

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE



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

New Designation for: Historic Landmark Historic District
Amendment of a previous designation
Please summarize any amendment(s) _____

Property name Doris Fleeson Kimball House
If any part of the interior is being nominated, it must be specifically identified and described in the narrative statements.

Address 2120 S Street, NW

Square and lot number(s) 2515/0049

Affected Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Date of construction 1959 Date of major alteration(s) _____

Architect(s) Donald H. Drayer Architectural style(s) Colonial Revival

Original use Residence Present use Residence

Property owner David E. Biel Trustee

Legal address of property owner 2120 S Street, NW

NAME OF APPLICANT(S) Sheridan-Kalorama Historical Association

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) 2401 Tracy Place, NW, Washington, DC 20008

Name and title of authorized representative Kindy French

Signature of representative French Date 1/15/25

Name and telephone of author of application Emily Hotaling Eig, 202.393.1199

Date received _____
H.P.O. staff _____

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Doris Fleeson Kimball House

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

2. Location

Street & number: 2120 S Street, NW

City or town: Washington State: DC County: Washington

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> <p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: _____ **Date** _____

Title : _____ **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government** _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
___ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
-

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Site

Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Doris Fleeson Kimball House is located at 2120 S Street, NW, within the Sheridan-Kalorama Historic District. The house occupies Lot 49 of Square 2515, a pentagonal-shaped square bound to the north by S Street, NW, to the northeast by Phelps Place, NW, to the southeast by Florida Avenue, NW, to the south by Decatur Place, NW, and to the west by Twenty-Second Street, NW.¹ The brick Colonial Revival house at 2120 S Street, NW is the center of three attached houses designed by architect Donald Drayer and built by developer Lawrence Brandt. The façade and rear elevation of 2120 S Street slightly projects beyond its neighbor to the east (and originally its neighbor to the west) to emphasize the building's importance within the group. This importance is further emphasized through a wide pediment is set across the width of the façade with an acroterion placed at its apex. The house is set back from the street to allow for a driveway to access an integrated garage. The building is rectangular in form and measures thirty-four feet wide by

¹ This portion of Twenty-Second Street is closed to car traffic as it is occupied by the Spanish Steps.

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approximately forty feet deep. The painted brick façade reads as two stories in height and features a central projecting entrance. The rear elevation reads as three stories in height due to a dramatic grade change between S Street and Decatur Place. The use of Colonial Revival details is seen in the texture, size, and bonding of the brick façade. This nomination recognizes the house as significant under **DC Criterion C (National Register Criterion B)** for its association with journalist Doris Fleeson Kimball. The Period of significance extends from 1959 to 1970 to correspond to the years that Fleeson Kimball and her husband, Dan Able Kimball, owned and lived in the house.

Narrative Description

The brick Colonial Revival house at 2120 S Street, NW, is located in the Sheridan-Kalorama Historic District. It is the center of three attached houses. The Colonial Revival style houses exhibited a restrained interpretation that had been built in Sheridan-Kalorama starting in the late 1920s and would soon be recognized as the predominant style for Sheridan-Kalorama residences for the rest of the twentieth century.

All three houses are substantially set back from S Street to allow for a paved driveway. A low brick wall extends from the building's facade along the eastern side of the driveway along the property line between 2118 S Street and 2120 S Street. Two brick pedestals capped with a decorative stone finial are at either side of the driveway, also set back from the northern property line. While 2120 S Street has an integrated garage, its neighbors both include a projecting garage. Originally, the three houses and their garages were drawn to create a U-shape form and footprint that might be interpreted as mimicking a seventeenth century English country house with a central block topped by a pediment flanked by projecting wings forming a front courtyard with 2120 at its center.² As the central house, 2120 S Street's façade and rear elevation project beyond the building line of 2118 S Street.³

The building is rectangular in form and measures thirty-four feet wide by approximately forty feet deep. The building appears two stories at the north (primary) elevation and three stories at the rear elevation due to the dramatic topography change between S Street and Decatur Place. The use of Colonial Revival details is seen in the texture, size, and bonding of the brick façade. The brick has been painted a cream color. A wide pediment is set across the width of the façade with an acroterion placed at its apex below which is placed a circular louvered vent. The roof for 2120 S Street featured a slanted section at the pediment with a flat section covering the rest of the roof area.

The façade is five bays wide, with a non-original projecting entrance vestibule with an arched roof at the façade's center on the first story. A contemporary roll-up metal garage door occupies the

² Belton House in Grantham, Lincolnshire, England, constructed during the late 17th century, is a good example of a u-shape form that might have served as inspiration for 2118-2120-2122 S Street.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/nottinghamshire-lincolnshire/belton-estate>.

³ Originally, the façade of 2122 S Street was slightly recessed behind the building line of 2120; however, in 1988, the building was extensively altered with a substantial addition being added to the front of the house that incorporated the original projecting garage..

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large, two-bay wide opening to the east of the entrance that leads to the integrated garage. The two-bay wide opening to the west of the projecting entrance features a triple window opening with non-original one-over-one window sashes. The second story features five single window openings, each infilled with non-original one-over-one window sashes. It is likely that the window openings originally held multilight sashes as seen at 2118 S Street. The two outer window openings to each side are slightly apart from the center window.

The rear elevation is three stories high due to grade change at the rear. The elevation is organized into three bays. The basement and first stories feature two pairs of windows to each side of a central double sliding glass door. The second story features a triple window and one paired window. The windows have all been replaced with one-over-one window sashes. A deck extends off the first story, and a staircase connects it with the lower patio.

The house is sited on a steep grade where the first floor of the first story is at grade but at the rear the basement level is exposed. Despite the steep grade at the rear of the house and its exposure to the street below, only a small portion of the upper portion of the rear elevation of the house can be seen from that vantage point due to the high brick garden walls encompassing the rear yard.

Integrity

Despite some alteration, 2120 S Street retains sufficient integrity to continue to convey its historic significance. The building's original **location** and orientation on S Street remains unchanged. Despite the fact that the building's primary entrance was altered and the windows have been replaced, the house retains its original quality of **design** as a twentieth century Colonial Revival style dwelling within the affluent Sheridan-Kalorama neighborhood through the retention of the brick site walls, pedestals along the driveway, integrated garage, and wide pediment is set across the width of the façade with an acroterion placed at its apex⁴. Integrity of **materials** and **workmanship** is demonstrated through the building's surviving original brick elevations and site features. Due to the significant alterations undertaken to 2122 S Street, the historic **setting** has been compromised, but not entirely lost due to the retention of 2118 S Street's original design. Collectively, these aspects allow the building to convey the **feeling** and **association** as a mid-twentieth century Colonial Revival style dwelling within the Sheridan-Kalorama Historic District. The house was originally occupied by Doris Fleeson Kimball and her husband Dan Able Kimball from 1959 until 1970.

⁴ It should be noted that the integrity of the original tripartite composition as designed by Donald Drayer has been modified due to extensive alterations undertaken at 2122 S Street, thereby compromising the integrity of design for the group of three houses. These include the expansion of the garage to the property line between 2122 and 2120 and the addition of a second and third story above the garage and a third story above the main block of the house. This has obscured the original façade, which has also been concealed under a new brick cladding.

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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 patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.
- 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1959-1970

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Doris Fleeson Kimball

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Donald H. Drayer

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The two-story brick Colonial Revival house, located at 2120 S Street, NW, Washington, DC, was home to the pioneering female political journalist Doris Fleeson Kimball. Fleeson and her husband, former Secretary of the Navy and president of Aerojet (the leading developer of antiballistic missiles) Dan Abe Kimball were original owners, and they lived in the house until their deaths in 1970. This time period also corresponded with the most successful years of her career. Doris Fleeson's entire personal and professional life leading up to her final years at 2120 S Street was dedicated to the fight for equal rights for women and minorities, particularly the right to work and receive equal pay, recognition, accreditation, and facilities. As such, the property falls under the **Women Suffragette Movement Historic Context**, significantly contributing to our understanding of the twentieth century fight for equality for women and minorities in all aspects of their professional and private lives. Doris Fleeson's extraordinary career illuminates the many ways that gender discrimination was evidenced, documents a pattern of breaking down barriers imposed by historic gender discrimination, and provides a record of almost day-by-day response to the complexities of the political scene surrounding the U.S. President, Congress and the Supreme Court from the 1930s through the late 1960s. The house is significant under **DC Criterion C (National Register Criterion B)** for its association as the long-term home and workplace of the pioneering nationally syndicated and eminently influential female political journalist Doris Fleeson from late 1959 to August 1970.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The two-story brick Colonial Revival house, located at 2120 S Street, NW, Washington, DC, was home to the pioneering female political journalist Doris Fleeson. It was in this house that Ms. Fleeson lived from 1959 following her marriage to former Secretary of the Navy and president of Aerojet, the leading developer of antiballistic missiles, Dan Abe Kimball, through her death in 1970. This time period also corresponded with the most successful years of her career. The house was built in 1959 to the design of noted Washington architect Donald Drayer and built by successful local developer Lawrence Brandt in the heart of Sheridan-Kalorama, one of Washington, DC's most prominent neighborhoods.

Dorothy Fleeson is recognized as a nationally distinguished political reporter, one of the first women to cover Washington, the first woman political newspaper columnist to have a nationally syndicated column, and an avid advocate for equality for women. Gaining fame for her astute political reporting on the President, Congress, and the Supreme Court, in 1954, she took the offer from the Bell-McClure Syndicate to focus on writing her opinions on the machinations of the Washington political scene. From then until 1967, her work included writing more than 5,500 syndicated columns on national politics for that ran in more than 120 newspapers reaching between

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eight and nine million households throughout the United States. During her career and after, her work won her both attention and accolades from *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines.

She was a close friend of Eleanor Roosevelt, Bernard Baruch, HL Mencken, Adlai Stevenson, the Trumans, the Kennedys, the Johnsons, and numerous colleagues including *Washington Star* journalist Mary McGrory among others. During her career in Washington, she covered the administrations of five U.S. Presidents. While a resident of 2120 S Street, her columns addressed such events as Cold War, the Bay of Pigs, Kennedy's Assassination, the Civil Rights Movement and the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Viet Nam War, and Johnson's Great Society. Although forced to retire in 1967 due to failing health, she nevertheless continued her passionate interest in politics through participation in the Presidential campaign of anti-war candidate Eugene McCarthy, volunteering and offering her house as the site of campaign strategy meetings. It was only in February of 1969, after suffering from a second stroke, that she was forced to curtail her activities.

Her entire personal and professional life leading up to her final years living in 2120 S Street was dedicated to the fight for equal rights for women and minorities, particularly equal pay, recognition, accreditation, and facilities. As such, the property falls under the **Women Suffragette Movement Historic Context**, significantly contributing to our understanding of the 20th century fight for equality for women and minorities in all aspects of their professional and private lives. Doris Fleeson's extraordinary career illuminates the many ways that gender discrimination was evidenced, documents a pattern of breaking down barriers imposed by historic gender discrimination, and provides a record of almost day-by-day response to the complexities of the political scene surrounding U.S. Presidents, Congress, and the Supreme Court from the 1930s through the late 1960s. For its association as the long-term home and workplace of the pioneering nationally syndicated and eminently influential female political journalist Doris Fleeson from late 1959 to August 1970, during the height of her career and place of her death, and its integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, the property meets **DC Criterion C (National Register Criterion B)**.

Historic Context

Doris Fleeson Kimball

Doris Fleeson Kimball was a female political reporter at a time when it was not a "suitable place" for a woman in journalism. Her life stands as model for all women who had to fight to be recognized as capable of being a professional in a man's world. She fought for equal rights every day of her life, demonstrating that a woman could succeed in her chosen profession just as well, if not better, than a man. Fleeson Kimball's career was inspiring; she rose through the ranks, starting out as a "stunt girl" to reporter for the *New York Daily News* and then helped to open the paper's Washington Bureau. She risked her life as a wartime correspondent and went on to become the first female nationally syndicated political columnist from 1954 to 1967 with coverage in more than 120 newspaper throughout the US. During her career, she successfully navigated through Washington's political and social scene, boasting some of the nation's highest-ranking officials as close friends, while still able to cut through political machinations to gain access to truth. She is

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described in *Notable American Women: The Modern Period* as “the only one of either sex to approach national affairs as a police officer.”⁵ She lived and worked at 2120 S Street from 1959 through her death in 1970.

Born in Sterling Kansas on May 20, 1901, Fleeson graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in Journalism in 1923. She worked on the university newspaper and then began her professional career as a reporter for the *Pittsburgh Sun*. Moving to New York, she worked as city editor for the *Long Island Great Neck News*. In 1927, she was hired by the *New York Daily News* as a “stunt girl” (a common position for young women in journalism) covering scandals, crimes, and trials when she was eventually given the assignment to cover New York state politics in Albany.⁶ While in Albany, she met then Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, who proved to be a lifelong supporter of her career.

In 1932, Fleeson and her first husband, *New York Daily News* reporter Joseph O’Donnell, relocated to Washington to open the paper’s Washington Bureau. Due to her friendship with Roosevelt in Albany, Fleeson was permanently assigned to FDR’s 1932 campaign press entourage. She was the only woman reporter to achieve such an assignment.⁷ That same year, she was a founding member of the American Newspaper Guild and delegate to its first convention. A year later she gave birth to their daughter Doris O’Donnell, adding motherhood to her list of accomplishments.

As her reputation for sound investigation and insightful writing grew, she was soon acknowledged as one of the toughest journalists in Washington and was recognized as a fixture in the Washington press corps.⁸ Fleeson covered Congress, the Supreme Court, and the Presidency for her and O’Donnell’s provocative political column “Capitol Stuff”. She was not afraid of asking hard questions, exploring controversial issues, befriending, annoying, and angering politicians from both parties. In 1942, facing differing points of view with her employer and her husband, mostly over their opinions on Franklin Roosevelt, she divorced O’Donnell. The *Daily News* recalled her to New York, but she soon found that she and the editor also had strongly differing opinions as to what she should be writing. She quickly decided to join *The Woman’s Home Companion* as their European war correspondent. Her article “I Keep a Rendezvous with Heroes” offered not only a report on the war “seen through a woman’s eyes” but also on attitudes of the American male pilots she met on the front line:

“There is no woman’s angle on a bomber,” warned a major in the United States Army Eight Air Force when I saw him in London to arrange a visit to one of our

⁵ Barbara Sicherman and Carol Hurd Green, ed., *Notable American Women: The Modern Period. A Biographical Dictionary* (Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1980), 239.

⁶ A “Stunt Girl” was a female investigative reporter during the late 19th and early 20th century hired by a newspaper to go undercover with the intent of gaining firsthand knowledge and experience related to a particular news story. A pejorative title, it was used in conjunction with the type of assignments deemed “suitable” for women reporters who aspired to be journalists. Nellie Bly may be the most famous “stunt girl” or “girl stunt reporter” for her 1887 report “Ten Day in a Mad House” when she posed as an inmate of Blackwell’s Insane Asylum for Women.

⁷ Pamela, “Doris Fleeson: ‘A Tiger in White Gloves,’” *History in the Margins*, July 5, 2024, <https://www.historyinthemargins.com/2024/07/05/doris-fleeson-a-tiger-in-white-gloves/>.

⁸ Barbara Morgan, “Doris Fleeson,” *Women in World History: A Biographical Encyclopedia*. <https://www.encyclopedia.com/women/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/fleeson-doris-1901-1970>.

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air bases in England. But that's where the major is mistaken---we women are vitally interested in bombers. Our menfolk run them. I told the major so. He grinned--- and smoothed my way.⁹

Following the end of World War II, she returned to Washington, writing columns initially for the *Washington Evening Star* and the *Boston Globe*. In 1945, the Bell-McClure Syndicate, one of the four largest syndicates in the U.S. at the time, began distributing her column to papers throughout the country.¹⁰

Her fame spread as her columns offered straight forward political information seemingly with no holds barred. An example of this was her column of May 16, 1946, reporting on a deep rift between Supreme Court Associate Justices Hugo L. Black and Robert H. Jackson each accusing the other of improper rulings that were based on disagreement over the handling of questions regarding the issue of the Court's policy on recusal.¹¹ On December 10, 1949, "Meet the Press" presented its first all-female program...held while Washington's male press corps was at the men-only Gridiron Dinner. Martha Rountree, a program co-founder, served as moderator with panelists Doris Fleeson, May Craig, Judy Spivak, and Ruth Montgomery. India Edwards, a Democratic politician was their guest.¹² In 1952, *Time* magazine did a feature on her entitled "The Press: Lady About Town":

As the top newshen [sic] in Washington and one of the capital's best political reports, Columnist Fleeson gets her share of scoops for about 70 papers that carry her column. But her reputation depends more on her backstairs reporting of political plots & counterplots. Her pipelines into the Administration are so well placed that her columns on what the Fair Dealers are thinking often reveal what the Democrats will do long before they are ready to announce it or are quite sure themselves.¹³

Her continuing ability to get politicians to reveal their thoughts reinforced her national reputation. In January 1953, after President Truman dismissed General of the Army Douglas MacArthur as commander of the Far East, she quoted him blaming the *Chicago Tribune*, the Scripps-Howard Newspapers, and MacArthur for the 47,000 desertions from the armed forces during the Korean War, resulting in an uproar of response from MacArthur. Her reporting on the shocking and shameful intentions of the McCarthy hearings in 1950s was instrumental in the recognition of McCarthy's intent, describing McCarthyism as "a flower of evil."¹⁴

⁹ Doris Fleeson, "I Keep a Rendezvous with Heroes," *Women's Home Companion*, August 17, 1943.

<https://100thbg.com/i-keep-a-rendezvous-with-heroes-by-doris-fleeson/>

¹⁰ The Bell-McClure Syndicate, at the time one of the top four syndicates in the US, merged with, acquired, or was acquired by a series of different news syndicates. Fleeson joined the United Features Syndicate in 1954.

¹¹ David Adler. "'Blood Feud' Inside the Supreme Court on Question of Recusal." *Wyoming Humanities*. January 20, 2024. <https://thinkwy.org/columns/blood-feud-inside-the-supreme-court-on-question-of-recusal/>.

¹² "64 Years of 'Meet the Press: Doris Fleeson,'" November 17, 2007, <https://www.nbcnews.com/slideshow/meetthepress/64-years-of-meet-the-oress-34344875>.

¹³ "The Press: Lady About Town," *Time*, April 21, 1952.

