GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

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

Property name Kalorama Park
*If any part of the **interior** is being nominated, it must be specifically identified and described in the narrative statements.*

Address 1875 Columbia Road, NW, Washington, DC
Square and lot number(s): Square 2550, Lot 0818

Affected Advisory Neighborhood Commission ANC 01-C

Date of construction: 1949 Date of major alteration(s): 1986, 1993

Architect(s) NA Architectural style(s) NA

Original use: agriculture, residential Present use: park and playground

Property owner: District of Columbia

Legal address of property owner: D.C. Department of Parks & Recreation, 1250 U St NW #2, Washington, DC 20009

NAME OF APPLICANT: Kalorama Citizens 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: P.O. Box 21311, Kalorama Station, Washington DC 20009; 202-232-8829

Name and title of authorized representative: Denis James, President

Signature of representative _____ Date 9-18-2015

Name and telephone of authors of application: Mara Cherkasky, 202-997-1542; Mary J. Belcher, 202-390-9069

#15-26 Date received 9/21/15
H.P.O. staff MV

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: __Kalorama Park_____

Other names/site number: Little, John, Estate of; Kalorama Park Archaeological Site, 51NW061

Name of related multiple property listing**:**

__N/A_____

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

---

2. Location

Street & number: __1875 Columbia Road, NW

City or town: ___Washington_____ State: _DC_____ County: _____

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

_____
Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**
_____
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Name of Property | County and State

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 ☐

Name of Property | County and State

Site	x
Structure	
Object	

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
2		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
DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
DOMESTIC/slave quarters
SUBSISTENCE/AGRICULTURE/agricultural field (cattle farm)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Park/playground

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: _____

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 three-acre triangular Kalorama Park, officially dedicated in 1949, is bounded by Columbia Road on the east, by Kalorama Road on the south, by 19th Street on the west, and, on the north, by the rear property lines of houses and apartment buildings facing Mintwood Place in Northwest Washington, DC. It is a popular green space in a neighborhood that has been densely built for more than a century. A two-acre portion of the park in 2010 was designated a District of Columbia Landmark, Kalorama Park Archaeological Site, 51NW061, because it contains structural remains and other artifacts from the time it was the manor-house grounds of a large slave-holding farm owned by John Little. The purpose of this nomination is to broaden the scope of both the site's area of significance and its period of significance. The entire park site is associated with individuals who were significant in the history of the District of Columbia and the nation before John Little owned the land, as well as during his ownership and after. The park contains archaeological remains of Little's manor house and outbuildings that stood on the site from approximately1836 until 1937. In addition, vestiges of John Little's farm are evident above ground: the 1947 park design—largely intact today--incorporates the manor-house grounds' entryways, paths, and driveways. Culturally significant is the story of how the park and its playground functioned in a racially mixed neighborhood during segregation and desegregation in

the mid-20th century. The site includes one contributing structure: a one-story, L-shaped, red-brick field house. The 1949 building was altered about 1993 but largely retains its original look.

Narrative Description

Please note: endnotes are at the very end of this document, starting on page 61.

Introduction

Kalorama Park is the green space at the heart of the Kalorama Triangle Historic District. However, the park is not included in the Historic District, presumably because the 1986 historic district nomination focused instead on the architectural significance of buildings in the neighborhood. It does not mention the park property, its long history as a slave-holding estate, or its ownership by prominent Washingtonians.

As the highest point in the area, the park property once was the site of John Little's manor house, which commanded a view of his 56.5-acre cattle farm and Washington City. Little, a butcher, bought the property in 1836, built a large house, and purchased enslaved African Americans to work the farm. By 1860 he held 13 enslaved people there, including three generations of the Prout family.

A 1986 archaeological survey found parts of two walls from the Little manor house, and the remains of a smaller structure behind it. After a contractor in 2009 accidentally uncovered the remnants of a third and possibly a fourth structure in the park, the D.C. Office of Historic Preservation ordered another archaeological survey. The findings of this survey, placed in the historical context of John Little's slaveholding farm, resulted in the D.C. Historic Preservation Review Board's unanimous decision, in 2010, to designate Kalorama Park Archaeological Site, 51NW061, a District of Columbia Landmark.

As one of a very small number of documented slavery-related sites in the District of Columbia, Kalorama Park has merited two honors for its special history. "The Site of John Little's Manor House" was added to the National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom in 2008, and "Hortense Prout Freedom Seeker/John Little Farm Site/Kalorama Park National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Site" was added to the city's *African American Heritage Trail, Washington, DC*, in 2014.

William Thornton and his Thoroughbreds, 1817-1828

Kalorama Park sits on what once was a portion of much larger land patents in the Maryland colony dating from 1664. In 1727, the property that later became the park was added to the extensive Holmead family property holdings, known as "Pleasant Plains." In 1817 Superintendent of Patents William Thornton bought 33.75 acres from John Holmead,[1] one of the original proprietors of the District of Columbia, to add to the 22.75 acres of the "Mount

Pleasant" tract Thornton had bought two years earlier from Thomas Peter. The two parcels were adjacent; they were bisected by Tayloe's Lane Road (also known as Taylor's Lane Road, today Columbia Road), with the Holmead land lying on the north side and the Peter land on the south.[2]

Tayloe's Lane Road led to Col. John Tayloe III's estate Petworth, northeast of today's Georgia Avenue/Rock Creek Church Road intersection. In between, and just a short distance from Thornton's property, lay the National Racetrack, centered approximately at today's 14th Street and Park Road intersection. Most likely it was the property's proximity to the racetrack that attracted Thornton. Horseracing was an enormously popular pastime among all walks of people, and Thornton, an avid fan, owned and raced thoroughbreds.[3] In addition, Thornton had laid out the one-mile, circular track for the Washington Jockey Club which, under the leadership of Tayloe, Thomas Peter, and other prominent Washingtonians, had leased land for it from John Holmead in 1802.[4] To the east of Thornton's property was the large Meridian Hill estate, and to the west was the Kalorama estate.

An ad announcing the fall racing season at the racetrack near Thornton's land. (Spirit of Seventy-Six, *Washington, D.C.,, Vol. III, Issue 10, p. 1, October 16, 1810)*

Born in the West Indies to British parents, Thornton (1759-1828) trained as a physician in Aberdeen, Scotland, before immigrating to Philadelphia in 1887 and becoming a U.S. citizen a year later.[5] He and his wife, Anna Maria Brodeau Thornton, moved to Washington in 1792, and the next year Thornton won a design competition for the new country's capitol building, thus becoming the first Architect of the Capitol. President George Washington appointed him city commissioner in 1794, six years before the federal government began arriving in Washington from Philadelphia. Thornton and his two fellow commissioners faced an enormous task: paying for and completing public buildings to house Congress and the federal government, thereby encouraging private investment in the new capital city.[6]

When Thornton's tenure as city commissioner ended in 1802, President Thomas Jefferson appointed him head of the U.S. Patent Office, a position he held until his death in 1828.[7] Notably, as the British rampaged through Washington in August 1814, burning public buildings, Thornton managed to talk the British out of burning the Patent Office. The models inside were private property, he argued.[8] Thornton was an inventor himself, applying over the years for patents on a rifle, a boiler, a still, and a steam paddle wheel.[9]

Thornton also received important architectural commissions. He helped design and oversaw the construction of two houses privately built by George Washington on Capitol Hill, and he designed Tudor Place for Thomas and Martha Custis Peter and Octagon House for Col. John Tayloe III. George Washington's Capitol Hill houses no longer exist; however, both Tudor Place and Octagon House stand today as historic landmarks.

Important figures in the city's political and social aristocracy, William and Anna Maria Thornton counted George and Martha Washington, as well as James and Dolley Madison, among their close friends. As an early District commissioner, Thornton provided guidance on the creation of city green spaces and the establishment of city institutions. In 1823 he defended John Quincy Adams in a letter published by a Fredericktown newspaper. Thornton criticized the bad press that Adams had received and then described how George Washington held Adams in high esteem and in fact believed that Adams was the most promising young man in America. Thornton also noted that he had been Adams's next-door neighbor for many years, and described him in the most excellent terms.[10]

The Thorntons owned a house in the 1400 block of F Street, a farm in Montgomery County, Maryland, the Tayloe's Road property, a gold mine in North Carolina, numerous thoroughbred horses, Merino sheep, and much more. After his death, Anna Maria Thornton found herself responsible for his many debts,[11] so she began selling off her husband's property.

Christian and Matthew Hines's Silkworm Venture, 1828-1836

The Thornton family's 56.5 acres near the racetrack went for $5,650 to Christian and Matthew Hines,[12] who ran a grocery store at 20th and I Streets NW. According to the terms they set, the initial payment comprised $500 in cash and $1000 in "interest bearing Notes," with the remainder due in annual payments over the next several years. The brothers had big plans. With the idea of starting a silkworm operation, they began planting the land with mulberry trees—whose berries are food for silkworms. The Hineses built a 1.5-story bungalow, about 25 feet square, facing west onto Tayloe's Lane Road, across from today's park. (Some of the mulberry trees remained in 1918, but the house had burned down in the 1880s, according to historian John Clagett Proctor.[13])

Unfortunately, the silkworm venture proved unsuccessful, and the Hineses were not able to keep up their payments to Anna Maria Thornton so they lost the land.

As one of the original inhabitants of the District of Columbia, Christian Hines became one of its most significant first-hand historians. Later in life he wrote a memoir called *Early Recollections*

of Washington City, which covered the period starting with his arrival in Washington as a boy, in 1790, through 1866.

John Little's Slaveholding Estate, 1836-1862

In December 1836 John Little (1805-1876), a Washington-born butcher, bought Thornton's 56.5 acres for $4,800 to farm and raise cattle.[14] He built a three-story house at one of the highest points of his land[15] and began acquiring slaves.

One of the first enslaved people Little brought to the farm was Moses Bell, whom he purchased from slave trader Lawrence Hoff in Alexandria in 1837. He sold Bell in less than a year to another butcher, who then sold Bell to a third.[16]

John Little's manor house, photographed circa 1900. ***(Historical Society of Washington, D.C.)***

In 1839, Little purchased from downtown D.C. slave traders B.O. Shekell and William H. Williams an African American family who would remain his property for three generations: the Prout family. He bought Delilah Prout, who was about 40 and possibly pregnant; her husband, whose name and age is unknown; the couple's five-year-old son Leander; and two-year-old

daughter Tabitha. After coming to live on Little's farm, Delilah gave birth to three daughters: Celeste, born ca. 1839; Hortense, born ca. 1841; and Kalisti, born ca. 1842. Tabitha and Kalisti would have four more children, who also became John Little's property because a child's status as free or enslaved was inherited from his or her mother.

When Little purchased the Prout family, at least one other son was held in Prince George's by Anthony C. Page. In 1844, the following ad appeared in the *Baltimore Sun*:

> *FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD—Ranaway from the subscriber, living near Good Luck, Prince George's county, Md., on Monday, the 26th ult., my negro man Abraham, who calls himself ABRAHAM PROUT. The said negro is about 5 feet 6 inches high, 22 years of age, stout made, very black, and very pleasant when spoken to; no marks recollected. Had on when he left home, white summer roundabout, grey summer cloth pantaloons, and black fur hat. He has a father and mother living with a Mr. Little, adjoining the National Race Course, near the District of Columbia, where he may probably be lucking. I will give the above reward if taken and secured in jail in the State of Maryland or District of Columbia, or $100 if taken elsewhere.*[17]

Little purchased more slaves as his cattle farm and butchery prospered. In 1844 he bought 8-year-old Benjamin Purnell from a Mr. Darnell. In 1847, he bought Geoffrey McKenzie from Kalorama, the large estate just west of the Little farm. Also working on the farm was William Crown, whom John Little and his brother Samuel had purchased jointly at a Prince George's County, Md., auction in 1834, when Crown was seven years old.

