### **Narrative**

# **Significance**

This initiative aims to develop a set of preliminary open data resources in the form of text, tabular data, and geospatial assets that will expand our collective understanding of the interpersonal networks, community building, and investment by and for Miami's Black community during the pre-redlining era. This work will ultimately inform the development of a shared multi-organizational set of data resources that will underscore south Florida's position within our nation's fraught history of struggle for equity and racial justice.

Miami was a boom town for real estate in the first three decades of the twentieth century. Dana A. Dorsey (1868 - 1940), who was regarded as a successful Black businessman of his time and known as the first Black millionaire in Miami, accumulated a fortune during the early development of the City of Miami in Colored Town (present day Overtown). Dorsey and his wife, Rebecca, acquired extensive real estate holdings and sold and leased property to many of Miami's early Black residents. The Dana A. Dorsey Papers, held by the Special Collections and University Archives at Florida International University (FIU), consist of warranty deeds, mortgages, legal documents, and correspondence, which detail the properties and location of what were the newly created sub-divisions in the city at the turn of the century through 1940. These documents hold significant research and educational value as they frame the growth of the Miami metropolitan region in highly racialized conditions. Interest in the history of Miami's Black community as well as the way racism has shaped our surroundings has led to several books and documentaries that draw from this collection, including Nathan Connolly's A World More Concrete: Real Estate and the Remaking of Jim Crow South Florida<sup>1</sup>, the Historic Virginia Key Beach Museum Park's Miami Black History Documentary Series<sup>2</sup>, as well as Marvin Dunn's Black Miami in the Twentieth Century.<sup>3</sup> By following the individuals involved in Dorsey's investments and property ownership we will pilot what will become a comprehensive resource for the study of the impact of institutionalized racism on our built environment, real estate, investment, and interpersonal networks that strove to establish prosperity in the midst of racial oppression. Included in the resources that will be made available are (1) full transcripts of Dorsey's financial papers, (2) a geospatial dataset plotting the properties involved in his financial transactions, as well as (3) a data set derived from his papers consisting of details about his transactions and, most importantly, the individuals involved. The core values of this work are centered on addressing the significant gaps in the historical record, critical engagement in data collection processes that are rooted in humanity through the histories of individuals, and the establishing of a model for future human centered data work.

Historically, Miami has played a unique role in both African American and Afro-Caribbean communities, attracting immigrants from all regions of the Caribbean as well as other parts of the American South. During its boom years of the 1920s, it was a place of considerable opportunity in the real estate, transportation, construction, and service sectors with its growing clientele of wealthy patrons at luxury hotels. For some, there was the possibility of land and home ownership that would not be found in the rural South, though at the same time the color line meant that opportunity for some could also occur at the expense of others in the same community. As historian Nathan Connelly has shown, Black Miami became "invested" in property and real estate in ways that reinforced Jim Crow segregation. But the capital generated in the Black community was also used to build Black institutions in what was, during the first half of the twentieth century, a burgeoning segregated section of the city called Overtown. Hotels,

<sup>1</sup> N. D. B. Connolly, World More Concrete: Real Estate and the Remaking of Jim Crow South Florida. Illustrated edition, University of Chicago Press, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Miami Black History Documentary Series. Historic Virginia Key Beach Park, Miami, Florida, https://hykbmp.org/miami-blackhistory-documentary-series/. Accessed 29 June 2021.

Marvin Dunn, *Black Miami in the Twentieth Century*. Reprint edition, University Press of Florida, 2016.

restaurants, and music venues made Overtown, home to Dana Dorsey, famous throughout the nation as a place of vibrant Black and Afro-Caribbean music and culture.

After 1935, the Home Owners Loan Corporation began to construct maps of towns and cities that excluded largely Black areas as qualified for federally backed loans. This process led to a diminution of Black opportunities and hopes for becoming property owners. Even before redlining, local practices restricted Black access to banks, loans, and capital, but not with the extent and impact that the later redlining era would. Today there is still a glaring divide between the wealth held by Black Americans and others in the United States. This wealth gap, including home ownership, has a significant impact on Black economic mobility, household economic resilience, and educational opportunities. It is also the product of a long historical legacy, stretching back into slavery, and continuing through the institutionalized racism we see today. Racialized violence and structural racism in its many forms have all contributed to this enduring wealth disparity. It reflects continuous attacks on Black success, as we are reminded during the 100-year anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre that destroyed that city's prosperous business district and the ongoing impact it has had on the lives of its residents and their descendants.