<https://content.time.com/time/subscriber/printout/0,8816,889474,00.html>.

¹⁴ Doris Fleeson. "McCarthyism in Full Bloom." June 10, 1954. Fleeson Papers, University of Kansas.

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In 1953, the Missouri School of Journalism of the University of Missouri, considered the finest school of journalism in the U.S. at the time, awarded her their annual Honor Medal.¹⁵ Also that year, she received the White House Correspondents Association's Raymond Clapper Memorial Award for "distinguished Washington reporting." She was the first woman to receive the award, holding that honor for fifty-one years.¹⁶

In 1954, Fleeson left Bell syndicate to join United Features Syndicate, writing five columns a week, substantially expanding her readership so that by 1958, her column was distributed to 100 newspapers around the U.S. reaching about eight million families.¹⁷

Fleeson's advocacy for equal rights for women was constant. To put her work as a women journalist and for women journalists in context, one can look to Barbara Joan Zeitz' study of women journalists in Washington. Zeitz documents the *Congressional Record* of 1870, which listed four women journalists with Capitol press gallery credentials. In 1879, that number had risen to nineteen, which was approximately 11% of the total number of accredited journalists. In 1880, the male journalists banned all women journalists from the galleries.¹⁸ Women did make it back to the Washington political scene with the progress of women's suffrage and World War I, but the National Press Club openly refused to admit women. In 1919, twenty-eight women formed the National Women's Press Club. At that time, only ten of 213 journalists with Capitol press gallery privileges were women. In 1929, the *New York Times* Chicago Tribune hired Winifred Mallon, a 20-year veteran reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*, to report regularly on political news in the nation's capital. In 1933, the new first Lady Eleanor Roosevelt invited thirty-five women journalists to the White House, initiating a weekly press conference for women only. The First Lady continued to hold these weekly press conferences during the twelve years of Franklin Roosevelt's Presidency.¹⁹ Zeitz writes, "Her ban on men reporters, or an attempt to level the journalistic field that otherwise banned women reporters, created opportunities for female journalists and opportunities for male editors to hire more female journalists, which they did."²⁰ Through Fleeson's relationship with Franklin Roosevelt, she and Eleanor Roosevelt became close friends, with Mrs. Roosevelt often writing of Fleeson in her daily news releases. Fleeson, who had fought for years to gain her reputation as a reporter who was more than capable of matching the talents of the male journalists, thrived during this period, acknowledging the support of the First Lady. *Notable American Women: The Modern Period* described her battle for equality:

¹⁵ "Missouri Honor Medals by the Year." University of Missouri Missouri School of Journalism.

<https://journalism.missouri.edu/the-j-school/the-missouri-honor-medal/missouri-honor-medal-winners-by-year/>
accessed January 7, 2025.

¹⁶ National Press Club Journalism Institute. "Raymond Clapper Memorial Awards (1944 to 2011)."

<https://www.pressclubinstitute.org>. Published December 3, 2021; Updated December 10, 2021. Accessed January 19, 2025.

¹⁷ Carolyn Saylor, *Doris Fleeson: Incomparably the Best Political Journalist of Her Time* (Santa Fe: Sunstone Press, 2010), 226.

¹⁸ Barbara Joan Zeitz, "Jack and Jill Journalism," *Count Her History*. June 2014.

¹⁹ Eleanor Roosevelt. "My Day." Various columns. Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project, The George Washington University. <https://www.erpapers.columbian.gwu.edu>.

²⁰ Barbara Joan Zeitz, "Jack and Jill Journalism," *Count Her History*. June 2014.

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To be a woman reporter in the man's world of Washington in the 1940s and 1950s was to be patronized or excluded, or both. Doris Fleeson submitted to these indignities with tearful rage. She knew that few of the men were her equal and none her superior, and she was, well on advance of the women's liberation movement, a militant feminist.²¹

No question that her writing often dealt with issues of inequality, but her actions often spoke as loudly as her written words. In 1933, as a founding member of the American Newspaper Guild, she and her committee went to the National Recovery Administration to advocate for the adoption of a policy requiring a \$35-a-week minimum wage for reporters.²² In 1938 she served as President of the Women's National Press Club. In the 1940s, she fought one of her more celebrated battles in concert with May Craig, correspondent for the *Portland (Maine) Press-Herald*, when they successfully pursued Senate and House approval for installation of rest-room facilities for women reporters in the Congressional press galleries. Known for supporting Blacks to break down racial barriers, in 1953, she sponsored journalist Alice A. Dunnigan, the first woman of color to be accredited to the Capitol press galleries, White House, Supreme Court, and State Department, for membership in the Women's National Press Club.²³ She became a role model for the next generation of women political journalists, notably the *Washington Evening Star's* Mary McGrory. Fleeson's campaign for equality continued in her columns. In 1960 when, learning of President-elect Kennedy's selection for his new cabinet, she wrote in her column that "[a]t this stage, it appears that for women the New Frontiers are the old frontiers."²⁴ In summary of her advocacy for women, her friend and colleague McGrory, wrote of her:

She was before the Women's Liberation Movement a militant feminist. While she was incomparably the first political journalist of her time, she took on the battles of her lesser sisters, and never forgot a slight to her sex.²⁵

In her work covering national news, Fleeson became not only a leading figure in the circle of nationally recognized journalists, but with the leaders of society, and significantly, politics. She was acquainted with five Presidents and their wives, starting with Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. The First Lady referred to Fleeson many times during the thirty-seven years she wrote her column "My Day."²⁶ Harry and Bess Truman, Jack and Jacqueline Kennedy, Adlai Stevenson, and Eugene McCarthy. Bernard Baruch, and H.L. Mencken were life-long admirers and constant correspondents. Presidents Kennedy and Johnson are documented as privately discussing with their staff the enormous effect (both kind and harsh) of her columns on them and the public's

²¹ Barbara Sicherman and Carol Hurd Green, ed., *Notable American Women: The Modern Period. A Biographical Dictionary* (Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1980), 240.

²² Mike Mansfield, "Tribute to Dan Kimball and Doris Fleeson." *Congressional Record* ---Senate. 27226-27227, August 4, 1970

²³ Gerald E. Bunker, "Columnist Doris Fleeson Dies at 69, 36 Hours After Death of Husband, Dan Kimball." *Congressional Record*, August 4, 1970.

²⁴ Doris Fleeson. *Saturday Evening Post*. 1961. Fleeson Papers, University of Kansas.

²⁵ Mary McGrory, "Doris Fleeson: An Appreciation," *Washington Sunday Star*; August 2, 1970.

²⁶ Eleanor Roosevelt's column "My Day" was published from December 31, 1935 until September 26, 1962. She died on November 7, 1962. Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project, The George Washington University. <https://www.erpapers.columbian.gwu.edu>.

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perception of their policies. In 1960, she appeared as a panelist on Edward R. Murrow's "Small World" television program.

Society hostesses Evalyn Walsh McLean, Alice Roosevelt Longworth, and Eleanor Patterson are said to have "always" included her on their invitations. Although Fleeson was personally friendly with a wide variety of Washington's elite, and although she defined herself as "leaning" liberal, (she referred to herself as a "nonpartisan liberal", she did not allow her relationships nor her own politic opinions to affect her reporting.²⁷ She had a talent, *Time* magazine observed, for criticizing public figures without losing them as friends. This turned out to be particularly true when she came across Dan Kimball while he was Secretary of the Navy under Truman's administration.

In August 1958, following a long professional and personal relationship, she and Kimball married. The following year they purchased the newly completed house at 2120 S Street, NW, in Sheridan-Kalorama. Although she had lived in many places, including Georgetown, it was in this house that she spent the longest and most successful period of her life. She set up her office on the second floor in one of the four bedrooms. They were reported as "aggressively happy in their house on S Street."²⁸

Mary McGrory often visited her on Sundays. Her niece Helen Fleeson recounted visiting her on S Street:

It was exciting to visit the house on S Street, with crystal chandeliers in every room and champagne in the refrigerator. A sofa table in the living room held books three and four deep, and Doris was apt to pick one out for a visitor to read and offer an opinion.²⁹

In 1961, Fleeson learned that Edith Bolling Wilson, who lived at 2244 S Street, was caring for a seriously ill sister and sent her a note and flowers. Mrs. Wilson responded:

My dear Mrs. Kimball: Your gracious note and the flowers have come. And I can't tell you how much I appreciate them. Of course I have been one of your readers for years but did not know S Street had the distinction of being your home."³⁰

She continued writing her nationally syndicated columns, still five days a week, now reaching as many as 120 newspapers and nine million households throughout the US. During her career she covered the administrations of Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, and Lyndon Johnson. During her years on S Street, she touched upon every important

²⁷ "The Press: Lady About Town." *Time*, April 21, 1952, <https://content.time.com/time/subscriber/printout/0,8816,889474,00.html>.

²⁸ Barbara Sicherman and Carol Hurd Green, ed., *Notable American Women: The Modern Period. A Biographical Dictionary* (Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1980), 241.

²⁹ Carolyn Saylor, *Doris Fleeson: Incomparably the Best Political Journalist of Her Time* (Santa Fe: Sunstone Press, 2010), 261.

³⁰ Edith Bolling Wilson to Doris Fleeson, April 7, 1961, Fleeson Papers, University of Kansas.

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issue that came before the President, Congress, and the Supreme Court. Her five weekly columns addressed such events as Eisenhower signing the Civil Rights Act of 1960 into law, Nikita Khrushchev's protesting the UN discussion of the USSR's policy on Eastern Europe, the test-launching of the Polaris missile and the first test of the Minuteman I Intercontinental missile, (with which her husband's company was closely involved), the construction of the Berlin Wall, the beginning of the war in Viet Nam, Kennedy's Presidency, the trial of Nazi officer Adolph Eichmann, the Cuban Missile Crisis, Kennedy's assassination, Johnson's Presidency, the building of the New York Trade Center, passage of Medicare bill, Malcolm X assassination, China successful testing of the hydrogen bomb. While still active, she followed Richard Nixon's descent from power followed by efforts to make a comeback. In 1967, suffering from poor health she ended her professional career. But her interest in politics did not waiver. She (with her husband and daughter Doris O'Donnell) actively supported Eugene McCarthy's 1968 Presidential campaign, holding campaign strategy meetings at the house, as well as preparing sandwiches three times a week for the campaign workers.³¹

Doris Fleeson Kimball died at age 69 on August 2, 1970, thirty-six hours after her husband Dan's death. The couple's joint funeral was held at the Navy Chapel at 3801 Nebraska Avenue, NW. Eugene McCarthy gave the eulogy. They were buried together at Arlington National Cemetery.

Upon her and Kimball's death, accolades came fast and furiously. The news of the loss of the celebrated journalist and her well-known former Secretary of the Navy and industrialist husband within thirty-six hours immediately sent shockwaves through Washington, DC. Senator Ralph Yarborough of Texas entered an extensive tribute to her and Kimball into the *Congressional Record*, and the next day Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana followed suit.³²

McGrory, who was the most prominent of the second wave of woman journalists in Washington, chose to write "An Appreciation" of her close friend. Published in the *Sunday Star* on August 3, 1970, she began the piece by recalling a speech that Fleeson had given to the Women's National Democratic Club in 1959, where Fleeson had "characteristically chided" the President and Congress, and then proceeded to present her own "credo":

But in the end there are no wonder men and no wonder women. There are only you and me and others like us who believe in the freedom to do these things. There are only those of us with vision to see the world as it is and the courage to do something about it.³³

McGrory then summed up her own impression of this extraordinary woman:

She was surely one of the most clear-seeing women ever born, and as for courage, she was lion-hearted. Her prose was a true blade which cut through the fraud,

³¹ Mary McGrory, "Doris Fleeson: An Appreciation," *Washington Sunday Star*, August 2, 1970.

³² Yarborough, Hon. Ralph, "Doris Fleeson---One of the Truly Great Figures in America." *Congressional Record---Senate Extension of Remarks* 27083-27084, August 3, 1970; Mike Mansfield, "Tribute to Dan Kimball and Doris Fleeson," *Congressional Record --- Senate* 27226-27227 August 4, 1970.

³³ Mary McGrory, "Doris Fleeson: An Appreciation," *Washington Sunday Star*, August 2, 1970.

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pettiness, egotism, and male supremacy which were her daily fare during the 20 years she prowled the Capital, watching politics and politicians.³⁴

In 2010, Carolyn Saylor's biography *Doris Fleeson: Incomparably the First Political Journalist of Her Time* was published, documenting the almost forgotten woman who had done so much to foster women in journalism while cutting "through the fraud, pettiness, egotism, and male supremacy" of national politics.³⁵

In 2011, Eleanor Clift of *Newsweek* Magazine wrote of her: "There is, in fact, almost no Washington figure, Republican or Democrat, who had not felt the sharp edge of her typewriter."³⁶

But it was McGrory many years later who captured how many women journalists who knew and worked with Doris Fleeson felt about her:

"She was my idol..."³⁷

Dan Able Kimball

Dan Able Kimball and his wife Doris Fleeson Kimball purchased 2120 S Street, NW on October 26, 1959. The couple resided there until their deaths on July 30, and August 1, 1970, respectively. Kimball was the Secretary of the Navy from 1951 through 1953 under President Harry S. Truman. To quote *The New York Times*, Kimball "...rose to that post through a career that encompassed flying, business, and politics."³⁸

Kimball was born March 1, 1896, in St. Louis, Missouri. He joined the aviation section of the Signal Corps in 1917, where he soon began training as a pilot. He became an accomplished World War I Army Air Corps pilot, leaving the military as a First Lieutenant. He began his career in business when he joined the Los Angeles sales division of the General Tire and Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio. His great success at the company led him to rise to manager of eleven western states, vice president, and then director. In 1945, when General Tire and Rubber jumped into the aerospace and defense industry with the purchase of Aerojet Engineering Corp, Kimball led the development division for the company that was the largest manufacturer of rocket engines and spacecraft in the United States, with particular emphasis on developing jet-assisted take off (JATO) units that allowed military planes to launch from short runways and aircraft carriers.

In 1948, Kimball was one of only a few industrialists to support President Truman's bid for re-election. His interest in politics manifested into a role as a fund-raiser for the President. When Truman pulled off a surprise upset over Governor Thomas E. Dewey, he appointed Kimball as

³⁴ Mary McGrory, "Doris Fleeson: An Appreciation." *Washington Sunday Star*, August 2, 1970.

³⁵ Carolyn Saylor, *Doris Fleeson: Incomparably the Best Political Journalist of Her Time* (Santa Fe: Sunstone Press, 2010), 226.

³⁶ Eleanor Clift, "Inside Kennedy's Inauguration, 50 Years On," *Newsweek*, January 20, 2011.

<https://www.newsweek.com/inside-kennedys-inauguration-50-years-66777>.

³⁷ Mary McGrory, "Doris Fleeson: An Appreciation." *Washington Sunday Star*, August 2, 1970.

³⁸ "Dan A. Kimball is dead at 74." *The New York Times*, July 31, 1979, 22.

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Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air. Kimball, a licensed private pilot who flew his own plane, was the first former Army Air Corps pilot to lead the Navy's aviation division. His time as Assistant Secretary coincided with Truman's plan to unify the armed forces, a plan that restructured the armed forces, establishing a Department of Defense, the National Security Council, and the US Air Force. The Navy was threatened by the creation of an independent Air Force, and Kimball eased the situation by publicly affirming the critical role of Navy aircraft carriers for the future. The following May, Kimball was appointed Under Secretary of the Navy. He became Secretary of the Navy in July 1951, holding that post until the end of Truman's Presidency in January 1953. The Navy's official statement of Kimball's accomplishments reads:

His tenure was marked by the continuation of the Korean War, the resulting expansion of the Nation's defense establishment and considerable technological progress in aviation, naval engineering and other defense-related fields.

"Dan A. Kimball"
Naval History and Heritage Command³⁹

Upon the conclusion of his role as Secretary, Kimball rejoined Aerojet, now officially renamed Aerojet-General Corporation, becoming president. He is credited with "transforming [Aerojet] from an undisciplined group of rocket enthusiasts to the second largest US rocket engine manufacturer."⁴⁰ Working with Douglas Aircraft Company and others, Aerojet-General developed high altitude rockets that collected data 100 miles or more in space. In making the case for the importance of collecting this type of data, he is quoted as saying, "We now need facts to prove or disprove the assumptions scientists have made regarding this unexplored region."⁴¹ In 1955, while Kimball was president, the US Air Force awarded the company a contract to develop a "heavy duty space system."⁴² The result was Titan I, the nation's first two-stage and the first underground silo-based intercontinental ballistic missile. The company also made significant contributions to the national space program during his tenure. In 1969, when Kimball retired as Chairman of the Board, Aerojet-General participated in the development of Apollo 11, which transported the first astronauts safely to the moon and back.⁴³

Kimball was a strong believer in equal rights. In 1950, he held a dinner for the forty women members of White House Correspondents Association who had not been invited to the annual men-only White House Correspondents Dinner. This dinner included his future wife – prominent political journalist Doris Fleeson.

³⁹ "Dan A. Kimble", *Naval History and Heritage Command*, (accessed January 2, 2025),

<https://www.history.navy.mil/our-collections/photography/us-people/k/kimball-dan-a.html>.

⁴⁰ "AEROJET ROCKETDYNE HISTORY: MORE THAN A CENTURY IN THE MAKING," L3HARRIS, (accessed January 6, 2025), <https://www.l3harris.com/en-it/aerojet-rocketdyne-history>. Aerojet-General became part of Aerojet Rocketdyne, which was bought by L3Harris Technologies in July 2023.

⁴¹ "Dan A. Kimball is dead at 74." *The New York Times*, July 31, 1970.

⁴² "AEROJET ROCKETDYNE HISTORY: MORE THAN A CENTURY IN THE MAKING." L3HARRIS, (accessed January 6, 2025), <https://www.l3harris.com/en-it/aerojet-rocketdyne-history>.

⁴³ "AEROJET ROCKETDYNE HISTORY: MORE THAN A CENTURY IN THE MAKING." L3HARRIS, (accessed January 6, 2025), <https://www.l3harris.com/en-it/aerojet-rocketdyne-history>.

