

Designation of Historic Landmarks and Districts

The Historic Preservation Review Board maintains the DC Inventory of Historic Sites, designating official historic landmarks and historic districts that meet specific criteria of significance. Nominations for designation may be made by private property owners, government entities, community groups, or preservation organizations. HPRB conducts an open public hearing before making a decision on each application.

Multiple related properties are often considered in the context of common themes, trends, and patterns of history that are documented in advance. The resulting Multiple Property Documentation Form is a cover document and not a nomination in its own right, but serves as a basis for evaluating the DC Inventory and National Register eligibility of related properties.

In FY 2011, HPRB approved one multiple property document, designated four historic landmarks associated with that context, and designated ten other historic landmarks for inclusion in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites. HPRB denied designation of 1024 1st Street SE, determining that it did not meet the criteria for significance. Four applications were withdrawn by the sponsors. The new landmarks are:

Ward 1

Fire Alarm Headquarters

300 McMillan Drive, NW

The Fire Alarm Headquarters was built in 1939 as the hub of the city's fire alarm callbox system. Telegraphic signals from call boxes near conflagrations or accidents were received here and relayed to the nearest fire station. The building's elevated central location allowed its belvedere to serve as a watchtower over the city. It also served double-duty during World War II as the city's "Warning and Control Center" for potential air raids. Designed as a "brick bungalow" by Municipal Architect Nathan Wyeth, its form and Colonial Revival detail is similar to its engine-company contemporaries. The belvedere and round upper windows may have been inspired by Jefferson's Monticello, but the building is fundamentally utilitarian and shows the architect grappling with both financial limitations and the emergence of Modernism. *Nominated by the Capital Fire Museum, and designated on January 27, 2011.*

Congressional Club

2001 New Hampshire Avenue, NW

Chartered by Congress as a social club for the spouses of Senators, Representatives, Cabinet members, and Supreme Court Justices, the Congressional Club is a distinctive wedge-shaped classical building with a prominent domed rotunda at its apex on the corner of 16th Street and New Hampshire Avenue. Designed by Ecole-des-Beaux-Arts-trained architect George Oakley Totten, and built in 1914, it exemplifies the vision of Mary Foote Henderson, a club member and pioneering advocate for the development and embellishment of Sixteenth Street according to the principles of the City Beautiful Movement. *Nominated by the Congressional Club, and designated on July 28, 2011.*

HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATIONS

Received FY	No.	Approved		Denied		No.	Owner-Opposed	
		No.	Owner-Opposed	No.	Owner-Opposed			
2011	21	14	0	0 %	1	1	100 %	
2010	14	14	0	0 %	-	-	-	
2009	10	4	0	0 %	1	1	100 %	
2008	17	11	0	0 %	1	1	100 %	
2007	33	28	2	7 %	2	2	100 %	
2006	14	10	1	10 %	1	1	100 %	
2005	13	8	0	0 %	1	1	100 %	
2004	13	10	0	0 %	3	1	33 %	
2003	15	4	1	25 %	-	-	-	
2002	31	15	0	0 %	-	-	-	
2001	7	7	1	14 %	1	1	100 %	
TOTAL		125	5	4 %	10	8	80 %	



CONGRESSIONAL CLUB

RECOGNIZING OUR HERITAGE

Ward 2

Engine Company No. 16/Truck Company No. 3

1018 13th Street, NW

Completed in 1932, and often referred to as the "big house," this showpiece station became the new home to Engine Company 16, formed in 1904. The last of the historic firehouses erected downtown, it was designed with a higher level of detail and finish than its contemporaries in outlying neighborhoods. The impressive open tower is wholly decorative, as the hose tower is accommodated to the side and within the body of the building. Engine 16 is the most important firehouse design of Municipal Architect Albert Harris, who was responsible for the earliest of the interwar stations. The third story was a police and fire clinic that could handle six doctors and numerous patients, complete with operating room, recovery room, laboratory, and meeting room; more recently it has housed offices and a battalion chief. This important central station was among the first equipped with a two-way radio in 1940. *Nominated by the Capital Fire Museum, and designated on January 27, 2011.*