This proposed project draws upon significant and complementary efforts that explore the impacts of public policy, zoning, and other municipal land-use regulations that erased the growth Black communities experienced during the development of Miami after reconstruction, such as *Race, Housing, and Displacement in Miami*<sup>5</sup>, as well as national perspectives such as *Mapping Inequality: Redlining in New Deal America*<sup>6</sup> as well as *Mapping Segregation in Washington DC*<sup>7</sup>. There is a particular alignment with the objectives of this project and *Mapping Segregation in Washington DC* because of our shared focus on telling the stories of individuals as tangible examples of human impact.

The Dorsey papers are a unique and valuable resource in that they provide insight into the manner and approach some Black Americans used to become property owners, start businesses, buy homes, and invest in their communities after Reconstruction, during profound racial violence and oppression. Individuals in this network formed building and loan associations and mutual aid societies, as well as mobilized capital through fraternal organizations, insurance companies, churches, burial societies, and funeral homes. They invested in community and civic life and formed business associations to promote their interests. These efforts sometimes required painful compromises with the structures of racism and segregation. It could also leave them open to exploitation from white owned financial institutions. Successful Black entrepreneurs also acted as community and capacity builders and investors. Some

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>William Darity and Samuel Myers, *Persistent Disparity: Race and Economic Inequality in the United States since 1945* (Edward Elgar, 1999); William Darity Jr., Darrick Hamilton, Mark Paul, Alan Aja, Anne Price, Antonio Moore, and Caterina Chiopris, "What We Get Wrong about Closing the Racial Wealth Gap," Samuel DuBois Cook Center on Social Equity Insight Center for Community Economic Development April 2018; Dalton Conley and Rebecca Glauber, "Wealth Mobility and Volatility in Black and White," Center for American Progress, July 2008. Rakesh Kochhar and Richard Fry, "Wealth inequality has widened along racial, ethnic lines since end of Great Recession," <a href="https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/12/12/racial-wealth-gaps-great-recession/">https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/12/12/racial-wealth-gaps-great-recession/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> University of Miami Libraries, Lowe Art Museum. 2020. Race, Housing, and Displacement in Miami. https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/0d17f3d6e31e419c8fdfbbd557f0edae. 27 Oct. 2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>University of Richmond's Digital Scholarship Lab, Virginia Tech, University of Maryland, and N. D. B. Connolly. Mapping Inequality. https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/#loc=5/39.1/-94.58 Accessed 29 June 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Mapping Segregation in Washington DC. Prologue DC <a href="http://mappingsegregationdc.org/">http://mappingsegregationdc.org/</a> Accessed 29 June 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Alex Benson Henderson, *Atlanta Life Insurance Company: Guardian of Black Economic Dignity* (Tuscaloosa; University of Alabama Press, 1990; Walter Weare, *Black Business in the New South: A Social History of the NC Mutual Life Insurance Company* (Durham, NC, 1993); Juliet E. K. Walker, *History of Black Business in America: Capitalism, Race, Entrepreneurship* (Boston, 1998); Shennette Garrett-Scott, *Banking on Freedom: Black Women in U.S. Finance before the New Deal* (New York, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>N. D. B. Connolly, A World More Concrete: Real Estate and the Remaking of Jim Crow in South Florida (Chicago, 2014). Scott Ellsworth, Death in a Promised Land: The Tulsa Race Riot of 1921 (Baton Rouge, 1982)

participated in or funded key civil rights era activities, while others operated in a more conservative manner, protecting families and neighbors within the limits of Jim Crow.

