GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD
APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC LANDMARK OR HISTORIC DISTRICT DESIGNATION

New Designation X
Amendment of a previous designation _____
Please summarize any amendment(s) _____

Property name 1007-1017 K Street, NW
*If any part of the **interior** is being nominated, it must be specifically identified and described in the narrative statements.*

Address 1007, 1009, 1011, 1015, 1017 K Street, NW

Square and lot number(s) Square 342, Lots 3, 4, 5, 53, 809

Affected Advisory Neighborhood Commission ANC 2F

Date of construction 1875 Date of major alteration(s) N/A

Architect(s) Unknown (James Turton – Probable Builder)

Architectural style(s) Italianate, Second Empire

Original use Residential Present use Vacant

Property owner Multiple (See attached)

Legal address of property owner _____

NAME OF APPLICANT(S) DC Preservation League

If the applicant is an organization, it must submit evidence that among its purposes is the promotion of historic preservation in the District of Columbia. A copy of its charter, articles of incorporation, or by-laws, setting forth such purpose, will satisfy this requirement.

Address/Telephone of applicant(s) 401 F Street, NW, Room 324, WDC 20001, 202.783.5144

Name and title of authorized representative Rebecca Miller, Executive Director

Signature of representative [signature] Date 6/19/08

Name and telephone of author of application DCPL – 202.783.5144

Date received 10/13/08
H.P.O. staff [illegible]

NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name 1007-1017 K Street NW

other names

2. Location

street & number 1007, 1009, 1011, 1015, 1017 K Street NW (inc former 1001 11th Street NW) ☐ not for publication

city or town Washington ☐ vicinity

state DC code ____ county ____ code ____ zip code 20001

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:
- ☐ entered in the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National Register.
- ☐ other (explain): ____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

Comment [LP1]: DO NOT DELETE! THIS IS A SECTION BREAK.

Name of Property | County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [x] private
- [ ] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [ ] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- [x] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3		buildings
2		sites
		structures
		objects
5		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

NA

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single-dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/business (1007 K)
VACANT (1009-1017 K)

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Second Empire (1015-1017 K)
Classical Revival (1007 K)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Brick
roof
other

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Description Summary:

1015 and 1017 (joined now to the former 1001 11th St.) K St. are in the Second Empire style, with mansard roofs and deep bay windows (still extant on 1015 K). Fanciful surrounds and cornices (extant in 1015 K and 1001 11th) and a deep cornice further the impression of opulence. A cupola tops 1017 K.

1017 K St. is an unpretentious classical revival brick rowhouse with wooden trim around the door and a chaste cornice.

General Description:

1001 11th Street NW

The first two floors of the Italianate brick building at 1001 Eleventh Street have been radically altered, but the original layout and design survive on the upper floors. The brick was painted white at some point, but most of the paint has worn off. What appear to be original two over two wood framed windows survive in each of the three bays on the third and fourth floors. Simple Italianate [wood?] hood moldings frame each of the six window openings. The heavy projecting [metal?] cornice, [get detailed description from Kay's description of the building at 1017 K] supported on heavy consoles, appears to be continuous with that of its neighbor to the south and was probably added when the two buildings were combined in the early 20th century.

The lower two floors of the building at 1001 Eleventh appear to have been covered with a thin coat of stucco and have been heavily altered. On the second floor, only the boarded-up openings survive. The two northern bays are filled with a single large opening, perhaps reflecting the location of a projecting bay in the original house; the single opening in the southern bay was probably originally a door.

[The first floor, probably originally a raised basement, is not visible in the photo I have.]

The north and south elevations of the building are completely covered by adjacent buildings. The east elevation is covered by the building at 1015 K Street.

1017 K Street NW

1017 K Street stands to the left or west of 1015. It is a three-bay, three-story brick structure; the central bay is a projecting four-story tower. This structure has the same cornice line and cornice treatment as the adjoining building and their brick facades are continuous. The façade is composed of stretcher bond.

All first floor windows have been removed and boarded up. All hood molds have been removed. Steps to the doors have been removed.

The basement level windows had been converted into continuous shop windows and are now boarded up. A classical metal entablature extends above the basement windows.

The entire lower level of the building has been painted white up to the second-floor window sill line. The central entrance has been filled with concrete blocks. The second and third-floor windows of the projecting center bay had limestone sills and hood molds, but now consist of three identical 1/1 sash units with simple surrounds and no hood molds on each floor. The windows of the right- and

lefthand bays are approximately double the width of those of the central bay and are replacements for the original bay windows. The fourth floor window in the tower is a small joined pair of round-arched windows with simple brick voussoirs and a limestone sill.

