



THE NEWBERRY

FREE PUBLIC PROGRAM

Zion Hill: Envisioning a Black Future



Luther Adams

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

6:00 – 7:30 pm

The Newberry

60 W. Walton St., Chicago

This talk will frame the photographs of Helen Balfour Morrison, by offering some background on Black life in Kentucky. Zion Hill was one of many Black towns established after the Civil War. Freedom meant envisioning a future for themselves and their children outside of slavery. Zion Hill was rooted in African American religion and the search for a Promised Land. Like Black people across the nation, in Zion Hill the descendants of slaves worked to build community, to establish churches, schools, stores, buy land, and vote. Dr. Adams will pose questions intended to spark conversation about Zion Hill and the images Morrison made in the 1930's and 1940s.

Luther Adams chairs the Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies Major at the University of Washington Tacoma, where he teaches African-American and United States History. His book, *Way Up North in Louisville: African American Migration in the Urban South, 1930-1970*, offers a powerful reinterpretation of the modern civil rights movement and black urban life, within the contexts of migration, work, and urban renewal.

If you can, plan to arrive early enough to visit the exhibition, *Photographing Freetowns: African-American Kentucky through the Lens of Helen Balfour Morrison, 1935-1946*.

Free and open to the public, no registration required.

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Cosponsored with the Morrison-Shearer Foundation