Drawing on parallels with the Black Book Interactive Project (BBIP)<sup>10</sup> led by the University of Kansas, this pilot project aims to call attention to the critical role of race in our human interactions, make data about Black lives more discoverable, and link specialized data in the proper context. The data resources created through this project will allow scholars to better understand the roles civic groups, trade groups, and community alliances played in paths to success of Black people in this community; reveal community building; and to uncover business and civic connections between individuals. By creating resources to more fully tell the stories of those who faced racism, legal restrictions, and custom enforced barriers to success to navigate these obstacles even in the face of violence, we hope to empower the community, students, and scholars, to engage in new data-driven research.<sup>11</sup> We intend to exercise intentionality and mindfulness in the gathering and sharing of this data, documenting our processes as well as feedback we receive from the advisory board and in our programming in order to develop a praxis for the care and handling of data related to Black lives and other marginalized and minoritized groups.

#### History, scope, and duration

The Dorsey papers consist of 291 records and over 620 pages of legal documents and correspondence. The papers have been digitized and are available online through the university's open access digital repository. Materials in this collection have significant online usage, having been retrieved from the digital repository over 48,000 times in the past five years. However, although the content is openly accessible online, discovery is currently limited to basic metadata fields, including the titles of the documents, signatories, and addresses. By providing full transcription of the handwritten and typed text, as well as tabular data that includes more comprehensive information such as all recorded names (not just signatories), race and gender, legal descriptions of land, monetary transactions, and complete geographic information, we will open this content to additional modes of access as well as new research possibilities.

As computational research becomes more ubiquitous across the humanities, scholars' needs and expectations for how we provide access to resources is also changing. To meet these requirements, it is essential that we provide increased access to collections as data for analysis at scale. One of the ways Florida International University has progressed in this field has been to provide increased support in research data management and data archiving. We are also finalizing work on a recently funded grant, dLOC as Data: A Thematic Approach to Caribbean Newspapers, made possible through Collections as Data: Part to Whole, an Andrew W. Mellon sub-award program. This is a collaborative initiative between the Digital Library of the Caribbean, University of Florida, and Florida International University, with an overarching goal to build capacity in text analysis amongst participating communities.

This proposed project will build on the infrastructure we have developed in data access, and most importantly, ethical data practices. The project team is very aware of the potential for datafication and subsequent commodification of Black lives through data. This initiative will be structured to mitigate these issues through check-ins and feedback from our advisory board and consultant regarding what data we extract and how it is presented. The team is also cognizant that this will be an ongoing issue to navigate, especially when working within the structure of predominantly white academia. It is our goal that the critical data methods developed through the creation of the proposed Dana A. Dorsey resources can be used as an exemplar for constructing broader and more comprehensive Black history data

12 http://dpanther.fiu.edu/dPanther/collections/dad

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> University of Kansas, Black Book Interactive Project (BBIP), <a href="https://bbip.ku.edu/">https://bbip.ku.edu/</a>. Accessed 29 June 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Keenga Yamahtta Taylor, Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership (Chapel Hill, 2019); Mehrsa Baradaran, The Color of Money: Black Banks and the Racial Wealth Gap (Cambridge, MA, 2017). Richard Rothstein, The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How our Government Segregated America (New York, 2017).

resources in the state of Florida. While the efforts of community archives and scholars have shed light on the history of the Colored Town/Overtown community, identifying several the community members and their contributions to the development of the city, as well as zoning, redlining, and land use regulations, access to analytical data on land transaction, businesses, and distribution of capital in the community during 1896-1925 is limited. We believe the creation of data resources from the Dorsey papers will act as a catalyst for future multi-organization collaborative work to generate additional resources. We will engage local cultural heritage organizations through our participation in archives networks, including the Collaborative Archive from the African Diaspora (CAAD)<sup>13</sup>, established in 2010 by the University of Miami Libraries to bring together the historical archive content related to the Black communities in South Florida, and the South Florida Archives Collective (SFAC)<sup>14</sup>, established in 2018 at the Florida International University Libraries as a revitalization of a longstanding local archival network. The project team will meet with these groups to jointly create an ethics-based community of practice for the historical data of marginalized communities that will inform the creation of new resources, partnerships, and next steps for enhancing access as we grow and share data resources.

In preparation for the proposed work, our team has plotted the property locations of 30 out of the nearly 300 properties referenced in the Dorsey papers. The plots referenced in the papers no longer exist in their original form, therefore locating them on present-day maps requires a combination of georeferencing of historical maps and heads-up digitizing of these properties on a georeferenced 1925 plat book of Miami. Throughout the course of this preparatory work, our team created a detailed step-by-step methodology for georeferencing historical locations, which can serve as a guide for other South Florida research and scholarship. Additionally, the team has begun to derive pertinent data from a small segment of the Dorsey documents as a proof of concept, a sample of which is included in the documentation attachment.

