

Sixteenth Annual Conference on Washington,
D.C. Historical Studies Planning Committee:

Roxanna Deane, William B. Keller, Jane W. North,
Conference co-chairs.

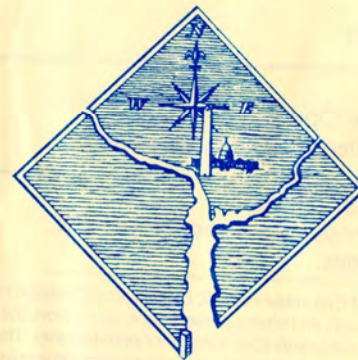
Larry Baume, Francine Cary, Betty M. Culpepper,
Grace Drew, Howard Gillette, Matthew Gilmore,
James Goode, Richard Hurlburt, Nancy Kassner,
Raoul Kulberg, Glen Leiner, Richard Longstreth,
Peter Share

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 daytime 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; the George
Washington University Center for Washington
Area Studies at 994-5236; or the Washingtoniana
Division of the D.C. Public Library, 727-1213.

Columbia Historical Society
1307 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone (202) 785-2068
TDD (202) 887-5785

16th
Annual
Conference
on
Washington, D.C.
Historical
Studies



MARCH 3-4, 1989

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WASHINGTON AREA STUDIES
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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

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3:20 P.M.–5:00 P.M.

Black History in the Washington Metropolitan Area

Addressing a need to expose the rich and varied reality of Afro-American life, historians will discuss nearby communities' unique Black heritage. The effort to recover this past has involved travel to as far away as the shores of Senegal and as close as the recalled memory of long-time residents of these neighborhoods.

Moderator:

Leroy Graham, D.C. Public Library

Commentator:

Sylvia Cooke Martin, Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society

Papers:

"Gum Springs: History of a National Treasure,"
Ronald Chase, Gum Springs Historical Society

"Early Black History in Prince George's County,
Maryland," Bianca Floyd, Maryland National Park
and Planning Commission

"History of Blacks in Howard County, Maryland,"
Alice Cornelison, Howard County NAACP

3:20 P.M.–5:00 P.M.

History of the Parks of the Metropolitan Area

These two presenters are landscape architects who are currently collaborating on a book which will detail the history of parks and park systems within the metropolitan region. From L'Enfant's plan to the current expansion of suburban park systems, this session will focus on individuals who have been instrumental in planning, developing, and preserving our local parks.

Moderator/Commentator:

Barry Mackintosh, National Park Service

Papers:

"Origins of Rock Creek Park," Piera Weiss

"Great Visionaries: The People who Made our
Parks Possible," Steve Elkinton

The Columbia Historical Society was founded in 1894 to preserve, collect and teach the history of the nation's capital. The Society's extensive research collection, its programs, publications, and exhibits document the national, regional, and local trends, movements and personalities that have shaped Washington development since 1790.

The library, which is free and open to the public, houses over 100,000 items including 12,000 books and 70,000 photographs. For information about membership benefits, hours, and programs call (202) 785-2068.

The purpose of the Center for Washington Area Studies of the George Washington University is to carry on scholarly activities related to the Greater Washington area and to relate University resources to the needs and concerns of Washington area citizens. Its primary objectives include the following: To foster research and writing related to the history and culture of the Washington area; To stimulate research and publishing of studies of local public policy issues in the Washington area; To channel the skills and talents of University faculty and students toward local problem-solving in areas related to the public welfare.

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.

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Sixteenth Annual Conference on Washington D.C. Historical Studies

March 3 and 4, 1989
Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library

FRIDAY, March 3

1:00 P.M.
Registration

1:15 P.M.
Conference Opening—
Roxanna Deane, D.C. Public Library

1:30 P.M.—3:00 P.M.
Comprehensive Surveys of Several D.C. Communities

The District of Columbia Historic Preservation Division has funded, through an historic preservation grant from the National Park Service, subgrants to a number of communities. These subgrants are for the purpose of conducting comprehensive surveys of their neighborhoods. The information gathered includes a detailed survey of the housing stock; a compilation of historical documentation about the neighborhood; oral histories; and an archeological survey. The Congress Heights, Woodley Park, Sheridan-Kalorama, Upper Cardozo, Brookland, and Deanwood neighborhoods have participated in this project. Panel members representing some of these communities as well as the technical staff involved will discuss the work that has been done.

Moderator:
Nancy Kassner, D.C. Historic Preservation Division

Panelists:
Joan Chase, Potomac River Archaeological Survey,
American University

Cynthia Field, Office of Architectural History and
Historic Preservation, Smithsonian Institution

Charles G. Field, National Association of Home-
builders

Laura Henley, Catholic University

Ruthanne Overbeck, Washington Perspectives,
Inc.

Maxine J. Smith, Congress Heights Community
Association

Staff members from the D.C. Historic Preservation
Division

3:30 P.M.—5:00 P.M.
Historic Resources: University Archives and
Special Collections in Washington, D.C.

