

MOVIES

Grady collaborated with Richard Broadman over a ten year period, during which they produced five feature length documentary films, which have received extensive acclaim. The best introduction to these films is Karilyn Crockett's [review essay in the journal *Visual Studies*](#). These films have been recently re-released by Documentary Educational Resources in Watertown, Massachusetts.

Mission Hill and the Miracle of Boston (1979)



The story of what happened to Mission Hill is the story of many of America's older ethnic neighborhoods. Seventy years ago, Mission Hill was an Irish neighborhood of homes and small stores in which people lived near their schools, their church, and their shopping area. But between 1940 and 1980 it changed: thousands of units of public housing were built and decayed there. Nearby hospitals expanded, displacing people from their homes. Developers and speculators bought and sold property and built twenty-story apartment houses. A new, poor population and an affluent professional population arrived to compete for parts of the old neighborhood.

[Link to Documentary Educational Resources catalog](#)

[Link to preview of Mission Hill and the Miracle of Boston](#)

[Study Guide for Mission Hill and the Miracle of Boston.](#)

Down the Projects: The Crisis of Public Housing (1982)



Sixty years ago, the "projects" were considered to be the most desirable housing stock for low-to-low-middle-income Americans. Today, this same housing has become stigmatized, beset by financial and social problems, and may be phased out.

This film, made in the 1980s, remains the classic portrait of a government program besieged on all sides. In two 30-minute sections, the film presents a concise social history of a housing movement and its opponents, then examines the social dilemmas of the developments these forces produced. Spokespeople include residents, public housing advocates from the 1930s, developers, administrators and politicians.

Down The Project: The Crisis of Public Housing presents the story of two projects that housed working families, both white and black, in the 1940s. In later years, crippled by lower budgets and the needs of poorer populations, they came to be regarded as eyesores, as danger zones. How did these changes occur? How did public housing begin? Which forces lobbied for it and against it? How do the people living in this housing see it?

[Link to Documentary Educational Resources catalog](#)

[Link to preview of Down the Projects: The Crisis of Public Housing](#)

[Study Guide for Down the Projects: The Crisis of Public Housing.](#)

Water the Dream of the Engineers (1983)



From the cholera epidemics of the nineteenth century to the climbing cancer rate of our time; from the colossal scale of New York City's aqueduct and water tunnels to the water wars of the West; from the dangers of chemical contamination to the water politics of Polanski's film *Chinatown*, *Water and the Dream of the Engineers* explores both the engineers' dreams for, and public fears about, the world we have inherited.

This is a fascinating documentary where rich social history frames a spirited debate between David Brower (former Sierra Club President), biologist Barry Commoner, and Able Wolman (dean of American Sanitary Engineering). The film's wider context is provided by the frustrations and concerns of those who maintain and use our water systems in the present day. The film is an educational odyssey about engineering, environmentalism, and the troubled relations between these two traditions. Most importantly, *Water and the Dream of the Engineers* reveals that conflicts over technology and the environment are, at root, debates about power and the promise of democracy.

[Link to Documentary Educational Resources catalog](#)

[Link to preview of *Water and the Dream of the Engineers*](#)

[Link to Study Guide for *Water and the Dream of the Engineers*](#)

The Collective: Fifteen Years Later (1986)

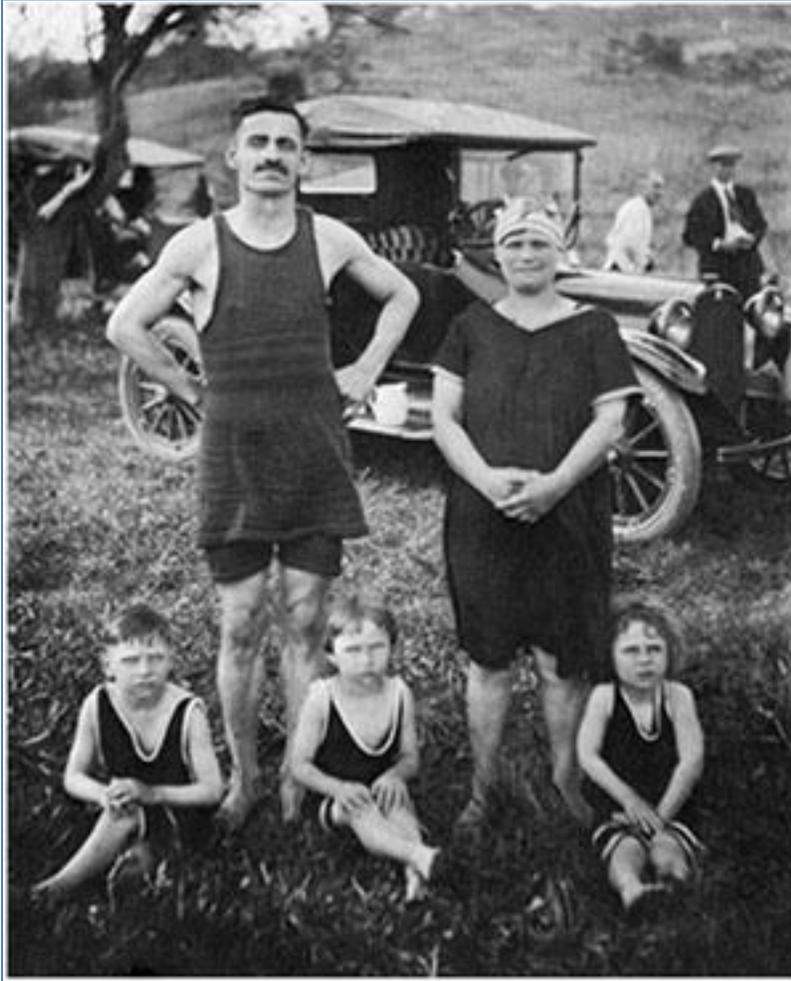


In 1970, thousands of young people thought of themselves as agents of change. They wanted to restore America's democratic vision; they wanted to end the war in Vietnam. This is the story of one collective — their successes and failures, and what they do and think fifteen years later.

[Link to *Documentary Educational Resources* catalog](#)

[Link to preview of *The Collective: Fifteen Years Later*](#)

Love Stories: Women, Men and Romance (1987)



In our grandparents' time, most women and men committed themselves to each other for better or worse. Today, many men and women struggle to redefine relationships in a society where more women are in the workforce, where divorce is common, and where the marriage commitment is rapidly changing. How did this happen? What opportunities and barriers has it created in women's and men's lives? *Love Stories: Women, Men, & Romance* provides both a history of changing attitudes and expectations and a portrait of today's conflicted society — in which the old and new values clash, fueling debates over the lifestyle, sex roles, and birth control.

[Link to *Documentary Educational Resources* catalog](#)

[Link to preview of *Love Stories: Women, Men and Romance*](#)