

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

Roxanna Deane, Francine Henderson, and Cheryl Miller co-chairs; George Arnold, Connie Borzelleca, Sam Daniel, Matthew Gilmore, William Haskett, Richard Longstreth, Linda Lyons, Susan McElrath, Philip Ogilvie, Nelson Rimensnyder, Kathryn Smith, Fran Turgeon, John Vlach.

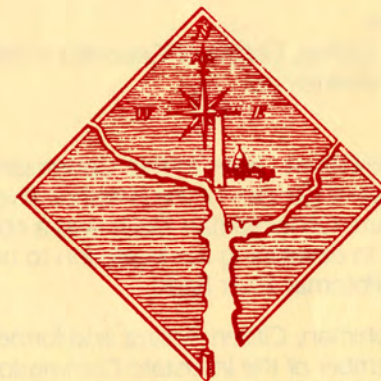
This series of annual conferences focuses on the history of the Metropolitan Washington Area. Sessions are free and preregistration is not required.

TO GET THERE:

The Martin Luther King Memorial Library is located at 901 G Street, N.W., at the Gallery Place station on the Metro Red, Green, and Yellow Lines, and at the Metro Center Station on the Blue and Orange Lines. Charles Sumner Schoolhouse is at 17th and M Streets, N.W., near the Red Line's Farragut North Station (on-street and commercial parking available). For further information, please call the Washingtoniana Division, D.C. Public Library at (202) 727-1213.

The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.
1307 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-1507

**20th
Annual
Conference
on
Washington, D.C.,
Historical
Studies**



FEBRUARY 26-27, 1993

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THE D.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY,
THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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WASHINGTON AREA STUDIES
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3:15-5:00 P.M., Session II

AFRICAN-AMERICANS OF PROPERTY: FAMILY AND COMMUNITY BUILDING IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1850-1920

The new social order of the late nineteenth century opened new opportunities while it posed new obstacles to blacks and mulattoes in the District of Columbia. These papers explore the efforts of relatively wealthy African-Americans to strengthen their families and communities.

Moderator:

Cheryl Miller, Curator, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Papers:

"Economic Strategies of Free Black Propertyholders in the District of Columbia, 1850-1860," Mary Beth Corrigan, Archivist, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

"Parental Advice and Child Rearing Practices of Elite Blacks, 1880-1920," Jacqueline Moore, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Maryland, College Park

"Roscoe Conkling Bruce and the District of Columbia Black Public Schools, 1906-1921," Doug Pielmeier, M.A. Candidate, University of Maryland, College Park

Commentator:

Walter Hill, Ph.D., National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.

The Historical Society of Washington, D.C. (formerly the Columbia Historical Society), was founded in 1894 to preserve, collect, and teach the history of the nation's capital. Now entering its second century, HSW strives to use the past to enrich the life of today's Washington and to foster among its diverse communities a strong sense of civic identity upon which to build a shared vision of the city's future. HSW's extensive research collections, programs, publications, and exhibits document the national, regional, and local events, movements, and personalities that have shaped Washington since 1790. The research collections are open to the public, as are two exhibit galleries and period rooms in the Christian Heurich memorial mansion. *Washington History*, HSW's semiannual magazine is a free membership benefit. For more information about HSW, please 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 1896 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. (202) 727-1213

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FRIDAY, February 26

Martin Luther King Memorial Library

**12:30 P.M.
REGISTRATION**

**1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE OPENING**

John V. Alviti, Executive Director, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

1:15-2:45 P.M.

**"IT ABOUNDETH IN ALL MANNER OF FISH":
THE POTOMAC RIVER, A HISTORY OF
POLITICAL ACTION**

Moderator:

Philip W. Ogilvie, District of Columbia Public Records Administrator

Panelists:

Honorable Gilbert Gude, former Congressman and Executive Director of the Potomac River Consortium. Congressman Gude was a consistent force in developing the legislation to bring back the Potomac River Basin.

Minnie Pohlman, Citizen Activist and former citizen member of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. Minnie as a self-described "little-old-lady-in-tennis-shoes" has made sure that interests of all the citizens have been represented in Potomac legislation and implementation.

Dr. Donald Kelso, Biology Department, George Mason University. Much of Dr. Kelso's research has been focused on the Potomac estuary. He is in an excellent position to evaluate the effectiveness of the river clean-up.

*Captain Henry Fleet, 1631.