This panel will discuss the resources available to researchers in university archives. Often, this resource is underutilized by those interested in local and neighborhood history. The development of a university, its impact on the surrounding community, the cultural significance in the neighborhood and larger community, and the history of the university community make these valuable historical resources.

Moderator:
Larry Baume, D.C. Archives

Panelists:
Donna Wells, Gallaudet University Library
William Ross, American University Archives

Nicholas Scheetz, Georgetown University Library
Matthew Gilmore, George Washington University
Library

3:30 P.M.—5:00 P.M.
Community Organizations

These papers examine the history of two organizations that were formed to address the needs of two very specific constituencies. The Women's Anthropological Society was formed to "open to women new fields for systematic investigation and to invite their co-operation in the development of the science of anthropology." The Jewish Community Council serves as the voice of the

now more than 200 member agencies, organizations, and synagogues. Both papers add to our knowledge of the social history of Washington.

Moderator/Commentator:
Brett Williams, American University

Papers:
"Women's Anthropological Society, 1885-1899,"
Laurie Trippet, George Washington University

"Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington: The First Fifty Years, 1938-1988," Hasia Diner, University of Maryland

FRIDAY evening, March 3

Charles Sumner Schoolhouse
17th and M Street, NW

7:30 P.M.
Thirteenth Annual Letitia Woods Brown Memorial
Lecture

A contribution of \$3 is payable at the door.

Introduction:
Richard W. Longstreth, George Washington
University

Speaker:
Alan Gowans, Retired Chair, Department of
History in Art, University of Victoria

"Temples for True Believers: On the Social Function
of Galleries and Museums in the Modern World."

SATURDAY, March 4

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library

9:30 A.M.
Registration and Coffee

10:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M.
The Architecture of Transportation

This session will examine important, but heretofore little known, aspects of the history of Washington architecture and transportation.

Moderator:
Richard W. Longstreth, George Washington
University

Respondent:
Richard Striner, Washington College, Chestertown

Papers:
"The Railroad in the Park: Washington's Baltimore
& Potomac Railroad Station, 1872-1907," Dian
Belanger, History Associates Incorporated, Rock-
ville, Maryland

"Washington's Greyhound Depot and the Idea of
Bus Transportation in the 1930's," Richard W. Long-
streth, George Washington University

"Washington National Airport and American Air-
port Design before the War," James Goode,
George Washington University

12:00 P.M.—1:30 P.M.
Lunch

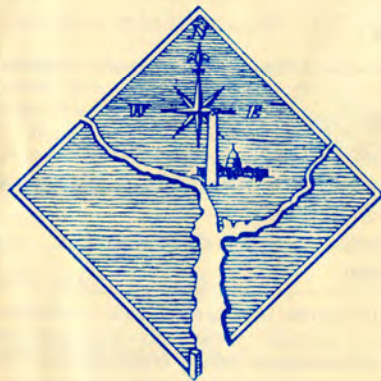
You may bring your lunch and watch *Asylum*, a film documenting the history of St. Elizabeth's Hospital and mental health care in the United States. The film will be shown from 12:15 P.M. to 1:15 P.M.

1:30 P.M.—3:10 P.M.
Building Better Homes in Washington: Public and
Private Solutions

While Washington never developed the industrial base characteristic of the nation's other major cities, it nonetheless suffered comparable urban problems. In efforts to provide the solution to one of the city's most pressing concerns—housing—both private and public organizations developed their own ideas, rationales, and programs. The assessment of their contributions helps explain why housing remains a problem in Washington almost a century after the institution of the first improvement scheme.

Moderator/Commentator:
William Barnes, National League of Cities

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William Barnes, National League of Cities

Papers:
"Philanthropy that Pays: Washington's Limited Dividend Housing Companies," Elizabeth Harold, Sorg & Associates, Washington, D.C.

"The Broad Reach and Short Grasp of Public Housing, 1935-1945," Howard Gillette, George Washington University

"Models of Beauty and Predictability: The Suburban Subdivisions of Wesley Heights and Spring Valley," Diane Wasch, George Washington University

1:30 P.M.-3:10 P.M.
Washington Family Businesses: Reflecting the Past, Challenging the Future

Representatives of three well-known businesses which originated and have remained based in Washington will describe the history of their enterprises and the changes they have witnessed in downtown Washington, in their clientele, and in the way business is conducted in this rapidly growing city. Finally, they will assess the future for independent, locally owned businesses in the Washington metropolis as we approach the 21st century.

Moderator:
Jane W. North, Columbia Historical Society

Respondent:
Dr. Jerome Paige, American Council on Education Fellow at the University of Baltimore, on leave from the Department of History, University of the District of Columbia

Panelists:
Edward W. Hall, Vice President and General Manager, Galt and Brother Jewellers, founded 1802

John R. McGuire, President, McGuire Funeral Services, Inc., founded 1912

Frank Rich, former President, Rich's Shoes, founded 1869

(continued on next page)