

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

ON

D.C. LAW 2-144

BY

Historic Preservation Division  
Building and Land Regulation Administration  
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs  
April 1984

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Fifth Annual Report: D.C. Law 2-144

A.

I. Total number of permit applications: Total 381  
March 1983 - March 1984

II. A. Individual Landmarks

1. Permits issued without public hearing: Total 35
  - a. Alterations - 32
  - b. Demolitions - 1
  - c. New Construction - 2
  - d. Subdivision - 0
2. Number of public hearings where permit ordered issued: Total 1 Army-Navy Club

B. Buildings within Historic Districts

1. Total number of permits issued without public hearing: Total 345
  - a. Alterations - 309
  - b. Demolitions - 20
  - c. New Construction - 14
  - d. Subdivision - 2
2. Number of public hearings where permit ordered issued: Total 0
3. Number of public hearings where order "Do Not Issue": Total 0
4. Number of Joint Committee on Landmarks and Historic Preservation Review Board recommendations of DO NOT ISSUE to Mayor's Agent which did not go to Public Hearing because applications were withdrawn or Public Hearings not requested: Total 0

II. C. Number of permits issued in historic districts by district (for public hearing cases see above):

- a. Anacostia 4
  - (1) alterations - 4
  - (2) demolitions
  - (3) new construction
  - (4) subdivisions
  
- b. Capitol Hill 93
  - (1) alterations - 75
  - (2) demolitions - 9
  - (3) new construction - 9
  - (4) subdivisions
  
- c. Georgetown 143
  - (1) alterations - 133
  - (2) demolitions - 4
  - (3) new constructions - 5
  - (4) subdivision - 1
  
- d. DuPont Circle 53
  - (1) alterations - 52
  - (2) demolitions
  - (3) new construction
  - (4) subdivisions - 1
  
- e. Sixteenth Street 10
  - (1) alterations - 10
  - (2) demolitions
  - (3) new construction
  - (4) subdivisions
  
- f. LeDroit Park 5
  - (1) alterations - 5
  - (2) demolitions
  - (3) new construction
  - (4) subdivisions
  
- g. Logan Circle 3
  - (1) alterations - 3
  - (2) demolitions
  - (3) new construction
  - (4) subdivisions

- h. Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site 22
  - (1) alterations - 15
  - (2) demolitions - 7
  - (3) new construction
  - (4) subdivisions
  
- i. Massachusetts Avenue 7
  - (1) alterations - 7
  - (2) demolitions
  - (3) new construction
  - (4) subdivisions
  
- 5 Takoma Park 5
  - (1) alterations - 5
  - (2) demolitions
  - (3) new construction
  - (4) subdivisions

III. Number of conceptual design review applications (new construction and alterations): Total 86

- a. buildings in historic districts - 84
- b. individual landmarks - 2

IV. A. Number of permit applications withdrawn or returned without action March 1983 - March 1984: Total 22

B. Number of preliminary review applications: (new construction and alteration): Total 2

- a. buildings in historic districts - 0
- b. individual landmarks - 2

v. Litigation

Cases resolved since the Fourth Annual Report:

1. Pepco Substation No. 12, 1020 33rd Street, N.W.
2. Elk's Lodge, 919 H Street, N.W.
3. Lansburgh's Furniture Store, 901 F Street, N.W.
4. Keith Albee - Rhodes Tavern - National Metropolitan Bank Building on Square 224.
5. International Association of Machinists, 1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
6. Bond Building, 1420 New York Avenue, N.W.
7. Georgetown Harbour Associates, 3301 K Street, N.W.
8. Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church, 501 E Street, S.E.
9. Army-Navy Club, 1627 I Street, N.W.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF GRANT FUNDS

B.