Like its neighbor, the entablature is composed of a continuous row of modillions with single larger consoles at the each ends. These show decorative elements of acanthus leaves on the larger consoles and sunflowers on the smaller modillions. A steel framework for billboards has been bolted to the entire exterior of the building, including the K and 11th Street elevations, and hides much of the elevations.

The building extends for four bays on 11th Street, where two flights of concrete steps lead down to a depressed areaway. At this basement level are two doorways, one of which has been boarded up and the other filled with concrete blocks. The first-floor shop windows have been boarded up. There is some substantial brick damage on this elevation. A chimney, set slightly back of the building face, rises about halfway back.

The first-floor windows of the 11th Street side elevation are identical to those on the front. The second and third floor windows have hood molds, identical or similar to those on 1015 K Street. The top two floors bear the remains of white paint.

The roofs of this building and its tower appear to be flat. A ghost on the tall brick hostel building to the north appears to be of a former roof structure. A lower penthouse structure extends from the rear of the tower along the roof behind it.

1015 K Street NW

Facing south on K Street, on the right, or east, side, is a three-story, three-bay brick residential structure. It stands on a raised basement and has a slightly projecting watertable. The brick façade is laid in stretcher bond and has been painted white, though much of the paint has worn off. Window and door openings are tall and relatively narrow; most have been boarded up or filled with concrete block.

On the façade, a projecting three-sided wooden bay window on the first floor occupies the right two bays. The raised basement underneath the bay has three arched openings, one in each face of the bay. Beneath each of the three window openings of the bay are recessed panels. The wood cornice and entablature of the bay window are damaged. An entrance doorway on the left is boarded up, and the stairs which led up to the door are missing. The door's wooden surround is partially intact; it is composed of side members with recessed panels and circular motifs located a third of the way up, and a denticulated entablature above the opening. Beneath this door is a square-headed doorway, filled in with concrete block, which led into the raised basement floor.

The large first-floor window openings are boarded up. Windows on the second and third stories have hood molds in an Eastlake Victorian style, made of pressed metal with masks in the keystones. On the second floor, the central hood mold is missing and all the others are damaged; on the third floor, the molding is missing from the right window.

The cornice, also probably metal, is somewhat different stylistically from the window molds, more conventionally classical. It is ornamented with a row of modillions, each with an acanthus leaf covering the supporting scroll; at either end is a single large console. A row of dentils forms the lowest section of the entablature.

The exposed east side of the structure is constructed in seven-course common bond and has three bays and a slightly projecting water table. The left-hand bay has windows on the second and third stories, both with flat lintels. In the center bay, the flat-headed window opening has been filled in with concrete block. The right-hand bay has three jack arched window openings; the first floor window is boarded up, though the wood sill and lintel are still visible, and the second and third stories have wood 6/6 window frames inserted.

The building's shed roof slopes to the rear. A chimney rises from the east side. A ghost of the building which formerly stood to the east is visible on this elevation, extending about halfway back. Some broken beams remain in this area, jutting out from the wall. These beams and the section of wall within the ghost are blackened, probably as a result of paint or some other coating. The rest of the side elevation, to the right, is covered with a thin layer of smooth stucco, spalling off in places. A few brick piers remain from the structure which stood to the east.

The rear of this building is attached to the tall (#-story) brick building that faces 11th Street, #what, now used as a hostel; one wide bay of #1015 K Street is visible, with windows at the second and third stories. The second-story window is jack-arched and the third story window is flat-headed. A second chimney rises at the back of the building. The rear elevation is also covered with stucco.

1007 K Street NW

This two-story, three-bay brick structure may have originally been a two-bay building that was later enlarged by the addition of another bay. Alterations are evident on the façade; the machine-made brick of the right-hand bay is different and appears newer than the more irregular, possibly hand-made brick of the two bays on the left. A vertical seam between the two types of bricks, both laid in stretcher bond, is evident running the height of the façade. The façade has a simple classical entablature composed of horizontal bands with no decorative moldings.

Triangular areas of disturbances in the brickwork above windows also indicate changes have been made to the fenestration. Disturbances to the brick under the central window on the first floor suggest a door may have formerly occupied this location. Similar alterations to the bricks around the windows suggest that this brick, and perhaps the windows or their surrounds, were replaced at some point. All windows on the front elevation are six-over-six wood sash; most windows have brick sills. Doors and windows on all elevations are covered with iron grilles. An air conditioning unit has been placed in the second-floor window above the door.

