

HOUSING INSECURITY IN MS

Project Description

The Housing Insecurity in Mississippi Oral History Project collects narratives and documents the lived spaces of individuals and communities that have experienced, are experiencing, or are working to relieve housing insecurity and evictions in Mississippi. It narrates the history of housing insecurity in our state and exposes historic and contemporary issues that lead to the lack of access to a basic human right—an adequate and secure place to live. Through this project, we hope to shed light on the housing crisis in Mississippi and to contribute to the future solutions to housing insecurity in the state and beyond.

This project was directed by Silvina Lopez Barrera and Kateryna Malaia, Assistant Professors at the School of Architecture, Mississippi State University in collaboration with community members, local and state organizations in Starkville, Columbus, and Jackson, Mississippi. The initial stage of this project took the form of a Fall of 2021 class Lopez Barrera and Malaia taught at Mississippi State with the help of Margaret Walker Center Oral Historian Alissa Rae Funderburk. Oral histories and architectural documentation were collected and produced by architecture students: Camille Bohannon, Elisa Castaneda, Reagan Douglass, Lucas Elder, Michael Herndon, Jessica Kiger, Sam Marcus, Sarah Mixon, Caroline Prather, Alysia Williams, and Savannah Wilson.

This project was made possible by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council, through support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this project do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities or the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Partners and sponsors for this project included Starkville Strong, Mississippi State University, MS State Center for Teaching and Learning, MS State School of Architecture, MS State ORED, Mississippi Humanities Council and the Margaret Walker Center

Finding Aid

Narrator	Interviewer	Date	Location
Elecia Brooks	Alysia Williams	9/29/21	Starkville, MS
Kristi Brown	Caroline Prather	10/12/21	Starkville, MS
Samantha Conner	Lucas Elder	10/26/21	Columbus, MS
Ashley Hunt	Elisa Castaneda	11/5/21	Starkville, MS
Yazzam Well	Elisa Castaneda & Camille Bohannon	11/2/21	Starkville, MS
Devin Winston	Caroline Prather	11/4/21	Starkville, MS