## Methodology and standards

The project team and advisory board consists of experts including historians, librarians, archivists, digital humanities scholars, and GIS researchers with diverse expertise in local history, Black history, business history, archival practices, digital humanities scholarship and technologies, as well as geographic information systems. One to two graduate or upper-level undergraduate student interns will also be hired to assist with this initiative. Preference will be given to students enrolled in the university's African & African Diaspora Studies Program, Public History, and the Center for Women and Gender Studies. An important aspect of this proposed initiative is capacity building for all participants, including the students hired and mentored through this program. Regular project team meetings will provide an opportunity for consistent tracking of progress as well as cross-skill exchanges in both a technical and historical research capacity. The team will also invite input from the advisory board, seeking feedback at major milestones, aiding the project team in refining the resources developed, as well as providing suggestions to expand the reach and impact of this project. In support of the project goals to develop historically significant data resources and to create a reproducible methodology, we will bring on historian Dr. Nathan Connolly as a consultant to guide the team in our data collection and dissemination practices. Consistent documentation of the work performed by all participants will aid in the creation of a guide for future work. All associated documentation and programs will be available online through our Digital Scholar Studio portal, providing an accessible framework upon which our team as well as others can build.<sup>16</sup>

Transcription of the Dorsey papers will be overseen by Digital Collections Librarian, Rebecca Bakker, and assisted by the project interns. The papers, which are both type and handwritten, will be run through ABBYY FineReader OCR software to recognize as much of the typewritten text as possible. The first run

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<sup>13</sup> http://scholar.library.miami.edu/caad/

<sup>14</sup> https://southflarchives.wordpress.com/

https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/cfc11fa257cb411cba7e3db300c18139

<sup>16</sup> http://dss.fiu.edu/dss/

transcription files will be manually corrected. The handwritten text will then be transcribed and inserted into the text document. Ms. Bakker will provide training for the interns on best practices, following the professional standards for transcription as outlined by the National Archives and Records Administration. While the original documents are available online in FIU's digital library system, the team will set up the working documents for transcription through a collaborative platform, such as Google Docs, where Ms. Bakker will perform regular quality assurance checks on the interns' transcription work. The final transcripts will be made openly available online in .txt format and will be accompanied by standardized metadata and documentation in our data repository, Dataverse. The transcripts will also be fully indexed and searchable as PDF files in our digital repository, dPanther, along with the corresponding digitized document. All resources will be cross linked between dPanther and Dataverse. The transcripts will be preserved as PDF/A files. Jill Krefft, Digital Repository Coordinator, will be responsible for the data archiving activities for this initiative and will lead the project team in technical decisions regarding data access, organization, and preservation.

After each document is transcribed, the Project Director, Jamie Rogers, and co-Project Director, Rhia Rae will work with the interns to collect specific predetermined data points from the documents, detailing information such as the individuals mentioned in the documents, as well as their race and gender; an abstract/summary of the document; the type of document; type of transaction; date of transaction; date the document was issued; the location(s) involved in the transaction; coordinates; and businesses mentioned. A documentation and data template will be created and made available during the data collection phase to support consistency across data entries. Similar to the transcript working documents, the team will be utilizing a collaborative platform to generate the tabular data, such as Google Sheets. Ms. Rogers and Ms. Rae will closely monitor the tabular data creation for accuracy and formatting. The tabular data generated will be archived in FIU's Dataverse. All tabular data will be made available in CSV format and will include documentation and metadata to describe variables and support broad re-use. Data documentation will include project level metadata, a digital object identifier (DOI) for each dataset, variable level documentation, and technical documentation.