The doorway with its wooden surround occupies the righthand bay. Above the doorway, a simple, unornamented classical cornice is supported by modillions and corner brackets. The brackets have a wooden jigsawn ornamentation underneath that rest flat against the simple wood side pieces of the surround. Above the doorway is a single-light transom. The door, likely not the original, has cross-and-bible paneling, with single-light windows filling the two upper panels. The façade's entablature and the door surround have been painted black.

A low watertable extends slightly from the façade, stopping a short distance from the door, at the point where the change in brick occurs. A modern brick planting bed has been built in front of the watertable. In front of the entrance is a modern brick stoop composed of three curving steps.

The façade windows have wooden surrounds with simple classical cornices supported on multi-curved brackets. A decorative, non-classical horizontal molding is set between each window surround and its entablature – that is, at the base of the entablatures. These moldings have alternating recessed and projecting blocks. The outside profiles of the wooden side pieces are curved.

On the east, or right, the building is attached to another structure. The building's west, or left, side is exposed, revealing that the structure has had several additions, and extends far back on its lot. The flat roof descends in five separate sections. This side elevation is constructed of brick laid in six-course common bond; most of the wall is covered with stucco. Staining patterns on the stucco indicates that iron or steel tie bolts once were attached to this wall. There are no remaining window openings. A chimney rises from near the rear of the building. The rear section of this elevation has a brick first story and cinder block second story.

At the rear of the building, an asphalt alley extends to the left, ending at what is apparently the rear of the original structure. A chain-link fence prevents entrance to the alley. The different sections of the building have different widths, and from the rear vantage point,

the rear elevations of the front and back sections, and the east elevations of three of the additional sections, are exposed. All windows are one-over-one sash and all window and door openings are covered with iron grills.

The rear elevation of the building's back section is a single bay. Its first floor is covered with stucco, and the upper floor, which has a single window, is constructed of cinder block. The east elevation of the rear addition is two bay, with a door under a simple wood-frame hood to the right and a one-over-one sash window to the left. A single one-over-one sash window is centered in the upper floor.

Beyond this rear section is visible the east elevation of a two-story, three-bay brick section. This wall may be laid in seven-course common bond, rather than the six-course bond visible on the west elevation. A door occupies the center bay, between two windows; all windows are one-over-one sash. The windows on the left have been bricked up. The first-floor windows have brick jack arches; above, triangular areas in the brick are disturbed, indicating the window openings may have been altered. Three levels of simple brick corbelling extend the roofline on this elevation; other visible rooflines, except for the façade with its cornice, are square, with no protrusion or ornamentation, and are covered with metal flashing.

Beyond and to the left of this three-bay section protrudes a one-bay section, with one window in each level. At the end of the alley is a cinder block wall (whether the back of the main block of the house or another section is difficult to tell); one bay is exposed, with two one-over-one sash windows, one on each floor.

The rear of the structure has gutters and downspouts. Security lights have been attached to the walls on the side and rear.

Comment [LP2]: DO NOT DELETE! THIS IS A SECTION BREAK.

Name of Property | County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- **B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- x **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- x **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Area of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Archeology (historic – non-aboriginal)

Social History

Period of Significance

1875-1910

Significant Dates

1875, 1877

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
1007 K – James Turton (probable builder)
1015-1017 K -- unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #_____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- x Federal agency
- x Local government
- ☐ University
- x Other

Name of repository:
DC Preservation League, ML King Library
Washingtoniana Div, Historical Society of Washington

Summary Statement of Significance

The three standing structures (originally four, but two later joined as one) of 1007 K and (separated by a vacant lot) 1015 and 1017 K, are significant because of their age (1875), the distinct Second Empire architecture still visible in 1015-1017 (in its original form in 1015 though in poor condition, and somewhat modernized in 1017), and the fact that this cluster of houses remains as a memento of an earlier and now largely lost residential neighborhood. K Street from 9th Street westward to 20th Street was a prime residential street for well-to-do Washingtonians of the late 19th century, with its wide building set-back and fine mansions. Architectural historian has called this stretch of K Street "the Park Avenue of Washington. . . [with an] impressive array of great houses." Government and business figures occupied such impressive houses as Shepherd's Row at 17th and Connecticut and Mount Vernon Row at 10th and K (only demolished in 1969) until fashion moved these families further north in the early 20th century.[1] Now all of these fine residences are gone except for these houses, still showing their wide front yards on a quiet street.

