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Residents of Vanport carry some of their belongings to safety in the moments before the town was completely engulfed by floodwaters in 1948

The Wake of Vanport

New documentary screens Saturday

You're invited to learn more about Portland's history through a documentary showing the making and destruction of Vanport, a lost city of Oregon that once served as a home to thousands of black families before a disastrous flood in 1948.

"The Wake of Vanport" honors the death of a city and the viewing of its history through the collection of Vanport stories as told by the voices of those that lived there. It is also a celebration of life after loss.

The first public screening of "The Wake of Vanport" takes place Saturday, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. at the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, in the O.B. Williams Fellowship Hall, 3138 N. Vancouver Ave.

Admission is free and open to the public, and the film will be followed by a discussion with survivors of the Vanport Flood and the producers of the film, the Vanport Multimedia Project. Refreshments will be provided.



Overturned cars in Vanport following the flood of 1948 that wiped out the town which housed many workers, including a large African American community.