Leander Prout, Benjamin Purnell, William Crown, and Geoffrey McKenzie worked as butchers and farmhands. The Prout women worked in Little's household as domestic servants.
By 1850, John Little had 13 free people living in his home, including two free African Americans, Ben Linton and Daniel Robertson, listed as laborers, according to the Census of Free Inhabitants. The 1850 Slave Inhabitants Census—which listed the genders and ages but not the names of enslaved individuals—shows that John Little owned 12 men, women and children.

In the 1860 Free Inhabitants Census, John Little's household had 12 members. The 1860 Slave Inhabitants Census shows John Little owning 13 slaves, including two as guardian of his orphaned niece and nephew. The 1860 Free Census lists the worth of John Little's real estate holdings as $40,000, and his personal estate as $47,000.

The 1860 Free Census also shows that a free African American woman and her three young free children lived in a separate household next to John Little's. She was Sophia Prout, who later records reveal was married to the enslaved Leander Prout.[18] Leander possibly lived with his free family in the small household next to the Little manor house, but his name would not have been listed in the Free Census.

By 1860, nearly four out of five African Americans living in the District of Columbia were free. The 1860 Census counted 11,131 free African Americans and 3,185 enslaved. While slavery had

declined sharply in households within the city limits, it persisted on the large farms in the surrounding rural areas of the District of Columbia.[19]

Enslaved people in Washington could win their freedom by petitioning the court; by striking a deal with their owners to buy their freedom, sometimes with money earned from outside jobs; or by the voluntary act of the slave owner. There is no evidence in the public record that John Little ever allowed enslaved people to buy their freedom or that he ever freed anyone.

As a highly dangerous last resort, an enslaved person could attain freedom by running away. Some ran north to large cities and assumed new identities as free people. Others escaped to Canada, safe from interstate slave-catchers. Men and boys were far more likely than women and girls to run away, according to scholars.[20] William Still, the Philadelphia-based Underground Railroad conductor, noted that "females in attempting to escape from a life of bondage undertook three times the risk of failure that males were liable to, not to mention the additional trials and struggles they had to contend with. In justice, therefore, to the heroic female who was willing to endure the most extreme suffering and hardship for freedom, doubled honors were due."[21]

In the spring of 1861, at the start of the Civil War, 20-year-old Hortense Prout made a daring bid for freedom from John Little's farm. She fled during a time of excitement and confusion in the District of Columbia, as thousands of newly organized Union troops poured into the city to quell the rebel uprising. Soldiers from Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, Pennsylvania and elsewhere encamped on the nearby estates of Kalorama, Meridian Hill, and Cliffburne. On May 27, 1861, some 1,750 young troops from Ohio staked their tents at a farm known as Bloomingdale, about two miles east of John Little's farm.[22]

It is probable that Hortense Prout was assisted by Washington's Underground Railroad network of black and white operatives. Elements of her story echo those of others who escaped with such assistance. The Ohio encampment was near two main roads that led north and northeast out of the city. She might have been waiting at the encampment to flee the District after news of her escape had faded, as had many others. She might have been waiting for other runaways to join her to travel north as a group, a common practice. She disguised herself as a man, another tactic used in Underground Railroad escapes.

We know of Hortense Prout's escape only because her capture was reported in the *Evening Star* on June 17, 1861:

> ***A FUGITIVE*** *– A slave woman belonging to Mr. John Little having eloped, Mr. Little made diligent search and ascertained that she was in one of the Ohio camps. He made visit to the camp and told the colonel commanding what he wanted, and the reply was, 'You shall have her, if she is here.' Search was made and the fugitive was found, completely rigged out in male attire. She was immediately turned over to the custody of Mr. Little, and was taken to jail. Every opportunity is afforded loyal citizens of loyal States to recover their fugitive slaves*.[23]

District of Columbia jail records for June 15, 1861, show that John Little committed a woman named "Hortence" to the Washington City Jail for "safekeeping." This was a practice used by D.C. slaveholders to detain and punish enslaved people in the absence of criminal charges. She was released to John Little 10 days later, on June 25.[24]

In January 1862, six months after Hortense Prout was jailed, President Lincoln signed an executive order banning the practice of "safekeeping."[25] In April 1862, just ten months after her daring escape attempt, the president ended slavery in the District, making Hortense one of the last enslaved Washingtonians to run away.

The "Act for the Release of Certain Person Held to Service or Labor in the District of Columbia," signed into law on April 16, 1862, reflected a compromise between members of Congress who wanted an unconditional end to slavery in the nation's capital, and President Lincoln, who believed slaveholders should be compensated for their loss. The language of the law was simple, stating that people held enslaved in the District "by reason of African descent are hereby discharged and freed …" But because slaveholders were to be compensated, the law was complicated in its execution. The president appointed a three-member commission to review the monetary claims of District slaveholders. The slaveholders were required to list their now-emancipated slaves, to describe them, and to sign an oath of loyalty to the United States in order to receive compensation. A slave trader was hired to assist the Emancipation Commission because of his expertise at evaluating the worth of the enslaved.[26]

As the Emancipation Commission reviewed claims into the summer, John Little on July 16, 1862, took his 12 formerly enslaved workers downtown to City Hall, where they were evaluated by Baltimore slave trader B.M. Campbell. Accompanying John Little as a witness was Benjamin O. Shekell, the slave trader who had sold the Prout family to Little in 1839. The Emancipation Commission recorded the names and descriptions of Little's enslaved workforce:

- **Delilah Prout**, 63, black, well-built, over 180 pounds. She is an old woman of good appearance and a first-rate cook.
- **Leander Prout**, 28, child of Delilah, black. He is a butcher by trade and a first-rate hand. He could easily bring $25 or $30 a month.
- **Tabitha (Prout) Rigney**, 25, child of Delilah, copper colored. She has a good appearance but complains considerably. She is a first-rate house servant.
- **Celeste Prout**, 23, child of Delilah, black. She is a healthy and industrious house servant.
- **Hortense Prout**, 21, child of Delilah, black. She is a healthy and industrious house servant.
- **Kalisti Prout**, 20, child of Delilah, black. She is a healthy and industrious house servant.
- **Narcissa Rigney**, 7, daughter of Tabitha, mulatto. She is healthy and promising.
- **Fermore Worthington**, 5, child of Tabitha, mulatto. He is healthy and promising.
- **Matilda Rigney**, 6 months, child of Tabitha, mulatto. She is healthy and promising.
- **Elsie Grey**, 5, daughter of Kalisti, black. She is healthy and promising.
- **Benjamin Purnell**, 26, black. He is a butcher by trade and a first-rate hand and could easily bring $25 or $30 a month.

- **Geoffrey McKenzie**, 50, black. He is a very good farm hand.

On behalf of his orphaned niece and nephew, Little also filed claims for the loss of:

- **William Crown**, 33, mulatto, very strong, honest, good-tempered and an experienced butcher who hires out for $25 a month.
- **Lucie Simms**, 25, a bright, good-looking mulatto woman and industrious house servant.
- **Willie,** Lucie's 3-year-old son.
- **Lillie,** Lucie's 5-month-old daughter.
- **John Hamilton**, 22, black, very strong and hired out as a farm hand for $25 a month.[27]

John Little sought $18,050 in compensation; he was paid $5,343.60.[28]

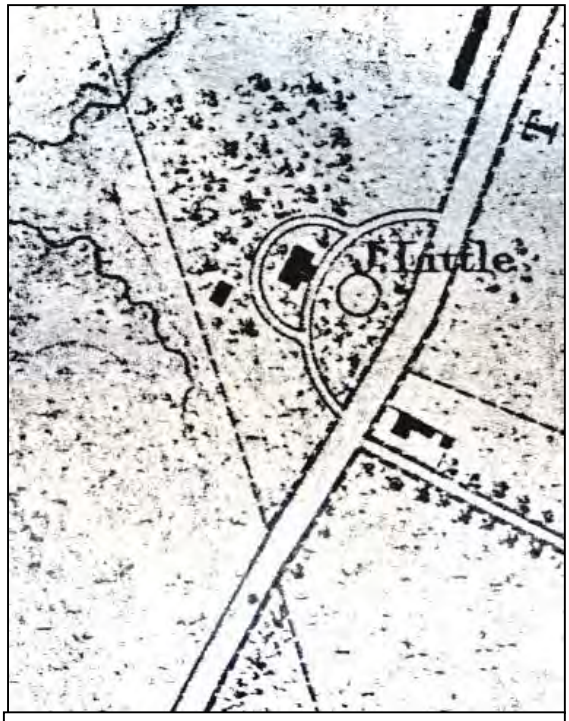
Following Emancipation, Hortense Prout and the other younger women that had been held enslaved by John Little disappeared from the public record. Their mother Delilah Prout, however, was listed in the 1870 Federal Census as living in a household next door to John Little's manor house. The smaller household included five African Americans: Thomas Evens, 30, a farmhand born in Georgia; Mary Evens, 29, born in Maryland; Maria Evens, 2, born in the District; Amelia Chase, 13, born in Maryland; and Delila [sic] Prout, 70, born in Maryland.[29]

According to the 1870 U.S. Census, Leander Prout and his wife Sophia were living in Philadelphia's 8th Ward, where he worked as a "drug packer." Benjamin Purnell continued to work as a butcher after emancipation.[30] Jefferson McKenzie in 1870 was living in the District of Columbia's 5th Ward (the area around the Capitol and south to the Anacostia River approximately between South Capitol Street and the Navy Yard) and was listed in the Census as a "man of all work;" owning $300 in real estate and $100 in personal goods. McKenzie's household included his wife and three young daughters.[31] William Crown, 45, had also moved to the District's 5th Ward. He worked as a butcher and had a wife and six children, three of whom were attending school.[32]

The 1870 Census listed John Little as a farmer, owning $100,000 in real estate and $50,000 in personal property. Twelve others shared the household: wife Margaret; single daughters Sophia, Margaret (Maggie) and Ida; married daughters Sarah Baldwin and Finella Alexander and members of their families; and three African Americans, including a cook and two farmhands.[33]

John Little Offers His Land to the Federal Government, 1866

As the District of Columbia grew rapidly after the Civil War, the Little farm was one of many suburban estates ripe for development. In 1866, Congress directed Nathaniel Michler, chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer, to scout possible locations for an executive mansion in the higher, healthier ground outside the city proper. Meridian Hill, the estate just east of Little's farm, was of special interest.



John Little's manor house and grounds were shown on Nathaniel Michler's 1866 map of Rock Creek and its surroundings. ***(Library of Congress)***

Michler mapped the Rock Creek valley and its nearby estates. He reported to Congress in 1867 that if the 120-acre Meridian Hill property needed to be expanded, John Little was willing to sell his adjoining land to the federal government for $2,613 per acre. "On both these estates are eligible building sites; the view towards the south, overlooking the city and the valley of the Potomac, being particularly fine," Michler wrote. "At one time some large forest trees added beauty to the scene, but most of them were destroyed during the war."

