

FREE HILL:

Renewal and Rememory

A TRAVELING EXHIBIT

BACKGROUND

Free Hill was a community of free Black residents established in the 1850s in Athens, Tennessee. For nearly a century, Free Hill sustained a mainly Black population until urban renewal drove out the families who called it home in the 50's and 60's. The project, known as The Graham Street urban renewal project, displaced those families to allow for the expansion of Tennessee Wesleyan College, now known as Tennessee Wesleyan University.

This exhibit explores the recollections of Free Hill residents, their descendants, and invites others to listen, learn, and remember.

Visit the virtual exhibition page [here](#).

THE COMPONENTS

- 7 hanging portraits, framed 23x36 inches each
- 2 standing projectors
- 1 short-throw projector
- 2 mini PC, keyboard, and mouse
- 15 headphones
- 9 iPhone adaptors for headphones
- a sound bar speaker and 2 smaller secondary speakers

DISCUSSION

One of the most important elements of exhibits isn't a matter of technology but the visitors themselves. We require that every exhibit showing be partnered with an allotted time and space for community discussion and reflection.

BRING THIS EXHIBIT TO YOUR TOWN

It is our intention that this exhibit live in more than one place, rural, and urban. We are so fortunate to have had this work live in its home community of Athens, Tennessee, from November 4 to December 12, 2022.

We know that 2023 and the years to come offer even more possibility of more people hearing and learning from the memories of the Free Hill community.

Email tyler@ruralstrategies.org for more information about cost and space requirements.



Exhibition opening day at Athens Area Council for the Arts. (11/4/22)