In addition, 1017 K served for many years as the residence of nationally-known writer and free-thinker William H. Burr. 1007 K and its now-lost companion 1009 K were occupied from their construction in 1875 until the late 1920's by the family of James E. Turton and later his son William, prominent Washington builders, whose brothers and sons (all builders) also resided in the neighborhood for a long period.

1015 K shows evidence of a front-yard cistern, an archeological site unknown otherwise in this city. The intervening vacant lot also holds archeological promise.

These buildings are significant to the built history of Washington DC because:

- (Criterion C) The Second Empire style of 1015 and 1017 K St., characteristic of prominent buildings in Washington in the immediate post-Civil War period and so well demonstrated here, has been largely lost elsewhere;
- (Criterion C) This half-block if K Street retains the appearance and feel of the once-prominent neighborhood, both in its structures and its original wide parking space, that has been lost in all other sections of this street; and
- (Criterion D) The archeological resources of both 1015 K St.'s front yard and the vacant spaces of 1009 and 1011 K offer a significant opportunity to study the domestic life of wealthy Washingtonians in the late 19th century.

Resource History and Historic Context:

K Street from Mt. Vernon Square to 20th Street NW and adjacent streets represented the center of fashionable Washington in the late 19th century, before these same prominent families began moving northwest to Dupont Circle. Lined with gracious houses, many of the popular Second Empire style, and fronted by a generous "parking" space (the publicly-owned land of the front yard plus the sidewalk), the street presented a continuous front of large and some smaller houses of the wealthy and powerful of the city. With the migration of these families to other parts of the city, and the resultant transformation of their former mansions to businesses and boarding houses the street began a gradual decline. Demolition of the old structures followed to make way for modern office buildings, and the widening of K Street west of 12th Street in the 1930s brought a physical end to this center of graciousness. Only the three structures remaining in on the north side of the 1000 block of K Street, still with their original parking, remain.

Houses history

[1] Goode, Capital Losses, p. 143 et al.

Early History: The two attached houses of 1015 and 1017 K Street NW, and 1001 11th Street NW were built in 1878 by local realtor Michael Talty on Square 342, lots 53, 54 and 55, respectively.[2] The 1857 Boschke map of Washington shows a smaller house on this corner, and this is apparently the brick structure (valued at $300) for which Joseph B. Williamson paid taxes in 1875. (Williamson and another, Harriet Williamson, owned quite a bit of property in this and nearby squares at the time.) Talty purchased the property in 1876[3] and sold 1015 K to Alexander H. Holt in 1877 (Holt assumed Talty indebtedness to Williamson in the transaction)[4], 1017 K to William H Burr in 1879[5], and 1001 11th to Charles Lord[6], all lots showing improvements assessed at $4,000.

Michael Talty (d 1890) was a local builder. Contemporary articles refer to the Talty Building of 1878 at 7th and E Streets NW, and Michael Talty's subdivision in the 1200 block of F Street NW[7]. On his death, he was described as "a well-known citizen of Washington and a prominent member of the Catholic Church" in the Washington Post[8]. He left an estate valued at $400,000 (as given in the Washington Post 2 March 1892, but perhaps a misprint for $40,000), which was the issue of extensive litigation among his family subsequently[9].

1001 11 St: Of the Charles Lord who is listed in the tax records as originally purchasing 1001 11th St. no further trace can be found. The 1878 City Directory shows the house occupied by **Thomas W. Cromwell**, "clerk, Interior Department" with a family of five and one servant (according to the 1880 census). Cromwell had purchased the house from John H. W. and Annie M. Burley in 1878 for $3,100[10].

1017 K St: The corner house, 1017 K Street, was kept by Talty, whose son James E. (a plumber, according to the 1878 City Directory) lived in the premises. James, who triumphed in the matter of his father's will and served as the chief beneficiary[11], became in his turn a local builder and prominent owner of race horses ("well and favorably known in sporting circles")[12]. He died in 1923, leaving an estate of $63,500[13]. William Henry Burr moved to 1017 K in 1880 and lived there until 1899, back at 1017 K in 1903, and after that at another address on 14th Street NW. Burr died in 1908. The 1900 census shows William R. Turner ("leather dealer") and a family of four, plus five boarders, at 1017 K, but Victoria A. Burr returned in 1909, and in the 1910 census was listed as Head of Household with five boarding families in the house, including one with a servant. She lived in 1017 K until 1919, and after that at other addresses until she disappeared from the Directories (presumably deceased) in 1922.

