

Collection News

NEWS



Speaking at a rally on April 3, 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said:

Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over and I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land. And I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. My eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

The next day, he was assassinated on this balcony outside room 306.[1]

Upon initial examination, Joel Sternfeld's *The National Civil Rights Museum, Formerly the Lorraine Motel, 450 Mulberry Street, Memphis TN, August 1993, 1995* may seem merely documentary. Acquired by the Haggerty in 2009 with funds from Martha W. Smith by exchange, this work is part of the series published in *On This Site: Landscape in Memoriam*, a volume of photographs that invoke and bear witness to violent or tragic events embedded in American consciousness. As the accompanying text suggests, this quiet but potent image recalls one such moment that occurred forty six years ago today.

Joel Sternfeld, *The National Civil Rights Museum, Formerly the Lorraine Motel, 450 Mulberry Street, Memphis TN, August 1993, 1995*, 18 1/2 x 23 1/2 in, Collection of the Haggerty Museum of Art

[1] Joel Sternfeld, *On This Site: Landscape in Memoriam* (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1996) p 13.



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