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In 1958, Kimball married Fleeson. The following year, the Kimballs moved to the new house at 2120 S Street. Known as a “man of countless public and private philanthropies,” he pursued many activities intended to help those in need.⁴⁴ In 1965, following the Watts Riots, he set up the Watts Manufacturing Company to provide employment and training for Watts residents. Supervisory personnel had to live in Watts and were given management training by Aerojet-General. People who lacked education or had police records were given priority for employment. His political interests peaked in 1968 when he joined a group of fellow businessmen pledging to raise five million dollars for Presidential candidate Eugene Mc Carthy. His support for McCarthy was based on the candidate’s anti-Viet Nam war stance, making him “the best political risk in American politics.”⁴⁵ He retired from his position as Chairman of Aerojet-General’s Board in 1969. At the time of his death, he was advising the Moroccan Government on establishing a technical school for indigents, a project devised by his stepdaughter Doris O’Donnell.

Kimball died on July 30, 1970, following a brief illness. His wife, Doris Fleeson, died thirty-six hours later, on the couple’s twelfth wedding anniversary. At his and Fleeson’s joint funeral, Eugene McCarthy provided the eulogy. The couple are buried in Arlington Cemetery.

2120 S Street: Planning and Construction

On April 18, 1959, the *Evening Star* reported that three building permits had been issued to Robert Bullard, each for the construction of a two-story house at 2118, 2120, and 2122 S Street, NW.⁴⁶ The permits listed Donald Drayer as architect, and noted that a builder had not yet been selected.⁴⁷ The ancestors of the Bullard family had owned some of the land that would become S Street, but it is unclear as to how Robert was associated with this particular piece of land. The lot on which 2120 S Street is sited was part of a subdivision by Martha Codman in 1916 that created the new Square 2515 and Record Lots 42 and 43 (Lot 42 included the site she used for her residence, now known as the Codman-Davis House). The subdivision was recorded in Liber 55 Folio 150 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia.⁴⁸

Beyond the notice in the *Evening Star*, Bullard does not appear in any records directly related to the site. It is known that in February 1959, Maxim Karolik, widower of Martha Codman Karolik, sold Part of Lot 43, identified as Assessment and Taxation (A&T) Lot 810, to Lawrence and Evelyn Brandt.⁴⁹ In October, Lawrence, a Washington developer, created three new A&T Lots

⁴⁴ Richard Slusser, “Dan Kimball, 74, Dies; Former Navy Secretary.” *The Evening Star*, July 31, 1970.

⁴⁵ Richard Slusser, “Dan Kimball, 74, Dies; Former Navy Secretary.” *The Evening Star*, July 31, 1970.

⁴⁶ “District Approves New Construction,” *Evening Star*, April 18, 1959, 32.

⁴⁷ These permits fall into a period which is not available except through the DC Archives. The actual permits have been requested but have not yet been provided to EHT Traceries.

⁴⁸ Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia, Liber 55 Folio 150, April 29, 1916.

⁴⁹ DC Recorder of Deeds, Deed, Maxim Karolik to Lawrence N. Brandt, made February 19, 1959, recorded February 25, 1959, Liber 11196 Folio 577 No. 05943.

The rest of Lot 43 remained as part of the parcel owned by Martha Codman and later her husband Maxim Karolik. The property that included the main house became the Louise Home, a home for “indigent society ladies”, while the rest of the Codman/Karolik property was sold to Adele Chatfield-Taylor.

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(Lots 811, 812, and 813) out of A&T Lot 810.⁵⁰ The property addressed as 2120 is within the Record Lot known as "Part of Lot 43" with the A&T Lot number of 812.

During 1959, Brandt proceeded to build the house on Lot 812 as one of three two-story attached brick houses. As the center house, 2120 S Street had an integrated garage while its neighbors both had attached garages in front of the main block of each house. Although each of three houses were permitted individually and constructed as single-family residences, as a group they create a tripartite composition. Presented in a restrained Colonial Revival style, 2120 S Street is the center house. The plat recorded its measurements as 33.33 feet wide by 40.33 feet deep oriented to S Street, NW. The original drawings used to permit the houses show that it was to be two exposed stories high in the front and three exposed stories high in the rear in response to the steep grade drop from S Street to Decatur Place to the rear. The façade featured a wide pediment capped by an acroterion and included a one-car garage integrated into its facade, while the flanking houses at 2118 and 2122 featured one-car garages that project from their facades (which were topped with simple parapets forming their cornices) to the front building line. Together the three houses and their garages were drawn to create a U-shape form and footprint that might be interpreted as mimicking a seventeenth century English country house with a central block topped by a pediment flanked by projecting wings forming a front courtyard.⁵¹ The roof for 2120 S Street featured a slanted section at the pediment with a flat section covering the rest of the roof area. The rear elevation showed two pairs of windows to each side of a double sliding glass door on the basement and first floor and one triple window and one paired window at the second floor.⁵² The Colonial Revival style houses exhibited a restrained interpretation that had been built in Sheridan-Kalorama starting in the late 1920s, and would soon be recognized as the predominant style for Sheridan-Kalorama residences for the rest of the twentieth century.

A photograph of the completed group of houses was published in the *Evening Star* on August 8, 1959, with a caption titled "New in Kalorama." The buildings were described as follows:

These three newly completed townhouses at 2118 through 2122 S Street, NW, just off Connecticut Avenue, NW in Kalorama area north of Dupont Circle, were built by Lawrence N. Brandt and design4d by architect Donald H. Drayer. Exterior and interior design is colonial in character. The houses have fenced rear terraces and gardens.⁵³

On October 26, 1959, the Brandts sold the property with the newly completed house addressed 2120 S Street to Dan Able Kimball and Doris Fleeson Kimball. The couple resided at the house from the time of the purchase through their deaths in 1970. Interestingly, on July 22, 1970, the

⁵⁰ DC Office of the Surveyor, Plat Recorded in Book A&T Page 3209-2, February 5, 1959, Marc 11, 1959, May 29, 1959.

⁵¹ Belton House in Grantham, Lincolnshire, England, constructed during the late 17th century, is a good example of a u-shape form that might have served as inspiration for 2118-2120-2122 S Street.
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/nottinghamshire-lincolnshire/belton-estate>.

⁵² Donald Hudon Drayer AIA, Original drawings for 2118-2120-2122 S Street, NW, March 4, 1959. Library of Congress.

⁵³ "New in Kalorama Area," *Evening Star*; August 8, 1959, 29.

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Kimballs placed the property into a trust with the Riggs National Bank. This action was prescient for on July 30, Kimball died after a brief illness. Fleeson died thirty-six hours later. The bank sold the property on September 14, 1971, to John R. Hogness, MD, and Katharine M. Hogness, who owned it until 1974.

Architect: Donald Drayer

Donald Hudson Drayer was born on November 11, 1909, in Metropolis, Illinois to Frederick Hudson Drayer and Varble Lucy McCawley Drayer. He would receive a bachelor's degree in architecture from Washington University in 1931, before marrying Eleanor Harriett Wyatt in 1932, with whom he would have four children. He began his career working for the Public Buildings Administration, followed shortly thereafter by a stint working for the Navy during the later years of the Depression and World War II.⁵⁴

In 1947, Drayer decided to enter private practice, which is where his career hit a turning point. Drayer became known as a specialist in Modernist design and is responsible for several major Modernist style apartment and condominium complexes in Washington, coinciding with a period of urbanization in the area. This demonstrates a certain proclivity towards large scale residential designs in a very prominent public area, suggesting his design expertise and mastery of popular design. He was a frequent collaborator with local developers Nathan Landow and Lawrence Brandt, who operated the firm Landow and Brandt.⁵⁵ In 1950, he became a member of the American Institute of Architects.⁵⁶

Drayer also designed a number of smaller-scale buildings, primarily single-family houses, applying his knowledge of historicist styles, for several prominent clients. He designed a residence for Albert Gore, Sr., sometime before 1953.⁵⁷ In 1957, he designed a chancery for the Turkish embassy. In 1959, he designed three attached houses in the Colonial Revival style, incorporating automobile garages into their facades in Sheridan Kalorama for Lawrence Brandt. In 1965, Drayer created a series of drawings regarding alterations to the White House during Lyndon B. Johnson's administration but is unknown if his designs were ever implemented.

Drayer passed away at the age of sixty-three on April 22, 1973, in Washington, DC.

Builder/Developer: Lawrence Brandt

Lawrence Brandt was born in Washington, DC in 1927. Upon graduating from Roosevelt High School in 1945 he entered the University of Maryland. His career as a real estate developer began with building houses on speculation while working as a driver. Although modest at first, his career blossomed quickly. In 1959, it appears that Brandt was retained by Robert Bullard to construct three houses designed by Donald Drayer. The two-story brick houses with integrated garages –

⁵⁴ "Donald Drayer, Area Architect," *Evening Star*, April 24, 1973, 54.

⁵⁵ This company is still in operation under the name Landow & Company.

⁵⁶ Membership File (Donald Hudson Drayer), The American Institute of Architects Archives (Washington, DC).

⁵⁷ Drawings for such can be found in the Donald H. Drayer collection at the Library of Congress, Unit 1625; Drayer, Donald H., Architect.

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addressed 2118, 2120, and 2122 S Street –were designed in the Colonial Revival style. Following the buildings’ completion, Brandt purchased the properties with the intention of selling. The construction of the three houses on S Street was one of his last projects before teaming up with Nathan Landow to create Landow and Brandt. The men established a short-lived but highly successful real estate development group. Active between roughly 1959 and 1967, the young duo were prolific developers in the period, building sixteen major apartment/condominium buildings in Maryland, Virginia, and DC. Of the eight built in DC, the New Formalist-style Colonnade constructed 1964-1966 is among their most famous and luxurious projects. Donald Drayer, who had worked with Brandt on 2120, became their regular architect. Drayer designed ten luxury high rise properties for them. When the men decided to end their partnership, Landow bought out shares of several of the properties they had developed.⁵⁸ Brandt established the Lawrence N. Brandt Company and continued working in real estate development, focusing on converting office buildings into residential apartments/condos. on a smaller residential scale. He died in 2016.⁵⁹

⁵⁸ Nathan Landow and Lawrence N. Brandt to Nathan Landow, Barbara Landow, and Trustees for Pennsylvania Real Estate Trust, Liber 12823, Folio 088, Washington, District of Columbia, recorded November 21, 1967.

⁵⁹ Daniel J. Sernovitz, "Real estate developer Larry Brandt dies," *Washington Business Journal*, February 25, 2016, 1.

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- "Kalorama 2120 S St. N.W. Bet. Conn. And Mass. Ave. New 4 Bedrooms." *Evening Star*. October 11, 1959. <https://infoweb-newsbank-com.dclibrary.idm.oclc.org/apps/news/browse-pub?p=EANX-NB&t=pubname%3A13D5DA85AE05A305%21Evening%2BStar&action=browse&year=1981>
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[NB&t=pubname%3A13D5DA85AE05A305%21Evening%2BStar&action=browse&year=1981](https://infoweb-newsbank-com.dclibrary.idm.oclc.org/apps/news/browse-pub?p=EANX-NB&t=pubname%3A13D5DA85AE05A305%21Evening%2BStar&action=browse&year=1981)

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Previous documentation on file (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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 3,173 square feet

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 38.913856 Longitude: -77.048248

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Doris Fleeson Kimball House is located at 2120 S St, NW. The property encompasses the 3,173 square foot Record Lot 49 (Assessment and Taxation Lot 811) of Square 2515. Lot 49 (811) is bound to the north by S St, NW, to the east by tax lot 811, to the south by tax lot 818, and to the west by tax lot 813. The Doris Fleeson Kimball house is the middle residence of a set of 3 rowhomes, between lots 811 and 813.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This corresponds to the legal boundaries of the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Emily Hotaling Eig, Alyssa Stein, and Dani Michelson

organization: EHT Traceries, Inc.

street & number: 440 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

city or town: Washington state: DC zip code: 20001

e-mail emily.eig@traceries.com

telephone: 202.393.1199

date: _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

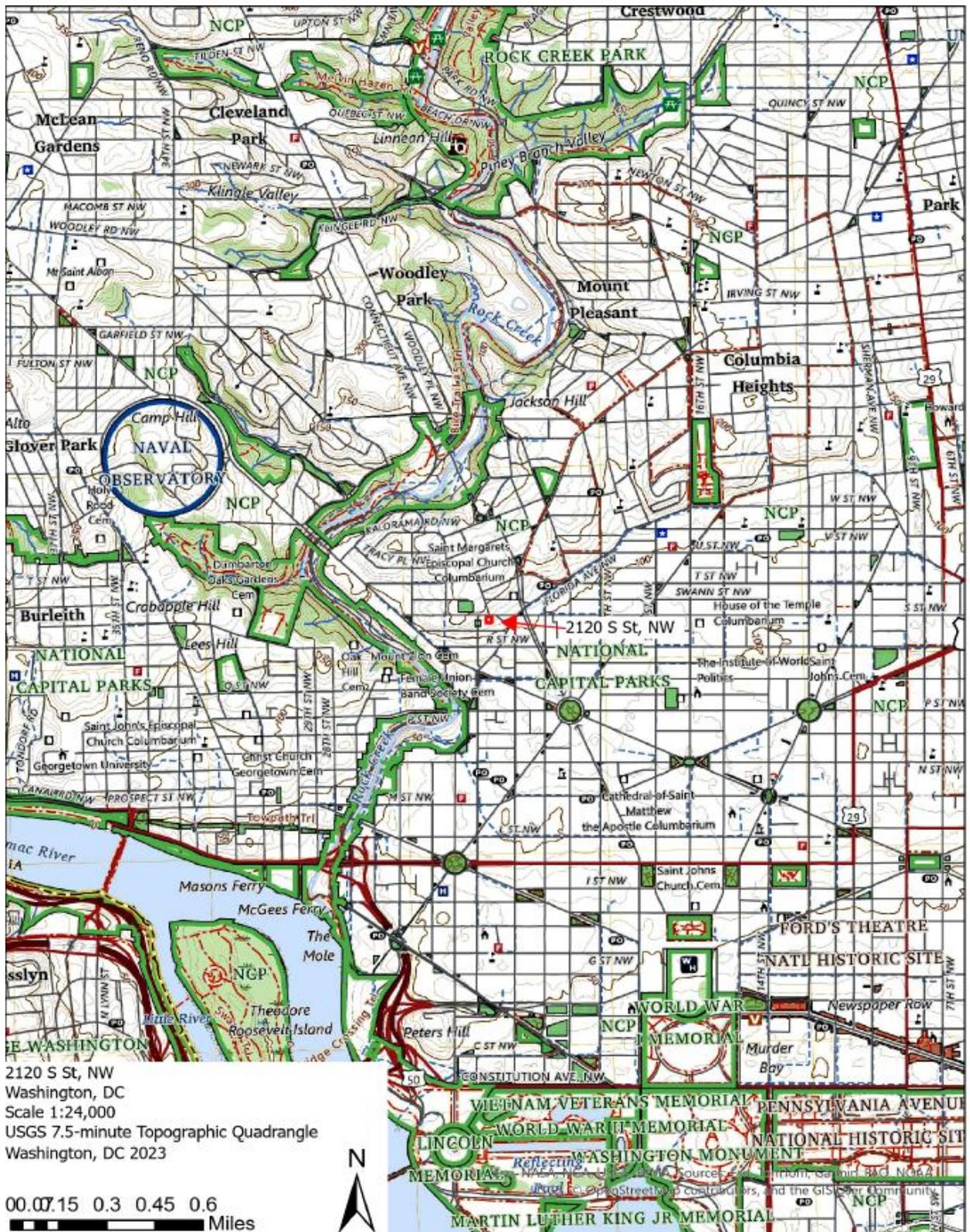


Figure 2. Detail from 2023 USGS Washington West quadrangle, showing the location of 2120 S St, NW (indicated by arrow).

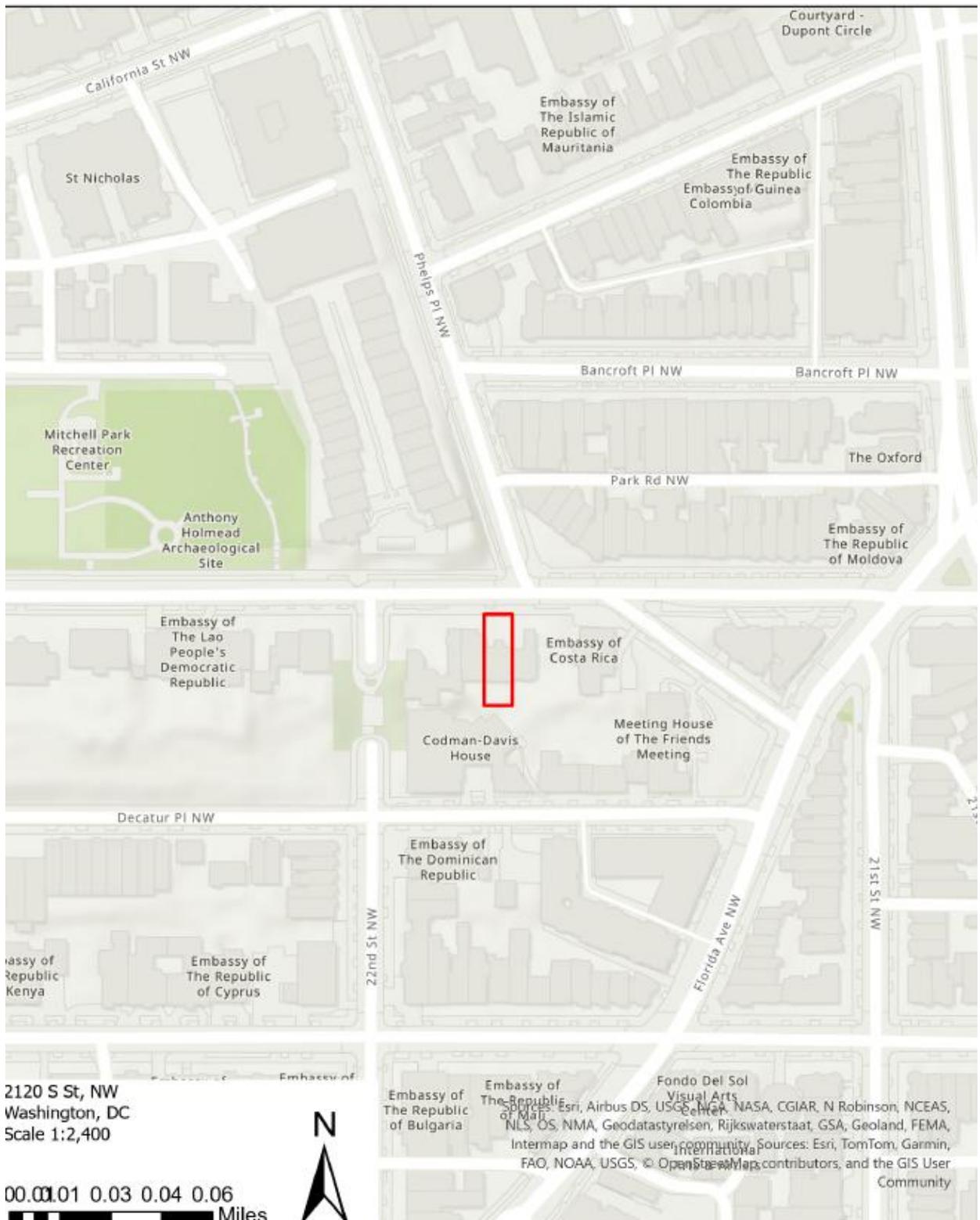


Figure 3. Property map with 2120 S St, NW outlined in red (Esri map annotated by Tracerics).

