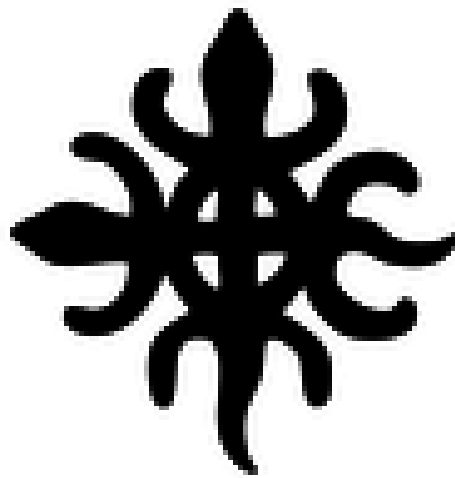# Documenting Ferguson: A Digital Repository

Michael Brown Jr. (1996-2014) in a photo posted to Facebook in May 2013. He graduated from Normandy High School in St. Louis County eight days before his death, two days from starting a training program for heating and air conditioning repair at Vatterott College (a career training institute founded in 1969) in St. Louis, Missouri.

Documenting Ferguson (http://digital.wustl.edu/ferguson/) is a freely available digital repository that seeks to preserve and make accessible community- and media-generated, original content that was captured and created following the killing of 18-year-old, Michael Brown by police officer Darren Wilson in Ferguson, Missouri on August 9, 2014. A freely available resource for students, scholars, teachers, and the greater community, Documenting Ferguson has the ultimate goal of providing diverse perspectives of the events surrounding the conflicts in Ferguson.

Thus, community participants and media representatives are invited to contribute original digital content, such as images, video, audio, and stories related to memorials, community meetings, rallies, and protests occurring in Ferguson and the surrounding St. Louis County and City. Through a partnership between Washington University and St. Louis-area universities and organizations, contributed content is publicly available and is subject to an evaluation; and a report containing the project's statement of purpose and detailing processes for technical and content development, collaborating with community organizations, and long term outcomes of the project, including assessment is available.

The Documenting Ferguson collection uses Omeka digital exhibit software to deliver community contributed media. Omeka is a free, open source web-publishing platform developed at George Mason University. The strength of the collection relies on the personal experiences of the community. The collection has also collaborated with the Internet Archive to preserve web content (websites, blogs, news sites, and social media), and it is accepting content for the collection and shared links so that events can be captured and recorded from all sides of the issue.

Denkyem [Adinkra symbol via Ghana]:
crocodile (philosophical significance: adaptability, cleverness)