

On March 6, 1894, a meeting of 29 prominent historians, scientists, journalists, and academics was held in the office of President James Welling of Columbian (now George Washington) University "to exchange views as to the best means of gathering and preserving the history of the Nation's Capital." This colloquy resulted in the immediate organization of the Columbia Historical Society of Washington, D.C., and the 29 assembled scholars comprised the charter membership.

In the subsequent efforts to preserve and record the history of the District of Columbia and vicinity, there has continued to be a close working relationship between the Columbia Historical Society and the George Washington University. Members of the two institutions have joined forces in movements to research and protect Washington landmarks, mark local sites of historic significance, and present exhibitions to promote public awareness of various aspects of the history and development of the National Capital region. The Society and the University have assembled independent but complementary collections of specialized materials for the study of local history. George Washington University professors have been frequent contributors to the *Records of the Columbia Historical Society*, an internationally distributed series for local historical scholarship published by the Society since 1897.

Cooperation between the Columbia Historical Society and the George Washington University entered a new phase with the joint sponsorship of the First Annual Conference on Washington, D.C., Historical Studies in January 1973. In December 1974 the University inaugurated a new series for the publication of local history research by its faculty and students with the appearance of the first of the *GW Washington Studies* monographs. To date there are 11 contributions to the series. In March 1980 the University established a multidisciplinary Center for Washington Area Studies. The Center will systematically increase research and teaching on local subject matter throughout the University.

Membership in the Columbia Historical Society is open to all persons interested in the history of

Washington, D.C., and its people. Annual dues entitle members to all publications, meetings, special activities, and use of the collections of the Society.

The District of Columbia Public Library was established in 1893 with an early goal to foster good citizenship through stimulating civic interest. As part of that effort, a Washingtoniana Collection was begun in earnest in 1905. By 1928 the collection had grown large enough to have its own room, and it is now the largest division in the Martin Luther King Memorial Library. The lives and customs of Washingtonians through the years and the growth of the city in which they live are depicted in news clippings, maps, books, pictures, and oral histories. For some years the Library stored the collections of the Columbia Historical Society until their permanent home was found. All but one of the Historical Studies Conferences have been held at the King Library.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON WASHINGTON, D.C., HISTORICAL STUDIES PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Larry Baume, William H. Becker, Roxanna Deane, co-chairs; Ahmed Elbashir, Howard Gillette, Marcia M. Greenlee, Beatrice Hackett, Karen Jefferson, Jane North, Peter Share, Kathy Smith.

This series of annual conferences focuses on local urban, not federal, history. Sessions are open to all interested persons. There is no preregistration required and there are no registration fees for any of the sessions.

The Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Library is located at 901 G Street, N.W., at the Gallery Place station on the Metro Red Line. Charles Sumner Schoolhouse is at 17th and M Street, N.W., near Farragut North Station on the Metro Red Line. For further information, please call the Columbia Historical Society at 785-2068 or the George Washington University Center for Washington Area Studies, 676-6073, or the Washingtoniana Division of the D.C. Public Library, 727-1213.

Please help us to continue the Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Lecture in Urban History. Contributions should be sent to Columbia Historical Society, clearly marked for the Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Lectures.

(M.L. 52) = 1974-1987
LBJ

Columbia Historical Society
1307 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036 785-2068



**FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ON WASHINGTON, D.C.,
HISTORICAL STUDIES
FEBRUARY 27-28, 1987**

SPONSORED BY
THE D.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY,
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WASHINGTON AREA STUDIES
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**Fourteenth Annual Conference on Washington, D.C. Historical Studies
February 27-28, 1987**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 9:15 a.m. Conference Opening—Larry Baume, Columbia Historical Society
- 9:30 a.m.— THE CITY MAGNIFIED: HISTORIC WASHINGTON IN SLIDES
- 10:45 a.m. Charles Suddarth Kelly, Columbia Historical Society
- 11:00 a.m.— BEYOND THE HISTORICAL RECORD: ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
- 12:15 p.m. Moderator: Elizabeth A. Crowell, Engineering-Science Co.
(concurrent sessions) "What the Historical Record does not Reveal: The Archaeology of Howard Road"—Nancy Kassner, D.C. Dept. of Consumer Affairs, Historic Preservation Division
"Port of Georgetown: An Archaeological Perspective"—Janice G. Artemel, Engineering-Science Co.
"Archaeology at the Peterson House"—Stephen Potter, National Park Service
Comment: Catherine Slusser, D.C. Dept. of Consumer Affairs, Historic Preservation Division
- ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED
Moderator: Dorothy Provine, D.C. Archives
Washington Board of Trade Archives, George Washington University—Ruth Anne Becker
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts—Jerry Otremba
Curator's Office, Architect of the Capitol—John F. Hackett
National Theater Archives—Tom Shorebird
- 1:15 p.m.— SWAMPS IN WASHINGTON? NEW HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES, 1790-1820
- 3:00 p.m. Moderator: Larry Baume, Columbia Historical Society
(Concurrent sessions) Speakers: Kenneth R. Bowling, George Washington University; Donald Spoon, Georgetown University
Comment: Bob Arnebeck, Washington writer
- WASHINGTON HISTORIC FIREHOUSES: FORM FOLLOWING FUNCTION AND A CHANGING DEMOGRAPHY
Panelists: Helen P. Ross, George Washington University; Billy Joe Peyton, West Virginia University; Ruth Ann Overbeck, Washington Perspectives, Inc.
Comment: Emory L. Kemp, West Virginia University
- 3:15 p.m.—
- 5:00 p.m. ASPECTS OF BLACK LIFE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
(Concurrent sessions) Moderator: Mrs. Francis Gregory, D.C. Public Library Board of Trustees
"Notable Ancestors"—Ted Langston Chase, author
"Health of Blacks in Nineteenth-Century Washington"—Betty L. Plummer, Fayetteville
"In the Shadow of the Capitol: Residential Segregation in Washington, D.C., 1940-1980"—Thomas Averill Duckenfield, Harvard University
Comment: James Dent Walker, Sumner Museum and Archives, D.C. Public Schools
- THE RECONCILIATION OF MILITARY ENGINEERS AND CIVILIAN ARCHITECTS IN WASHINGTON, 1902-1933
Moderator: Martin Gordon, Army Corps of Engineers
"The Struggle Between Engineers and Architects for Control of the Washington Barracks, 1902"—Andrea K. Foster, George Washington University
"Conflict Resolved: The Corps of Engineers and the Lincoln Memorial"—James R. Arnold, Bluemont, VA
- FRIDAY In the lobby of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library there will be a continuous showing of films
10:00 a.m.— which present various aspects of District of Columbia history. A list of the films will be available at the
4:00 p.m. registration table.

**FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 27
CHARLES SUMNER SCHOOLHOUSE
17th and M STREET, NW**

- 5:30 p.m.— Reception
- 6:30 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m.— ELEVENTH ANNUAL LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE
- 7:30 p.m. Introduction—Jane North, Columbia Historical Society
"Black Urban America: The Washington, D.C. Historical Experience"—Hollis R. Lynch, Columbia University

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

- 9:30 a.m.— DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APARTMENT BUILDINGS
- 11:00 a.m. Moderator: Alison K. Hoagland, D.C. Preservation League
"Surprising finds in Washington Apartment House Plans"—James M. Goode, Smithsonian Institution
"The Survey of Washington, D.C. Apartment Buildings: Approach and Findings"—Emily Hotaling Eig, Tracerics
Panel Discussion: Alison K. Hoagland, D.C. Preservation League; Mark Andrich, George Washington University; James M. Goode, Smithsonian Institution; Emily Hotaling Eig, Tracerics
- 11:15 a.m.— HISTORICAL RESEARCH AS FILM: WHEN AND WHY—HOW AND WHO
- 12:30 p.m. Moderator: Beatrice Hackett, formerly with the D.C. Community Humanities Council
Panel Discussion: Marjorie Hunt, Smithsonian Institution; Paul Wagner, independent filmmaker; Janette Pinckney, independent filmmaker; Bettye Collier-Thomas, Bethune Museum-Archives