

Frank Mitchell

Historical Milestones

Reflection of the significance of being the first African-American House Page to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives in the 20th century.

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I didn't break—I don't think I broke any barriers for anybody. You know, I wasn't like one of the Little Rock six or nine or however many there were. You know, Medgar Evers at the University of Mississippi or anything like that. I didn't do anything like that. But what I did do was carry myself with dignity and respect, and I hope I made it easier for the next guy or woman coming along, so that there wouldn't be any hesitation. Because I have to think that, the way folks thought back then, was that the reason that no one had been appointed is that with whatever stereotypes they had of black people, they said, "Well, maybe a black person can't handle it, or whatever." Well, I hope I helped knock down some of those myths. So in that way, you know, I did my part.