The Some People of That Place

1960s Holmes County, Mississippi

The Local People and their Civil Rights Movement

photographs by

Sue Lorenzi Sojourner

a white "outside agitator" who lived and worked from 1964 through 1969 with the Holmes County Movement people
The Some People of That Place:

People who tried to do something more than just
live as their mothers and fathers had before them...

People who tried to change their lives
– and not just for each individually,
but for all their people

All photographs were taken in Holmes County,
Mississippi in 1968-69, five
years after the first local
people began attending and
setting up Freedom
Meetings and making voter registration attempts in the county.

Taking photos was not a priority in 1964-65. Staying alive was the greater interest. My primary focus was on the active Freedom Democratic Party (FDP) leaders; then I documented the community people and the children.

cover: Hartman Tumbow

1 Ozell Mitchell
2 The "Hoop Family"
3 Pecan Grove kids in tire
4 Alma Mitchell Carnegie
5 Holmes County Courthouse, Lexington
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Sue [Lorenzi] Sojourner currently lives and works in Duluth, Minnesota where she moved in 1996 to begin writing her oral documentary account of local Movement organizing in Holmes in the 1960s.

Developing this 1999 exhibition and then expanding it into its continually growing touring form has both delayed and enhanced her work on writing the book manuscript, "The First 14 and So Many More." She is a University of California Berkeley graduate in Political Science and Journalism.

This brochure was originally published on the occasion of The Some People of That Place Exhibition by Sue [Lorenzi] Sojourner for the Regional Project Series at the Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota Duluth. It was made possible in part by the Career Development Grant received by Sojourner and Formula Funds both from the Minnesota State Arts Board, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature, and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The H.H. Weinert Foundation of Austin, Texas provided program support.

Another smaller exhibit with written text and brochure was commissioned in 2000 by Praxis International, a nonprofit that trains organizers in domestic abuse intervention. That, and a grant from the Puffin Foundation Ltd. of Teaneck, NJ, supported Sojourner's text development, expanded image and document reproduction, and touring capability.

The exhibition in February 2001 at the annual Tougaloo College History Conference in Jackson, Mississippi kicked off the first tour of THE SOME PEOPLE and made possible a nine-month exhibition in Holmes itself, sponsored by the still-active Holmes County Freedom Democratic Party. An exhibition at Georgetown University in Washington, DC followed.

The second tour went in 2004 to the University of Wisconsin - Superior, the Old Capitol Museum of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Jackson, and the Puffin Cultural Forum of the Puffin Foundation.

For information on scheduling at a community center, school, college, university, nonprofit, or other venue, contact Sue Sojourner
315 N. Lake Ave, #501
Duluth, MN 55806
susjoy@cpinternet.com
218-726-0341

back cover: Sue Lorenzi on the Balance Due bridge
photo by Henry Lorenzi

6 State FDP leader Fannie Lou Hamer at an Elections Rally at the Holmes County Courthouse
7 State Rep. Robert G. Clark, Mary Lee Hightower, and Walter Pitchford
8 Dolly Mae and Luther Dale Head
9 Edith Quinn
10 Bernice Montgomery, standing, with Elease Gallion, Lugertha Wright, Matilda Burns, Walter Bruce, Howard Taft Baily, Mary Tate
11 Robert and Pecolia Head and granddaughter Patricia