Source of Grant Funds

Survey and Planning Grant	295,963
Emergency Jobs Bill Act of 1983	<u>338,632</u>
Total	634,595

Application of Grant Funds

Subgrants' (Survey & Planning)	229,043
Emergency Jobs Bill Act	330,166
FY 1983 Operation Costs	22,571
Carry forward to FY 1984	<u>52,815</u>
Total	634,595

- C. Number of Historic Landmark and Historic District Hearings and Designations: Total 21
- (a) Historic District and Historic Landmark designation hearings:
- Total 12  
One name change
- (b) Historic District and Historic Landmark designations:
- Total 9  
One name change
- D. Number of Nominations to the National Register: Total 14
- (a) National Register listings:
- 12 individual landmarks  
1 historic district  
1 name change
- (b) National Register nominations pending: Total 2
- 2 historic districts
- E. Number of Tax Certifications: Total 108

This number (108) is smaller than that which would occur during a typical year because during the period in which the historic preservation program was suspended by the Department of the Interior, no certifications were processed.

F.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

During the past fiscal year the District of Columbia Historic Preservation program has undergone a significant number of changes in operations and personnel. A major change was the shift of the program from the Department of Housing and Community Development to the new Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. Concomitant with this shift, Mayor Barry named a new State Historic Preservation Officer, Ms. Carol B. Thompson, and subsequently appointed the first Historic Preservation Review Board of D.C. The latter action has given the District full responsibility for the program, the review function having been handled previously by the Joint Committee on Landmarks.

At the same time that this change of responsibility within the District government occurred, the preservation program was suspended as an "approved state program." As a result of this suspension, the District reviewed all aspects of the program at the executive level and initiated steps to correct the stated deficiencies and generally strengthen the program. This action led to the reinstatement of the program and is currently being used to improve the program beyond the required levels.

Throughout the year, the program made a significant number of accomplishments and acted to correct the deficiencies leading to the suspension by reinforcing a programmatic structure which has always been both sound and responsive to the goals of the National Historic Preservation Act and the citizens of the District of Columbia. At the close of the Fiscal Year, the following programmatic and operative accomplishments had been made.

1. The appointment of an eleven member review board with the requisite professional positions filled.
2. The implementation of a management plan approved at the executive level.
3. The selection of a candidate to fill the vacant promotion of the Division Chief.
4. The selection of a candidate to fill the vacant position of Archeologist.
5. The correction of all deficiencies related to the suspension.
6. The solicitation and selection of 12 projects for funding through the Emergency Jobs Bill Act of 1983.



7. The evaluation and selection of nine projects for Survey and Planning Activities.
8. The reduction of the backlog of landmark nominations by 10.
9. The submission of a backlog of 38 completion reports for Acquisition and Development grants.
10. The completion of 21 Acquisition and Development grants from FY 1980 and 81.
11. The completion of the Historic Preservation section of the D.C. Comprehensive Plan.
12. One day orientation of the new Historic Preservation Review Board.

In addition to the above accomplishments, the Office processed a significant number of Tax Acts projects and 106 reviews including many complex issues and projects. Despite the small size of the staff, these responsibilities have been carried out with a high degree of skill and effectiveness.

The award of the Survey and Planning grants has been in direct response to the identification of areas of development pressure and in response to civic interest in the future growth and development of the identified areas. The State Historic Preservation Officer program was carried out concurrently with the District's local program. The effect of the tandem responsibility is to allow the Office to inspect every tax act project and effect administrative review of all projects, taking into account the broader impact on adjoining properties and/or the Historic District. The same review is administered to all Jobs Bill projects.

The following operational and programmatic goals have been set for FY 1984:

Program Management

1. Relocate the Office to 614 H Street, N.W., where the program will be housed with the rest of DCRA.
2. Establish a Records Management System.
3. Review all reporting and monitoring documents and determine needed reporting forms to better monitor programs and program activities.
4. Build a collection of historic maps and resources to provide:
  - background material to facilitate 106 responses.
  - technical assistance to public agencies and private individuals.
5. Respond to audit review documents and implement appropriate recommendations.
6. Select and hire new Grants Manager.

The above goals provide a framework for a very ambitious program. We recognize that in the next year we may see the initiation rather than the complete fulfillment of all these goals. We also see this as a step toward building a substantially stronger program on the sound foundation provided by the existing one.