



Dubois' canonical essay "The Conservation of Races," African Americans would find ways of contributing to the social mission of modern civilization in the twentieth century, largely in the form of the arts. The tradition of garlanding public space via Black themed sculpture continued into the postwar period with several public works, including John Woodrow Wilson's copper bust of Martin Luther King, Jr. in Buffalo's MLK Park, as well as George Smith's abstracted steel sculpture of Lebe, the Dogon serpent god, at the MTA's Utica Street Station in Buffalo, NY.

Another important architectural program to shape Black modernity in the United States is the church. In essence, a church is a simple gathering space, which is powerfully illustrated by the first modest Congregationalist churches of the seventeenth