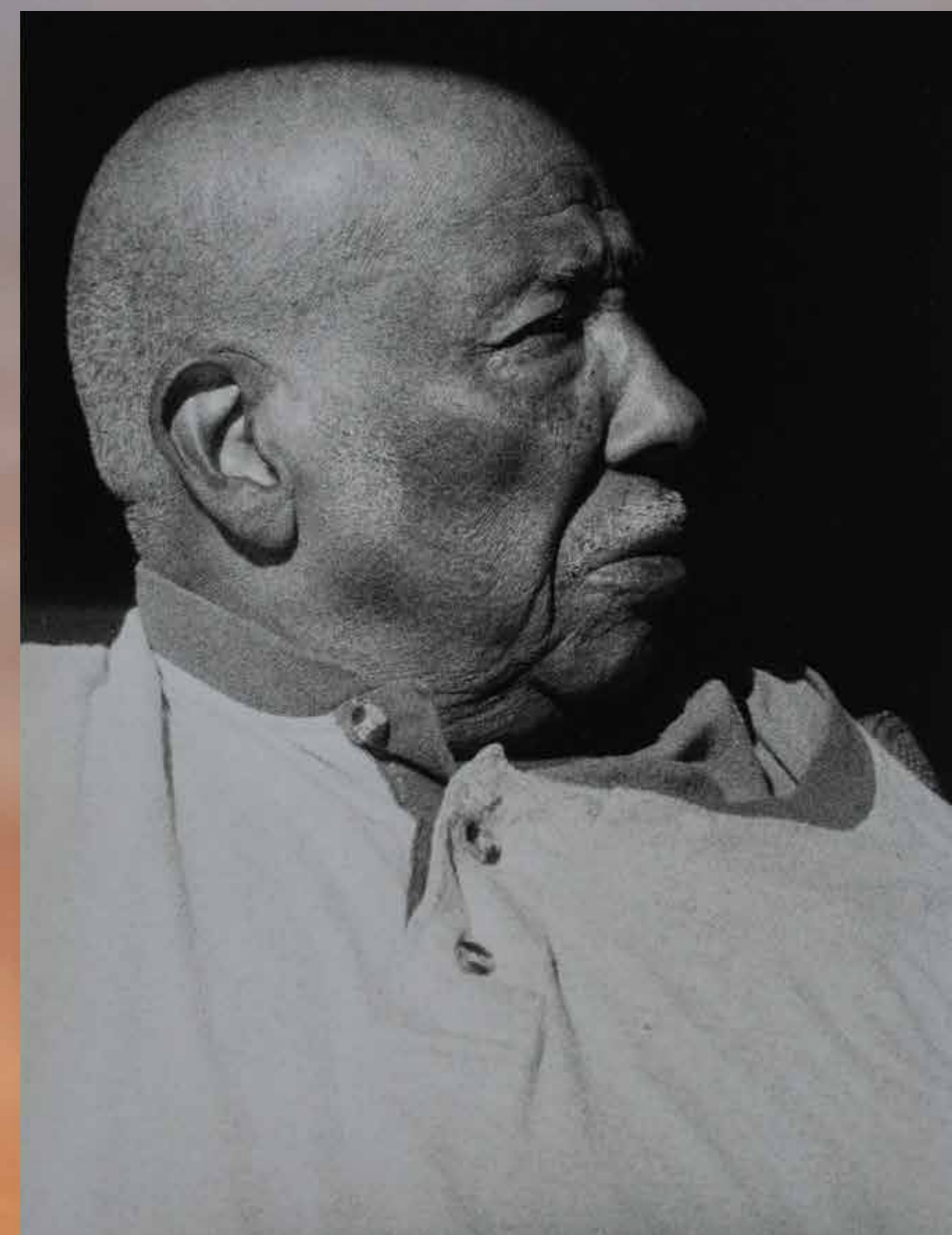


Welcome to Dotson Family Marsh

“This is one of the places we can come and enjoy the openness of the place itself. It’s very important for our psychological well-being to have places that we can retreat to.” —East Bay Regional Park District Board Member Whitney Dotson



EBRPD Board Member Whitney Dotson, Congressman George Miller and EBRPD Board Member John Sutter at the Dotson Family Marsh Groundbreaking Ceremony



Reverend Richard Daniel Dotson
Photo: Whitney Dotson

The Reverend Richard Daniel Dotson and his family were among the first settlers of nearby Parchester Village in the early 1950s. Like many Parchester kids, Reverend Dotson’s son, Whitney, trekked across the train tracks to fish, swim, and catch frogs in this open space.

The property was sold in the 1970s, and the first of many plans for development was soon proposed. In response, Reverend Dotson organized the neighborhood and led a long-term effort to preserve the land. East Bay Regional Park District Board Member Whitney Dotson continued the family’s commitment to environmental advocacy and justice.

The name of this park pays tribute to the great contributions of the Dotson Family.



1950s aerial view of Parchester Village
Photo courtesy of Richmond Museum of History