



Photo by OP

House Outline – Harriet Tubman Elementary School

Ghost House

Outline of Home of Former Columbia Heights Resident



Tubman Elementary School Ghost House



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Office of Planning staff attending community meetings in Columbia Heights in the early 2000's were told by long-time residents that the concrete planter at the corner of 13th and Kenyon streets NW was the outline of a home and memorial to former residents that lived on the block that is now Harriet Tubman Elementary School.

During the 1960's, Columbia Heights residents opposed the condemnation of land for Tubman Elementary School that resulted in the loss of middle- and upper-middle class housing, altering the demographics of the neighborhood. They believed that the demolition of middle-class homes would alter, "the economic integration mix of the pupil population decidedly to the worst."

The home depicted in the concrete planter is thought to be that of Dr. Myrtle Henry or Mrs. Margaret Taylor, the last two residents that lived on this block who had refused offers from the District government to purchase their homes.