But Michler also noted that the Meridian Hill and Little farm sites, lying just above the plateau of the city with only sparse timber, were "exposed to the miasmatic influences rising from the marshes of the Potomac." In addition, the rural nature of the area was changing. "Again, it is too near the city to afford any retirement and repose for the Chief Magistrate," Michler reported. "Already the street railroads approach, and numerous houses are being built on all sides of this site."[34]

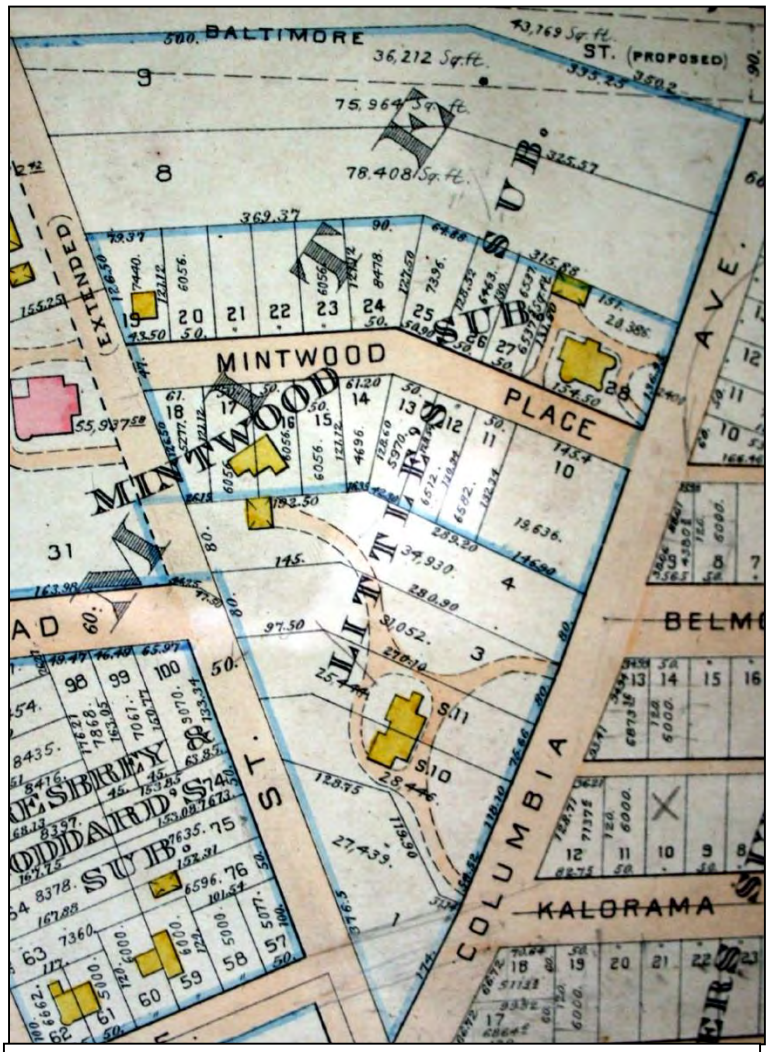
Subdivision of the Little Estate, 1876-1903

John Little died at his manor house on August 30, 1876, at age 71.[35] His property went to his five daughters: Sarah F. Little Baldwin, Finella M. Little Alexander, Sophia Louise Little, Ida Little Stevens, and Margaret Little Sands, all of whom continued living there after his death. In 1880, the 16-member household was headed by Margaret's husband Lawrence Sands, a real-estate developer.[36]

In 1880 and 1883, the five daughters subdivided the property immediately surrounding the manor house into 11 lots.[37] In 1883 Ida, Sophia, and Finella subdivided the lot on which the manor house stood (Lot 2) into Lots 10 and 11, with the property line cutting straight through the house. In 1884, Lawrence Sands, Margaret's husband, subdivided Lots 5, 6, and 7 into the current Mintwood Place. The remaining triangular property, stretching from the intersection of 19th and Columbia Roads to Mintwood Place, appears to have been divided among the sisters into a northern parcel, eventually owned by Finella, and a southern parcel, owned by Ida.

In 1883, Lawrence and Margaret Sands had built and moved into a large cottage-style villa called "Mintwood," just northwest of the Little manor house on Woodley Lane (now Belmont Road) near the corner of today's 19th Street and Mintwood Place). Lawrence and Margaret Sands hosted Protestant Episcopal church services in the basement of their mansion, while helping to

marshal resources to build St. Margaret's Episcopal Church on Connecticut Avenue near its intersection with Columbia Road.[38]



This 1896 Hopkins real estate map shows how John Little's heirs subdivided their property. The Little manor house straddles lots S10 and S11. The structure just beyond the west end of Mintwood Place is the house built by Lawrence and Margaret Little Sands. *(Historical Society of Washington, D.C.)*

Lawrence Sands became an important player in developing the land surrounding the manor house, selling lots on Mintwood Place, 19th Street, Biltmore Street, Woodley Lane, and Columbia Road. In 1888, Sands and his wealthy neighbors George Truesdell and Leroy Tuttle formed a company to bring city water to the Washington Heights neighborhood.[39] By mid-1891 a 2.5-inch water main had been extended from Florida Avenue north along Columbia Road and then along Mintwood Place, where it ended at the point where 19th Street would later cross.[40]

Also by 1891, an electric streetcar ran north on Boundary Street (today's Florida Avenue) from its intersection with Connecticut Avenue, north on 18th Street across Columbia Road to Calvert Street across Rock Creek Valley on a bridge, and then north along Connecticut Avenue – and back downtown via the same route.[41]

The U.S. Census for 1900 shows a single, 15-member household on the block: 55-year-old head of household Sophia Louise Little, occupation "capitalist"; her nine-month-younger sister Finella, who was widowed and had no occupation listed; 45-year-old sister Ida, no occupation; Ida's husband Albert C. Stevens, a 65-year-old capitalist; their daughters Ida, 19, and Isabell, 12, and their 16-year-old son George Woodbury Stevens; another Little sister, 63-year-old Sarah, also widowed with no occupation; and her children Margaret L., 30, John L., 26, and William O., 24. The household also included four African American servants: 21-year-old Lucy Clement, cook; 45-year-old widow Malvina King, cook, and her 11-year-old daughter Rosie; and 22-year-old maid Ella Smith. The address on the Census was listed as *1859* Columbia Road.

The 1900 Census shows, at 1901 Woodley Lane, John Little's daughter, Margaret Sands, 40, living with her 47-year-old husband, Lawrence Sands, occupation capitalist; their 16-year-old daughter Margaret C. Sands; 38-year-old Scottish-born maid Mary Campbell, and her three children, 8-year-old Margaret and 6-year-old twins Joseph and Mary; and two African American servants, 55-year-old William King and 38-year-old Mary Massie, the household's cook.

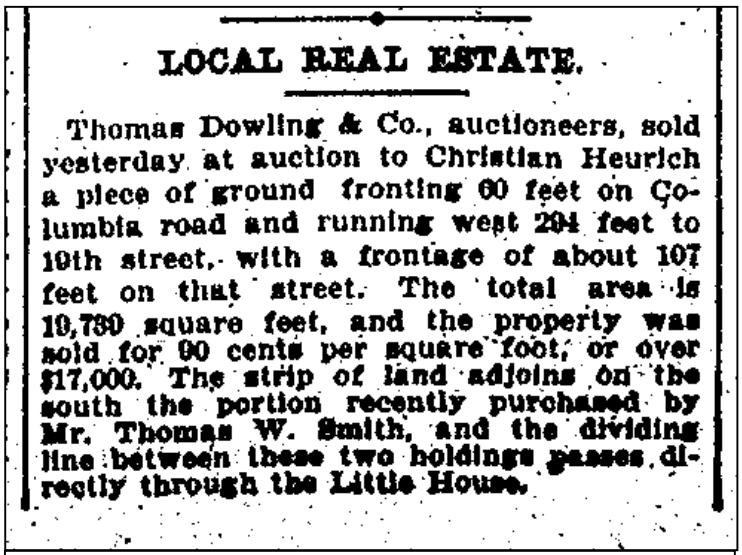
By 1902, a building boom had begun in the neighborhood around the Little manor-house grounds, especially on Mintwood Place. The Woodley apartment house, designed by prominent Washington architect T. Franklin Schneider at 1851 Columbia Road, was completed in 1903. Other prominent architects, including Waddy Wood, Frederick B. Pyle, and George T. Santmyers designed luxurious single-family homes and apartment buildings.[42]

Heurich and Smith Acquire the Little Manor House Site, December 1903

Three of the five Little daughters died in quick succession, of varying natural causes. Sophia died on September 19, 1901,[43] Ida died January 2, 1903,[44] and Finella on April 22, 1904.[45]

Shortly before her death Finella arranged for the auction house Sloan & Co. to sell the northern portion of the manor-house property. It was advertised in October through December 1903.[46] In mid-December she sold it to Thomas W. Smith, a prominent lumber dealer and former president of the Board of Trade.[47] According to the *Washington Star*, Smith bought the 91,000-square-foot property (approximately 2 acres) for $1 per square foot.[48]

About the same time, the executor of Ida's estate, the National Safe Deposit Savings and Trust Company, sold the southern portion of the manor-house property on December 15, 1903, to prominent brewer Christian Heurich.[49]



LOCAL REAL ESTATE.

Thomas Dowling & Co., auctioneers, sold yesterday at auction to Christian Heurich a piece of ground fronting 60 feet on Columbia road and running west 204 feet to 19th street, with a frontage of about 107 feet on that street. The total area is 10,730 square feet, and the property was sold for 90 cents per square foot, or over $17,000. The strip of land adjoins on the south the portion recently purchased by Mr. Thomas W. Smith, and the dividing line between these two holdings passes directly through the Little House.

This December 16, 1903, *Evening Star* article noted that the Little manor house was split between the two buyers: Heurich and Smith. (D.C. Public Library)

Notably, the line between Smith's and Heurich's properties ran through the center of the manor house, making it a duplex. Smith's half of the house became 1867 Columbia Road and Heurich's became 1869 Columbia Road.

Christian Heurich (1842-1945), one of Washington's wealthiest residents, was born in the Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen and immigrated to the United States in 1866 already trained as a brewer. Six years later he and a partner established their

first brewery in Washington, this city chosen for its well-established German community. But Heurich quickly bought out the partner and successfully ran the Christian Heurich Lager Beer Brewery, later the Christian Heurich Brewing Company, on his own.[50] He later wrote in his memoir that he and his wife and their baby traveled to Germany in 1902. Then, "returning to America, I went back to my business with satisfactory results. I invested the profit in real estate in [the] Little Subdivision, on Columbia Road and 19th Street."[51]

Despite the fact that Congress planned to cut Kalorama Road through his side of the property,[52] Heurich announced his intentions to build an "immense" apartment building on the site.[53] The entire southern portion of Heurich's property was taken for the cut-through, and in 1905 a jury awarded him $30,666 to compensate for his loss.[54] In addition, both Heurich's and Smith's deeds noted that the city would be widening Columbia Road, causing them to lose a 16.5-foot swath along the eastern side of their properties. Heurich never built anything but a storage shed on the site; he also never lived in his half of the manor house, renting it out instead. He retained the property until 1926, when he sold it to Alonzo O. Bliss Properties.[55]

Thomas W. Smith (1846-1919) was a prominent Washington businessman. He founded the Thomas W. Smith Lumber Company at First Street and Indiana Avenue, NW, in 1874—just after Alexander R. "Boss" Shepherd completed the many infrastructure improvements to the city that cemented its status as the nation's capital and fostered private investment. Smith was active with many organizations, including the Board of Trade for 25 years, serving as its president in 1902-1903; the Chamber of Commerce and, at one time, a member of its board of directors; and as director of Eastern Dispensary and Casualty Hospital. According to his obituary, "he acquired large property holdings in the city and had faith in the growth of the Capital."