This project will also build on the existing methodology for the location of the Dorsey properties in a contemporary geographic information system, including georeferencing of the 1925 Miami plat book (not currently available through data.gov) as well as digitizing Dorsey's properties as related to the plat book. <sup>17</sup> Dr. Diana Ter-Ghazaryan will refine existing workflows, establishing a more rigorous framework for georeferencing plat maps based on the USGS Public Land Survey System (PLSS) and aligning with industry best practices as well as standards outlined by the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC).<sup>18</sup> Dr. Ter-Ghazaryan will also instruct and oversee the student interns as they assist in georeferencing and digitizing tasks as part of the data collection process. The Dorsey properties will be represented as a polygon dataset containing locations of the properties, their area, as well as other associated attributes of each property, as outlined in the tabular data. In addition to serving an interstitial role for geolocation the Dorsey properties, the 1925 plat book dataset will stand on its own as a final output. This fully georeferenced dataset of historical maps will be stitched together and can be used as a reference basemap for digitizing other datasets to support additional early 20th century Miami research. The Dorsey properties dataset will serve as a foundation for the development of a geodatabase that can be expanded to include other properties or locations, as well as new attributes about the properties already in the database for the careful and ethical telling of these and other contemporary figures' histories.

The project team will work closely with our advisory board to develop a series of discussion sessions where we invite south Florida archives colleagues, including members of CAAD and SFAC, faculty, students, and the public to an open dialog about the resources we are developing. We will support existing

<sup>17</sup> https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/cfc11fa257cb411cba7e3db300c18139

<sup>18</sup> ESRI's Seven Best Practices esri.com and https://fgdc.gov/

programs and relationships developed by members of our project team and our advisors, inviting community organizations in south Florida to these discussions, including the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC), the Historic Hampton House, the Black Police Precinct and Courthouse Museum in Overtown, and the Historic Virginia Key Beach Park Trust. During these gatherings we will consider how these resources may be used to learn more about our histories, about potential questions these resources raise, what historical gaps they fill, and what gaps remain. We will engage in conversations about what can be learned about the people included in these materials; how the lives of the individuals are linked together; and what additional information is needed to form a complete historical picture. We will also examine how we may partner to expand the data resources that are available. The project team will document our processes as well as observations we receive to develop a local praxis for working with the historical data of marginalized communities.

Assessment is a major component of this pilot project and will help guide us through future phases. The three main groups providing feedback regarding the creation of these data resources, their use, as well as recommended expansion of the resources are the advisory board; our consultant, Dr. Nathan Connolly; and the discussion participants. The advisory board, consisting of historians, archivists, and digital humanities scholars, will meet with the project team at the start of each of the project's three main phases. The board will provide the project team with guiding principles in data ethics and responsible representation through discussion regarding specific data points within the resources, how the data would be best served to researchers, and how we may best present this data in a way that humanizes rather than abstracting and distilling the lives of the people represented. Given his expertise in the history of Overtown and the surrounding communities, Dr. Connolly will assist the project team in performing a gap analysis to identify further data needs and potential sources. This will guide future cross-organizational collaboration with other archives, libraries, museums, and historical societies. Dr. Connolly may also provide input into potential historical facets we should explore to achieve our goal of creating a human centered historical data resource. The project team will take all project assessments into consideration and make final decisions for implementation guided by ethics of care and critical data practices that seek to include individuals' contributions, actively engage with gender and race, and center on respectful, transparent, and equitable histories.

### Sustainability of project outcomes and digital content

It is our hope that the outcomes of this Foundations project will demonstrate the value of reconceptualized archival collections as data sources as well as build local capacity for human centered data projects. Upon completion of this initiative, the project team looks forward to expanding the data resources developed from the Dorsey collection through additional collaborative human centered data projects with our CAAD and SFAC colleagues, including the University of Miami, the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC), the Historic Hampton House, the Black Police Precinct and Courthouse Museum in Overtown, the Historic Virginia Key Beach Park Trust, and the Miami Dade Public Library. The project team also plans to pursue opportunities for visualizing this data, improving public accessibility, and in addition to research and digital humanities applications, encouraging use of these resources outside of academia. Furthermore, we will collaborate with the Wolfsonian Public Humanities Lab (WPHL) at Florida International University to find new and impactful ways to engage the public with this work.