William H. Burr (1819-1908, not to be confused with a celebrated civil engineer of the same name and period) was a national figure in the then-much discussed issue of skepticism – both atheism and a general overthrow of accepted wisdom. Born in Stump City, NY, he spent most of his professional life as a stenographer in the US Senate, where he captured Senate debates for the Congressional Globe (the predecessor of the Congressional Record). He also "reported the lectures of Prof. Louis Agassiz and Frederick Douglass," according to his obituary in the New York Times (29 Feb 1908). Burr's two most famous books were Self-Contradictions of the Bible (1860) and Revelations of Antichrist (1879), both published anonymously. This and his other books – the Library of Congress holds

[2] 1878 tax assessments. The earlier history of the square is given in Croggon, op. cit.
[3] Liber 827/folio 352 4 Aug 1876
[4] Liber 858/folio 181 6 June 1877
[5] Liber 907/folio 99 24 Jan 1879
[6] 1878 tax assessment
[7] Wash Post 3 Dec 1901, 16 July 1907
[8] 3 July 1892
[9] Wash Post 1 Nov 1890, 14 & 21 Mar 1891, 13 Aug 1891, 2 Nov 1892, et al
[10] Liber 881/folio 52 14 Feb 1878
[11] Wash Post 13 Aug 1891
[12] Wash Post 26 Jan 1892, 5 Apr 1899, 27 July 1902
[13] Wash Post 29 Apr 1923 et al

seventeen titles and three songs (he played viola in the Washington String Orchestra[14]) – were all later re-issued under his name. Burr's interests extended to other controversies – the authorship of Shakespeare's plays and the letters of the 18th-century pseudonymous writer on political issues Junius, Freemasonry, the proposed silver standard and taxation policy, the state of DC sidewalks, dentistry laws and more. These concerns are recorded both in his books and in innumerable, and witty, letters to the local newspapers[15]. He also dabbled (rather unsuccessfully) in real estate[16] and maintained a position in local society, where he was sometimes referred to as "Col. Burr"[17]. By the time Burr purchased 1017 K he was a retired gentleman (as of 1869) living a largely literary and social life, becoming in time something of a recluse and – ironically – avid spiritualist.[18].

The famous American atheist Robert Ingersoll called Burr "the great literary detective"[19], and Burr's death in 1908 is said in the community of skeptics to have ended its earliest and most heroic age[20]; the national journal The Truth Seeker commemorated its contributor with a two-column obituary, copied from the Washington Herald's item of 29 February 1908. Burr earned listings in several national biographical encyclopedias, including the 1943 Who Was Who in America 1897-1942 and reference books of American authors.

1015 K St: Alexander H. Holt (1838-1918), purchaser of 1015 K St (the house still standing in its original though dilapidated condition), was Chief of the Stamp Division and Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Department of the Treasury, and had since 1869 lived at other Washington addresses. His household in 1880 included only two other family members and a housekeeper, as well as five boarders. The 1890 City Directory – the last year he lived at 1015 K – lists him as a lawyer, and the following year we find "Holt & Eppley" located at 1400 Stoughton NW. (Holt and his partner, James K. Eppley, were involved in an acrimonious lawsuit the following year over a drugstore on 14th Street NW, which "has been run into the ground."[21]) "Col. Holt" (he had served in the Union Army) was a 33rd Degree Mason and "well known in Department circles in Washington"[22]; in 1893-94 he was Deputy Marshal of Washington. 1015 K was occupied in 1900 by another government clerk, William A. White with his family of two and two boarders[23]. The building once included a side extension added in the 1930s whose remains are still visible.

Later History: After the removal of the houses's original owners, the properties entered a long period of gradual decline into use as boarding houses and shops. 1001 11th and 1017 K were consolidated internally in 1895[24]) as a single apartment house. Victoria Burr's boarders seem to have been rather genteel – a reporter and a mechanic in 1910, two lady artists in 1918. In 1926 the city issued a permit[25] to "remove 2 front bay windows on K St front and build show windows" which are still extant, and the ground floor saw a succession of modest commercial uses: Greene's Company beauty parlor, Levin grocer, Willard beauty shop, Chaiken Inc. real estate, and apartments and offices (real estate, accounting, architects, insurance) above.