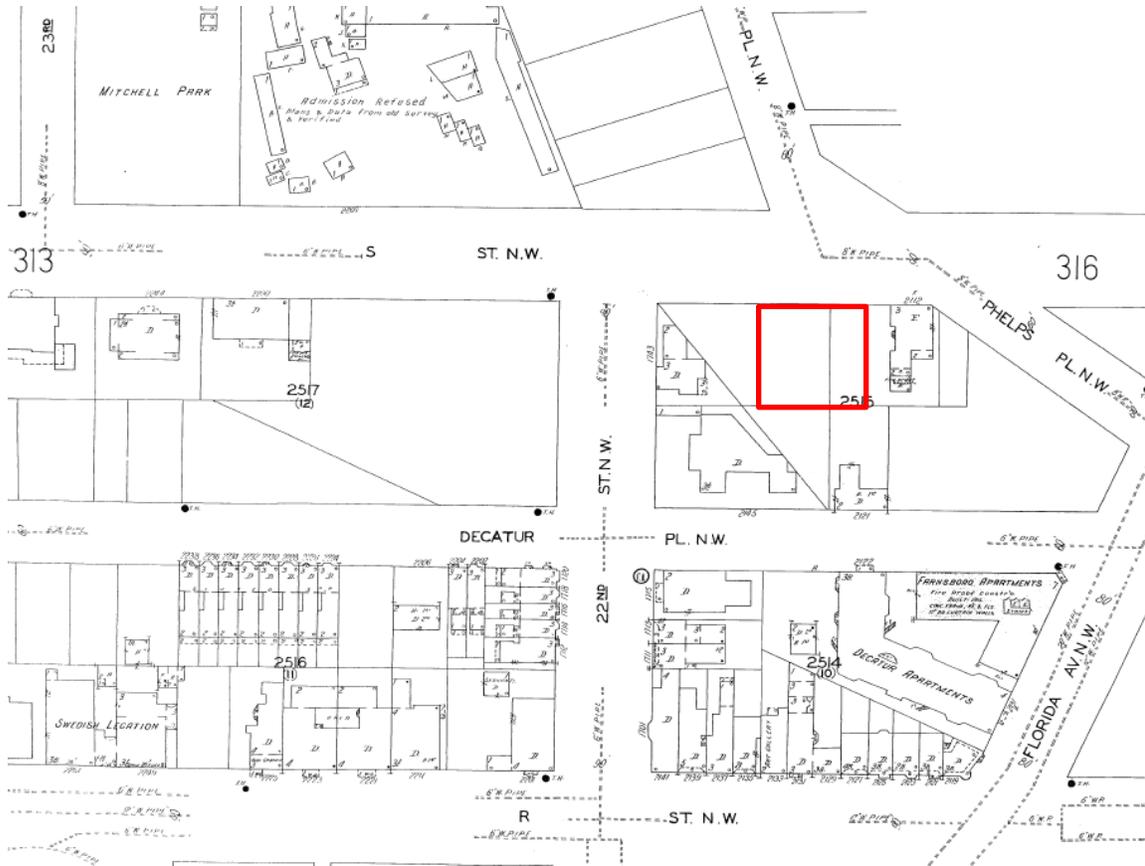


Figure 4. 1928 Sanborn, v3 sheet 315 showing 2120 S St. NW. Library of Congress

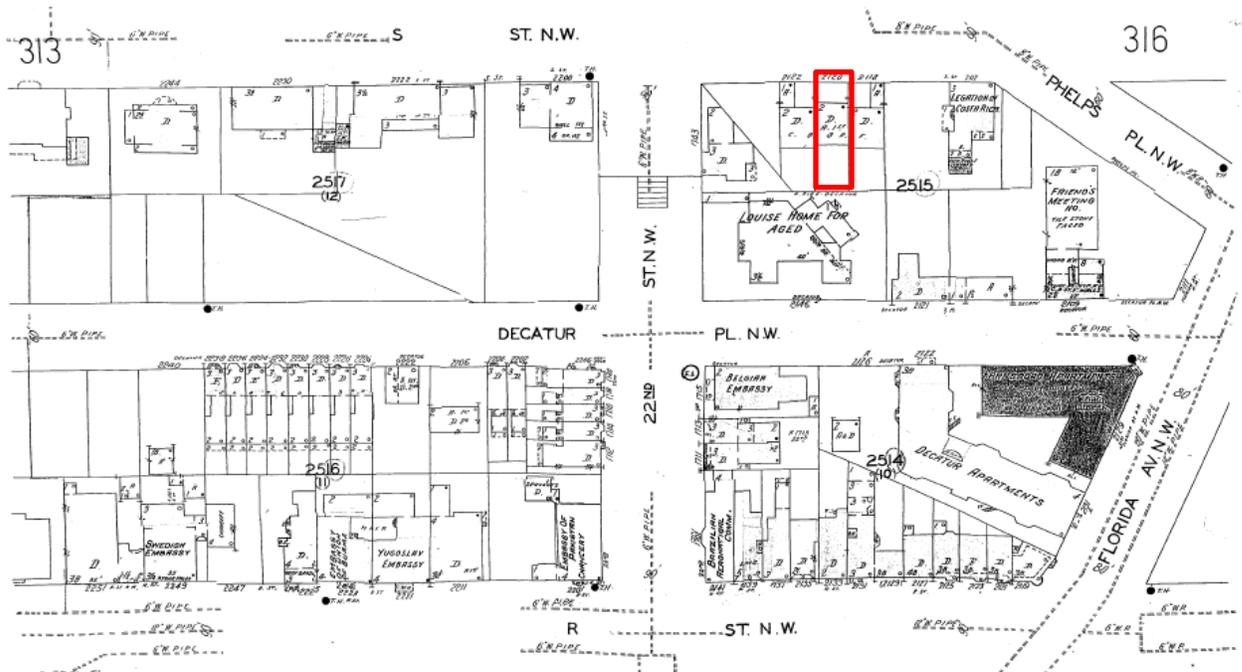


Figure 5. 1960 Sanborn Map v3 sheet 315 showing 2120 S St. NW. Library of Congress

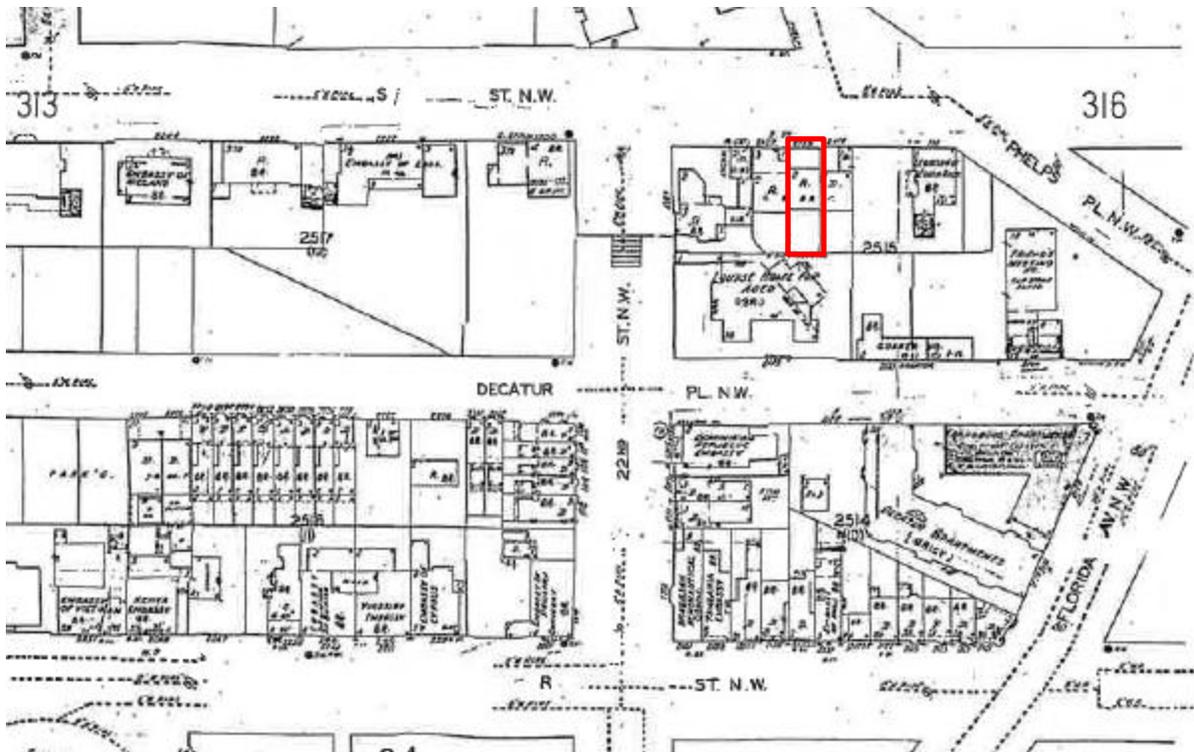


Figure 6. 1999 Sanborn Map v3 sheet 315 showing 2120 S St, NW. Library of Congress.

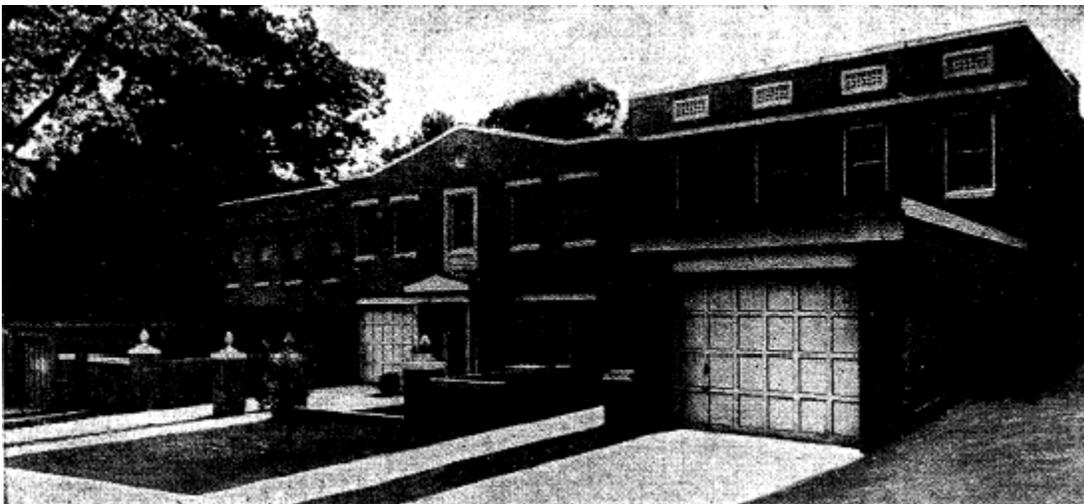


Figure 7. 1959 View of 2118, 2120, and 2122 S St, NW newly constructed, looking SE. Evening Star.

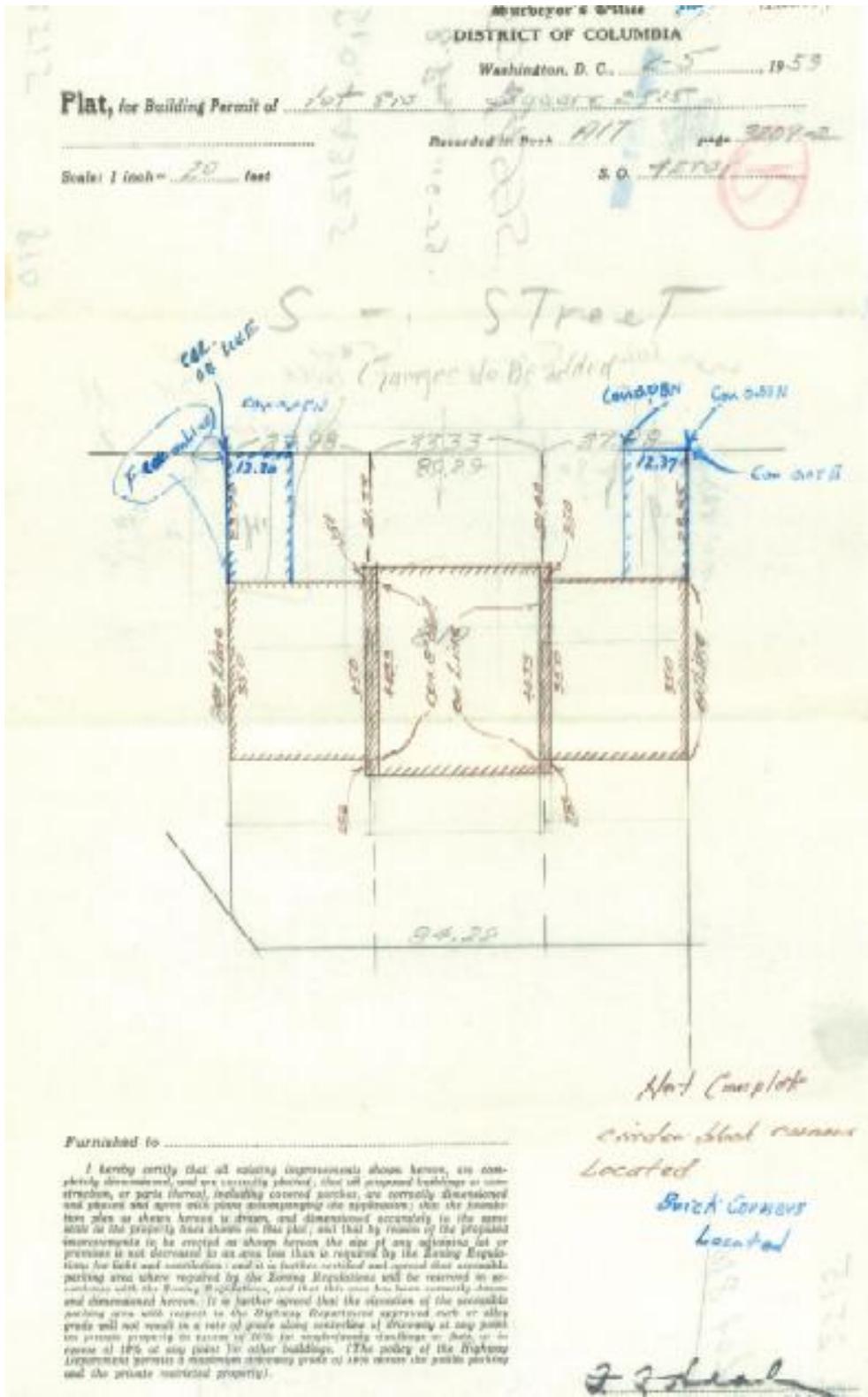


Figure 8. 1959 Wall Report. Lot 810 of Square 2515. Department of Buildings Office of the Surveyor Land Record Management System.

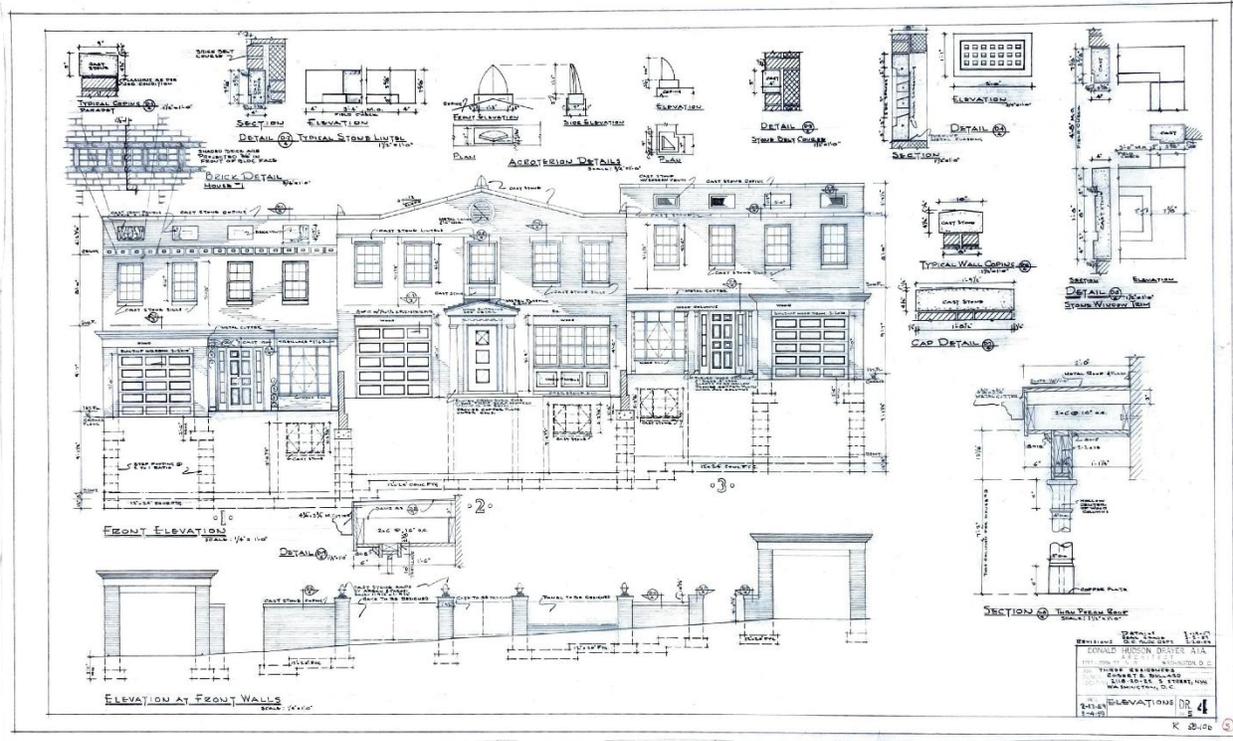


Figure 10. Elevations (rear) and Sections: 2118, 2120, 2122 S St, NW. February 17-March 4, 1959, Donald H. Drayer. Library of Congress.

