As I saw the streets of Hannibal Square for the first time, I could not help but notice the patterns of the old and rich Winter Park around it. The images of a segregated and traditionally African-American community were not present to me at first. After doing some research and considering the history of the community, it became clear to me that occurrences in recent decades have not been favorable to long-term residents. Instead, they have been presented with different aspects that were “supposed” to be seen as improvements to Hannibal Square. Unfortunately, that is not what happened.

Despite some well-intentioned Winter Park administrators' opinions, the development of the community of Hannibal Square brought about negative aspects of gentrification in the place of improvements. This project intends not only to show the difference these developments brought, but also the problems this process has carried to the community and its oldest citizens.

Gentrification is defined as the phenomenon that affects a region or a neighborhood by changing the dynamics of the composition of the place, such as new commercial points or construction of new buildings, valuing the region and affecting the local low-income population. Such valuation is followed by an increase in costs of goods and services, making it difficult for former residents with insufficient income to stay in the place where the reality has changed. That change in costs of goods and services not only banishes the long-living families that were present Hannibal Square, but also makes it uncomfortable and almost impossible for those to go back.

This photographic work is made thus, with the intention of showing the importance on the presence of these original citizens of Winter Park, and therefore comparing their presence's significance to the addition of unoriginal restaurants and bars. It is obvious that photographs alone cannot sufficiently tackle these issues, but they are made with the objective of bringing some change and understanding to the matter not only here in the community of Hannibal Square, but also to any other that suffers from gentrification.