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[14] Wash Post 12 Dec 1896
[15] Wash Post 7 Feb 1892, 19 July 1892, 13 Nov 1892, 16 Sept 1895, 31 July 1896, 1 Mar 1897, 2 May 1898, 10 July 1899, 23 July 1900, 27 Aug 1900, and many others
[16] Wash Post 30 Sept 1890, 29 Nov 1894
[17] Wash Post 8 Mar 1897
[18] Wash Herald 29 Feb 1908, Evening Star 29 Feb 1908 p. 8, Wash Times 29 Feb 1908 p. 5, Truth Seeker 14 Mar 1908
[19] Truth Seeker 14 Mar 1908
[20] MacDonald, George E. p. 316
[21] Wash Post 7 Oct 1891
[22] Wash Post 21 Apr 1909, 23 July 1909
[23] City Directories
[24] Bldg Permit 621 12 Oct 1895
[25] 6364 14 May 1926

1015 K St saw a similar pattern. The 1910 census lists the then-owner as William E. Fairfield of Georgia and his family of five and one servant, a "hotel café worker"; boarders included a cook, a real estate agent and a clerk. Residents listed in later City Directories change regularly, although usually only one or two persons are shown.

1011 K St: A brief word should be said of the now long-gone 1011 K (adjacent to 1015 K). The property was owned and built by George H. Turton (see below) and occupied in 1900 and 1910 by James M. Curtis, a pension clerk and husband of Florence A. Curtis nee Turton. In 1920 it had been turned over to James R. Connors, a plate printer, who kept eight boarders as well as his own family of four, paralleling the general decline of the neighborhood. The building was still standing in 1984. Plat maps show 1011 K as similar to 1009 in size and materials, the building line extending rearward to the back of the lot and frontward to the parking, and so similar to 1015 K. It stood at least as late as 1965.

1007-1009 K St: 1007 and 1009 K St NW share a history now truncated by the loss within the last twenty years of 1009 K. 1007 K, on the other hand, retains much of its original condition and appearance. 1007 K (square 342, lot 3) was purchased in 1869 by **James E. Turton** (1832-1912), and 1009 K (342/4) by his brother **George H. Turton** (1834-1911) the following year, according to tax records, although a deed exists showing purchase of 1009 K in 1877 by George Turton from the same Joseph B. Williamson who had owned 1015 and 1017 K[26]. James constructed his house in 1875 for a value of $2,500 and James added buildings the same year to both lots 4 ($3,500) and 5 ($700, this being 1011 K) the same year. The 1878-79 Assessors Return shows both houses but the smaller building at 1011 K St. gone. Virtually no building permits are on file for 1007 K in subsequent years beyond permit 1446 of 25 Feb 1888 for a brick extension, and 1758 of 10 June 1898 for installation of a gas engine and a rear addition.

The rear additions and engine might have been necessitated by the profession of the Turton brother, for both were carpenters and builders. The family's origins are indicated by two short official notes: the 1910 census notes that James E. Turton had come from England, while a "James E. Turton, son of James Turton", was given to the custody of George H. Plant in a city guardianship hearing in 1846[27]. The City Directory of 1866 shows James E. Turton at 393 11th St. The following year's directory lists George H. Turton, bricklayer, at 404 K St. For the next 50 years a Turton lived at both K Street addresses; 1007 K saw other occupants in 1927, and Catherine Turton moved from 1009 K in 1929. 1007 K didn't leave the family's possession until 1953, according to records in the office of the Recorder of Deeds, a remarkable record of longevity in this city[28].

References in various City Directories and other sources show a plethora of Turtons, extending through four generations, involved in the building trades. Until the 1920s the K Street addresses headquartered the family businesses. Through the last two decades of the 19th century, James associated with his sons, James E. Jr. and William H., and brother George in the company "George H. Turton and Sons, carpenters", both enterprises listed at the residential addresses. In time, William H. became the head of household at 1007 K, although his father lived at the address in 1910. The last Turton involved in the construction business was J. Malcolm, son of William E., who died in 1968 (residing in Bethesda)[29]. The two separate businesses established by this dynasty continued to be prominent in the mid-level of local construction companies. Newspaper clippings of the 1880-1930 period often record one or the other company purchasing or selling property, the Turtons testifying before public commissions on building codes and techniques, serving as executors and on civic boards, playing golf at local builders' association meetings[30]. (Business apparently was not always good – in 1905 James briefly lost his house for non-payment of $42.34 in taxes.[31]) The companies worked mainly on smaller properties; the most prominent building of the original two brothers was the National Rifles Armory in the 900 block of G St NW, undertaken by

