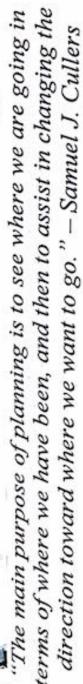
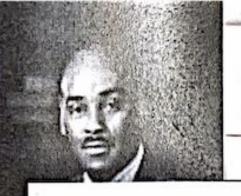
(" The of the really important (things about preservation (is it connects people to history in a very tangible Way. - Myrick Howard WISHIAM advoorte a people without the Knowledge of their past history, origin and Culture is like a tree without roots" Marcus Garrey

Nikki RCPL 5013 FALL 2022

REFLECTIONS ABOUT

Insurgent planning allows the community to Speak and lead the way they want to see their nlighborhoods and community Planned. This The is for the insurgent advocate who helpto lusure the voices of neighbors are carried to places where the chang can be implemented. Being Black and understanding how Planning has imparted places I know, grew and call home In ways that have not been seen as positive is why I want to learn how to will the necessary tools to make it work for the community and Neighborhoods I serve and live within. The focus for this zine is also to show the black history of planning and Oklahoma City from the history of Samuel & Cullers to the finheline of Change for the black community. The history of Black women serving in local government to Historic Preservation efforts to preserve culture are what you will see in this line!





BLACK HISTORY PLANNING

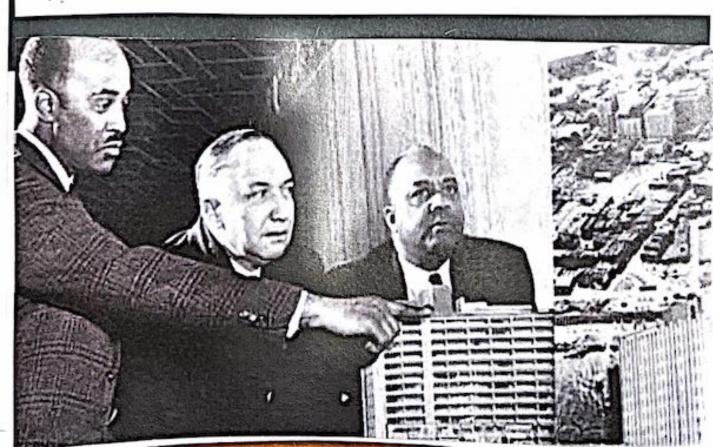
Samuel J. Cullers is recognized as the first Black "professional trained" urban planner and an advocate for ending housing discrimination against Black families. He earned his graduate degree in city and regional planning from MIT in 1952 and then became the Deputy Director of Redevelopment for the city of Hartford, CT.

In 1955, his professional career and personal life collided when he applied for an apartment at McKinley Park Homes. Cullers was denied and told there were "no vacancies" available. He was denied housing because he was African American – twice. Cullers filed a discrimination lawsuit against the company, which he won. However, it was later dismissed by the Connecticut Supreme Court for lack of evidence.

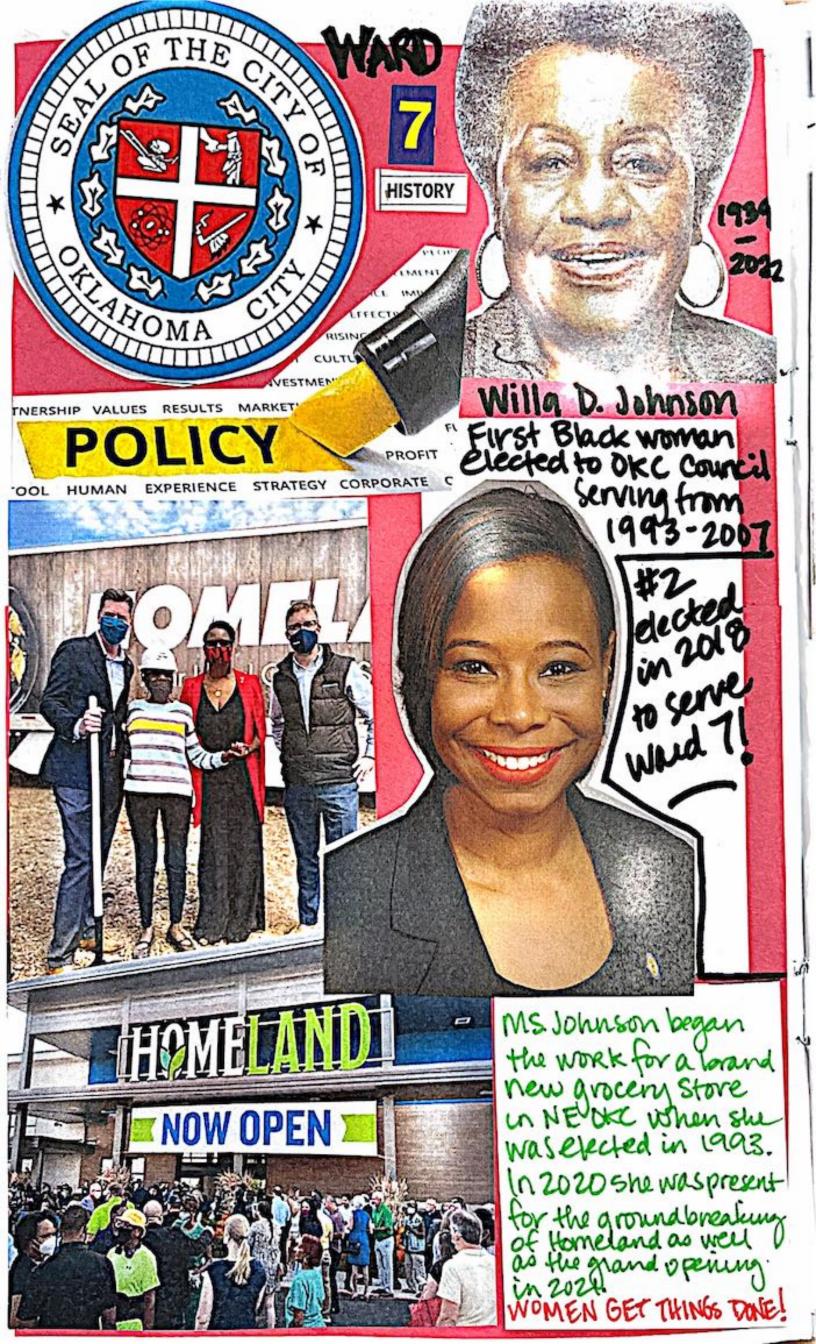
Cullers continued his work as a Planner both in North America – in Hartford, Sacramento, Chicago, and Toronto – then internationally in Thailand. He served as Chief of Urban Planning for the State of California and Acting Director for the CA State Office of Planning before his starting own planning firm, Samuel J. Cullers & Associates in 1972.