ENGINE COMPANY NO. 16

Civil Service Commission

1724 F Street, NW

Housed in this building from 1911 to 1950, the Civil Service Commission played a major role in setting the conditions of employment for the federal bureaucracy. Erected in 1911 by the Samuel J. Prescott Company to a design by prominent Washington architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr., the building exemplifies the early-twentieth century office buildings developed privately for long-term use by federal agencies. It is an excellent example of the mid-sized office building of the time, and a rare survivor of this period of rapid government expansion. The six-story building was designed in the Italian Renaissance Revival style, with a classical organization, buff brick facade, and character-defining broad eaves and heavy cornice. *Nominated by the General Services Administration, and designated on June 30, 2011.*

Ward 3

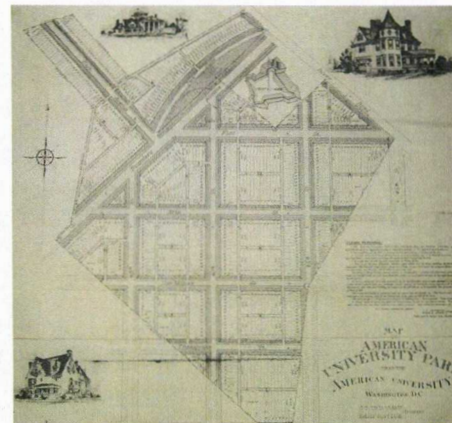
Engine Company No. 31

4930 Connecticut Avenue, NW

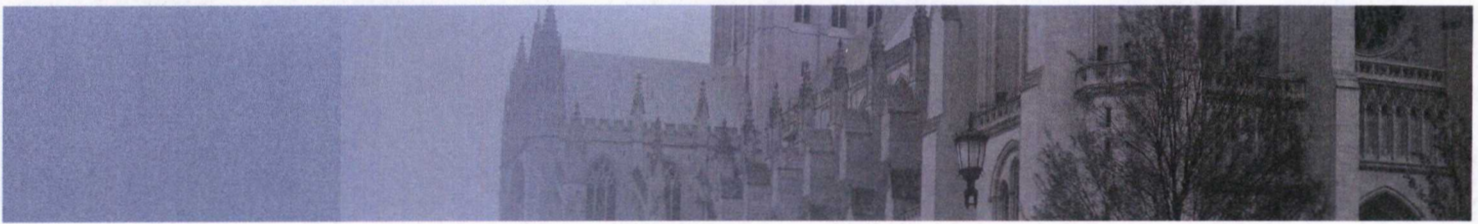
Built in 1930 to harmonize with nearby houses, this was among the new generation of modern fire stations built for motorized apparatus. The one-story was design suited to the spacious new suburbs where buildings were lower and land more affordable. Ground level sleeping quarters also obviated the need for fire poles and protected the men from rising truck fumes. Engine 31 incorporated two innovations: "automatic" electric vehicle doors and a warning light in place of a siren to warn motorists of departing apparatus. Its architecture reflects the influence of the Commission of Fine Arts, which promoted the Colonial Revival style for local public buildings. Unfortunately, its neoclassical steeple, one of the visual landmarks of Chevy Chase, was removed decades later. *Nominated by the Capital Fire Museum, and designated on January 27, 2011.*

American University Park in Washington, DC: Its Early Houses, Pre-Civil War to 1911

In the mid-19th century, most of today's American University Park was owned by two families, the Murdocks and the Burrows, who farmed the land and built homesteads there. With residential subdivision in 1896-97, AU Park began the transition from a rural farming community to a Washington suburb. Seventeen houses, almost all frame Queen Anne-style dwellings, were built in the decade and a half following the 1896-97 subdivisions. Now surrounded by later mid-20th century development, these and the handful of pre-subdivision farmhouses are among the neighborhood's most notable homes. *Multiple Property Document prepared by HPO and the Tenleytown Historical Society; adopted by HPRB on March 24, 2011. The four AU Park and Tenleytown houses below were nominated by THS in cooperation with the homeowners, and designated by HPRB on the same date.*



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK PLAT



Samuel and Harriet America Burrows House

4624 Verplanck Place, NW

This two-story, three-bay, side-passage frame farmhouse with Italianate detailing, dating from about 1850, is a rare intact survivor of the area's agrarian settlement.

Robert and Lillie May Stone House

4901 47th Street, NW

Built in 1897, this late Victorian Queen Anne style house has a prominent corner tower and front porch presenting a commanding presence among its 20th-century neighbors.



