4. Impact of Maine on the Family

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Impact of Maine on the Family
Mr. Edgar Anderson

“I moved to Portland on my honeymoon with my second wife; and she's white. We moved to Portland in 1985, and we have two kids: Ashley, who just turned 14, and she's going to going to Deering, I guess… And I have a son, Jordan, who's ten, who's going to Lincoln. My daughter and Ashley Brownlee played basketball together this past weekend and they won a tournament down in Massachusetts. So all the basketball coaches and softball coaches are after her because she's probably gonna start as a freshman on the basketball team at Deering.”

“I came to Maine in 1985 and, as I said before, I believe, my wife and I came here on our honeymoon. And we came here, basically, to get away from the city, away from the hustle and bustle and thought that the pace of the city of Portland was slow enough that we could have a good quality of life. And that has, in fact, been the case. We've been able to come here and raise our family, and have decent jobs, and enjoy what Maine has to offer, not only from the standpoint of the ocean and other things, but also the people.”

Ms. Beverly Bowens

“As I mentioned, I don't feel that it was any different than any other family in Maine. I think I am very Maine oriented. I am very loyal to Maine. When I went to New York and anyone said anything about Maine, I was very much on the defensive. So, all I can say is that I am a Maine person and that will never change. When I went to New York., it was okay. I'm not a cosmopolitan person, although I loved New York. But you feel that this is a part of your home. Your upbringing. Maine people, I feel, are very diligent in their work. And that was the effort that we were all brought up with.”

Ms. Beverly Bowens (born in Maine; age 67; left at 21 years old for about 35 to 40 years and then returned to Maine)
Acknowledgements
We are indebted to our partners at the University of Southern Maine (USM) Special Collections, the University of Southern Maine Libraries for their support in digitizing and building the exhibit site, and the Osher Map Library (OML).

This site was built by USM Libraries and Digital Projects staff members Mary Holt, Library Specialist in Digital Projects and Special Collections with USM Libraries, and Jessica Hovey, Library Specialist in Digital Projects and Access Services with USM Libraries.

Nora Ibrahim, Digital Imaging Assistant with the OML and Smith Center for Cartographic Education, assisted with photographing the Talbot Collection and many of the images featured in the exhibit. Sara Nazirli, Digital Projects Assistant with USM Libraries, assisted with uploading images for the exhibit.

Shiloh Parker, Administrative Assistant with USM Libraries, and Carrie Bell-Hoerth, Library Specialist in Digital Projects and Access Services with USM Libraries, assisted with marketing and outreach.

Special thanks and gratitude are in order for Susie Bock, Coordinator of USM Special Collections and Director of the Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine, David Nutty, Director of Libraries and University Librarian, and Dr. Libby Bischof, Executive Director of the OML.

Dr. Lance Gibbs is the curator of this exhibit and served as the research lead for the project, providing historical background from news and scholarly references, and authoring the short contextual catalogue essay entries which complement the photos, written, and audio galleries. Dr. Gibbs is a lecturer in Race and Ethnic Studies and is currently the director of the Race and Ethnic Studies program at the University of Southern Maine. Dr. Gibbs is also the Talbot Fellow for the Gerald E. Talbot and African American Collections. Dr. Gibbs’ research interests focus broadly on the family, in particularly in father involvement/fathering/fatherhood, among immigrant fathers from the African Diaspora. For more information, contact Lance Gibbs, at lance.gibbs@maine.edu

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References