Florida International University is committed to the long-term sustainability of its digital content through both technical infrastructure as well as personnel, dedicated to the creation, curation, and preservation of these resources. This project will be built upon existing infrastructures for digital collections access, data management and archiving, as well as geographic information systems. University policies supporting open access as well as preservation will also be applied to this new initiative. FIU's technical framework consists of a cloud computing infrastructure with 22 servers, over 220 TB of storage space, and multiple redundancy. Files will be routinely backed up on a weekly schedule, with versioning and a disaster

recovery (DR) setup located in Tallahassee, Florida. In order to expand our long-term preservation capabilities, we are participating in Archive-IT's Digital Preservation Pilot Program a new service from the Internet Archive that will support data replication, geographic redundancy, and fixity reporting along with API interoperability for automated data ingest from external systems such as dPanther and the Research Data Portal. All data produced from the project will be stored in standardized non-proprietary file formats to support wide reuse and long-term viability.

#### **Data Formats**

Data Type	<b>Preservation Format</b>	Dissemination Format
Images	TIFF	JPEG2000, JPEG
Text	TXT	PDF, TXT
Tabular Data	CSV	CSV
Historical maps	Georeferenced TIFF	Georeferenced TIFF
Geospatial dataset	Geodatabase	GeoJSON, hosted feature service/layer

FIU's digital library system, dPanther, currently provides free and open access to over 84,000 digitized items consisting of more than 343,000 files, supporting 88 distinct collections from our university community as well as our local south Florida community partners. The dPanther platform is a customization of the open-source digital library system, SobekCM. This platform facilitates full-text search, advanced search, faceted browsing of metadata, geospatial and temporal range searching, search and browse recommendations, and Google SEO, amongst other user-based discovery features. The metadata for the digital resources stored in dPanther will be packaged in standardized and validated METS files, which improves interoperability in the event that the data for this project requires migration. The metadata in dPanther is also openly available for data harvesting through OAI-PMH. Materials hosted in FIU's digital repository are also harvested into the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) through the Florida hub, the Sunshine State Digital Network (SSDN). By providing access to these materials through DPLA, the resources will be cross-searchable in a national context with over 43 million digital objects. Inclusion in DPLA and SSDN also opens up possibilities for inclusion of these materials in primary source sets and digital exhibits created at a state and national level.

Dataverse, FIU's institutional data repository, is a local instance of the open-source software developed at Harvard University. Dataverse provides free and open access to finalized datasets and allows for curated collections that support branding, contextualization of the data sets, as well as project specific and discipline specific metadata. FIU's implementation of Dataverse follows FAIR data principles. Metadata from Dataverse can be exported in several formats including Dublin Core, DDI, and JSON-XML. Data records are assigned DOIs and are harvested into DataCite and Google Data Search for enhanced discoverability. The georeferencing of historical maps and digitizing of Dorsey's properties will take place within ESRI's ArcGIS Pro software. The outputs (set of georeferenced maps and dataset of properties) will be shared via ESRI's ArcGIS Hub, which is a web-based open data portal and platform.

#### **Dissemination**

The outcomes of this initiative will be shared openly through various means, in online aggregation systems as well as through workshops, public programming, and archival network meetings. The FIU Libraries currently provide workshops and consultation on topics such as humanities-based research data practices, text analysis and visualization, GIS tools and methods, as well as the ethical use of historical research data. Drawing on these past programs, the project team will create a three-workshop series, which will be open to the public, covering topics such as the ways this historically significant data may be

<sup>19</sup> http://dpanther.fiu.edu/

https://dataverse.fiu.edu

used in research, the ethics involved in the creation and use of historical data from and/or about marginalized communities, and a tools-based workshop introducing popular platforms for analyzing historical data. The planned open workshops will provide an opportunity to engage students and scholars beyond our university community in the application and significance of these data resources. Through cooperation with the Wolfsonian Public Humanities Lab (WPHL), this initiative will also be featured during the 2024 Miami Studies Symposium. This up-and-coming biennial event hosts critical discussions dedicated to the study of Miami, its history, culture, and community. Lastly, CAAD and SFAC archival network meetings will have fundamental impact, focusing on developing a community of practice and expanding the depth and breadth of resources to address the significant gaps in our local historical record.