ROBERT AND LILLIE MAY STONE HOUSE

Walde-Carter House

4628 48th Street, NW

Built in 1899 by Tenleytown builder and real estate promoter Thomas Giles, this house reflects a stylistic transition between Queen Anne and a more regularized American foursquare. It is characterized by a full-width front porch and central tower rising from the porch roof to well above the cornice.

N. Webster Chappell House

4131 Yuma Street, NW

This house was designed by its original owner and erected in 1909-10 by the builder A.C. Warthen. Though located in the center of Tenleytown, its architecture, an excellent intact example of a transitional Queen Anne/American foursquare, is more typical of the early suburban houses in nearby AU Park. *The building relates to the Multiple Property Document, Tenleytown in Washington, DC: Architectural and Historic Resources, 1791-1941.*



N. WEBSTER CHAPPELL HOUSE

Ward 4

Engine Company No. 22

5760 Georgia Avenue, NW

Engine 22 is Washington's oldest firehouse still in service, serving Brightwood and Takoma Park. It was built in 1897 for Chemical Engine Company No. 2, and expanded in 1907 and 1911. Chemical companies were established in new suburbs lacking public water service, instead using engines that pumped chemical fire suppressants. The firehouse was probably designed by Leon Dessez, one of a small group of local AIA chapter members who received multiple public building commissions during the "Eclectic" period of firehouse design. Congress's acceptance of private architects ushered in an era of architectural experimentation and individuality. In this design, as in many others, Dessez drew heavily on Italian Renaissance classicism. A pioneer in the use of concrete and steel construction, Dessez was also well-suited to the creation of hard-wearing functional buildings. *Nominated by the Capitol Fire Museum, and designated on January 27, 2011.*

Marjorie Webster Junior College

1638-40 Kalmia Road and 7753-75 17th Street, NW

This small intact campus was built by Marjorie Webster, a significant figure in the education of women in Washington, as a private junior college dedicated to the educational needs of working women. The campus dates from 1928, and is a unique example of a small, privately funded and developed college whose buildings reflect a coherent Mediterranean Revival architectural theme. The historic district's site plan and natural topography are among its most distinctive features, with the picturesque Main Building sited midway up a steep hill overlooking the site against a natural backdrop of tall trees. The Webster House serves compositionally as a gatehouse at the Kalmia Road entrance. The historic district also includes a mid-19th century springhouse and later buildings. *Nominated by the DC Preservation League and designated on September 22, 2011.*



MARJORIE WEBSTER COLLEGE - THE LOWELL SCHOOL

RECOGNIZING OUR HERITAGE

Ward 5

Engine Company No. 26

1340 Rhode Island Avenue, NE

Like the other suburban firehouses of the time, Engine Company 26 was designed by Municipal Architect Nathan Wyeth in 1936 as a Colonial Revival-style, one-story "bungalow." The style was considered suited to this region, with its Georgian tradition, and was favored by the Commission of Fine Arts for neighborhood government buildings. The form of the low-slung interwar firehouses was consistent with this style, and also took advantage of larger suburban building lots and adaptation to all-automotive apparatus. *Nominated by the Capital Fire Museum, and designated on February 24, 2011.*

Margaret Murray Washington School

27 O Street, NW

Originally the O Street Vocational School, this public school was established in 1912 to provide "manual training for boys and domestic science and art for girls." It is a product of the movement to encourage training in the mechanical, craft, and domestic skills, which spread across America in the late-19th and early-20th centuries. In 1926, the school was renamed in honor of Margaret Murray Washington, the "Lady Principal" of Tuskegee Institute and late widow of Booker T. Washington. While he championed manual training as a path for advancement of African Americans, she was a leader of black feminist organizations and the anti-lynching movement. The main school block was designed by Municipal Architect Snowden Ashford in a simplified version of Collegiate Gothic or Tudor style, and shows his favored use of Gothic and Elizabethan styles for schools. Additions were built in 1928 and 1938. *Nominated by the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development, and designated on November 18, 2010.*



MARGARET MURRAY WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Ward 6

Saint Paul AUMP Church

401 I Street, SE

Saint Paul African Union Methodist Protestant Church is the only DC church evolved from what is considered the oldest incorporated, independent African-American denomination in the country. Dating from 1813, the AUMP denomination is also noted for having initiated America's oldest continuously celebrated African American religious festival, the Big Quarterly, or "August Quarterly," founded in 1814. The church building from 1924 was designed by local architect R.C. Archer, Jr., and is significant as a modest place of worship for a working-class African-American community in the industrial environment surrounding Washington's Navy Yard. *Nominated by the DC Preservation League, and designated on November 18, 2010.*