[26] Liber 843/folio 498 1877
[27] DC Guardianship records (Pippinger, Wesley E, compiler)
[28] Liber 10092/folio 200 19 Nov 1953
[29] Wash Post 25 Sept 1968
[30] Wash Post 11 Mar 1893, 19 Mar 1884, 5 May 1886, 5 Feb 1891, 11 Jan 1907, et al
[31] Liber 2854/folio 321, 324, 6 Feb 1905

George H. in 1883. Both firms are listed in the 1892-93 Washington Architects, Contractors and Builders Directory (though not with advertisements) but the brothers are not shown as members of the DC Builders' Exchange in its 1891 directory.

The elder James E.'s will[32] left the property to his wife Mary E., subsequently to pass to his son William H., who was still there in 1926. 1009 K was bequeathed by George H.[33] to his wife Catherine E., who continued in the house to 1929. (He left another property and equipment for the business to his son William E., who died in 1930 as a resident of Maryland[34]) After the death of the heirs, both houses were occupied (though not owned) by long-term residents Annie M. Jones at 1007 K and Charles E. Lawrence at 1009 K.

Neighborhood history

The neighborhood around the 1000 block of K Street NW was not fully built out until after the Civil War; this block appears less than half occupied in 1857 when Albert Boschke mapped the city.[35] The block was mostly built by 1887, the houses being generally brick and larger than the blocks to the south. Many had rear structures, possibly carriage houses. The parking (publicly owned space between the legal building line and the street: the front yard and sidewalk) along K and 11th Streets was distinctly wider than on less-important streets such as 10th and 12th; the parking is, in fact, comparable to that on Massachusetts Avenue. The immediate area was entirely residential. Larger institutional buildings such as Asbury Methodist and Mt. Vernon Methodist Churches, and the Tudor Hall apartments were built in the early 20th century.

If the large brick residences with generous front yards spoke of prosperity on the block and its neighbors so does the evidence of the census records. Residents of K Street between 9th and 12th Streets included a bank president, lawyers, doctors, clergy, and numerous mid-level government officials (such as Alexander Holt). Virtually every house along the two-block stretch of Massachusetts Avenue from 9th to 11th Streets included servants, as did most in the 1000 block of K (the Turton and Holt residences did not). This prosperity continued westward along K to 20th Street, which Washington historian James Goode describes as "the Park Avenue of Washington in 1900, [holding] an impressive array of great houses between 9th and 20th Streets." This stretch of K at one time boasted such fine residences as Shepherd's Row, the Lowery, Childs, Hale and Elkins mansions, and – directly across the street from the Turton residence – the magnificent Second Empire-style Mount Vernon Row, demolished in 1969.[36]

In spite of this gentility, the neighborhood was more mixed economically than many today: other inhabitants were laborers (this house also showing a servant), seamstresses, laundryman (with servant), shoemaker, and "washerwoman". Even well-off families had boarders; the two Turton households, and the Burr and Cromwell households did not, but Alexander Holt housed five boarders in 1880. Social conditions had not much changed in 1900, although the number of residences with servants was fewer. The 1900 census's recording of race allows us to see that African-American families were well represented in the immediate community, often in isolated clusters, such as the 900 block of 10th Street. The houses of 1003-1015 11th Street (smaller frame houses where the Youth Hostel is now) were all owned by black families, of somewhat more humble occupation (dressmaker, valet, porter in a grocery). Blue collar professions were more common than in 1880.

By publication of the 1932 Baist map the parking along 11th Street had been reduced to widen the street and the Carpenter's Building had replaced the houses at the northwest corner of 10th and K Streets, beginning a process of erosion in the residential fabric of the neighborhood. Through the 1930s demolition of structures to the south and west progressed, and most significantly K Street west of

[32] DC Archives box 481 30 Dec 1912
[33] DC Archives box 432 7 Mar 1911
[34] Wash Post 12 Mar 1930
[35] For the early history of the square see Crogan, op. cit. The block earned its cachet when the French minister purchased property in the 1000 block of Massachusetts Ave. in 1823, though he never built there.
[36] Goode, Capital Losses, p. 143

12th Street was widened with a resultant loss of the generous parking that had previously made the neighborhood so graceful. (Later gas lines were laid down the middle of the parking of 1015 and 1017 K, presumably in anticipation of widening this stretch of K Street.)