3:00-5:00 P.M., Session I

**FINDING A SENSE OF PLACE: SUBURBAN
COMMUNITIES DISCOVER THEIR HISTORY**

Recent research projects throughout the Washington metropolitan area have revealed new aspects of the urban, social, and legal histories of nearby communities.

Moderator:

Linda Lyons, Architectural Historian, Chevy Chase, MD

Papers:

"Haiti: An Historic Black Community in Montgomery County," Eileen McGuckian, Executive Director, Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd., Rockville, MD.

"Oral History: Another Approach to Understanding and Preserving Photographs," Mame Warren, Curator of Photographs, Maryland State Archives, and Consultant, Historic Annapolis Foundation, Annapolis, MD

"A Program to Index and Abstract Early Fairfax County Circuit Court Records," Edith Sprouse, Historian, Fairfax County History Commission, Fairfax County, VA

3:00-5:00 P.M., Session II

**FIRE FIGHTING: ARCHITECTURE AND SOCIAL
HISTORY**

This session will examine fire house construction, fire companies, and their role and meaning in the community.

Moderator:

Cheryl Miller, Curator of Research Collections, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Papers:

"Washington's Pre-World War II Firehouses and Their Relationship to the Development of the City," Sally Berk, history preservationist and chair of the D.C. Preservation League's Issues Committee.

"Flames and Fanfare: the Social History of Volunteer Fire Companies in 19th-century America," Lynn Rozenthal, Director, The Lyceum

FRIDAY EVENING, February 26

Charles Sumner Schoolhouse
17th and M Streets, N.W.

7:30-9:30 P.M.

**SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL LETITIA WOODS
BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE and
PRESENTATION of the RENCHARD PRIZE FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION of THE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Speaker:

Cary Carson, Vice President for Historical Research, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

"Mid-Life Crisis of Middle-Class History"

SATURDAY, February 27

Martin Luther King Memorial Library

**9:30 A.M.
REGISTRATION AND COFFEE**

**10:00 A.M.-12:00 NOON
A MILEPOST ON THE ROAD TO SELF-
GOVERNMENT: THE PERIOD OF TRANSITION
FROM THREE COMMISSIONER
GOVERNMENT TO APPOINTED
COMMISSIONER/COUNCIL GOVERNMENT**

Moderator:

Honorable Charles T. Duncan, former District of Columbia Cooperation Counsel

The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.
1307 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-1507

Panelists:

Honorable John Bonner Duncan, Former Commissioner of the District of Columbia in the last full three member Commission.

Honorable Walter E. Washington, former Commissioner of the District of Columbia and the elected Mayor of the District of Columbia.

Honorable John W. Hechinger, former Chairman of the first appointed Council of District of Columbia.

Honorable Charles A. Horsky, White House advisor on local affairs

12:00-1:15 P.M.

LUNCH AND FILMS

You may bring your own lunch and view films depicting history topics.

1:15-3:00 P.M., Session I

WASHINGTON BEFORE BROWN

Moderator:

Bill Hasson, Board Member, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Papers:

"Against the Odds: Two Black Stories,"

Bill Hasson, Board Member, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

"The Rebirth of the Lincoln Theater,"

Charles Countee, Executive Director, District of Columbia Office of Business and Economic Development

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1:15-3:00 P.M., Session II

URBAN ARCHEOLOGY: FROM SITE TO SYNTHESIS AND BEYOND

For Washington, D.C. as other city-sites, examination of the single archeological site is merely the first step in appreciating and sharing the past.

Moderator:

Laura Henley Dean, Archeologist, D.C. Historic Preservation Division, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

Panelists:

Varna Boyd, Director of Archeology, The Octagon House Museum

Elizabeth Crowell, Chief of Archeological Studies, Engineering Science

Nancy Kassner, Senior Archeologist, Greenhouse & O'Mara

David Clark, Staff Archeologist, Department of Anthropology, The Catholic University of America

3:15-5:00 P.M., Session I

HISTORICAL MUSEUMS & SOCIETIES AS AGENTS OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Panelists will discuss how local history initiatives offer opportunities for individual investment, group empowerment, and community renewal.

Moderator:

John V. Alviti, Executive Director, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Panelists:

Steve Newsome, Director, Anacostia Museum of African-American History & Culture

Teresa C. Grana, Program Consultant, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Anna Slafer, Curator of Education, National Building Museum