SAINT PAUL AUMP CHURCH

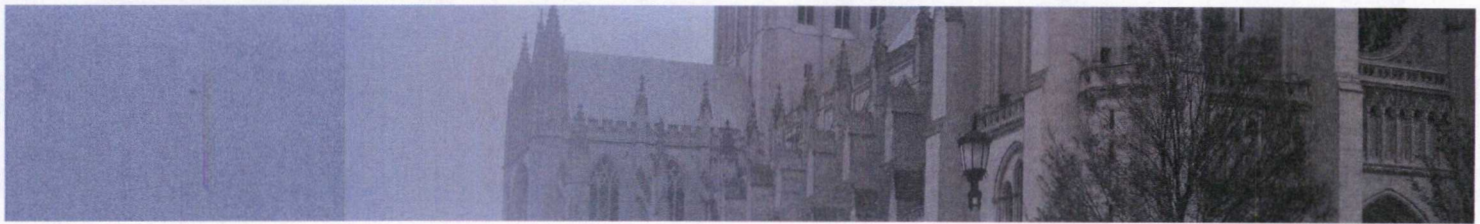


Ward 7

Engine Company No. 27

4201 Minnesota Avenue, NE

Deanwood's Engine Company 27 is most important for being the second African-American fire company in Washington, having received its officers from the first, No. 4 Engine, in 1945. Black firemen could only rise to command in these units, which had grown to only four in number when the racially segregated system began to be dismantled in the 1950s. This unit received a commendation as "fire company of the year" in 1962 for saving nine lives at a Grant Street fire. Engine Company 27 was the next to last firehouse commission for Leon Dessez, the most prolific private sector firehouse architect in Washington. It was erected in 1908 to accommodate Chemical Company 1, which was disbanded in 1914 when Engine 27 was formed. The building is a hipped-roof Renaissance Revival style "villa" form. *Nominated by the Capitol Fire Museum, and designated on January 27, 2011.*



National Register Listings

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of resources worthy of preservation and commemoration. Listing in the National Register affords a level of protection from federal government actions which might degrade the property's historic characteristics or setting. It also makes the property eligible for federal preservation tax incentives and preferential consideration in federal leasing.

In FY 2011, the National Register listed one multiple property form and 16 DC properties nominated by the SHPO. In addition, the nominations of two existing listings were amended to establish a national level of significance.

About National Register and NHL listing

The State Historic Preservation Officer nominates properties to the National Register, which is maintained by the National Park Service. In DC, the SHPO routinely forwards properties that have been designated in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites to the Register, since the listing criteria are substantially the same.

National Historic Landmarks, the nation's most significant historic properties, are designated by the Secretary of the Interior and are automatically listed in the National Register. With 74 NHLs, the District of Columbia has more of these highly significant properties than all but seven states.

NATIONAL REGISTER LISTINGS

Ward	Property	Address
1	Fire Alarm Headquarters	300 McMillan Drive NW
	Congressional Club	2001 New Hampshire Ave NW
2	Engine Company No. 16	1018 13th Street NW
	American University Park	(Multiple Property Document)
	Hilleary Burrows House	4520 River Road NW
	Samuel Burrows House	4624 Verplanck Place NW
	Webster Chappell House	4131 Yuma Street NW
3	Engine Company No. 31	4930 Connecticut Ave NW
	Linnaean Hill *	3545 Williamsburg Lane NW
	Morris Residence	4001 Linnean Avenue NW
	Stone House	4910 47th Street NW
	Walde-Carter House	4628 48th Street NW
4	Battleground National Cemetery *	6625 Georgia Avenue NW
5	Dahlgreen Courts	2504 & 2520 10th Street NE
	Engine Company No. 26	1340 Rhode Island Ave NE
6	Atlas Theater and Shops	1313-31 H Street NE
	James C. Dent House	156 Q Street SW
	Saint Paul AUMP Church	401 I Street SE
7	Engine Company No. 27	4201 Minnesota Avenue NE

* Listing amendment



ATLAS THEATER AND SHOPS



ENGINE COMPANY 31