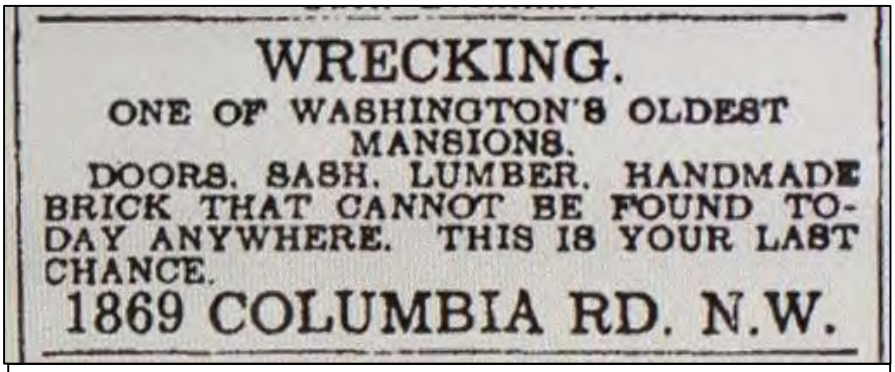
Smith and his family moved into their half of the manor house, at 1867 Columbia Road. According to the 1910 Census, they were a household of ten: Smith, age 64; his wife Caroline, 55; daughter Maude, 22; daughter Esther, 21; daughter Caroline Abbott, 28, her husband Edward Abbott, 33, and their daughter Frances, 13; daughter Mabel Sanderson, and her 10-month-old daughter Caroline; and African American servant Joseph Gross, 25.

The Smith's neighbors, in the other half of the house at 1869 Columbia Road, were renters Margaret Brown and four family members. Later, Samuel J. Graham, a judge for the U.S. Court of Claims, and his family rented 1869 Columbia Road until 1924.[56]

When Thomas Smith died in March 1919, he left a $1 million estate, including the Columbia Road property and several others.[57] His will provided for a life estate in the house to his wife, Caroline, and otherwise left the various properties in trust for 15 years after his death, with the Washington Loan and Trust Company as trustee.[58] Caroline Smith remained in the house until her death in August 1925. Her one improvement to the property, apparently, was the 1922 addition of a 25'-wide by 40'-deep by 25'-high garage, built 150 feet from the manor house and connected to it by an existing driveway.[59]

The former Little manor house, photographed circa 1926. *(Historical Society of Washington, D.C.)*

The house was empty in 1928 when the *Washington Post* reported that a marble statue of Mercury, found standing mysteriously in the intersection of 36th Street and Reservoir Road, NW, had been burglarized from 1867 Columbia Road (the Smith home), its loss discovered by an agent of American Security & Trust.[60]



This ad ran in the *Evening Star* on May 23, 1937.
(D.C. Public Library)

The owners razed the house in 1937, selling the bricks, wood, and other materials for scrap.[61] In December 1939 the Smith heirs filed a civil action asking for their portion of the property to be sold.

A Park for the Neighborhood

As early as 1931 the National Capital Park and Planning Commission went on record as favoring the acquisition of the "Heurich-Smith tract at Columbia road and Nineteenth street for park purposes."[62] In 1939 it asked the District Commissioners for $300,000 to purchase a "partly wooded" tract of land to construct the "Columbia Road Playground," soon to be renamed Kalorama Park. NCPPC noted that the neighborhood lacked play facilities, and that the property was likely to be developed soon with apartment buildings.[63] The Kalorama Citizens Association had been advocating for recreation space for years, and in 1940 the organization topped its wish list with the construction of a community recreation center, public park, and branch library on the high triangular site between Columbia Road, Kalorama Road, and 19th Street.[64]

In fact, the site had long been associated with recreation. Even during John Little's time, Sunday School and other groups picnicked in "Little's Woods," although this was most likely away from the manor house, across Columbia Road, and not on the site of today's park.

From a *Daily Union* account of the 1849 celebration of the 4th of July:

> *Here, then, encamped in "Little's woods," a beautiful spot on the "heights," were the handsome company of Independent Greys, Captain Wilson, accompanied by the new and splendid corps of Walker Sharp-shooters, Capt. Bryant, as visitors from Washington.*[65]

And from *States*, July 15, 1858,

> *The children of St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum [located at 10th and G streets, NW] are enjoying themselves today, in the way of a pic-nic, in Little's woods, at the termination of 21st Street north. It is a pleasure to look at the happy countenances of the little orphans when permitted to spend a day in innocent amusement. They are accompanied by the Sisters of Charity and a large number of benevolent citizens.*[66]

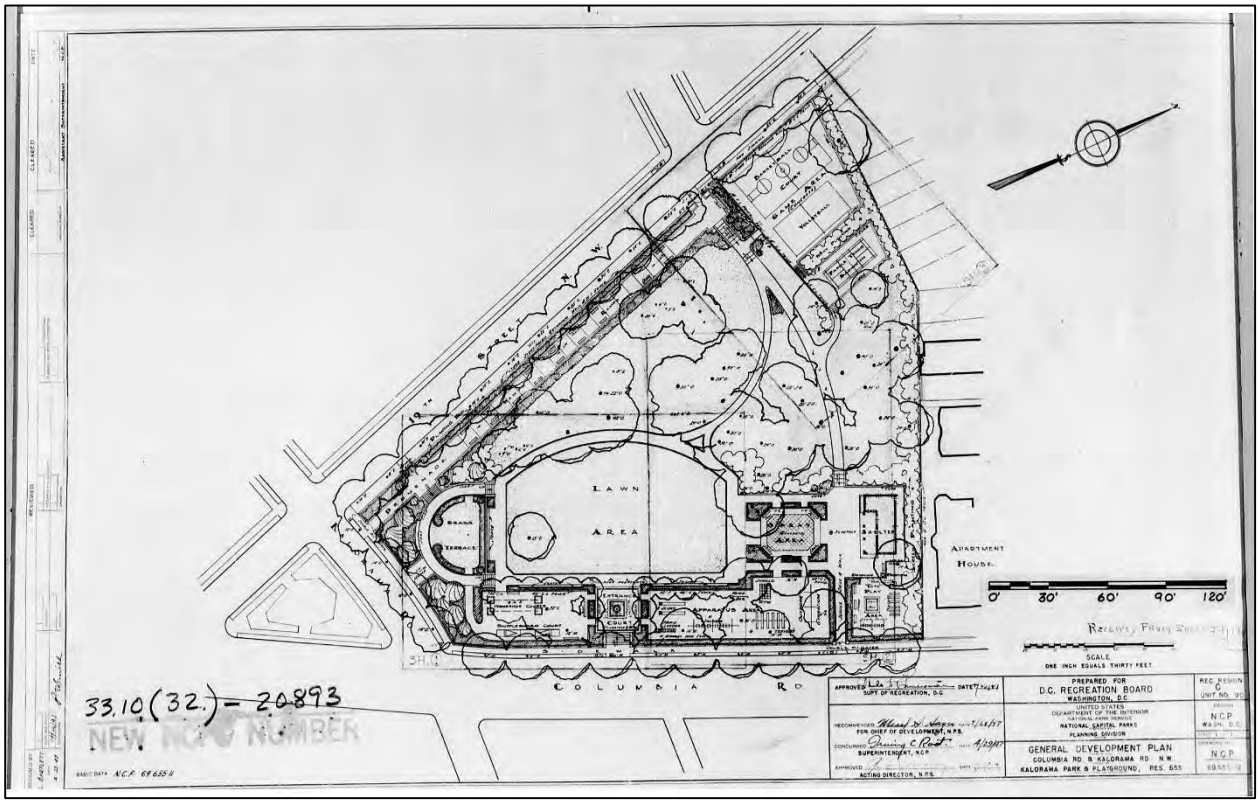
Various news accounts show that Thomas W. Smith and his family continued the tradition. For example, the July 5, 1913, issue of the *Washington Post* reported that

> *Two hundred members and friends of the Association of Oldest Inhabitants met yesterday on the lawn of the home of Thomas W. Smith, Columbia and Belmont roads northwest, celebrated Independence day, had a pleasant reunion, and elected officers.*[67]

Between 1929 and 1936 the Lady Margaret School, which occupied 1869 Columbia Road, organized summer camps on the grounds.

After decades of use for recreational gatherings, the property by the early 1940s was on its way to becoming an official park. In May 1942 the National Capital Park and Planning Commission acquired lots 3, 4, and 11—2.07 acres—from the Thomas Wilson Smith Estate for $127,500.[68] NCPPC referred to the parcel as "Columbia Road Playground, U.S. Reservation No. 655" but the agency changed the name to Kalorama Park and Playground in August 1942. Two months later it transferred control of the park to the newly formed D.C. Recreation Board. In 1946 Bliss Properties sold 1.07 acre (lots 1 and 10, today known as lot 816) to NCPPC for $233, 672.09.[69]

With the acquisition of the entire triangular site finally complete, the Planning Division of National Capital Parks, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, in 1947 prepared a plan for the site's development, for the D.C. Recreation Board.[70]



The National Park Service submitted this design for Kalorama Park to the D.C. Recreation Board in 1947. It was adopted with few changes. ***(National Capital Planning Commission)***

The topography and history of the site influenced Kalorama Park's design. The central-eastern and northeastern parts of the park are relatively level land that rises a few feet from Columbia Road. From this level area at the top of the park, the land slopes on its southern and western sides, from 182' above sea level at the top of the park, to about 172' at its southwest corner and 160'at its northwest corner.

On the upper part of the park, the 1947 plan features an expansive central "Lawn Area," situated on the former footprint of the manor house and nearly free of trees. From Columbia Road, the park's "Entrance Court" runs perpendicular to the Lawn Area, joining it at its center point on line with what would have been the front door to the manor house. On a straight line with and adjoining the Lawn Area is a broad rectangular plaza containing a "Spray Area," bordered with seating and planted areas. Beyond the Spray Area and facing toward the manor-house site, is an L-shaped shelter house. Behind the shelter house along the park's northern line are "screen plantings" apparently meant to buffer the park from the nearby houses and apartment buildings. A "Service Drive & Walk" lead to the shelter house from Columbia Road.

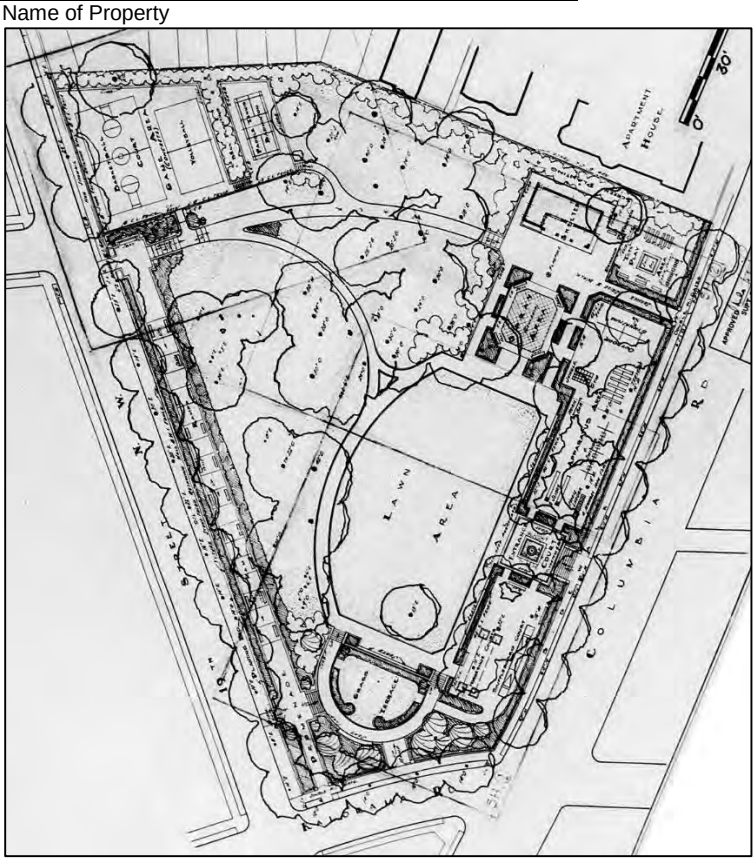
Concentrated along the Columbia Road side of the site are three kinds of playgrounds: a "Tots Play Area" with a sandbox and swings; an "Apparatus Area" with an "Outdoor Gymnasium," jungle gym, teeter-totters, horizontal bars, slides, swings, and "Horse Ladders"; and a third area with horseshoe and shuffleboard courts. A fourth play area—containing basketball, volleyball, paddle tennis and badminton courts—is in the park's northwestern corner, on the lower part of the hillside.