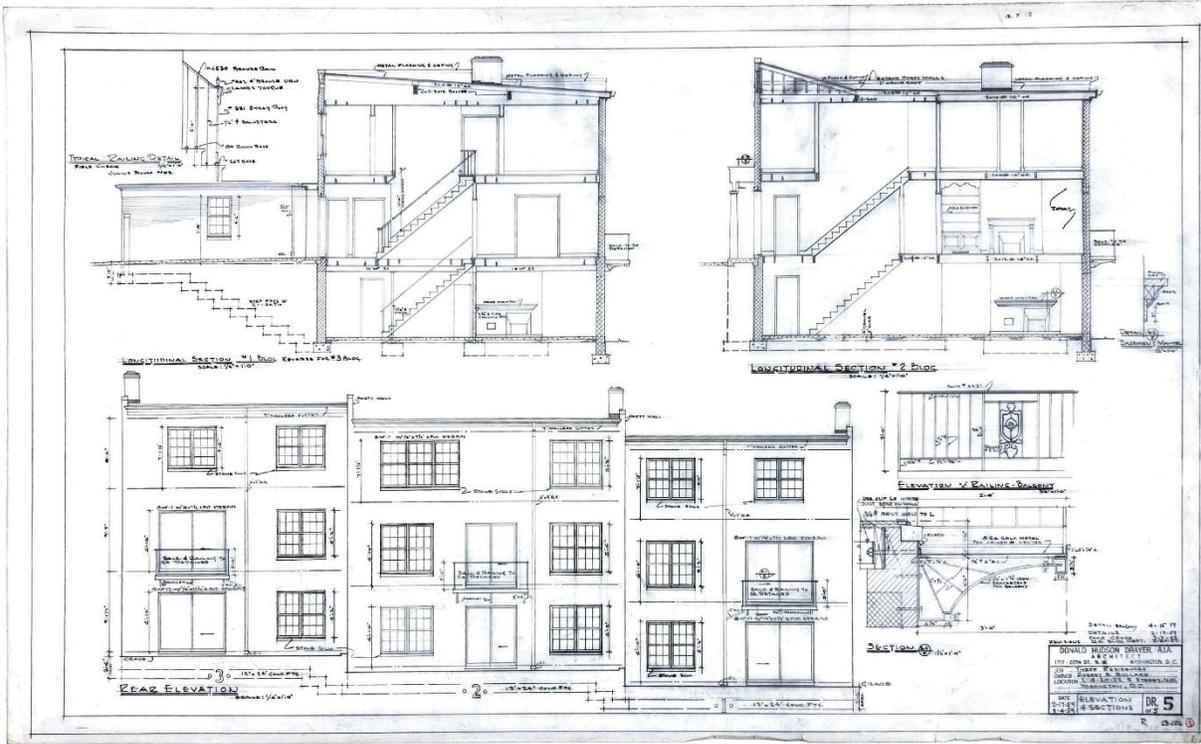


Figure 11. Basement and Plot Plan: 2118, 2120, 2122 S St. NW. February 17-March 4, 1959, Donald H. Drayer. Library of Congress.

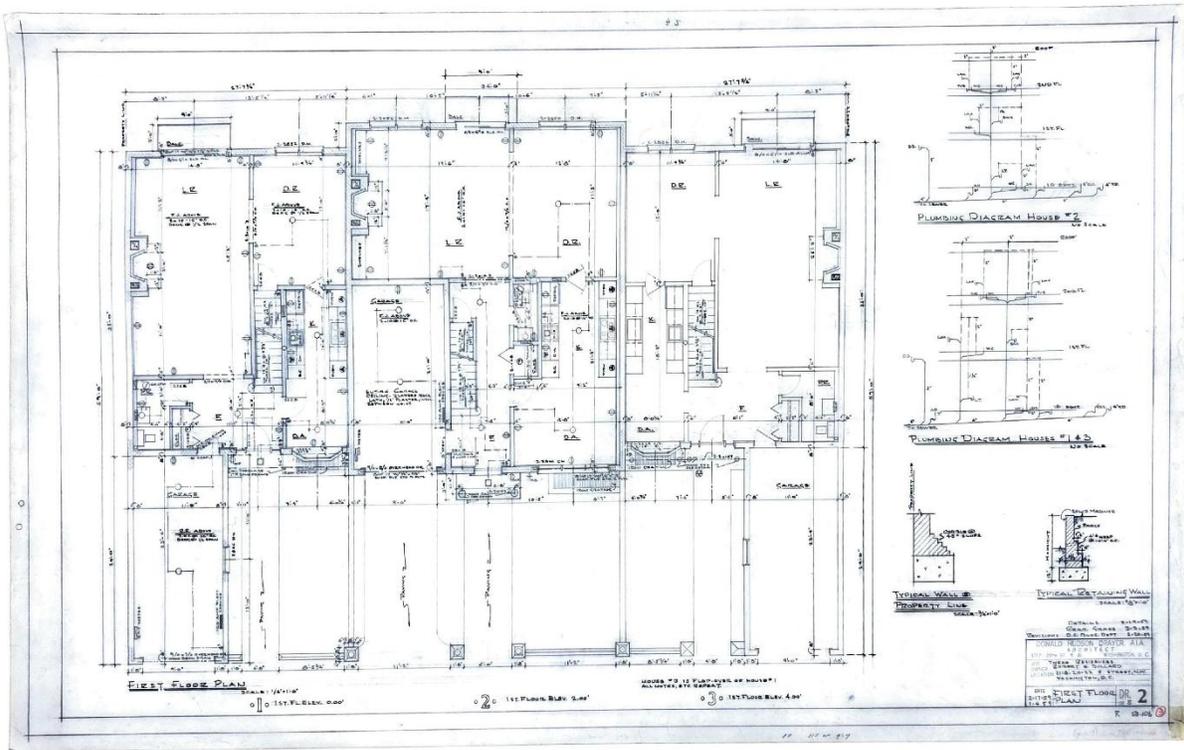


Figure 12. First Floor Plan: 2118, 2120, 2122 S St. NW. February 17- March 4, 1959, Donald H. Drayer. Library of Congress.

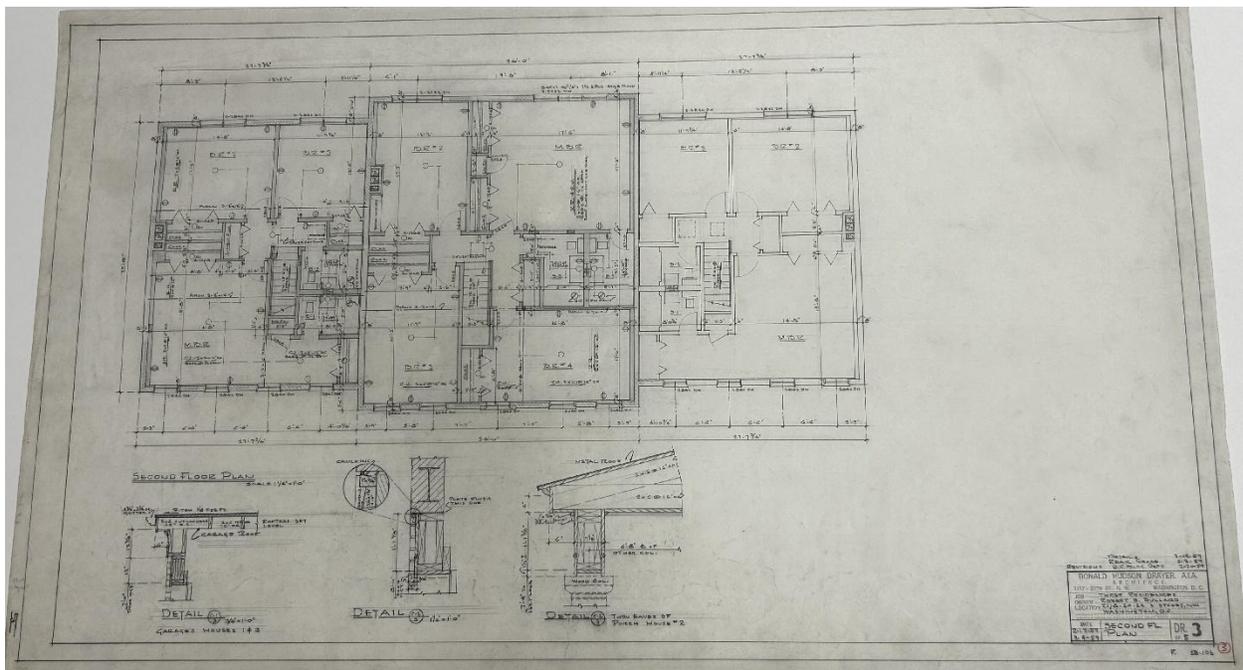


Figure 13. Second Floor Plan: 2118, 2120, 2122 St. NW. February 17 – March 4, 1959, Donald H. Drayer. Library of Congress.

4)

05943

BOOK PAGE
11196 577

FEB 25 10 33 AM '59

This Deed made this 19 day of Feb in the year
Nineteen hundred and fifty nine, by and between MAXIM KAROLIK,
unmarried, devisee under the will of Martha Catharine Karolik, formerly
Martha C. Codman, deceased, party of the first part; and LAWRENCE N. BRANDT
party of the second part;

Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of TEN Dollars
the said party of the first part does grant unto the
said party of the second part, in fee simple,

the following described land and premises, with the improvements, easements and appurte-
nances thereunto belonging, situate in the District of Columbia namely:
Part of Lot 43 in Square 2515 in Martha C. Codman's subdivision, as
per plat recorded in Liber No. 55 folio 150 of the Records of the Office
of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia, described as follows:-
Beginning for the same at a point in the south line of "S" Street distant
66.16 feet East from the East line of 22nd Street, said point of beginn-
ing being also the Northeast corner of the part of said lot 43 conveyed
to Adele Chatfield-Taylor by Deed recorded in Liber 8054 folio 125
of the Land Records of the District of Columbia and running thence
East with said line of "S" Street 89.29 feet to the Northeast corner of
said lot 43; thence South with the East line of said lot 95.27 feet
to the Southeast corner of said lot; thence West with the South line of
said lot, 84.29 feet to a Southwesterly line of said lot; thence North-
westerly with said Southwesterly line 7.75 feet to the Southeasterly
corner of said part of lot 43 conveyed to Adele Chatfield-Taylor as
aforsaid and thence North with the East line of said conveyance 89.20
feet to said South line of "S" Street and the place of beginning.

NOTE: At the date hereof the above described land is designated on the
Records of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for taxation
purposes as lot 810 in Square 2515.

To Have and to Hold the same unto and to the use of the said party
hereto of the second part in fee simple.

And the said party hereto of the first part do es
hereby covenant to warrant specially the property hereby conveyed, and to execute such further
assurances of said land as may be requisite.

Witness his hand and seal on the day and year first hereinabove written.
Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

Maxim Karolik (SEAL)
----- SEAL
----- SEAL
----- SEAL

Figure 14. 1959 Liber 11196 Folio 577. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC

05944

BOOK PAGE
11196 579 FEB 25 10 33 AM '59

This Deed

Made this 24th day of February A. D. 19 59
between LAWRENCE N. BRANDT and EVELYN T. BRANDT his wife

parties of the first part, and THE RIGGS NATIONAL BANK OF WASHINGTON, D. C.,
as Trustee, party of the second part:

Witnesseth. That the said parties of the first part, in consideration of One Dollar,
do grant, in fee simple, unto the party of the second part, as Trustee, the following land and
premises, situate in the District of Columbia, and known and described as

Part of lot 43 in Square 2515 in Martha C. Codman's subdivision, as
per plat reformed in Liber No. 55 folio 150 of the Records of the Office
of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia described as follows:-

Beginning for the same at a point in the South line of "S" Street
distant 66.16 feet East from the East line of 22nd Street, said point
of beginning being also the Northeast corner of the part of said lot
43 conveyed to Adele Chatfield-Taylor by deed recorded in Liber 8054
folio 125 of the Land Records of the District of Columbia, and running
thence East with said line of "S" Street 89.29 feet to the Northeast
corner of said lot #3; thence South with the East line of said lot
95.27 feet to the Southeast corner of said lot; thence West with the
South line of said lot, 84.29 feet to a Southwesterly line of said lot;
thence Northwesterly with said Southwesterly line 7.75 feet to the
Southeasterly corner of said part of lot 43 conveyed to Adele Chatfield-
Taylor as aforesaid and thence North with the east line of said
conveyance 89.20 feet to said South line of "S" Street and the place of
beginning.

NOTE: At the date hereof the above described land is designated on the
Records of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for taxation
purposes as Lot 810 in Square 2515.

together with the improvements, ways, easements, and appurtenances belonging thereto.

Figure 15.1959 Liber 11196 Folio 579. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC.

156

32563

BOOK PAGE
11322 304

Oct 12 2 26 PM '59

S.

Know all Men by these Presents

That FRANCES POWELL HILL and ROBERT E. LAMMOND,

Trustee s under _____ a _____ certain Deed of Trust from
LAWRENCE N. BRANDT and EVELYN T. BRANDT, his wife,

dated February 24, 1959 _____ and recorded
in Liber 11196, folio 583 _____ of the Land

Records for the District of Columbia, in consideration of One Dollar in hand paid by
LAWRENCE N. BRANDT,

do hereby grant and release unto the said LAWRENCE N. BRANDT,

the following described land and premises with the improvements, easements and appurtenances

thereunto belonging, situate in the District of Columbia, namely: Part of Lot 43 in Square
~~2515 in Square 444~~ in Martha C. Codman's subdivision, as per plat recorded
in Liber No. 35 folio 150 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor of
the District of Columbia, described in accordance with a Plat of Compilation
of walls dated June 1, 1959, as follows:

Beginning for the same at a point in the South line of "S" Street distant
66.16 feet East from the East line of 22nd Street, said point of beginning
being also the Northeast corner of the part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Adele
Chatfield-Taylor by Deed recorded in Liber 8054 folio 125 of the Land Records
of the District of Columbia and running thence East with said South line of
"S" Street, 27.98 feet to a prolongation North of the center line of a wall;
thence South along said prolongation and along said center line of said wall
and along the prolongation of said wall 95.27 feet to the South line of said
lot; thence West along the South line of said lot to the Southwesterly line
of said lot; thence Northwesterly along said Southwesterly line of said lot,
7.75 feet to the East line of the part of said lot conveyed to said Adele
Chatfield-Taylor being distant 89.20 feet South line of "W" Street; and
thence North with said East line of said conveyance 89.20 feet to the South
line of said "S" Street and the place of beginning,
fully released and discharged from the effect and operation of the said Deed of Trust, the

~~secured thereby having been paid and satisfied~~
sum of \$7500.00 having been paid on account of the principal indebtedness
secured by said Deed of Trust for this release in accordance with the
terms of said Deed of Trust and the remaining real estate conveyed by said
Deed of Trust and not hereby or heretofore released, being deemed suffi-
cient security for the payment of the unpaid balance of said indebtedness.

Witness their hands and seals this 9th day of October A. D. 19 59

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of—

Robert E. Lammond
Trustee
(SEAL)
Trustee
(SEAL)

Figure 16. 1959 Liber 11322 Folio 304. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC.

34668
7/32

BOOK PAGE OCT 30 9 36 AM '59
11332 05

K.

This Deed made this 26th day of October in the year

Nineteen hundred and fifty-nine, by and between LAWRENCE N. BRANDT and EVELYN T. BRANDT, his wife, parties hereto of the first part; and DAN ABLE KIMBALL and DORIS FLEESON KIMBALL, his wife, parties hereto of the second part.

Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of TEN Dollars

the said parties of the first part do grant unto the said parties of the second part, in fee simple, as tenants by the entirety,

the following described land and premises, with the improvements, easements and appur-

tenances thereunto belonging, situate in the District of Columbia namely: Part of Lot 43 in Square 2515 in Martha C. Codman's subdivision, as per plat recorded in Liber No. 55, folio 150 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia, described in accordance with a Plat of Compilation of walls, dated June 1, 1959 as follows:-

BEGINNING for the same at a point in the South line of "S" Street distant 27.98 feet West from the Northeast corner of said lot, said point being a prolongation North of the center line of a wall, said point being also the Northwest corner of the part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Gordon W. Rule and wife by Deed dated July 23, 1959 and recorded July 24, 1959 as Instrument #23334 of the Land Records of the District of Columbia; thence South along said prolongation and along said center line of said wall and along the prolongation of said wall 95.27 feet to the South line of said lot; thence West along the South line of said lot, 33.33 feet to a prolongation South of the center line of a wall, being also the Southeast corner of the part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Albert Brown and wife by Deed dated September 8, 1959 and recorded September 10, 1959 as Instrument #28888 of aforesaid Land Records; thence North along said prolongation and along said center line of said wall and along the prolongation of said wall 95.27 feet to the South line of said "S" Street; and thence East along the South line of said Street 33.33 feet to the place of beginning.

NOTE: At the date hereof the above described land is designated on the Records of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for taxation purposes as Lot 812 in Square 2515.

To have and to Hold the same unto and to the use of the said parties

hereto of the second part in fee simple, as tenants by the entirety.

And the said LAWRENCE N. BRANDT does

hereby covenant to warrant specially the property hereby conveyed, and to execute such further assurances of said land as may be requisite.

Witness their hands and seals on the day and year first hereinabove written.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

Lawrence N. Brandt SEAL
Evelyn T. Brandt SEAL
SEAL

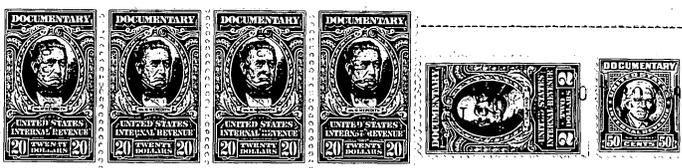


Figure 17. 1959 Liber 11332 Folio 05. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC.

