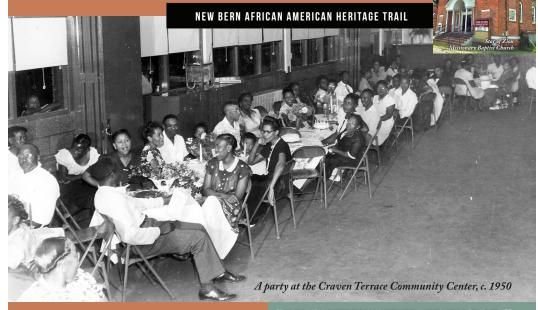
At Home in Craven Terrace



Life in Craven Terrace reflected the economic hardships of other African American communities in New Bern. Most residents of the complex lived below the poverty line and struggled to make ends meet. Rent ranged between twenty and forty percent of their income, and leasing costs rose steadily. New Bern's housing director imposed his own moral code on residents through "rent penalties" and actions such as evicting women who bore children out of wedlock.



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Demonstration Clubs

By the 1930s, home demonstration clubs existed across the state. In response to the Great Depression, program agents concentrated on developing relief gardens, promoted curb-side markets, and advocated for food conservation and clothes manufacturing. During the 1950s, Craven Terrace established clubs to address health concerns and support community improvement, such as vaccination and nutritional programs Agents also helped with financial planning and the preparation of wills.

Alex Halev

While stationed near New Bern as a mess attendant and steward's mate on the USCGC Pamlico, twenty-year-old Alex Haley met and soon married Nannie Virginia Branch from nearby Beaufort. The wedding took place in Apartment C-22 at Craven Terrace on August 21, 1942, just after the bride celebrated her eighteenth birthday. The Reverend Claude Simmons, a Christian minister, officiated. Haley would go on to become a renowned author, known worldwide for The Autobiography of Malcolm X and Roots: The Saga of An American Family.

ges: Florida Supreme Court, Libeary of Congress, National Archives, North Carolir Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, United States Coast Guard





This aerial photograph from the early 1950s shows the close proximity of Craven Terrace to Five Points (lower right corner), at the time a prosperous Black business district. The 1953 additions to the bousing development bave not begun in the upper section of the frame. Rue Cahpel AME. Church can be seen in the upper right corner of the Craven Terrace development boundary.

The one-story buildings contained one-bedroo two-bedroom, and three-bedroom units. The two-story buildings offered three-bedroom, four-bedroom, and five-bedroom units. To the , right is the two-bedroom floo plan at Craven Terrace



Frederick R. and Mary Danyus



West Street Graded School teacher and eventual principal F. R. Danyus moved from a boarding house at 68 West Street into Craven Terrace with his wife, Mary, also a teacher at the school, in 1942. The housing project was another stepping stone for the couple, and they finally purchased a home at 905Bern Street in the 1950s. In 1974, the West Street school was renamed for Danyus, who died in 1962. Mary died twelve years later.

James E. C. Perry



James Edward Clark Perry was born in 1944 on the second floor of apartment D-2250. His father was a foreman at a riverside vencer plant and his mother a maid at the Queen Anne Hotel. The family struggled, but that did not deter Perry from success as an athlete and a student. In the early 1060s, he participated in local sit-ins at Clark's drugstore and Kress department store in downtown New Bern. Inspired by the experience, he went on to earn a law

degree from Columbia University in New York. Perry had a long and storied career as an attorney and judge in Florida and became a Florida Supreme Court Justice.