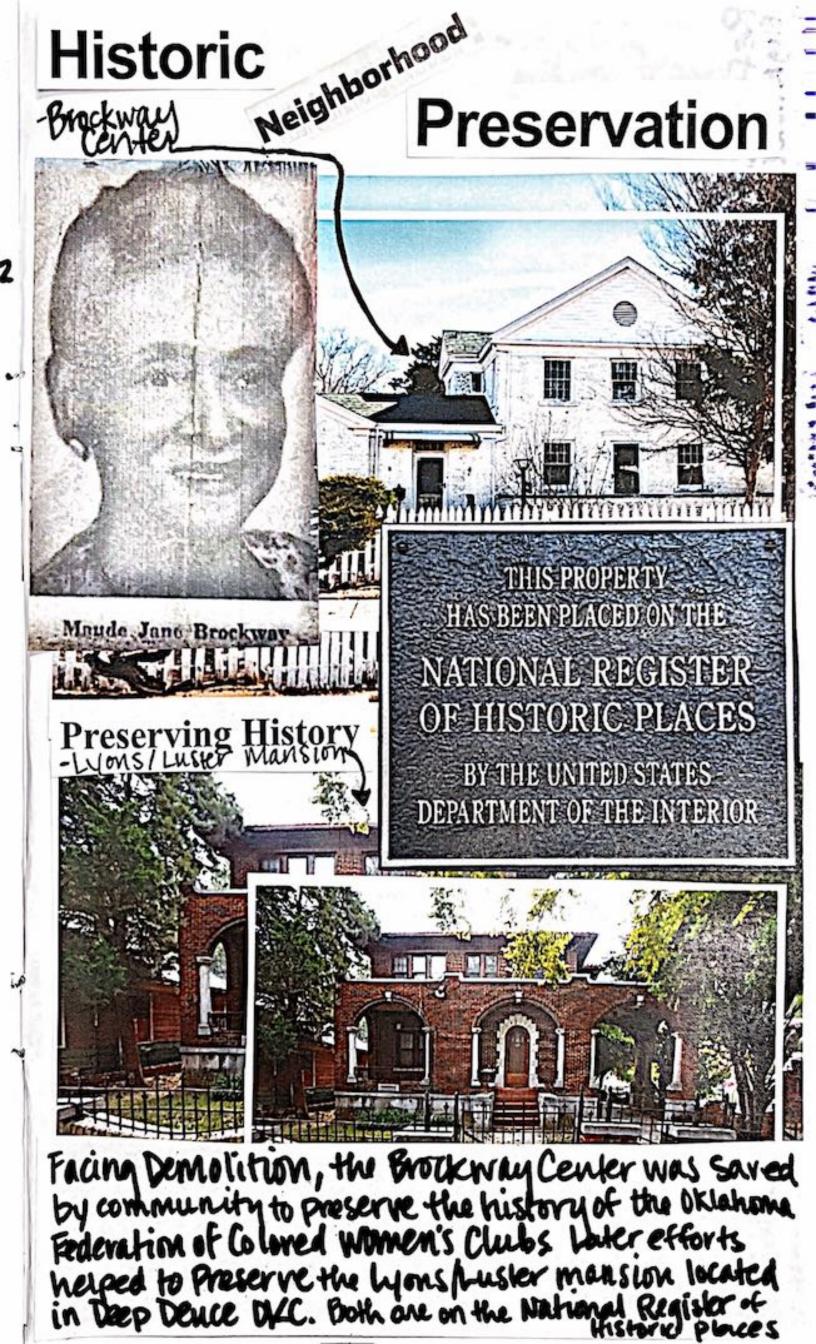
During his career, he was an active and beloved member of the American Planning Association (APA), taking on leadership roles within local chapters and at the national level. Cullers was an extremely active member of the community beyond his professional life, serving on the boards of many nonprofits including the Red Cross, United Way, and NAACP.

Throughout his life, Cullers fought against racism as an activist for the rights of Black Americans and their representation in planning and development decisions. In 1998, he wrote an essay for the NAACP's *The Crisis* magazine, entitled, "Our Only Concerns Should Be Black Concerns."











IMPACT

The

EASTSIDE,

Article (2024) February 4). Samuel dicultus, KLAHOMA CIT