As the building stock deteriorated, so did the social status of the area. The 1920 census shows few of the government clerks and doctors that characterized the neighborhood in its heyday. Now we find typists, waiters, laundresses, and a palmist (government clerks, ministers and electrical engineer still had a presence). Servants were rare, and many houses were now listed as boarding houses (including 1015 K) or shops (1011 K).

Demolition spread to the east of the block throughout the 1940-50s, and by the 1965 Baist map this block was the only one remaining still showing its earlier, prosperous residential character, although this was indicated only in the remnants of its architecture and not in its inhabitants. George Turton's once-estimable residence at 1009 K Street was mentioned in three Washington Post articles of this period, and their picture of life along this block of K Street indicates the area's more humble character: a fun-loving youth and his three friends stranded in their "battered automobile of ancient vintage" on a Pennsylvania highway during a blizzard (1937)[37]; a resident of the house indicted for gambling (1953)[38]; and a 19-year-old "pretty gypsy girl" arrested for a street scam (1954)[39].

Archeology

Urban houselots: In addition to the extant buildings at 1007-1017 K Street NW, the proposed Landmark boundary would also encompass the vacant property between the extant structures. This property is now a paved parking lot, and contains the remains of late nineteenth century buildings similar to the extant buildings, as well as associated archaeological deposits. The archaeological significance derives from the site's potential to inform us about the city's domestic life during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Urban houselots such as 1009-1011 K Street typically contain archaeological refuse deposits in the open yard areas around domestic buildings. The asphalt pavement is an important factor that contributes to the site's archaeological interest, as it has effectively sealed the underlying landscape from modern intrusions.

Unique cistern: Another intriguing archaeological feature is a brick-lined underground vault beneath the (now dismantled) front staircase at 1015 K Street. This appears to have functioned historically as a cistern, and if so would represent a very unusual feature type in the District of Columbia. Features such as cisterns and wells frequently became the receptacles for domestic refuse after abandonment, and these deposits are often well suited to inform us about the daily life of the households that historically occupied the neighborhood. Recognition of the archaeological element of the Landmark property would therefore enhance the appreciation of the neighborhood's history.

Comment [LP3]: DO NOT DELETE! THIS IS A SECTION BREAK.

[37] Wash Post 24 Feb 1937
[38] Wash Post 19 May 1953
[39] Wash Post 7 July 1954

Major Bibliographical References:

Plat maps (Boschke, Hopkins, Baist)
DC Building Permits
DC Tax Records
DC Wills
City Directories
Census Records
"Builders' Exchange of the District of Columbia" (1891)
"Washington Architects, Contractors and Builders Directory" (1892-93)
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The Truth Seeker, The Truth Seeker Co., San Diego CA.
MacDonald, George E., Fifty Years of Freethought, Being the Story of *The Truth Seeker*, with the Natural History of Its Third Editor, Volume II. New York: The Truth Seeker Co., c.1931
DC Guardianship records (Pippinger, Wesley E., District of Columbia Guardianship Index, 1802-1928. William Bend Books, c. 1998.)
DC Recorder of Deeds records
Glenwood Cemetery
Goode, James, Capital Losses. Smithsonian Books, Washington, DC. c. 2003
Crogon, James "Near Asbury Church – Development of Gen. John Davidson's Property". Washington Evening Star, 16 February 1908.

Comment [LP4]: DO NOT DELETE! THIS IS A SECTION BREAK.

1007-1017 K St NW
Name of Property

Washington DC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _____

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1				3			
2				4			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)
The boundary includes all the nominated property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Hayden M. Wetzel
Organization DC Preservation League date 27 November 2006
street & number 401 F St NW #324 telephone (202) 783-5144
city or town Washington state DC zip code 20001

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name AJA LP (1007 K); Geo. Washington U (1009-11 K); Jemal's Bulldog II (1015, 1017 K)
street & number 1007 K St NW; 2121 I St NW #1; 702 H St NW telephone
city or town Washington state DC zip code 20001; 20037

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Verbal Boundary Description:

1007, 1015 and 1017 K Street NW (joined now with the former 1001 11th Street), with two intervening vacant lots representing the former 1009 and 1011 K occupy Square 342, lots 3, 4, 5, 53, 54 and 55, being the western half of K Street NW, the 1000 block, north side.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes all the nominated property.