For enhanced online discovery, both the dPanther repository as well as the Dataverse repository allow for further dissemination through aggregation systems. Metadata records in the dPanther system will be made available through DPLA, as well as the statewide library catalog discovery interface, Primo. The metadata for items in Dataverse are made available through DataCite Search and Google's Dataset Search. Rightsstatements.org statements will be applied to all project content held in the dPanther systems and made available through DPLA, providing information about rights and reuse. Materials in Dataverse will be made available with a Creative Commons CC0 license and will be organized by resource type as well as controlled taxonomy that supports faceted searching so that researchers, students, and other scholars may easily identify the files they want and bulk download them as zip files. One of the many benefits to the Dataverse platform is the low barrier to access data at scale. The geospatial datasets that will result from this research will be made available for interaction and download via ESRI's ArcGIS Hub. ArcGIS Hub is a web-based solution that allows users to search and discover geospatial datasets, which can be hosted either on the ESRI cloud or locally.

The methodologies and processes to generate these resources as well as the assessment of the deliverables will be made widely available online through our Digital Scholarship blog as well as in professional conferences, such as the Digital Library Federation (DLF), the Digital Humanities Summer Institute (DHSI), and the Florida Digital Humanities Consortium (FLDH). We hope that this will also lay the groundwork for more collaborative multi-organization opportunities and community programming around expanding these resources and the resulting scholarship these resources will make possible.

### Work plan

### Phase I (June 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022)

During the initial phase of this project, the project directors, Ms. Rogers and Ms. Rae, will hire student interns and bring on the project consultant, Dr. Nathan Connolly. The project team will then convene meetings with the advisory board as well as with Dr. Connolly to share the data collection plans and anticipated output. The project team will request comments regarding the data points being gathered, potential methods in humanizing this data, goals for delivery and use of the data, as well as identification of potential future partners. Rebecca Bakker, the Digital Archives Librarian, will work with interns to begin transcription of the Dorsey papers. As each document is transcribed, geospatial information will be captured, along with other pertinent data points. The GIS Research Associate, Dr. Diana Ter-Ghazaryan, will provide training for the interns in correctly identifying and recording the geolocation of the properties. Dr. Ter-Ghazaryan will also continue georeferencing the 1925 plat book. The project directors will create a tabular data template and work with interns as they derive additional data points from the Dorsey papers to ensure accuracy and adherence to the template.

## Phase II (January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023)

The project directors will work with archives network colleagues to convene meetings of the Collaborative Archive from the African Diaspora (CAAD) and South Florida Archives Collective (SFAC) to discuss the project, data practices utilized, and to identify new collections and interested future partners. The project team will also reconvene the advisory board to share updates regarding the progress

of the project in data collection and output and ask for feedback as well as suggested methods for dissemination. The project team will also meet with the consultant as needed to exchange information in preparation for the consultant's report. Transcription of the Dorsey papers, geolocation of properties, and the creation of the tabular data set will continue until completion at the end of this phase. Dr. Ter-Ghazaryan will also complete the georeferencing of the 1925 plat book at this time. When Dr. Connolly has completed his report, the project team will reconvene the advisory board to review the consultant's report and ask for commentary regarding enhancements, growth of collections/partnerships, outreach, and potential data uses. At this point the DH Librarian, Molly Castro, will begin developing three open workshops promoting the use of these materials.

#### Phase III (January 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024)

During this final stage of the project, the completed text, data, and map deliverables will be published in the open data repository as well as in the digital library, facilitated by the Digital Repository Coordinator, Jill Krefft. The data content will also be shared through open portals including DPLA, DataCite, Google Data Search, Primo, and ArcGIS Open Data Hub. Ms. Castro will hold three open workshops over the course of three months, promoting the resources and the workshops through national and local DH lists as well as the FIU Digital Scholarship blog. The project team will participate in professional conferences and will speak about the project during the 2024 Miami Studies Symposium. The final deliverable will be a white paper, written by the project directors, summarizing the team's work as well as the consultant's report. It will also provide an analysis of the methodologies used, plans for growth through partnerships, as well as expanding outreach and public engagement with these materials.

#### **Staff**

Jamie Rogers, Assistant Director of Digital Collections (Project Director) - Jamie Rogers heads the digital production, digital scholarship, data management strategies, and preservation for internally and externally funded digital initiatives in collaboration with the FIU community and local partners, including municipalities, cultural institutions, government agencies, and scientific organizations. She will lead the FIU Libraries' technical team in the creation, dissemination, and preservation of the project outcomes in transcription, data collection, and mapping. She will oversee and participate in the tabular data collection. She will organize the assessment process and development of plans for project growth.

