

**Harris County Archives
Houston, Texas**

Finding Aid

**HARRIS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CR29
(1977 – 1998, Bulk: 1984 - 1995)**

Size: 14.75 cubic feet

Restrictions on Access: None

Restrictions on Use: Some records may contain confidential information. Contact the archivist for further information.

Acquisition: Harris County Social Services, December 11, 2003

Accession Number: 2003.016

Processed by: Sarah Canby Jackson, 2006

Citation: [Identification of Item], Harris County Community Development, Harris County Archives, Houston, Texas.

Agency History :

Little is known of the early history of the Harris County Community Development Agency (HCCDA). Indeed, one report in these files explicitly states "...most of the actual knowledge from the early period can only be gained by relying on individuals then involved in the creation of HCCDA and HCDA."

What is known is that Harris County Commissioners Court created the Agency in 1975 to administer the Federal Community Development Block Grant. The Court also appointed a Director to administer both the HCCDA and the Harris County Housing Authority. In addition, there was, and still is, the Housing Authority Commission with oversight responsibility.

HCCDA administered the Community Development Program for the smaller cities and the unincorporated areas of Harris County to benefit low and moderate income populations by preventing or eliminating slums and blight and encouraging economic development and increased job opportunities. Frequently embroiled in controversy concerning the projects supported and the use of funds, the office was absorbed by the Social Services department in the mid-1990s.

Collection Summary:

Directors' and managers' records, correspondence, memos, reports, budgets, policy and procedure manuals, personnel files, minutes, program records, photographs, and case

files document the functions of Harris County Community Development and Harris County Housing Authority from 1977 to 1998. The directors' and managers' records (1987 – 1995) include correspondence, memos, and budgets. The minutes of the Board of Commissioners, June 17, 1987 to October 18, 1988, are in the records of Carl Lott. Of the project files, Housing Rehabilitation is the most complete and includes both multi-family and individual housing projects. Of particular interest are the 10.5 cubic feet (1984 – 1998) of individual case files. Arranged by community and then by street, the files record the condition of the housing, work performed, and costs incurred through correspondence, reports, financial applications, and photographs. The more than fifty loose snapshots found in the records may or may not be identified, but have value as records of housing conditions in the 1980s and 1990s in Harris County.

Archivist's Note:

For many years, Harris County Community Development stored its records at a commercial records storage facility. In 2003 the Agency requested the County Records Management Officer to obtain authority to destroy some 777 cubic feet of unneeded records. Records Management personnel identified 24 boxes as likely containing significant records to hold for review. Because the records were rarely arranged in a coherent fashion and the storage lists provided only the most cursory information on the contents of each container, the records accessioned into the Archives are likely but a sampling of the records with enduring value produced by the department. Others remain with the Agency or, possibly, in storage.

The records have been minimally processed. Dates are an approximation. They remain in their original folders whenever possible and have only been arranged by series. It is incumbent upon the researcher to search through the body of records, not just a folder or two.

Blank forms, photographs overexposed without images, and occasional duplications were removed during processing.

Inventory

Title	Date	Location
Administrative Records		0357-X-00
Directors		
Walter L. Jones	1988 - 1991	
Bruce Austin	1991 – 1995	
Managers		
Ken Grovey	1987 - 1990	
Carl Lott	1987 - 1992	
Carl L. Johnson	1995	
Policies and Procedures Manuals	1988 – 1992	
Administrative Records		0358-X-00
Correspondence	1988 - 1995	
Administrative Records - Memos, Reports, Budgets		0359-X-00
Memos	1989 – 1995	
Reports	1977 – 1994	
Budgets	1988, 1994	
Program Records		0360-X-00
Housing Rehabilitation	1985 – 1994	
Apartment Rehabilitation		
Galena Park, Houston, Texas	1984 - 1988	
Green Oaks, La Porte, Texas	1982 - 1990	
Terrace Hill, Tomball, Texas	1992 - 1995	
Program Records		0361-X-00
Contractors	1985 – 1991	
Affordable Housing / Housing Assistance	1991 – 1993	
Family Self Sufficiency	1992 – 1993	

Title	Date	Location
Disaster Assistance	1992	
5 th Street West Project, Missouri City, Texas	1989 - 1995	
Photographs - Housing Rehabilitation	1991 - 1994, n.d.	0007-P-00
Case Files – Housing Rehabilitation		
Barrett Station, Alma - Elm	1984 - 1998	0362-X-00
Barrett Station, FM 1942 - Reese	1984 - 1998	0363-X-00
Barrett Station, St. Charles to Bellaire, Verone	1984 - 1998	0364-X-00
Cloverleaf to Hockley	1984 - 1998	0365-X-00
Houston to Houston - North, Mierianne	1984 - 1998	0366-X-00
Houston - North, Pine Vale to Houston - South, Missouri	1984 - 1998	0367-X-00
Houston - South, Virginia to Katy	1984 - 1998	0368-X-00
La Porte to Linus	1984 - 1998	0369-X-00
Magnolia Gardens to McNair, Royal	1984 - 1998	0370-X-00
McNair, Short to Tomball, Mechanic	1984 - 1998	0371-X-00
Tomball, Persimmon to West University	1984 - 1998	0372-X-00