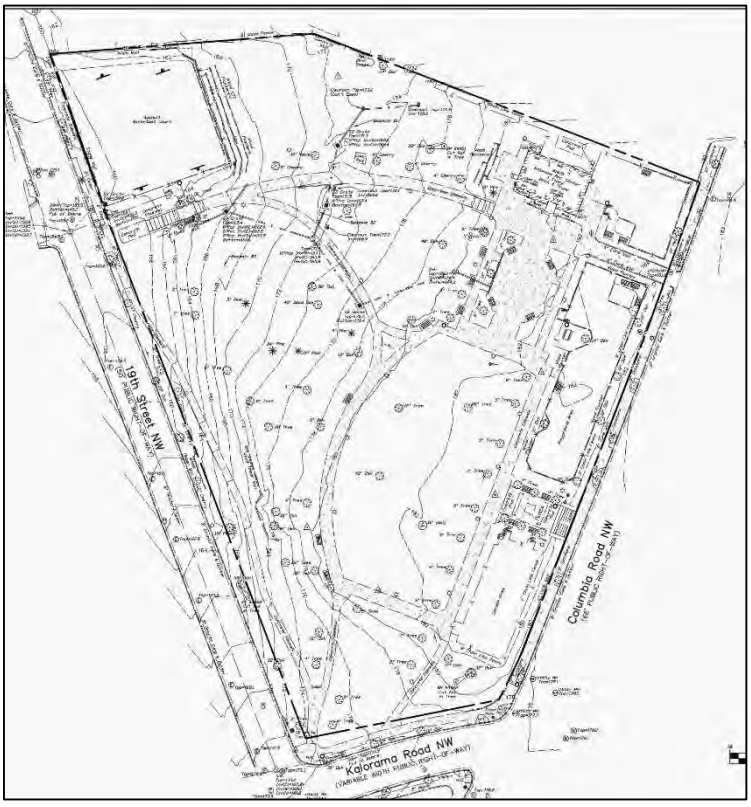
At the southern end of the site, park planners envisioned a "Grass Terrace," adjacent to and several feet below the central Lawn Area. This formal, semi-circular space, surrounded with seating and plantings, was to be accessible by three sets of stairs and a ramp.

Along the 19th Street side of the park, planners proposed a sloping "Promenade," lined with benches and bordered with a stone retaining wall. Large trees and ample green space mark the western hillside on the 19th Street side of the park, in contrast to the concentration of built amenities on its Columbia Road side. City officials were sensitive to the fact that park activities could disturb neighbors. In 1947, when National Park Service designers sent the park plans to the NCPPC for approval, several commission members voiced objections to the location of a proposed wading pool "so near the adjoining apartment building, and predicted considerable opposition would develop on account of the noise."[71] The pool was never built.

Of the 1947 park plan, the following features were actualized and remain intact today: the open central Lawn Area; the adjoining rectangular plaza; the shelter house (although its "L" shape has been converted into a rectangle); the service road and walkway from Columbia Road; the formal entrance court from Columbia Road, the tots' playground; an older-children's playground; and the basketball courts at the northwestern corner of the park. The features that were not realized or were changed include the area designated for horseshoes and shuffleboard, which is now a community garden; the 19th Street "Promenade," which is a walkway but without benches or a retaining wall; the "Spray Area" on the plaza, which also was not built, while a surrounding seating area was configured as proposed; and the formal "Grass Terrace," which was never built.

The pathways that curve gracefully throughout the park remain essentially the same as designed in 1947. They trace the historic paths and driveways that existed during John Little's ownership of the site. The walk that surrounds the central Lawn Area was once a driveway that circled the manor house. The Entrance Court is located where visitors to the Little home would have approached its front door, at the top of a large semi-circular driveway with entry and exit points along Columbia Road. The service road and walkway that lead from Columbia Road to the shelter house and plaza trace the northern end of the semi-circular driveway that connected the manor house to a then-much-narrower Columbia Road. The walkway connecting the Lawn Area to the northwestern corner of the park and 19th Street was a drive- or walkway that once led to a stable on the manor-house grounds.





COMPARING THE 1947 PLANNED DESIGN (TOP) WITH TODAY'S KALORAMA PARK (BOTTOM)

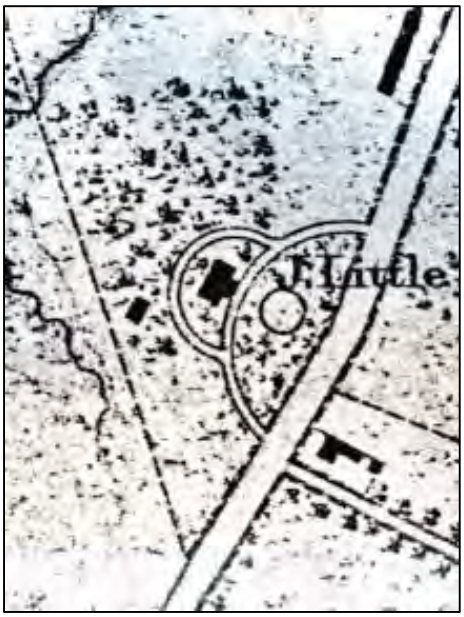
FEATURES ACTUALIZED:

- **Central lawn area**
- **Tots' and older children's playgrounds**
- **Entrance court from Columbia Road**
- **Shelter house (altered early 1990s)**
- **Plaza with seating**
- **Service road and walk**
- **Basketball courts**
- **Central and northern walks**

FEATURES CHANGED OR NEVER BUILT:

- **Spray area never built**
- **Shuffleboard and horseshoe area now community garden**
- **Paddleball and badminton courts never built**
- **Grass terrace never built**
- **Benches and retaining wall for 19th Street promenade never built**

(Sources: National Capital Planning Commission (top); map by Mary J. Belcher (bottom))



HISTORIC PATHS:
The 1866 Michler map (far left) and 1894 Hopkins map (left) show a large semi-circular driveway connecting the manor house to Columbia Road and a smaller drive circling the house; the 1894 map shows an additional drive leading to a stable northwest of the house. (Sources: Library of Congress, D.C. Public Library)

HISTORIC PATHS: At left, a 1927 aerial photo of the site shows that a widened Columbia Road has truncated the larger semi-circular driveway. At right, a contemporary Google map of the site shows that current walkways of the site trace the smaller driveway surrounding the house and the driveway to the stable. (Sources: National Archives, RG 328.3 and RG 79.6.7)

In the larger context of the history of urban-park design, Kalorama Park is a hybrid of styles. Its curved paths harken back to the 19th century pleasure garden, as described by Galen Cranz, Professor of Architecture at the University of California at Berkeley: "Circulation paths were probably one of the most distinctive elements of the pleasure garden. Because city streets were straight and laid at right angles, park carriage ways and footpaths were curved."[72] The 1947 park design also incorporated existing trees on the site, including some up to 42 feet high, showing a more naturalistic approach to landscape design common to the pleasure-garden aesthetic.

At the same time, Kalorama Park's playgrounds and ball courts line up with the mid-20th century emphasis on active recreation, as well as the continued focus since the Progressive era (1880s-ca. 1930) on supervised play for children. According to Cranz, the urban playground is a legacy of the "reform park" movement, aimed at improving the lives of economically disadvantaged children through fresh air and thoughtful play. By combining quiet, naturalistic settings as well as areas for playgrounds and sports, Kalorama Park's designers came up with a plan that provided ample opportunities for recreation for all ages.

In the post-World War II period, the District of Columbia built a number of recreation centers and playgrounds to fill the demand of a population that had grown from 500,000 in 1930 to 800,000 in 1950, and to catch up as construction materials again became available. In 1948, National Capital Parks sought bids for a "shelter building" at Kalorama Playground. The agency's architects had designed two models for city park shelters: a T-shaped, gable-roof design; and an L-shaped brick building topped by a hipped roof, with numerous windows and a corner porch.[73] The L-shaped plan was chosen for Kalorama Park.

The "splendidly designed and constructed field house," as the *D.C. Citizen* newspaper described it, was dedicated on August 12, 1949, along with a flagpole donated by the Kalorama Citizens Association. Among the 100 or so guests at the ceremony were Mrs. Ida Stevens Malcolm and Miss Margaret Sands, granddaughters of John Little who were born in the manor house.[74]

Mrs. Stevens and Miss Sands must have been happy to recognize some of the park's walkways, as well as many of the trees that had sheltered their childhood home. According to a recent assessment by a landscape architect, "some large Oaks and Beeches are old enough to be original to the forest cover as we know it in the 18th century."[75]

Segregated Recreation Facilities

Until 1954, with a handful of exceptions, the District segregated its recreation facilities by race, and Kalorama Park was reserved for white residents. Most of the surrounding households were white, breadwinners for the most part a mix of white-collar government clerks, military men, sales clerks, tradesmen, doctors, lawyers, and the like. Prominent neighborhood residents during the early 1900s included physician Anita Newcomb McGee, founder of the Army Nursing Corps, and her husband W.J. McGee, head of the Bureau of American Ethnology, who lived at 1901 Biltmore Street; Sen. George W. Norris of Nebraska, at 1831 Mintwood Place; and Harry M. Clabaugh, chief justice of the D.C. Supreme Court (U.S. District Court for the District of

Columbia), at 1842 Mintwood. Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin of Montana lived at 1945 Calvert Street during World War I. Prominent residents in the 1920s and 1930s included Sen. William Borah of Idaho, first at 2139 Columbia Road and then at 2101 Connecticut Avenue; Sen. Walter F. George of Georgia, at the Wyoming, 2022 Columbia Road; Maj. Gen. Dwight D. and Mamie Eisenhower, also at the Wyoming; Sen. Thomas P. Gore of Oklahoma, at 1863 Mintwood Place; and Congressman Sol Bloom of New York, at 1930 Columbia Road, a mansion later replaced by the Gelmarc apartments. Sen. Jeannette Rankin of Montana lived at 2220 20th Street in the early 1940s; and Vice President (under President Harry S. Truman) Alben Barkley lived at 2101 Connecticut Avenue in the late 1940s.[76]

In 1945 the U.S. Department of the Interior, which controlled some of the parks and recreation facilities located within the District, adopted a policy of non-segregation, and the D.C. Recreation Board held hearings on whether to follow suit. It decided against the idea, though, and wrote into its bylaws, rules, and regulations a provision requiring separate playgrounds and programs for white and Negro residents.[77] The debate consequently ratcheted up. Board chairman Harry Wender was bombarded with letters from citizens who adamantly opposed desegregation, who favored a gradual approach to desegregation, or who wanted it ended immediately.