This Deed

Made this 28th day of October A. D. 1959
between DAN ABLE KIMBALL and DORIS FLEESON KIMBALL, his wife, tenants
by the entirety,

parties of the first part, and THE RIGGS NATIONAL BANK OF WASHINGTON, D. C.,
as Trustee, party of the second part:

Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first part, in consideration of One Dollar,
do grant, in fee simple, unto the party of the second part, as Trustee, the following land and
premises, situate in the District of Columbia, and known and described as Part of Lot 43 in
Square 2515 in Martha C. Godman's subdivision, as per plat recorded in Liber No. 55,
folio 150 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia,
described in accordance with a Plat of Correlation of Walls, dated June 1, 1959 as
follows:- BEGINNING for the same at a point in the South line of "S" Street distant
27.98 feet West from the Northeast corner of said lot, said point being a prolongation
North of the center line of a wall, said point being also the Northwest corner of the
part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Gordon W. Rule and wife by Deed dated July 23, 1959
and recorded July 24, 1959, as Instrument No. 23334 of the Land Records of the District
of Columbia; thence South along said prolongation and along said center line of said
wall and along the prolongation of said wall 95.27 feet to the South line of said lot;
thence West along the South line of said lot, 33.33 feet to a prolongation South of
the center line of a wall, being also the Southeast corner of the part of said Lot 43
conveyed to Albert Brown and wife by Deed dated September 3, 1959 and recorded
September 10, 1959 as Instrument No. 28880 of aforesaid Land Records; thence North along
said prolongation and along said center line of said wall and along the prolongation
of said wall 95.27 feet to the South line of said "S" Street, and thence East along
the South line of said street 33.33 feet to the place of beginning.

NOTE: At the date hereof the above described land is designated on the Records of the
Assessor of the District of Columbia for taxation purposes as Lot 812 in Square 2515.

ALSO Part of Lot 144 in Beatty and Hawkins' Addition to Georgetown, being in Square
75 Georgetown, now known as Square 1245 in the City of Washington, and described in
accordance with a Plat of Survey recorded in Survey Book No. 146, page 485 of the
Records of the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia as follows:-
BEGINNING for the same at the Northwest corner of said lot, and running thence South
along the East line of Thirty-fourth Street 17.78 feet to the center of the partition
wall between premises Nos. 1429 and 1427 Thirty-fourth Street, N. W., thence East
through the center of said partition wall to the East end thereof; thence South to a
fence, thence East along said fence to another fence, thence North along said last
mentioned fence to the South line of P Street, thence West along said South line 73.10
feet to the place of beginning.

NOTE: At the date hereof the next above described land is designated on the Records
of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for taxation purposes as Lot 825 in
Square 1245.

together with the improvements, ways, easements, and appurtenances
belonging thereto.

Said Bonds and interest thereon being separately and exclusively secured
as follows:-

- together with the improvements, ways, easements, and appurtenances belonging thereto
- Bond No. 1 in the penal sum of \$50,000.00 secured on Lot 812 in Square
2515; and
- Bond No. 2 in the penal sum of \$30,000.00 secured on Lot 825 in Square
1245.

Figure 18. 1959 Liber 11332 Folio 07. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC.

04637

18751 15A FEB 12 2 18 PM '62

This Deed Witnesseth, That whereas the debt described in the Deed of Trust dated October 28th, 1959 and recorded in Liber 11332, at folio 07 of the Land Records of the District of Columbia, has been discharged, as evidenced by the signature hereto of the Secretary of the **EQUITABLE SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION**, the party secured.

Therefore, The Riggs National Bank of Washington, D. C. as trustee under said deed of trust, does hereby grant and release unto **DAN ABLE KIMBALL** and **DORIS FLEESON KIMBALL**, his wife, tenants by the entirety, their

heirs and assigns, the following-described land and premises in the District of Columbia:

Part of Lot 43 in Square 2515 in Martha C. Codman's subdivision, as per plat recorded in Liber No. 55, folio 150 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia, described in accordance with a Plat of Compilation of walls, dated June 1, 1959. Said property being identical with and more fully described in Deed of Trust hereby released and discharged.

NOTE: At the date hereof the above described land is designated on the Records of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for taxation purposes as Lot 812 in Square 2515.

released and discharged from the effect and operation of the said deed of trust.

In Testimony Whereof, the said The Riggs National Bank of Washington, D. C. hath on the 19th day of January A. D. 1962, caused these presents to be signed by **J. P. BENFER, JR.**, its

Vice President, attested by **Bernard L. Amis**, its Trust Officer, and its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed; and doth hereby appoint the said **J. P. BENFER, JR.** its true and lawful attorney

in fact, to acknowledge and deliver these presents as its act and deed.
THE RIGGS NATIONAL BANK OF WASHINGTON, D. C.

Attest: *Bernard L. Amis*
Trust Officer.

By: *J.P. Benfer Jr.*
Vice President.

J.H. McAllen
President, Equitable Savings and Loan Association.

Milton R. Johnson
Secretary, Equitable Savings and Loan Association.

District of Columbia, to wit:

I, JAMES P. McALEER of Columbia, Do HEREBY CERTIFY that *J.P. Benfer Jr.* a Notary Public in and for the District who is personally well known to me as the person named as Attorney in Fact in the foregoing and annexed deed of release, dated January 19, A. D. 1962, personally appeared before me in said District and, as Attorney in Fact, as aforesaid, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by said deed of release, acknowledged the same to be the act and deed of The Riggs National Bank of Washington, D. C., the grantor therein.

Given under my hand and seal this

day of FEB 9 1962 19
James P. McAleer
Notary Public.

Figure 19. 1962 Liber 11751 Folio 151. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC.

mis

11978 550

BOOK

PAGE

APR 11 3 35 PM '63

11978 550

This Deed

Made this eighth day of April in the year
 Nineteen hundred and sixty-three, by and between DAN ABLE KIMBALL, and DORIS FLEESON
KIMBALL, his wife, parties of the first part; and MARGARET E. HARTUNG, party of
 the second part.

Witnesseth. that for and in consideration of the sum of Ten (\$10.00) _____
 _____ Dollars,

the said parties of the first part do grant

unto the said party of the second part, in fee simple, _____

the following described land and premises, with the improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto
 belonging, situate in the District of Columbia, namely: _____

Part of Lot numbered Forty-three (43) in Square numbered Twenty-five Hundred
 fifteen (2515) in Martha C. Codman's subdivision, as per plat recorded in Liber No.
 55, folio 150, of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor of the District of
 Columbia described in accordance with a Plat of Compilation of walls, dated June 1,
 1959, as follows: BEGINNING for the same at a point in the South line of "S" Street
 distant 27.98 feet West from the Northeast corner of said lot, said point being a
 prolongation North of the center line of a wall, said point being also the Northwest
 corner of the part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Gordon W. Hule and wife, by Deed dated
 July 23, 1959, and recorded July 24, 1959, as Instrument No. 23334 of the Land Records
 of the District of Columbia; thence South along said prolongation and along said cen-
 ter line of said wall and along the prolongation of said wall, 95.27 feet to the South
 line of said lot; thence West along the South line of said lot, 33.33 feet to a pro-
 longation South of the center line of a wall, being also the Southeast corner of the
 part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Albert Brown and wife by Deed dated September 8, 1959,
 and recorded September 10, 1959, as Instrument No. 28888 of aforesaid Land Records;
 thence North along said prolongation and along said center line of said wall and a-
 long the prolongation of said wall 95.27 feet to the South line of said "S" Street,
 and thence East along the South line of said street 33.33 feet to the place of

Figure 20. 1963 Liber 11978 Folio 550. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC.

1.1.1980
FORM 1015

BOOK PAGE APR 17 3 36 PM '63
119.78 554

This Deed

Made this 10th day of April in the year
Nineteen hundred and sixty-three, by and between MARGARET E. HARTUNG, widow and
not remarried, party of the first part; and DORIS FLEESON KIMBALL, party of the
second part.

Witnesseth. that for and in consideration of the sum of Ten (\$10.00)
Dollars,

the said party of the first part, does grant
unto the said party of the second part, in fee simple,

the following described land and premises, with the improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto
belonging, situate in the District of Columbia, namely:

Part of Lot numbered Numbered Forty-three (43) in Square numbered Twenty-five
Hundred fifteen (2515) in Martha C. Codman's subdivision, as per plat recorded in
Liber No. 55, folio 150, of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the
District of Columbia, described in accordance with a Plat of Compilation of walls
dated June 1, 1959, as follows: BEGINNING for the same at a point in the South line
of "S" Street distant 27.98 feet West from the Northeast corner of said lot, said
point being a prolongation North of the center line of a wall, said point being also
the Northwest corner of the part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Gordon W. Hule and wife by
Deed dated July 23, 1959, and recorded July 24, 1959, as Instrument No. 23334 of the
Land Records of the District of Columbia; thence South along said prolongation and
along said center line of said wall and along the prolongation of said wall 95.27 feet
to the South line of said lot; thence West along the South line of said lot, 33.33
feet to a prolongation South of the centerline of a wall, being also the Southeast
corner of the part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Albert Brown and wife, by Deed dated
September 8, 1959, and recorded September 10, 1959, as Instrument No. 28888 of afore-
said Land Records; thence North along said prolongation and along said center line of
said wall and along the prolongation of said wall 95.27 feet to the South line of
said "S" Street, and thence East along the South line of said street 33.33 feet to the

Figure 21. 1963 Liber 11978 Folio 554. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC.

13528

Jul 31 1970

BOOK PAGE

13124 482

THIS DEED

Made this 22nd day of July in the year Nineteen hundred and seventy, by and between DORIS FLEESON KIMBALL and her husband, DAN A. KIMBALL, (hereinafter referred to as parties of the first part), the latter person of the first part joining in this conveyance for the express purpose of specifically waiving any and all present and future rights which he may now have or at anytime in the future might have in the below described property, and THE RIGGS NATIONAL BANK, (hereinafter referred to as a party of the second part).

WITNESSETH, that for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) the said parties of the first part do grant unto the said party of the second part in fee simple, the following described land and premises, with the improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in the District of Columbia, namely:

Part of Lot numbered Numbered Forty-three (43) in Square numbered Twenty-five Hundred fifteen (2515) in Martha C. Codman's subdivision, as per plat recorded in Liber No. 55, folio 150, of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia, described in accordance with a Plat of Compilation of walls dated June 1, 1959, as follows: BEGINNING for the same at a point in the South line of "S" Street distant 27.98 feet West from the Northeast corner of said lot, said point being a prolongation North of the center line of a wall, said point being also the Northwest corner of the part of said Lot 43 conveyed to Gordon W. Rule and wife by Deed dated

Figure 22. 1970 Liber 13124 Folio 482. Office of Tax and Revenue Recorder of Deeds, Washington, DC.

District Approves New Construction

Recent building permits issued by the District include:

Motel Associates, Inc., owner, 45 DeFreese st. n.w.; builder not selected; R. C. Archer, Jr., architect; to erect one two-story motel, 1615 N. Y. ave. n.e.; cost, \$180,000.

Safeway Stores, Inc., owner, P. O. Box 1830, Washington; builder not selected; George W. Petticord, architect; to erect one, one-story store, 1368 Park rd.; cost, \$150,000.

The Hecht Co., owner, Seventh and P sts. n.w.; Prescott Construction Co., Inc., builder; Edwin Harris, Jr., architect; to erect one, five-story parking garage, 602 P st. n.w.; cost, \$100,000.

Hot Shoppes Inc., owner, Bethesda, Md.; builder not selected; Robert J. Mahoney, architect; to erect one, one-story restaurant and accessory building, 3250 Pa. ave. s.e.; cost, \$30,000.

Frank S. Phillips, owner and builder, 927 Fifteenth st. n.w.; William H. Shoemaker, architect; to erect one, three-story dwelling, 4615 W. st. n.w.; cost, \$25,000.

Robert E. Bullard, owner, Rockville, Md.; builder not selected; Donald H. Drayer, architect; to erect two-story dwelling, 2120 S st. n.w.; cost, \$25,000.

Robert E. Bullard, owner, Rockville, Md.; builder not selected; Donald H. Drayer, architect; to erect two-story dwelling, 2122 E. st. n.w.; cost, \$20,000.

Robert E. Bullard, owner, Rockville, Md.; builder not selected; Donald H. Drayer, architect; to erect two-story dwelling, 2218 S. st. n.w.; cost, \$20,000.

Joseph E. Kener, owner, 4300 Macomb st. n.w.; W. W. Morrison, builder; J. H. Sullivan, Jr., architect; to erect one two-story dwelling, 4512 Macomb st. n.w.; cost, \$20,000.

First Natl. S.E. Baptist Church, owner, 5400 D st. s.e.; Neller Allen, builder; John B. Holloway, Jr., architect; to erect one one-story church, 5400 D st. s.e.; cost, \$20,000.

Friends Meeting of Washington Non-Profit Organization Headquarters, owner, 104 C st. n.e.; builder not selected; Ben Ronis, architect; to erect three-story addi-

tion for office, 201-03 C st. n.e.; cost, \$15,000.

Executors and Trustees' Estate of Fred S. Kosod, c/o 730 11th st. n.w.; Tuckman-Margulies, builder; Chatelain, Gauger & Nolan, architects; remodel front of building, remodel interior and install new heating and air conditioning system (Savings and Loan Association), 2826 Alabama ave. s.e.; cost, \$10,000.

Arthur August and Henry Levin, owner, 4621 R st. n.e.; George Barnett, builder; L. W. Giles, architect; to erect one one-story dwelling, 4424 19th pl. n.e.; cost, \$12,000.

Arthur August and Henry Levin, owner, 4621 R st. n.e.; George Barnett, builder; L. W. Giles, architect; to erect one, one-story dwelling, 4420 19th pl. n.e.; cost, \$12,000.

Brownley Estate, owner, National Metropolitan Bank; M. Cladny Construction Co., builder; Clark T. Harrison, architect; change walls and construction stage (restaurant), 1304 P st. n.w.; cost, \$10,000.

The Hecht Co., owner, 7th and P sts. n.w.; Prescott Construction Co., Inc., builder; Abbott, Merki & Co., architects; alter portion of first floor of parking garage for store, 510 6th st. n.w.; cost, \$15,000.

The National Grange, owner, 744 Jackson pl. n.w.; Joseph B. Bahen, builder; E. Jerome O'Connor, architect; to erect one 11-story office building, 1616 H st. n.w.; cost, \$350,000.

Pascal, Inc., owner, 1515 Half st. s.w.; builder not selected; Norman Kertzman, architect; to erect one 1-story warehouse and office, 3024 V st. n.e.; cost, \$100,000.

Barkley, Inc., owner and builder, 1431 L st. n.w.; H. Clay Ashby, architect; to erect one 2-story dwelling, 4811 Dexter ter. n.w.; cost, \$20,500.

Robert S. Nash, owner, c/o Donohoe Construction Co., 314 Pa. ave. s.e.; Donohoe Construction Co., Inc., builder; Wendell B. Hallett, architect; to erect 1-story shop, 2415 18th pl. n.e.; cost, \$18,000.

Eastern Development, Inc., owner and builder, 1424 K st. n.w.; Earl Von Reichenbach, architect; to erect one, 1-story dwelling, 700 Jefferson st. n.e.; cost, \$12,000.

Figure 23. April 18, 1959, Evening Star, page 32.

KALORAMA

2120 S ST. N.W.

Bet. Conn. and Mass. Ave.
New 4 Bedrooms

An elegant center-hall brick Colonial residence in Washington's most exclusive location. Custom-built, extra high ceilings, luxurious appointments, tastefully decorated, air conditioned; only a visit to this unique property will convince you of this once-in-a-generation opportunity, open today, 1 to 6 p.m.

Owner-Builder
AD. 2-1947
LAWRENCE N. BRANDT

Figure 24. October 11, 1959, Evening Star, page 102

Kimball Told To Cut Wall In Back Yard

Former Navy Secretary Dan A. Kimball has until Monday to knock 2 feet off the top of his back yard wall or he may be summoned to a Corporation Counsel's hearing, a District official said today.

R. Donald Kinney, deputy director of licenses and inspections, said a letter was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Kimball on Wednesday giving them five days to trim the new brick wall. The letter, signed by J. P. Stoddard, chief of the construction section in the permit office, said, "An inspection by this office shows that the wall is not in accord with the approved plan. You are hereby directed to make a correction within five days of receiving this notice."

But Mrs. Kimball, who is nationally syndicated Columnist Doris Fleeson, said today she has received no letter from the District Government. She told The Star she hired a contractor who had done work for her for 10 years to build the wall and said she assumed he knew what he was doing.

Contractor Sought

Mrs. Kimball said she is trying to contact the contractor to discuss the matter with him. The wall, which stands behind the Kimball home at 2120 S street N.W., was completed early this week.

The situation came to a head when the Kimballs' next-door neighbor, Gordon W. Rule, an attorney, of 2118 S street N.W., himself a retired Navy captain, complained to the District permit office. He said the Kimballs asked him to sign papers permitting them to erect a 6½-foot wall, 8 inches thick, along the common edge of their property.

He said he agreed but after the wall was completed, he found that, because of a difference in grade, the wall was 6½ feet high on the Kimball property and 8½ feet on his side. Mr. Rule's yard lies 2 feet below the Kimball land.

Mr. Rule said the 8½-foot brick wall "makes me feel I was in prison."

Plans Error Confirmed

The neighbor said he asked Mrs. Kimball to remove the top 2 feet without success. Mr. Kimball, who is president of the Aerojet General Corp., manufacturers of Polaris and other missiles, had been out of town for several weeks until late last night.

Mr. Rule said he then went to the District Building. Mr. Kinney confirmed that the contractor's plans were in error because they showed the wall rising 6½ feet from a flat surface whereas there is actually a 2-foot difference in grade.

"If the Kimballs refuse to make a correction within the time limit," said Mr. Kinney, "our next step would be to summon them before the Corporation Counsel."

He indicated, however, that the Kimballs might be asked to come in to talk it over before a summons is issued.

Figure 25. August 19, 1961, Evening Star, page 24

Deferred for Kimball

Former Navy Secretary Dan A. Kimball has been given a few days longer to have two feet knocked off the top of his back-yard brick wall, a District official said today.

