was an answer to their prayers. Poindexter Village served as a safe and peaceful dwelling to Columbus's Black working class and low-income residents; it also was a hub to newly arriving southern migrants looking to capitalize on the wartime industry jobs that availed themselves during the 1940s.
Image	NARRATOR: Interesting enough, many homes were demolished to make room for Poindexter Village. Businesses and community buildings were also affected by the construction.
Interview	Subject expert to speak on housing disparities

Title: Notable Residents	NARRATOR: World-renowned artist Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson is one of The Villages most prominent resident. Ms. Robinson's inspiration for her art was manifested through her experiences of community and history.
Interview/Footage	Subject expert about Poindexter Village and Blackberry patch. Why this housing complex was an important nucleus to the community.
Text: Education in Bronzeville	NARRATOR: African American Education in 1871 prior to the golden age of Bronzeville could be summed up as dismal. In fact, the Columbus City School District offered a run-down building at the corner of 3rd and Long Street and named it the "colored school."
Images	NARRATOR: The Columbus Board of Education established only one school to meet the needs of all African American children in the city. There were six teachers and two-hundred students. It was named the "Loving School" after Dr. Starling Loving, an advocate of equal rights and a Columbus City school board member at the time.
Images	NARRATOR: In 1909 the Champion Ave. Junior High school was built in Bronzeville. From 1910 to 1950 children in Bronzeville attended Felton or Garfield Elementary, Champion or Mt. Vernon Junior High, and East or Central High School.

Text: Church as the Nucleus	NARRATOR: Organized politically and spiritually, black churches were not only given to the teachings of Christianity but they were faithfully relied upon to address the specific issues, which affected their members.
Image	NARRATOR: For many African American Christians, regardless of denominational differences, Black Churches represented their religion, community, and home.
Image	Narrator: The church was the center of social, economic and civic life in Bronzeville. The area was comprised of some of the city's oldest and most prominent Black churches. A few were stops on the Underground Railroad.
Image	NARRATOR: Eight churches were identified between Long Street to the south, Mt. Vernon to the north, Jefferson to the west and Champion Avenue to the east that serviced the majority of the residents. Trinity Baptist and Second Baptist were home to political leaders in the area.
(GRAPHIC/TEXT: Economic Growth	NARRATOR: Due to the drastic influx in the African American population, there was a huge need for housing. In 1930, 18 black realtors worked closely with mortgage granting companies and banks.
Image:	NARRATOR: African Americans in east Columbus owned banks such as Adelphi Loan and Savings Company as well as Credential, a mortgage granting company. The community also established Columbus Supreme life and Casualty Company, a black-owned insurance company firm.
Image:	NARRATOR: Two of the area's major through-fares were Long Street and Mount Vernon

	Avenue. They were at the heart of Bronzeville. Long Street was a residential area, brimming with Black-owned commercial ventures and businesses. Mount Vernon Avenue to the North was Bronzeville's economic engine. Whether you were looking for a jazz club, lodging or a restaurant this street had everything. Mount Vernon was the entertainment home to the Ogden Theatre, Phythian Theatre, Empress Theatre, and the Belmont Club Restaurants included The Novelty Food Bar and the Yacht Club Bar Some of the nicest hotels could be found in Bronzeville: The Barnett Hotel, The Garden Manor, The Plaza Hotel, The Macon Hotel, and years later, the Hotel St. Clair, the city's hippest Black hotel). There was also a community grocery store and wellness center. Black-owned businesses and establishments were consistent employers of African Americans.
Title Urban Renewal	NARRATOR: The population and economy of Bronzeville began to dwindle noticeably during desegregation, when African Americans were taking their business elsewhere. The second blow leading to the destruction of the community came in the late 1950's with the ratification of the Highways Act. The construction of Interstate 71 destroyed several important residences and structures in Bronzeville.

B-roll images	NARRATOR: The "Urban Renewal" initiative was enacted by President Eisenhower in the early 1960's. Columbus received many funds from the federal government to rehabilitate residential areas deemed in need. This resulted in the demolition of over 100 acres of residences in north Bronzeville. These were slowly replaced with a strip mall and cul-de-sac subdivisions.
Title: Present	NARRATOR: Several distinct residential and commercial districts have been established in Columbus over the past 20 years. One was the King-Lincoln District, named for cultural institutions the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center and the Lincoln Theater. In 2009, there was a grass-roots movement to drop the King-Lincoln name and again call the district Bronzeville. This generated a community debate, but it was agreed to use both names for an area that has made a rich contribution to our city's history.