For example, a Mrs. Selma C. Ganz, of 2630 Adams Mill Road, NW, wrote Wender on May 31, 1948:

> *I am speaking for several mothers whose children use the playground and its facilities on Columbia Road [i.e. Kalorama Park]. For the past year now, the children have used the playground interracially. As a mother, I have been particularly interested in my child's relationship with other children. Therefore, I have observed his play with children of other races very carefully. I can truthfully say that he is unaware of color differentiations. The children play harmoniously and without friction regardless of race or color. We are particularly interested in the Recreation Board's policy on segregation in the District playgrounds.*[78]

Happy Hollow Playground, between 18th and Champlain Streets and Kalorama Road, served white children, despite its location next to Morgan School, which served African American children. In an April 1948 letter to Milo Christensen, Superintendent, D.C. Recreation Department, NCPPC noted that Morgan's enrollment was over capacity and that African American children lacked adequate playground space. The proposed solution demonstrated the difficulty of satisfying the demands of segregation:

> *The entire area at Happy Hollow Playground should be transferred to Negro use, as soon as reasonably possible, but not until toilet and other facilities are available at Kalorama Park. As these facilities will not be available for some time and the need for facilities for the Negro children is pressing, it is suggested that the area on the lower level, along Champlain Street, be immediately turned over to Negro use and the area on the upper level along 18th Street be retained for white use until the Kalorama Park area is ready.*

Happy Hollow's upper level held the shelter building, wading pool, and "apparatus." The lower level connected by stairs to the Morgan School area.[79]

The issue of segregation haunted the D.C. Recreation Board, which resisted federal desegregation efforts. The U.S. Department of the Interior, in fact, threatened to take control of city parks. On June 14, 1949, the Rec Board adopted the following statement of policy:

> *The Board will make every possible and realistic effort toward the removal of racial segregation in public recreation in such sequence and at such rate of progression as may be consistent with the public interest, public order, and effective administration.*

Effectively, the Board's newly articulated policy left segregation in place.

Several weeks earlier, the Kalorama Citizens Association had decided where it stood on the issue. On May 9, 1949, KCA President Fletcher Tilton cast the deciding vote that killed a proposed resolution that would have put KCA in favor of the immediate abolition of segregation. Segregation should be ended gradually, Tilton said.

In response to the Rec Board's policy decision, prominent civil rights attorney Charles Hamilton Houston wrote Harry Wender:

What bothers me about the position of the Recreation Board is that it does not reflect the actual facts. The children climb the playgrounds fences after the playgrounds close and play together without regard to race, creed or national origin. It is a tragedy that democracy does not arise on the playgrounds until the flag goes down. Likewise, I am bothered about the fact that white and colored athletes can play together on public athletic field and in areas controlled by the Department of the Interior without incident. Nevertheless, the Board of Recreation still feels it has to insist upon strict segregation in the same activities. Frankly it does not make sense.

African American youth play basketball at Kalorama Park, September 1951. *(Historical Society of Washington, D.C.)*

In 1951 the D.C. Recreation Board adopted a gradual approach to playground segregation. It would open playgrounds to mixed use where white citizens were unlikely to object—because the playgrounds already served mostly or completely black neighborhoods. Three formerly white playgrounds desegregated that year. The neighborhood surrounding Kalorama Park was 25 percent African American, and so the park remained for whites only.

In 1952 the Recreation Board approved four playgrounds for use by all, for a total of eight open playgrounds. About 70 playgrounds, including Kalorama, remained segregated. Finally, on May 18, 1954, two days after the Supreme Court decision that legally desegregated public schools, the D.C. Recreation Board desegregated all D.C. recreation facilities.

Percentage of African American Residents In the Kalorama Census Tract, 1930-1960

- 1930 – 12 percent African American (0 to 4 percent in the blocks immediately surrounding the future park)
- 1940 – 18 percent African American
- 1950 – 25 percent African American
- 1960 – 34 percent African American

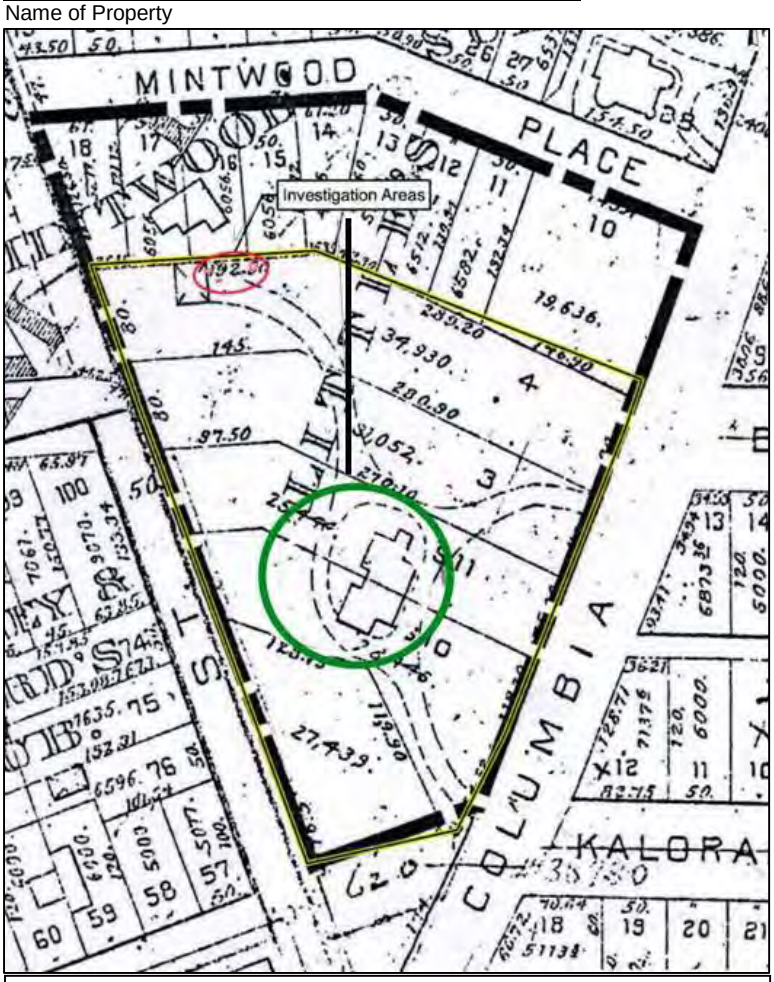
Source: U.S. Census via www.PrologueDC.com/blog/mapping-segregation/

The 1986 and 2009 Archaeological Surveys of Kalorama Park

In 1986 and 2009, subsurface structural remains of John Little's manor house and at least three out-buildings, as well as 19th century artifacts, were discovered in archaeological investigations of Kalorama Park. The 1986 discoveries were in the manor-house area circled in green on the map below. The 2009 investigation area is marked in red.[80]

The 1986 archaeological survey was conducted by Engineering-Sciences Inc. of Washington, D.C., as one of a series of archaeological surveys in a number of city-owned parks.[81] The 1986 archaeological report did not provide any historical context regarding the long-time occupation of the site by John Little and his family or his large slave-holding enterprise. The 2009 archaeological survey was conducted by the Louis Berger Group Inc. of Washington, D.C., after structural ruins were inadvertently exposed during a park construction project. The Berger Group archaeologists had the benefit of historical information about John Little's farm and slavery at the site, which had been developed by independent historians in 2008 for the park's nomination to the National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.[82]

The 1986 survey discovered the ruins of John Little's manor house, including a three-course-wide brick wall running north-south and a corner turning west, which were found about 0.2 meter below the surface of the park. The archaeologists also discovered subsurface demolition debris. About 1 meter below the surface, they found a "flat concrete floor" that they believed to be a cellar "which was filled with architectural debris at the time of demolition" of the manor house. In the vicinity of the manor house, they also found numerous ceramic sherds, window glass, bottle glass, a buckle, bricks, nails, coal, unglazed redware, unidentified ferrous metal objects, and other 19th century artifacts.



The locations of discoveries during the 1986 and 2009 archaeological investigations are shown above. The large circle at the center of the park produced finds in 1986; the oval on the north side of the park was investigated in 2009. ***(Locations imposed on 1894 Hopkins real estate map.)***

Behind the manor house, in the area of the small out-building, the archaeologists in 1986 found at 0.14 meter deep "a flat stone surface" and five additional flat flagstones, which they concluded were either part of a floor or a walkway. According to the D.C. Historic Preservation Office, the artifacts unearthed in 1986 were given to the D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation and are now missing. Documentation of the artifacts might remain at DCHPO but has not been located to date.[83]

In test pits throughout the park, the archaeologists in 1986 found intact historic ground surfaces and advised that future construction activities in the park should be conducted with caution**.**

In 2009, while soil-erosion-mitigation work was underway on the north side of Kalorama Park, the brick foundations of one or two out-buildings from the Little farm were discovered accidentally just beyond the northeast corner of the basketball court, in the northwest/north-central portion of the park. Consequently, the Louis Berger Group was contracted to conduct an archaeological investigation. The survey revealed portions of a brick wall, which, the archaeologists concluded, might have been the remains of a stable or carriage house that was built following John Little's death in 1876. They also found several brick pillars or posts that might have supported another structure in the north-central section of the park; this second structure did not appear to relate to any buildings that had been documented on old maps of the property.

As in 1986, the 2009 archaeological investigation found an intact 19th century ground surface during its limited survey. The Berger Group reported in May 2010 that the discovery "indicates that there is still potential for intact historic archaeological deposits pre-dating 1892 along much of [the] north half of Kalorama Park. Those deposits may contain intact archaeological remains associated with historic occupation by the Little family and their enslaved African-Americans."[84]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION, KALORAMA PARK, 2009
At left, Louis Berger Group archaeologist Jason Shellenhammer next to the brick wall found at the north end of the park; below, a close up of the wall. ***(Photos by Mary Belcher, 2009)***

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION, KALORAMA PARK 2009
Above, left and right, a brick pillar that might have supported a separate out-building; Left, bottom two photos show a ceramic sherd found near brick wall. ***(Photos by Mary Belcher, 2009)***

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.)

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

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

- [ ] 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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
_Archaeology_____
_Community planning and development
_Landscape architecture_____
_Social history_____

Period of Significance
_1817-1828_____
_1828-1836_____
_1836-1903_____
_1903-1942_____
_1942-1954_____

Significant Dates
____1861_____
____1866_____
_____

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
_Dr. William Thornton, First Architect of the Capitol
_Christian Hines, Washington memoirist
_Hortense Prout, Freedom-seeker
_Margaret Foyles Little Sands, co-founder of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
_Lawrence Sands, real-estate developer
_Christian Heurich, Washington brewer
_Thomas W. Smith, prominent businessman and civic leader

Cultural Affiliation
_____
_____
_____

Architect/Builder
_____
_____
_____

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.)