R. Donald Kinney, deputy director of licenses and inspections, said the District will give Mr. and Mrs. Kimball until Thursday to take some action in trimming the height of the new wall, which stands behind the Kimball home at 2120 S street N.W.

A letter was sent to the Kimballs last Wednesday giving them five days to lower the height of the wall because District officials said it exceeded by two feet the height approved when a permit for construction was granted.

However, Mr. Kinney said, an extension of time is being granted because Russell Eldridge, the contractor who built the wall, has been out of town.

The Kimballs' next-door neighbor, Gordon W. Rule, an attorney, of 2118 S street N.W., himself a retired Navy captain, has complained to the District permit office about the height of the wall.

He said the Kimballs asked him to sign papers permitting them to erect a 6½-foot wall along the common edge of their property. He said he agreed, but that after the wall was completed he found that because his yard lies two feet below the Kimball land, the wall was 8½ feet high on his side.

Figure 26. August 21, 1961, Evening Star, page 21.

Kimballs Get Extra Days To Trim Wall

Former Navy Secretary Dan A. Kimball and his wife, newspaper columnist Doris Flee-son, have been given until Thursday to take action to take action to lower their new backyard brick wall by two feet.

R. Donald Kinney, Deputy Director of Licenses and Inspections, said the deadline was extended from yesterday until Thursday because Russell Eldridge, the contractor who built the wall, is out of town.

The height of the wall behind the Kimball's home at 2120 S st. nw. had been protested by their next-door neighbor, Gordon W. Rule, a retired Navy captain who lives at 2118 S st.

Rule agreed to the construction of a 6½-foot wall but when the wall was built, it was 6½ feet on the Kimball property, but 8½ feet on Rule's side. Because the wall exceeds the height approved when a construction permit was issued, District officials have asked that the wall be lowered.

Figure 27. August 22, 1961, Evening Star, page A21

Kimballs' Wall To Stay Intact; Dispute Ends

The controversial wall built around his patio by former Navy Secretary Dan A. Kimball is no longer controversial.

The Kimballs (Mrs. Kimball is Doris Fleeson, the columnist) and their next-door neighbors, retired Navy Capt. Gordon W. Rule, have reached an agreement on the wall, which separates their property.

They said the wall, which Mr. Rule had protested as not conforming to the submitted plans, will remain as is. The plans have been amended to conform to the wall.

The Kimballs had a contractor draw plans and build the wall two weeks ago at their home, 2120 S street N.W. The plans called for a 6½-foot structure but then Mr. Rule discovered it was 8½ feet high on his side because of a difference in the grade between his yard and the Kimball property.

He protested to the District and the Department of Licenses and Inspections sent off a letter giving the Kimballs five days to lop two feet off the top. Mrs. Kimball said she never got the letter. However, both neighbors said today that agreement was reached that Mr. Rule would be content if the plans were changed to show the wall as it stands.

Figure 28. August 23, 1961, Evening Star, page 10.

Injuries Suffered By Miss Fleeson In Auto Accident

Doris Fleeson, political columnist, remained in satisfactory condition at Arlington Hospital today following an auto accident Saturday night near McLean, Va.

She suffered facial cuts and friction burns when she was thrown against the windshield of a car driven by her husband, Dan A. Kimball, after they took a wrong turn into an unused portion of State Route 123 and hit a 3-foot ditch, Fairfax County police reported.

Mrs. Kimball, whose syndicated column appears in The Star, and her husband were on their way to a dinner party in McLean when the accident occurred at Route 123 and Waverly Way.

Mr. Kimball, president of Aerojet General Corp. and Secretary of the Navy under former President Truman, escaped injury. The Kimballs live at 2120 S street N.W.

Figure 29. May 28, 1962, Evening Star, page 29.

Dan Kimball, 74, Dies; Former Navy Secretary

By RICHARD SLUSSER
Star Staff Writer

Dan A. Kimball, 74, a former secretary of the Navy and an industrialist who also was active in Democratic politics, died in Georgetown University Hospital yesterday after a brief illness. He and his wife, columnist Doris Fleeson, lived at 2120 S St. NW and also in Palm Springs, Calif.

Mr. Kimball was appointed assistant secretary of the Navy for air by President Harry S. Truman in 1949 and was named secretary in 1951 to succeed Francis P. Matthews. He served until the Eisenhower administration came into office in 1952.

He had long been associated with the General Tire & Rubber Co. as a manager and director and until retiring last year was board chairman of Aerojet-General Corp., the largest manufacturer of rocket engines for missiles and spacecraft in the United States.

A large man who would have stood out in a crowd just for his size, Mr. Kimball was a laughing, energetic business executive known for his quick decisions, rapid reading and understanding and determination to get things done.

He also had piloted his own plane — he was the first former Army pilot to head the Navy — and was described as a dangerous gin rummy player, heavy cigar smoker and one who was fond of wearing loud ties.

Mr. Kimball was born in St. Louis, Mo. He had to drop out of high school after two years in California and took correspondence courses in engineering while working as an electric auto mechanic. (In 1963 he was named Home Study Man of the Year by the International Correspondence School.)

Joining the Army Signal Corps' air section in World War I, he was an air cadet and flight school classmate of Gen. James H. Doolittle. After his commission, he flew pursuit planes until the end of the war.

In 1920 he joined General Tire's sales department in Los Angeles and later became manager for 11 western states. During World War II, when the firm began receiving many government orders, including some of the first for developing rockets and guided missiles, he was put in charge of the development program as director of Aerojet Engineering Corp. at Azusa, Calif., a subsidiary of the firm.

Aerojet and the old Douglas Aircraft Co. and other manufacturers developed high-altitude research rockets to obtain data from altitudes of a hundred miles and more. While with the Navy Department he was on leave as an official of both General Tire and Aerojet.

Mr. Kimball approved Navy Department civilian employe supervisors joining labor unions while he was undersecretary and was cited by the House Civil Service Committee for the way the Navy handled its loyalty-security program. He previously had been honored by the machinists union for his labor relations work at Aerojet during World War II.

In 1950 Mr. Kimball gave a



DAN A. KIMBALL

party for about 40 women members of the White House Correspondents Association who were barred from the club's annual stag dinner. He jokingly called the dinner a new FEPC — "Foundation for the Elimination of Preferential Classification."

The women correspondents made him president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the dinner committees.

Mr. Kimball was a man of countless public and private philanthropies. One of the projects that engaged his deepest interest was an Army tent factory he set up in the Watts area of Los Angeles after the 1965 riots. He gave personal attention to the establishment and operation of the plant, called the Watts Manufacturing Co.

At his insistence, all supervisory personnel were Watts residents and trained in the management divisions of his company. Employment priority was given to applicants who lacked education and could not find jobs elsewhere because of police records.

At the time of his death, Mr. Kimball was helping the Moroccan government establish a technical school for indigents. He had been interested in the project for three years.

Mr. Kimball was successful in soliciting campaign funds for Truman in the 1948 election, predicting that the President would win re-election. He also was chairman of former California Gov. Edmund G. Brown's campaign committee in 1962.

Two years ago he was a member of a group of prominent businessmen who pledged to raise more than \$5 million for Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy's presidential campaign. The group said McCarthy's anti-Vietnam war position then made him "the best political risk in American politics."

Mr. Kimball and Doris Fleeson were married in 1956. They would have celebrated their 12th anniversary tomorrow. His previous marriage to the former Dorothy Ames ended in divorce. Besides his wife, he leaves a stepdaughter, Doris O'Donnell.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at the Navy Chapel, 3801 Nebraska Ave. NW, with burial in Arlington Cemetery.

Columnist Doris Fleeson, 69, Dies 36 Hours After Husband

Doris Fleeson, nationally syndicated political columnist, and her husband, Dan A. Kimball, a former secretary of the navy, will be buried tomorrow in Arlington Cemetery after 10 a.m. services in the Navy Chapel, 3801 Nebraska Ave., NW.

Miss Fleeson, 69, died at her home here early yesterday after a massive coronary thrombosis, just 36 hours after the death of her husband. They would have celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary yesterday.

As a newspaper columnist and reporter, she was longtime advocate of women's rights and an astute, competitive observer of politics who elicited both the friendship and anger of five Presidents.

Answered With Quip

During the administration of President Harry S. Truman, Miss Fleeson, who described herself as a "non-partisan liberal," had been criticizing the President for mushrooming tax scandals. At a press conference Truman said he did not like the way Miss Fleeson was looking at him. Afterwards, she quipped:

"As for as how I was looking, I thought I looked pretty good. I had a new Sally Victor hat on."

She once visited President John F. Kennedy, who signed a picture of the two of them taken at the White House: "Dear Doris, There are many Presidents who can read your column, but it is only a happy few who have it delivered to them in person."

She was born May 20, 1901 in Sterling, Kan. Her first newspaper job was on a suburban Chicago newspaper in the 1920s, followed by a job in Great Neck, N.Y.

After daily trips to the office of the New York Daily News, Miss Fleeson finally landed a job as a police reporter and established her reputation by covering the investigation of local political scandals.

From 1927 to 1942, she was the News' Washington political correspondent, writing the "Capitol Stuff" column for eight years with the late John O'Donnell, whom she married, then divorced in the 1940s. They had one daughter, Doris, who lives in New York City.

For two years, she was a war correspondent for Women's Home Companion Magazine. In



DORIS FLEESON

1945 she began writing her syndicated column, at the Star.

Miss Fleeson was a founding member of the American Newspaper Guild and a delegate to its first convention in December 1933. She was elected a member of its national executive committee.

During her career she won many top journalism prizes, including the Raymond Clapper Award, Theta Sigma Phi Headliner Award and the Missouri Journalism Award.

As one of the first woman political columnists with a national audience, Miss Fleeson repeat-

edly faced and fought instances of male prejudice. In one of her more celebrated battles, she and May Craig, now retired correspondent for the Portland (Me.) Press-Herald, obtained Senate and House approval in the 1940s for installation of restroom facilities for women reporters in Congressional press galleries.

In 1967, she went into semi-retirement, ending the five-day-a-week column she wrote for 22 years for the United Features Syndicate.

On Aug. 1, 1958, Miss Fleeson married Mr. Kimball, who retired recently as head of the Aerojet General Corp. They lived here and in Palm Springs, Calif. The cause of Mr. Kimball's death has not been determined. He was 74.

Visiting hours have been scheduled today from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Joseph Gawler's Sons, 5130 Wisconsin Ave. NW.

Joseph Raff, 57, Plumber 35 Years

Joseph H. Raff, 57, a self-employed plumber for more than 35 years, died Thursday at Prince Georges General Hospital after a long illness. He lived at 4403 53rd Place, Bladensburg.

Mr. Raff was a native of Washington and attended public schools here. For the last 35 years, he worked as a plumber on various construction jobs in the area. He was a member of Local No. 5, Plumbers Union (AFL-CIO).

He leaves his wife, Lula; three sons, Joseph H., Jr., of Hillcrest Heights, Md.; William H. of Bowie, and Patrick C., of Washington; a daughter, Mrs. Dolores Schultz, of Fairfax; three brothers, George A., of Bladensburg, Robert L., of Bradbury Heights, Md., and Bernard T., of Omaha, Neb.; three sisters, Mrs. Anna Hooe, of Andrews Air Force Base, Mrs. Dorothea L. Morse, of Bladensburg and Mrs. Virginia Madden, of Edgewater, Md., and eight grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. tomorrow at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 4002 53rd Ave., Bladensburg, with burial at Congressional Cemetery.

Joseph Matthews, Ex-Administrator For Rental Firm

Joseph O. Matthews, 69, a property administrator for a District rental firm for 30 years, died Thursday at his home on Edson Lane, Rockville, after a long illness.

Mr. Matthews joined Bliss Properties, a real estate rental agency, in 1925 as an accountant and property administrator.

Following retirement in 1955, he took a position as an assistant in the pathology section of the National Institutes of Health, remaining there until 1966.

Mr. Matthews was a member of Holy Cross Catholic Church and belonged to its men's club and assisted in the clerical work of the parish.

Deaths



Figure 32. Doris Fleeson. Irish Central.

Doris Fleeson

'On the Beach' Flops

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON—In their rather hectic quota of 1960 worries Democratic leaders had placed a motion picture, "On the Beach." Now that rude reviews are coming in on the Hollywood version of the end of the world due to radioactive war, they feel better.



Democrats had feared that the picture, which is based on the chilling novel of the same name by Nevil Shute, would induce among Americans the same kind of unreasoning panic produced by the Martian invasion Orson Welles staged on radio some years ago. Welles got undreamed of effects, which are still the nightmare of propagandists.

It may seem far-fetched that politicians feared more of same from one picture. Yet, much more recently than the Welles episode, they watched Khrushchev exploit the Hollywood version of the can-can to prove that the Soviet Union should not have more cultural ties with the United States.

Also, Stanley Kramer, who produced and directed "On the Beach," had two years ago made a stunningly effective plea for better race relations with his film, "The Defiant Ones." If "On the Beach" had measured up to that success, the power of the peace issue on which Republicans are counting might well have been greatly magnified.

Hence, Democrats note with pleasure such comments as Time magazine's, which says, in part, that the film is "a sentimental sort of radiation romance in which the customers are considerably spared any scenes of realistic horror and are asked instead to accept the movie notion that

what is really horrible about the end of the world is boy does not get girl."

Time concludes that "the picture actually manages . . . to make the most dangerous conceivable situation in human history seem rather silly and science-fictional."

For once Democrats hope that the pro-Republican Luce publication is absolutely right. They are already having enough trouble trying to sort out their thoughts on how to handle the peace issue and the related problem of defense during the coming campaign.

All their candidates for President and their principal leaders are sincerely troubled, not so much by the Russian lead in space as by the lack of the will to overtake that lead both in the Administration and in the public. They oppose budget considerations being given priority in the Defense Department.

Yet, they are realistic about the fact that the decisions they demand are the harsh ones. They have never denied the public trust of Eisenhower in military matters. They perceive that the tax revolt being fomented in some quarters could catch on while the Kremlin talks so softly.

It was once possible for politicians to put together a collection of regional issues, ethnic groups and special interests and so achieve national victory. The history of recent Presidential elections suggests that this is no longer the case. Presidents now are much more often winning by landslides on a pre-eminent issue which mass communications enable them to put across nationally.

Democrats are finding it far easier to diagnose their problem than to solve it as the new year of decision starts.

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Figure 33. Example of Doris Fleeson Column. January 1, 1960, Times Record News, page 8.



Doris Fleeson

Washington Scene

The yellow mountain of morphine Premier Castro demanded for his prisoner ransom deal dealt our fine narcotics bureau heroes an unspoken reverse.

Senator Estes Kefauver's crime committee long ago identified Cuba as an international hub in the fiendish traffic. Much of this free delivery to Castro — highest quality — will come right smack back to the dope peddlers in the United States.

Shortly before I left Switzerland our American embassy, in cooperation with the superb Swiss police, impounded over \$3 million in morphine in transit, carried in a single suitcase. This is how morphine money multiplies in the cut firm Castro will cut it.

The whole ransom affair typifies Washington's news manipulation, culminating even in the President's Miami eulogy to the survivors themselves on December 29. Speaking there, not only words were used as "weapons," hearts were used as well.

President Kennedy repeatedly stated, "This is being done by a private committee," while our government was as much in it as in the Bay of Pigs affair itself. This is now a secret everybody knows.

But inside his office the determined attorney general had — from the beginning — what he called the "wish list" from Castro. The Cubans drew up a crazy compilation. In totalling it to \$33 million dollars he used mostly obsolete drug-house catalogues. He specified some drugs unobtainable here, many scientifically obsolete, and even dreamed up others that never existed. His morphine feature, however, was the final clincher Castro demanded in his American blackmail. The attorney general's opening explanation in soliciting each contribution was: "My brother made a mistake."

Why didn't our public servants simply perform on the straightforward basis required by their official position? Congress specifically prohibited the use of taxpayers' money for ransom during the tractors-for-prisoners spear. These officials could not do what they wanted to do and still come out in the open.

To date the administration has even refused a list of items, quantities and costs, making all assessment by our public impossible. Congress should at least expose the tax gimmicks and inside half authorized overnight after the attorney general's reported, "Fella, get busy" words to treasury

Secretary Douglas Dillon, by a government which is about to challenge every citizen's lunch nickel and Christmas cigar.

Moreover, impeccable Cuban underground sources as close to Castro as his beard (for Castro's inner circle has been well penetrated) insist Castro's real win was not the \$33 million ransom at all. His eye was entirely on a reaffirmation of a non-invasion pledge. Knowing negotiator James B. Donovan spoke for President Kennedy and his brother. Castro required and received this pledge as the basic requirement before allowing the invasion prisoners to leave. Castro asked Donovan, "What if President Kennedy repudiates you?" Donovan replied, "He won't."

In short, Castro has achieved his ambition as the communist leader of Latin America under a United States guarantee not to molest or permit any neighbor to molest, red Cuba's sovereignty.

This reaffirmed President Kennedy's guarantee through United Nations acting Secretary General U Thant if the missiles were removed, still never admitted by Washington but extracted from the secret U.N. minutes of the initial U Thant-Castro meeting in Havana which U Thant's office confirmed to me as accurate.

Nevertheless, the news manipulation continues unabated. What did the President pledge in Miami December 29 that brought the vast, tear-laden cheers from the very hearts and souls of the Cuban refugees? Accepting the banner of the Bay of Pigs survivors Mr. Kennedy stated, "I can assure you this flag will be returned to your brigade in a free Cuba." How?

The blockade has been lifted, the dependents sent back to Guantanamo and, to top it off, the justice department is in the process of arresting Freedom Fighters bound for Cuba for sabotage. The attorney general claims the mere attempt violates our neutrality act! In addition, all suspected Freedom Fighters' boats, and even many of their personal automobiles, are being impounded in Florida.

First our President, then his brother, gave the non-molestation guarantee to Castro himself, as well as to Khrushchev. That's the fact; all the rest, including the Miami speech, belongs to the moon and to the realm of manipulated news.

(Copyright, 1963, by United Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Figure 34. Example of Doris Fleeson Column. January 4, 1963, The St. Cloud Daily Times, page 4.

DORIS FLEESON

Selma To Force LBJ's Hand on Civil Rights

WASHINGTON — Little Rock, Ark., forced President Eisenhower's hand. Oxford, Miss., compelled President Kennedy's intervention. Now a similar breakdown of law and order in Selma, Ala., confronts President Johnson.

