

1201 – 1203 Good Hope Rd. SE Public Art Installation Status Update (10.18.2012)

Background



In **February 2010**, the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) purchased two vacant properties located at 1201-1203 Good Hope Road SE in Historic Anacostia. With assistance from DHCD and the Summer Youth Employment Program, the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCA) sponsored the installation of a mural on the fence surrounding the site.

In **July 2011**, building inspectors found new structural damage in the building, and DHCD pursued a raze permit for the rear portion of 1203 Good Hope Rd. For demolition to occur, the mural had to be removed. The lot was backfilled, and DHCD and DCCA immediately began an outreach effort to commission a replacement art installation.

Community Survey and Selection Process



In September 2011, DCCA administered a survey that received more than 200 responses, in which community members provided their input on a number of options for the site. The concept that received the most votes was a totem pole.

The Commission solicited proposals from a number of qualified artists who presented their designs at a series of public meetings and to a selection panel of DCCA board members and Ward 8 stakeholders. The panel selected artist **Wilfredo Valladares**, whose proposal reflects the diverse history and heritage of the community, and seeks to “inspire the viewer to establish a dialogue on the interconnectedness of the past, present and future of Anacostia.” The sculpture will be constructed of COR-TEN steel, copper tubing, and stained glass.

Current Status and Next Steps



As of today, necessary building permits have been obtained and a concrete footer has been placed. The sculpture itself is under construction in the artist’s studio and installation is expected to occur in **January 2013**, followed by a dedication ceremony in early Spring 2013.