Kalorama Park merits listing in the District of Columbia Inventory of Historic Sites for meeting **Criterion A (Events)** because of its association with John Little's slave-holding estate between 1836 and 1862, its consideration in 1866 as a presidential residence, its association with neighborhood development between 1883 and 1937, and its status as a whites-only park in a diversifying neighborhood between 1948 and 1954, when legal segregation ended. The park meets **Criterion B (History)** for its association with horseracing, an extremely popular pastime in D.C.'s early years, between 1817 and 1828; for providing a window into slavery in D.C. between 1836 and 1862, and for its recognition by the National Park Service as a National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site; for its role as a centerpiece around which neighborhood development occurred in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; and for serving as an example of park and playground development in segregated D.C. from the 1930s until 1954. The site meets **Criterion C (Individuals)** for its association with William Thornton, First Architect of the Capitol; memoirist Christian Hines; enslaved freedom-seeker Hortense Prout; church co-founder Margaret Foyles Little Sands; real estate developer and church co-founder Lawrence Sands; prominent businessman and civic leader Thomas W. Smith; and brewer Christian Heurich. The site meets **Criterion D (Architecture and Urbanism**) because it has been preserved as a much-valued green space in a densely built neighborhood, and because individuals associated with the site played key roles in developing the surrounding Kalorama Triangle and Washington Heights Historic Districts. Finally, the site meets **Criterion G (Archaeology)** because, through archaeological discoveries, it offers a unique opportunity for understanding slavery in Washington, D.C.

Kalorama Park merits listing in the National Register of Historic Places for meeting **Criterion A,** for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history: between 1836 and 1862 it was a slave-holding estate, from which Hortense Prout tried to escape to freedom in 1861, as recognized by the National Park Service National as an Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site; in 1866 the estate was considered by Congress for a new presidential residence; from the late 19th and into the first decades of the 20th century, it was the centerpiece around which the neighborhood developed; and between 1948 and desegregation in 1954, it was a whites-only recreation facility in a diversifying neighborhood. It meets **Criterion B** for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past: William Thornton, First Architect of the Capitol; memoirist Christian Hines; freedom-seeker Hortense Prout; church co-founder Margaret Foyles Little Sands; real estate developer and church co-founder Lawrence Sands; prominent businessman and civic leader Thomas W. Smith; and brewer Christian Heurich. It meets **Criterion C** for its embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a period of construction: the 1947 design of Kalorama Park traces the layout of the manor house and grounds that occupied the site from 1836 until 1937. Finally, the site meets **Criterion D** because archaeological investigation has already yielded artifacts relating to John Little's slaveholding estate, and further investigation might yield more.

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

DC Historic Site Criteria

DC Criterion A - Events

1836-1862, Slaveholding Estate: The Kalorama Park site from 1836 until District Emancipation in 1862 was the center of a large slave-holding estate owned by John Little. In 1861, it was the location of one of Washington's last slave-escape attempts, and the park was designated a National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site in 2008. The site is archaeologically important: surveys in 1986 and 2009 identified the structural remains of John Little's manor house, three out-buildings, and 19th century household artifacts. Archaeologists found intact historical ground surfaces at varying depths throughout the park, noting the potential for future discoveries that could provide greater insight into one of Washington's major slave-holding farms. Kalorama Park was landmarked for archaeological significance by the District of Columbia government in 2010.

1866, Property Evaluated for Presidential Residence: In 1866, Congress directed Nathaniel Michler, chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to scout possible locations for an executive mansion in the higher, healthier ground outside the city proper. Meridian Hill, the estate just east of Little's farm, was of special interest.

Michler mapped the Rock Creek valley and its nearby estates. He reported to Congress in 1867 that if the 120-acre Meridian Hill property needed to be expanded, John Little was willing to sell his adjoining land to the federal government for $2,613 per acre. "On both these estates are eligible building sites; the view towards the south, overlooking the city and the valley of the Potomac, being particularly fine," Michler wrote. "At one time some large forest trees added beauty to the scene, but most of them were destroyed during the war."

Michler noted that the Meridian Hill and Little farm sites, lying just above the plateau of the city with only sparse timber, were still "exposed to the miasmatic influences rising from the marshes of the Potomac." Finally, the rural area was about to change. "Again, it is too near the city to afford any retirement and repose for the Chief Magistrate," Michler reported. "Already the street railroads approach, and numerous houses are being built on all sides of this site."

1876-1942, Neighborhood Development: After John Little's death in 1876, family members subdivided and sold the surrounding farmland, which spurred development of the Kalorama Triangle and Washington Heights neighborhoods in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In 1903 Washington businessmen and real estate speculators Christian Heurich and Thomas Smith (individually) bought the lots that comprise today's park. Heurich intended to build a huge

apartment building on his portion of the property but was thwarted by the city taking a large chunk of it to cut Kalorama Road through.

1942-1954, Site Becomes a Park during the Segregation Era. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission went on record as favoring the acquisition of the "Heurich-Smith tract at Columbia road and Nineteenth street for park purposes" as early as 1931.

In fact the site had long been associated with recreation. Even during John Little's time, Sunday School and other groups picnicked in "Little's Woods," although this was most likely away from the manor house, across Columbia Road, and not on the site of today's park. Thomas Wilson Smith and his family continued the tradition, hosting lawn parties for groups such as the Association of Oldest Inhabitants. A school that rented the property from 1929 to 1936 held a summer camp on the grounds.

NCPPC acquired the Smith land in 1942 and the former Heurich land (sold to Bliss Properties in 1926) in 1946. With the park property complete, National Capital Parks and the D.C. Recreation Board prepared a plan for its development in 1947.

In segregated D.C., the park was designated for whites only. The Kalorama Citizens Association, which had lobbied for years for the park, went on record against desegregation of parks and playgrounds, even as the neighborhood around the park became more mixed. The African American population stood at 25 percent by 1950 and about 29 percent by 1954 when all D.C. parks desegregated just after the U.S. Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board* school desegregation decision.

DC Criterion B – History

This small site, Kalorama Park, represents several important periods of the history of the District of Columbia. Originally part of the Holmead family's large tract, Pleasant Plains, it in 1817 was purchased by one of Washington's most prominent individuals, William Thornton. As an avowed racing enthusiast, Thornton used this land adjacent to the National Racetrack (centered approximately at today's 14th Street and Park Road) to keep his thoroughbreds. Thornton raced his horses at the track, which he coincidentally had designed.

Enslaved men, women, and children lived and worked on the site of Kalorama Park from 1836 until District Emancipation in April 1862, when it was the operational center of a 56.5-acre cattle farm owned by John Little. Our extraordinarily thorough research on the Little property offers a rare glimpse into the framework of the life of enslaved African Americans on a farm in the District of Columbia. (The site was included in the National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom in 2008.)

The park site also represents a vantage point from which the rapid post-Civil War suburbanization of the District of Columbia could be witnessed. Already in 1866, Nathaniel Michler, chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer, in scouting possible locations for an

executive mansion in the higher, healthier ground outside the city proper, deemed the Little property too close to the "miasmatic influences rising from the marshes of the Potomac." After John Little's 1876 death, his daughters began subdividing the property, leaving only the manor house and the three-acre grounds. They laid out Mintwood Place and sold lots along it; today their backyards run adjacent to the northern end of the park. The city extended a water main to the neighborhood (by 1891) and an electric streetcar line along Columbia Road from Florida Avenue to Mount Pleasant (in 1903). Surrounding lots filled with rowhouses and apartment buildings. Two prominent DC businessmen, Thomas Wilson Smith and Christian Heurich, bought the three acres, and Heurich, at least, intended to build a huge apartment house on his portion. However, the park site remained undeveloped in part thanks to the city taking the southernmost portion of Heurich's property to cut Kalorama Road though, as well as a 16.5-foot swath along Columbia Road, and thanks also to legal issues related to Smith's will.

Finally, the site's history as a park and playground mirrors the history of thinking on parks and playgrounds, and it represents a window into the neighborhood's development, the rise of the Kalorama Citizens Association, and the campaign against segregated public facilities in the District of Columbia.

DC Criterion C - Individuals

William Thornton

In 1817 Superintendent of Patents William Thornton, the first Architect of the Capitol, bought 33.75 acres from John Holmead, whose family had owned a huge tract called Pleasant Plains since 1727. (Two years earlier he had purchased 22.75 acres of Thomas Peter's adjacent "Mount Pleasant" tract.) Most likely it was the acreage's proximity to the National Racetrack, centered approximately at today's 14th and Park Road intersection, that attracted Thornton. At the time horseracing was an enormously popular pastime, and Thornton, an avid fan, owned a number of thoroughbreds and raced them at the track. In addition, Thornton had laid out the track for the Washington Jockey Club, which had leased land for it from Holmead in 1802. After Thornton's death in 1828, his widow sold the land.

Christian Hines

In 1928 Christian Hines (1781-1874) and his brother Matthew bought Thornton's 56.5 acres for a silkworm operation. The operation failed and the Hines brothers lost the land; however, Christian later became known as a memoirist, the author of *Early Recollections of Washington City*, which covered the period starting with Hines's arrival in Washington as a boy, in 1790, until 1866.

Hortense Prout

In the spring of 1861, at the start of the Civil War, 20-year-old Hortense Prout made a daring bid for freedom from John Little's farm. She fled during a time of excitement and confusion in the District of Columbia, as thousands of newly organized Union troops poured into the city to quell the rebel uprising. Soldiers from Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere encamped on the nearby estates of Kalorama, Meridian Hill, and Cliffburne. On May 27, 1861, some 1,750 young troops from Ohio staked their tents at a farm known as

Bloomingdale, about two miles east of John Little's farm. Hortense fled to the Ohio encampment and went into hiding, disguised as a man. She was found shortly after by Little, who put her in the city jail as punishment before bringing her back to work in his home.

Because all enslaved African Americans in the District of Columbia were freed in April 1862, Hortense Prout's risky bid for freedom in the spring of 1861 made her one of the last enslaved Washingtonians to try to run away to freedom. In 2008, the National Park Service designated Kalorama Park a National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site. The park was added to the city's *African American Heritage Trail* in 2014.

Margaret Foyles Little Sands and Lawrence Sands

John Little's youngest daughter, Margaret (1860-1924), and her husband Lawrence Sands (1852-1916) lived with their children in a large cottage-style villa called "Mintwood," just northwest of the Little manor house on Woodley Lane (now Belmont Road, near the corner of today's 19th Street and Mintwood Place). Lawrence Sands, a real-estate developer, had an important role in creating the neighborhoods now known as Kalorama Triangle and Washington Heights on his father-in-law's former farmland in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The couple hosted Protestant Episcopal church services in the basement of their mansion, while helping to marshal resources to build St. Margaret's Episcopal Church on Connecticut Avenue near its intersection with Columbia Road. Margaret was a favorite family name. Margaret Sands's mother was Margaret Foyles Little, and her daughter and a niece were both named Margaret as well.

Christian Heurich

Christian Heurich (1842-1945), one of Washington's wealthiest residents, was born in the Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen and immigrated to the United States in 1866 already trained as a brewer. Six years later he and a partner established their first brewery in Washington, this city chosen for its well-established German community. But Heurich quickly bought out the partner and successfully ran the Christian Heurich Lager Beer Brewery, later the Christian Heurich Brewing Company, on his own. Heurich was also active in real estate. He bought about an acre of the Little tract in 1903 and sold it in 1926.

Thomas W. Smith

Thomas W. Smith (1846-1919) was a prominent Washington businessman who founded the Thomas W. Smith Lumber Company at First Street and Indiana Avenue, NW, in 1874. He was active with many organizations, including the Board of Trade for 25 years, serving as its president in 1902-1903; the Chamber of Commerce and, at one time, a member of its board of directors; and as director of Eastern Dispensary and Casualty Hospital. He bought a portion of the Little estate in 1903 and lived on it for the rest of his life. His heirs sold the property to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1942.