Rhia Rae, Digital Archivist, Special Collections and University Archives (Co-Project Director) - Rhia Rae leads efforts with community and University partners to provide digital preservation and access to all formats of the FIU Libraries' manuscripts and archive collections and the University's historical records. She will participate in and supervise the student interns in data collection as well as coordinating with potential community partners and institutions to develop subsequent plans for this initiative.

**Dr. Diana Ter-Ghazaryan**, **GIS Research Associate (Key Personnel)** - Diana Ter-Ghazaryan is a GIS Research Associate at the FIU GIS Center. Dr. Ter-Ghazaryan works with the FIU community to increase and deepen usage of geospatial data, analysis, and practices, especially within the humanities and social sciences. Based on previously developed workflows and in accordance with best practices, she will create and test a workflow for georeferencing and digitizing of historical data and work directly with the interns to create and maintain a spatial dataset of the Dana A. Dorsey Papers.

Rebecca Bakker, Digital Collections Librarian (Key Personnel) - Rebecca Bakker works closely with community and university partners to develop digital collections from archived materials, making them accessible to the wider public. Ms. Bakker provides workshops and training on digitization skills, metadata, and content management. She will work directly with the interns to create written transcripts of the Dana A. Dorsey Papers in accordance with best practices.

Jill Krefft, Digital Repository Coordinator (Key Personnel) - Jill Krefft leads efforts in providing open access to research, scholarship, and data at FIU. In collaboration with departments, faculty, and students she supports curation and preservation of digital assets through Digital Commons and Dataverse. She provides support, resources, and instruction to the FIU community on data management and data archiving best practices. She will be involved in providing access to all project related data through Dataverse in line with set standards for data preservation and reusability.

**Molly Castro, Digital Humanities Librarian (Key Personnel)** - Molly Castro coordinates and facilitates the workshop series for the Digital Scholar Studio at Green Library, in addition to providing faculty and student support in digital scholarship through consultations and class instruction. She will develop the project's planned workshops and will provide support for scholars who wish to make use of these resources in their research.

**Student Interns** - One to two paid internships will be supported each year through this initiative. Interns will assist in transcription, data collection, and georeferencing. They will receive both training and mentorship as they work closely with the project team. In addition to acquiring paid internship experience, students will receive academic credit on their transcripts to demonstrate the value of the skills they will obtain. Each intern's work will be assessed by both the Project Director and Co-Project Director. Preference will be given to students enrolled in the university's African & African Diaspora Studies Program, Public History, and the Center for Women and Gender Studies. A background in GIS is a benefit, but not required.

### **Advisory Board**

- Dr. Robin Bachin, Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, Director, Office of Civic and Community Engagement, Charlton W. Tebeau Associate Professor of History, University of Miami
- Dr. Julio Capó, Jr., Associate Professor, Department of History, Deputy Director, Wolfsonian Public Humanities Lab, Florida International University
- Dr. Marvin Dunn, Historian and Professor Emeritus, Florida International University
- Dr. Sharony Green, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Alabama
- Dr. Kenneth Lipartito, Professor, Department of History, Florida International University
- Dr. Chanelle N. Rose, Associate Professor, Department of History, Coordinator, Africana Studies Program, Rowan University
- Dr. Daniel Royles Assistant Professor, Department of History, Florida International University
- Dr. Melanie Shell-Weiss, Chair and Associate Professor, IRIS: Integrative, Religious, and Intercultural Studies Department, Grand Valley State University
- Althea Silvera, Head of Special Collections, Florida International University

#### Consultant

**Dr. Nathan Connolly** - N. D. B. Connolly is Associate Professor of History at the Johns Hopkins University, where he occupies the Herbert Baxter Adams chair and directs the Program in Racism, Immigration, and Citizenship. Connolly's 2014 book, A World More Concrete: Real Estate and the Remaking of Jim Crow South Florida, received awards from the Urban History Association, the Southern Historical Association, and the Organization of American Historians, among other organizations.