Hannibal Square, located in Winter Park, was once known for its isolation from the rest of the city. Now Winter Park is coming together to build up the once neglected area. When discussing Hannibal Square, I took interest in the concept behind Shady Park. Shady Park received its name for its abundance of trees, casting shadows over the entire park.

Not only is the park at the center of Hannibal Square, but in some ways the park represents the story of the square. Those who were considered minority occupied the area, and the rest of the city tried to isolate them from the majority of the community. Now however, with times being different and people realizing the mistakes of the past Hannibal Square is being integrated into the city. The city is even building up the area, trying to incorporate itself into Hannibal Square. However, this is now causing problems as those who called Hannibal Square home are now being forced to relocate, or those places that created the city and gave it its history are being reconstructed and taken over. This begs the question, is the rest of the city really bringing the community of Hannibal Square in, or is the city forcing themselves within the community?

I tried to capture the growth of the park, and the community, with my photographs. I tried creating a feeling of solitude using single benches, as well as those placed in the sunlight, yet wanted to justify that they could still be beautiful in their solitude, trying to represent how Hannibal Square would be just as beautiful if left in its past. I felt by making these black and white, it not only gave the photos the feeling of being in the past, but also added to the lonely, yet peaceful feelings within them. To represent the coming together of the community and park I captured benches together where people can gather, most of which seem crammed into spaces like the city is trying to do with their new architecture. These are in color because I wanted to justify them as the “new” parts of the park, as well as add a lively atmosphere just as Winter Park is trying to do in Hannibal Square. I chose not to capture people in my photographs because I want the park itself to tell the story that I am trying to portray.