As precedents for Federal action increased, legislation followed to increase the Federal power to act. It appears that the Selma incident will repeat the pattern by improving prospects for new legislation to set up Federal voting registrars in disobedient sections of the South.

What is excitingly different about the new situation is that the Administration feels strong enough to treat Gov. George Wallace and Sheriff James Clark as enemies of the South far more than of Negroes. The first to make this point was the President's former Senate colleague, Ralph Yarborough of Texas.

Emotional Attack

Yarborough cried "Shame on you, George Wallace" in an emotional attack upon the brutality with which the Selma paraders were treated. Negroes sought only their constitutional right to vote, said the Senator, and Wallace should atone by patterning his conduct on that of "real Southerners" with a vision of the future.

Other Southerners have already admitted that Wallace was a threat to their hopes of deliberate speed in meeting the national demand for integration. They are groaning today in many quarters which have long managed to stave off the political and economic sanctions possible in the civil rights battle.

More clearly than most

people, they have seen how a state's economy suffers from such incidents, even without Federal pressure. While that has been sinking in, President Johnson shrewdly launched a national program for coordination of civil rights activities everywhere in the government.

He put it in the hand of Vice-President Hubert Humphrey, who keyed it to law and order and the prevention of violence. The subject of Federal contract standards arose, of course, as the President, who worked on that problem for John F. Kennedy knew it would. The hint is not even very subtle with so many Federal installations in the South.

To Be Here

Wallace, who made only token resistance at the University of Alabama, has apparently decided to be a hero in the Black Belt. The harm he may do the state as a whole will see increased use as an Administration weapon. Such suggestions in the past have met with Southern cries of persecution. It appears that like so many other aspects of the American way, that, too, is changing.

The Alabama Governor is seen here as a talented politician taking risks to rivet his hold on state power. His prestige was damaged when his state turned to Sen. Barry Goldwater and Republican Congressmen. Whether he can get it back at home with Selma is uncertain.

Dr. Martin Luther King is sharing the personal risks of the effort to influence public opinion. What the President thinks about that is not known, but King has two big helpers, at least, in Governor Wallace and Sheriff Clark.

Figure 35. Example of Doris Fleeson Column. Match 15, 1965, Desert Sun, Volume 38, page 14.

Doris Fleeson

Democratic Senators Face Hard Races

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATS BELIEVE THEY HAVE in sight some offsets to their generally discouraging prospects in the Senate elections next year.

They start with Iowa, where the latest Iowa Poll gives Gov. Harold Hughes 53 per cent if he were running today against the Republican incumbent, Bourke Hickenlooper. The Senator won only 37 per cent of the straws, and 10 per cent were undecided. A much larger majority, 72 per cent, approved of the job Gov. Hughes is now doing.

This is in part youth versus age. Mr. Hughes is 45, Senator Hickenlooper 71. The Governor also has shown qualities of leadership in contrast to the colorless Senator.

The same pattern exists in New Hampshire, where Senator Norris Cotton, 67, expects to be challenged by Democratic Gov. John King, 48. In 1964 Senator Cotton helped manage Barry Goldwater's dismal primary campaign in the state. Now he has passed the word that he's staying out of the primary test of Republican presidential sentiment, apparently fearing party feuding might hurt his own chances.

Such feuding helped elect Gov. King and sent Senator Thomas McIntyre to Washington in November, 1962. As Gov. George Romney is making his first pass at the New Hampshire primary with a summer visit to an influential supporter, it has revived to some extent, although most party leaders seem wary of committing themselves.

DEMOCRATS ARE ALSO LOOKING to Illinois but acknowledge that the scene there is less bright. Senate Minority Leader Everett Dirksen's hospital visits are more frequent and longer of late, and he is 71. But no bright, young Governor is at hand to oppose him. This contest must await events.

The next Senate would be a problem for Democrats even without problems of age and the fact that seven of their incumbents up next time are articulate critics of President Johnson's Vietnam policy. Only 11 Republicans are up, but 23 Democrats. An unexpected erosion of their majority occurred in 1966 when the party balance was closer.

Now they have several very senior candidates of their own, others who have seen their states slip into Republican control, and a special threat from the well-financed Far Right. It is not a good outlook, especially as almost a third of them will not work well in campaign harness with the President.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE for an Effective Congress says it has collected "six-figure contributions" to help that near one-third. It will also help Republicans Senators Jacob Javits of New York, Thomas Kuchel of California and George Aiken of Vermont.

Senator Kuchel, incidentally, is profiting from Gov. Ronald Reagan's presidential bid. Reagan puts state party unity first to insure his favorite-son status, and has firmly refused to back any other hero of the right wing than himself.

Midwest and Western Democrats particularly must contend with the Far Right. One, Senator Frank Church of Idaho, already has been the target of a recall petition. History also suggests that when these areas cast congressional votes, Republicans more often win.



Hughes

Figure 36. Example of Doris Fleeson Column. August 16, 1967, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, page 27.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DORIS FLEESON—ONE OF THE TRULY GREAT FIGURES IN AMERICA

HON. RALPH YARBOROUGH

OF TEXAS

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES
Monday, August 3, 1970

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Mr. President, one of the truly great figures of American journalism, Doris Fleeson, died Saturday, August 1, 1970. All journalists would do well to study the career and the writings of Doris Fleeson. She combined a natural talent for writing with a keen perceptive view of politics and Government. Taking these talents, and with a strong devotion to her work, Doris Fleeson earned the respect of her readers—from the man in the street to the men in the White House.

All people in public life should also study the writings of Doris Fleeson. She called herself a "nonpartisan liberal." She had sharp incisive comments to make on the American political scene. Her observations, while frequently biting, bit with truth and logic.

In addition to being an outstanding professional in a frequently difficult career, Doris Fleeson was also a most devoted wife. We must also note that she died just 36 hours after her husband, Dan A. Kimball, the former Secretary of the Navy, died.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be printed in the extension of remarks of the Record this fine tribute by Mary McGrory entitled "Doris Fleeson: An Appreciation," published in the Washington Sunday Star of August 2, 1970, and also the article entitled "Columnist Doris Fleeson, 69, Dies 36 Hours After Husband," published in the Sunday Star of the same date.

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

DORIS FLEESON: AN APPRECIATION

(By Mary McGrory)

Doris Fleeson made a speech to the Women's National Democratic Club in 1959, in which, having characteristically chided the President and the Congress for their lapses, she gave her own credo:

"But in the end there are no wonder men and no wonder women. There are only you and me and others like us who believe in freedom to do these things. There are only those of us with vision to see the world as it is and the courage to try to do something about it."

She was surely one of the most clear-seeing women ever born, and as for courage, she was lion-hearted. Her prose was a true blade which cut through the fraud, pettiness, egotism and male supremacy which were her daily fare during the 26 years she prowled the Capital, watching politics and politicians.

"NON-PARTISAN LIBERAL"

She was a small, focused woman, with large, luminous hazel eyes and a wide smile. She was fierce. Fierce in her opinions, fierce in her affections. She called herself a "non-partisan liberal" and while she could be objective in her columns and distill her

monumental rages to burnished, cogent, biting paragraphs, she never concealed her feelings. She would seek out an erring statesman and, with tears of indignation in her eyes, berate him for his folly.

She was, decades before the Woman's Liberation Movement a militant feminist. While she was inconspicuously the first political journalist of her time, she took on the battles of her lesser sisters, and never forgot a slight to her sex.

Nor did she ever waver in her defiance of the established order.

The night of her death, she received a visit from the editor of The Star, Newbold Noyes. With heroic forbearance, she refrained from mentioning his recent entertainment of the President at the paper as a stag lunch—an incident which had ignited her feminist fires.

He told her, "Doris, you must write a book so that the young reporters on The Star will know that they did not invent rebellion at the Establishment."

It delighted her soul.

When, in the 50s she was leading the fight for a ladies' room in the male sanctuaries of the Senate press gallery, she accosted her dear friend and colleague Frank Kent.

"If you laugh at us," she warned him, "I will never forgive you."

Nothing infuriated her more than to be told that she wrote like a man.

"What man?" she would inquire witheringly.

Frank Kent did not, understandably, laugh at her. Few did. She was formidable and the few who did not like her had the healthiest respect for her power and her pen.

COMBATIVE

Her happiest days, professionally, came during the Roosevelt era. She had known Franklin D. Roosevelt as governor of New York, and Eleanor Roosevelt was her ideal of womanhood . . . committed, caring, indefatigable and effective. The excitement and enlightenment of the New Deal gave her opportunity for the expression of rare and unqualified approval. Subsequent presidents never measured up. She regarded Adlai Stevenson, whose mind and spirit, while less combative, matched her own. As a man totally qualified for the White House, his two defeats caused her to mutter bitterly about the "Tahosee."

"I hit people hard sometimes," she said once, "but they seem to take it because they know I do that to everyone."

It was an understatement. In her prime, she could be disemboweling and her infrequent appearances on television pandes caused strong men to cringe in fear. But while she was relentless towards her peers—among whom she counted the world's leaders—she was capable of positive tenderness towards the weak and the unwarranted. A great professional, she cared deeply for her craft, and her kindness to young reporters was legendary and prodigious.

HAPPY MARRIAGE

She gloried in the achievements and honors of her career. But the pride of her later life was her triumphantly happy marriage to Dan A. Kimball, a huge, bluff, generous business genius who shared her passion for Democratic politics and doted on everything about her, including her sputtering rages.

To him, the scourge of statesmen was "my little bride," an appellation that never failed to melt her.

She was intensely feminine and brought the perfectionism of her writing to bear on her person and her household. She could

brood over the placing of a China closet as heavily as over the course of the Vietnam War, of which, she said, she was a casualty. She suffered her first stroke in 1964.

In 1968, no longer writing, she participated in the McCarthy campaign by feeding the volunteers, of which her daughter, Doris O'Donnell, was one. Three times a week, splendid trays of sandwiches, prepared by her own hand, were dispatched to headquarters.

MACAULEY'S WORDS

She and Dan Kimball worried unduly over each other's health, and neither could face the prospect of life without the other's devotion. When word of his death was brought to her bedside Thursday afternoon, she reached down into that beautifully arranged and handsomely stocked mind and brought up the words to tell her grief. In a choking voice she recited lines from Macaulay:

"The house that was the happiest within the Roman walls,
The house that envied not the wealth of Capua's marble halls,
Now for the brightest of thy smile must have eternal gloom
And for the music of thy voice the silence of the tomb."

Thirty-six hours later, she was dead.

COLUMNIST DORIS FLEESON, 69, DIES 36 HOURS AFTER HUSBAND

Doris Fleeson, nationally syndicated political columnist, and her husband, Dan A. Kimball, a former secretary of the navy, will be buried tomorrow in Arlington Cemetery after 10 a.m. services in the Navy Chapel, 8801 Nobrook Ave., NW.

Miss Fleeson, 69, died at her home here early yesterday after a massive coronary thrombosis, just 36 hours after the death of her husband. They would have celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary yesterday.

As a newspaper columnist and reporter, she was longtime advocate of women's rights and an astute, competitive observer of politics who allotted both the friendship and anger of five Presidents.

ANSWERED WITH GOIF

During the administration of President Harry S. Truman, Miss Fleeson, who described herself as a "non-partisan liberal," had been criticizing the President for mishandling tax scandals. At a press conference Truman said he did not like the way Miss Fleeson was looking at him. Afterwards, she quipped:

"As for as how I was looking, I thought I looked pretty good. I had a new Sally Victor hat on."

She once visited President John F. Kennedy, who signed a picture of the two of them taken at the White House: "Dear Doris, There are many Presidents who can read your column, but it is only a happy few who have it delivered to them in person."

She was born May 30, 1901 in Sterling, Kan. Her first newspaper job was on a suburban Chicago newspaper in the 1920s, followed by a job in Great Neck, N.Y.

After daily trips to the office of the New York Daily News, Miss Fleeson finally landed a job as a police reporter and established her reputation by covering the investigation of local political scandals.

From 1927 to 1943, she was the News' Washington political correspondent, writing the "Capitol Stuff" column for eight years with the late John O'Donnell, whom she married, then divorced in the 1940s. They had one daughter, Doris, who lives in New York City.

Figure 37. Extension of Remarks to Doris Fleeson upon her passing. August 3, 1970, page 1 of 2. Congressional Record

For two years, she was a war correspondent for Women's Home Companion Magazine. In 1945 she began writing her syndicated column, at the Star.

Miss Fleeson was a founding member of the American Newspaper Guild and a delegate to its first convention in December 1933. She was elected a member of its national executive committee.

During her career she won many top journalism prizes, including the Raymond Clapper Award, Theta Sigma Phi Headliner Award and the Missouri Journalism Award.

As one of the first women political columnists with a national audience, Miss Fleeson repeatedly faced and fought instances of male prejudice. In one of her more celebrated battles, she and May Craig, now retired correspondent for the Portland (Me.) Press-Herald, obtained Senate and House approval in the 1940s for installation of restroom facilities for women reporters in Congressional press galleries.

In 1967, she went into semi-retirement, ending the five-day-a-week column she wrote for 22 years for the United Features Syndicate.

On Aug. 1, 1958, Miss Fleeson married Mr. Kimball, who retired recently as head of the Aerojet General Corp. They lived here and in Palm Springs, Calif. The cause of Mr. Kimball's death has not been determined. He was 74.

Visiting hours have been scheduled today from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Joseph Gawler's Sons, 5130 Wisconsin Ave, NW.

Figure 38. Extension of Remarks to Doris Fleeson upon her passing. August 3, 1970, page 2 of 2. Congressional Record

TRIBUTE TO DAN KIMBALL AND
DORIS FLEESON

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, for several days I have wanted to say something about the passing of two old friends—Dan Kimball, a former Secretary of the Navy, and his wife, Doris Fleeson, a well-known columnist.

I valued the friendship of both. I found Dan Kimball a man with a big heart, a man with deep understanding, and with a deep appreciation of the affairs of state—domestically and in the field of foreign affairs.

I found Doris Fleeson a lady with a sharp tongue and a sharp pen but a big heart. She was one of the really good columnists, in my opinion. She did not try to gloss over the facts as she understood them. She made her views known in no uncertain language. Everyone always knew where Doris stood.

It was a happy marriage. It was a coincidence that Doris Fleeson died on the 12th anniversary of her wedding to Dan Kimball. It was more than coincidental, I believe, that she died within 36 hours after Dan's death.

I just want to express my feeling and that of my wife on the passing of these two outstanding Americans. We extend every sympathy possible to those whom they have left behind. I wish to assure them that if there is any way in which I can be of service, I shall be more than happy to help in any way possible.

I can only say in closing, Mr. President: May their souls rest in peace.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the *Record* a newspaper article appertaining to the passing of Dan Kimball and Doris Fleeson published in Sunday's Washington Post.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the *Record*, as follows:

COLUMNIST DORIS FLEESON DIES AT 69, 36 HOURS AFTER DEATH OF HUSBAND, DAN KIMBALL.

(By Gerald E. Bunker)

Doris Fleeson, one of the most successful women journalists in American newspaper history, died early yesterday morning of a coronary thrombosis at her home, 2120 E St. NW. She was 69.

Her death came just 36 hours after that of her second husband, Dan A. Kimball, a Secretary of the Navy under President Truman. Yesterday would have been their 12th wedding anniversary.

Miss Fleeson launched a syndicated political column for the *Evening Star* and the *Boston Globe* in 1945, and at the time of her semi-retirement in 1967, was being published by more than 100 newspapers through the United Features Syndicate.

Known for her strong opinions and acerbic wit, she was praised yesterday by friends and colleagues for the unflinching professionalism of her writing.

"She could sit down at a typewriter in the

Figure 39. Tribute to Dan Kimball and Doris Fleeson. August 4, 1970, page 1 of 2. Congressional Record—Senate.

Senate Press Gallery and in little more than an hour pound out a profound analysis of a complex situation," Mary McGrory, a columnist at The Evening Star and a long-time friend, said.

She was against injustice and unkindness. She was a fierce person. She was a person who was merciless towards her enemies and who adored her friends," Miss McGrory said.

Miss Fleeson, who fought all her life against "the thought that a woman's byline belongs only over the sob story," herself came up through the ranks of the old journalistic apprenticeship.

She was born in Sterling, Kan., a town that she later described as a "whistlestop" into a "very Republican" family.

After graduation from the University of Kansas in 1923, she borrowed \$65 and set out for Chicago determined to be a reporter.

After stints with the Pittsburg, Kan., Sun, and the Evanston, Ill., News Index, she became city editor of the Great Neck, N.Y., News.

"On one dark November night in 1927," Miss Fleeson once said, "I walked into the New York Daily News and demanded that I see the editor. In 15 minutes I got him and in the next 15 minutes I did myself no injustice whatever. He had a vacancy, wonderful to relate, and I was a full-fledged New York reporter at last."

It was at the Daily News that she "learned to hit them in the eye," as she later said.

In 1930, she married John O'Donnell, a political reporter for the News, and two years later gave birth to a daughter.

In 1933, Miss Fleeson and her husband came to Washington and together wrote the paper's Capitol Stuff column. An ardent Roosevelt supporter, she was the only woman member of the press entourage that accompanied him on his campaigns.

In 1942, she was divorced from O'Donnell and the following year became a war correspondent for the Woman's Home Companion, a post she held until starting her column in 1945.

Miss Fleeson's political stance was characterized as liberal by herself and others. While her sympathies were said to lie more with the Democrats than Republicans, a perusal of her published columns shows that she roared friend with equal vehemence as foe.

An ever-articulate spokesman for equal rights for women, Miss Fleeson also fought for decent wages in the newspaper industry and for the rights of minorities.

In 1933, she helped found the American Newspaper Guild and was one of a committee that went to Washington to urge the National Recovery Administration to adopt a code setting a \$35-minimum wage for reporters.

She sponsored the first Negro applicant for membership in the Woman's National Press Club in 1953.

Miss Fleeson is survived by a daughter, Doris O'Donnell, of New York.

Figure 40. Tribute to Dan Kimball and Doris Fleeson. August 4, 1970, page 2 of 2. Congressional Record – Senate.

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Doris Fleeson Kimball House

City or Vicinity: Washington

County: Washington

State: DC

Photographer: Dani Michelson

Date Photographed: January 2, 2025

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 1. Façade (north elevation), looking south.



Figure 41. 2120 S St, NW. North Façade, looking south. Dani Michelson, January 2, 2025.

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