DC Criterion D – Architecture and Urbanism

The Kalorama Park site remained a suburban oasis in the midst of rapid neighborhood development that occurred at the start of the 20th century with the arrival of city water and an electric streetcar line. Remarkably, after John Little's death in 1876, his manor house, its

driveway and grounds remained largely intact for 60 more years. Although Little's heirs were instrumental in developing the surrounding neighborhoods known today as Kalorama Triangle and Washington Heights, family members continued to live in the house until 1903. Late that year, portions of the site were sold separately to two wealthy businessmen: brewer Christian Heurich and lumber merchant Thomas W. Smith. Heurich's plan to build an immense apartment building on his portion of the site was thwarted by the city's taking a part of his land to extend Kalorama Road through it. Smith and Heurich's shared property line ran through the Little manor house, which apparently was divided into two apartments by the Little daughters during their time there, or just before they sold it. Renters occupied Heurich's portion of the house, according to Census and other records. Thomas Smith and his family occupied their half of the house until 1925. Although Smith died in 1919, his will prevented the property's sale into the 1940s, with the result that it remained available for conversion to a park—a much needed and much desired respite in the now densely developed neighborhood. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission purchased the Smith land in 1942 and the Heurich land in 1946, reassembling the two parcels for the creation of Kalorama Park.

DC Criterion G - Archaeology

This site offers understanding, through material remains, of the lives of individuals enslaved on John Little's farm. As one of only a handful of known slavery-related sites in the District of Columbia that have not been paved over or destroyed, Kalorama Park has the potential to help us comprehend the broader patterns of slavery in Washington D.C., in general, and in the suburban areas surrounding the old city, in particular. The archaeological record has the potential to provide unique data not available in the documentary record on the lives of John Little, his family, and their enslaved workforce.

National Register Criteria

NR Criterion A: Events

1836-1862, Slaveholding Estate: The Kalorama Park site from 1836 until District Emancipation in 1862 was the center of a large slave-holding estate owned by John Little. In 1861, it was the location of one of Washington's last slave-escape attempts, when 20-year-old Hortense Prout, disguised as a man, went into hiding among temporarily encamped Union troops. The park was designated a National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site in 2008 in honor of her courage. The site is archaeologically important: surveys in 1986 and 2009 identified the structural remains of John Little's manor house, three out-buildings, and 19th Century household artifacts. Archaeologists found intact historical ground surfaces under topsoil at varying depths throughout the park, noting the potential for future discoveries that could provide greater insight into one of Washington's major slave-holding farms. Kalorama Park was landmarked for archaeological significance by the District of Columbia government in 2010.

1866, Property Evaluated for Presidential Residence: In 1866, Congress directed Nathaniel Michler, chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer, to scout possible locations for an executive mansion in the higher, healthier ground outside the city proper. Meridian Hill, the estate just east of Little's farm, was of special interest.

Michler mapped the Rock Creek valley and its nearby estates. He reported to Congress in 1867 that if the 120-acre Meridian Hill property needed to be expanded, John Little was willing to sell his adjoining land to the federal government for $2,613 per acre. "On both these estates are eligible building sites; the view towards the south, overlooking the city and the valley of the Potomac, being particularly fine," Michler wrote. "At one time some large forest trees added beauty to the scene, but most of them were destroyed during the war."

Michler noted that the Meridian Hill and Little farm sites, lying just above the plateau of the city with only sparse timber, were still "exposed to the miasmatic influences rising from the marshes of the Potomac." Finally, the rural area was about to change. "Again, it is too near the city to afford any retirement and repose for the Chief Magistrate," Michler reported. "Already the street railroads approach, and numerous houses are being built on all sides of this site."

1876-1942, Neighborhood Development: After John Little's death in 1876, family members subdivided and sold the surrounding farmland, which spurred development of the Kalorama Triangle and Washington Heights neighborhoods in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In 1903 Washington businessmen and real estate speculators Christian Heurich and Thomas Smith (individually) bought the adjoining lots that comprise today's Kalorama Park. Heurich intended to build a huge apartment building on his portion of the property but was thwarted by the city taking a large chunk of it to cut Kalorama Road through.

1942-1954, Site Becomes a Park during the Segregation Era. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission went on record as favoring the acquisition of the "Heurich-Smith tract at Columbia road and Nineteenth street for park purposes" as early as 1931.

In fact the site had long been associated with recreation. Even during John Little's time, Sunday School and other groups picnicked in "Little's Woods," although this was most likely away from the manor house, across Columbia Road, and not on the site of today's park. Thomas Wilson Smith and his family continued the tradition, hosting lawn parties for groups such as the Association of Oldest Inhabitants. A school that rented the property from 1929 to 1936 held a summer camp on the grounds.

NCPPC acquired the Smith land in 1942 and the former Heurich land (sold to Bliss Properties in 1926) in 1946. With the park property complete, National Capital Parks and the D.C. Recreation Board prepared a plan for its development in 1947.

In segregated D.C., the park was designated for whites only. The Kalorama Citizens Association, which had lobbied for years for the park, went on record against desegregation of parks and playgrounds, even as the neighborhood around the park became more mixed. The African American population stood at 25 percent by 1950 and about 29 percent by 1954 when all D.C.

parks desegregated just after the U.S. Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board* school desegregation decision.

NR Criterion B: Persons

William Thornton

In 1817 Superintendent of Patents William Thornton, the first Architect of the Capitol, bought 33.75 acres from John Holmead, whose family had owned a huge tract called Pleasant Plains since 1727. (Two years earlier he had purchased 22.75 acres of Thomas Peter's adjacent "Mount Pleasant" tract.) Most likely it was the acreage's proximity to the National Racetrack, centered approximately at today's 14th and Park Road intersection, that attracted Thornton. At the time horseracing was an enormously popular pastime, and Thornton, an avid fan, owned a number of thoroughbreds and raced them at the track. In addition, Thornton had laid out the track for the Washington Jockey Club, which had leased land for it from Holmead in 1802. After Thornton's death in 1828, his widow sold the land.

Christian Hines

In 1928 Christian Hines (1781-1874) and his brother Matthew bought Thornton's 56.5 acres for a silkworm operation. The operation failed and the Hines brothers lost the land; however, Christian later became known as a memoirist, the author of *Early Recollections of Washington City*, which covered the period starting with Hines's arrival in Washington as a boy, in 1790, until 1866.

Hortense Prout

In the spring of 1861, at the start of the Civil War, 20-year-old Hortense Prout made a daring bid for freedom from John Little's farm. She fled during a time of excitement and confusion in the District of Columbia, as thousands of newly organized Union troops poured into the city to quell the rebel uprising. Soldiers from Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere encamped on the nearby estates of Kalorama, Meridian Hill, and Cliffburne. On May 27, 1861, some 1,750 young troops from Ohio staked their tents at a farm known as Bloomingdale, about two miles east of John Little's farm. Hortense fled to the Ohio encampment and went into hiding, disguised as a man. She was found shortly after by Little, who put her in the city jail as punishment before bringing her back to work in his home.

Because all enslaved African Americans in the District of Columbia were freed in April 1862, Hortense Prout's risky bid for freedom in the spring of 1861 made her one of the last enslaved Washingtonians to try to run away to freedom. In 2008, the National Park Service designated Kalorama Park a National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site. The park was added to the city's *African American Heritage Trail* in 2014.

Margaret Foyles Little Sands and Lawrence Sands

John Little's youngest daughter, Margaret (1860-1924), and her husband Lawrence Sands (1852-1916) lived with their children in a large cottage-style villa called "Mintwood," just northwest of the Little manor house on Woodley Lane (now Belmont Road, near the corner of today's 19th

Street and Mintwood Place). Lawrence Sands, a real-estate developer, had an important role in creating the neighborhoods now known as Kalorama Triangle and Washington Heights on his father-in-law's former farmland in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The couple hosted Protestant Episcopal church services in the basement of their mansion, while helping to marshal resources to build St. Margaret's Episcopal Church on Connecticut Avenue near its intersection with Columbia Road. Margaret was a favorite family name. Margaret Sands's mother was Margaret Foyles Little, and her daughter and a niece were both named Margaret as well.

Christian Heurich

Heurich (1842-1945), one of Washington's wealthiest residents, was born in the Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen and immigrated to the United States in 1866 already trained as a brewer. Six years later he and a partner established their first brewery in Washington, this city chosen for its well-established German community. But Heurich quickly bought out the partner and successfully ran the Christian Heurich Lager Beer Brewery, later the Christian Heurich Brewing Company, on his own. Heurich was also active in real estate. He bought about an acre of the Little tract in 1903 and sold it in 1926.

Thomas W. Smith

Thomas W. Smith (1846-1919), a prominent Washington businessman, founded the Thomas W. Smith Lumber Company at First Street and Indiana Avenue, NW, in 1874. He was active with many organizations, including the Board of Trade for 25 years, serving as its president in 1902-1903; the Chamber of Commerce and, at one time, a member of its board of directors; and as director of Eastern Dispensary and Casualty Hospital. He bought a portion of the Little estate in 1903 and lived on it for the rest of his life. His heirs sold the property to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1942.

NR Criterion C: Significant and Distinguishable Entity

The site meets NR Criterion C in that it embodies the distinctive characteristics of two periods of construction: (1) an antebellum manor-house grounds; and (2) a mid-20th century urban park that combines naturalistic, 19th century pleasure-ground elements with built amenities of playgrounds, ball courts, and a shelter house.

The design of Kalorama Park, constructed between 1947 and 1949, retains the topography and traces the layout of the manor house and grounds that occupied the site from 1836 until 1937. After buying his 56.5-acre farm in 1836, John Little situated his manor house on its highest point, which commanded sweeping views of Washington City, Rock Creek Valley, and the neighboring estates of Meridian Hill and Kalorama. The Little manor house stood on one of the District's oldest, most important thoroughfares: Tayloe's Lane Road (now Columbia Road), which led from Georgetown to the race grounds, and beyond, crossing Seventh Street Road (now Georgia Avenue) to the Soldiers' Home and Rock Creek Church. Just west of the manor house was Woodley Lane Road (now 19th Street and Belmont Road) which descended to a bridge crossing Rock Creek, leading west to the hills above Georgetown. Today, remarkably, the Little manor-house grounds are preserved as Kalorama Park; it serves as a green oasis at the joining

points of the extremely dense, architecturally important Kalorama Triangle and Washington Heights Historic Districts, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The walkways of Kalorama Park trace the curved driveways that once ran through the grounds of John Little's manor house. Its central green space sits atop the former footprint—and the archaeological ruins—of the house. Its formal entrance court from Columbia Road leads to the site of the manor house's front door. The service road and walk are located on the north entry point of the driveway that connected the manor house to Columbia Road. A gracefully curved path that leads from the upper part of the park down its hillside to the basketball courts is situated where a driveway led from the manor house to a stable.

While providing ample green space, Kalorama Park's playgrounds and other built amenities reflect the mid-20th century movement for enhanced outdoor recreational opportunities in urban areas, especially during a time of rapid population growth in D.C. The park's shelter house is a good example of the type of facility the city built after World War II. These more utilitarian buildings featured simple lines and a low profile in keeping with the "natural urban outgrowth of the [National Park Service's] more rustic architectural tradition for park and recreation structures.[85] With multiple windows, they provided ample lighting and air circulation for activity and recreation space, restrooms, and offices for park employees.[86] The shelter house was modified about 1993: the porch was walled in, and a triple-window bay was added to the southern half of the east elevation. The northern half of the east elevation retains its original triple-window bay that contains a one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash window flanked by two narrower one-over-one windows.[87]

NR Criterion D: Archaeology

The site is archaeologically important. Surveys in 1986 and 2009 identified the structural remains of John Little's manor house, three out-buildings, and 19th century household artifacts. Archaeologists found intact historical ground surfaces at varying depths below topsoil throughout the park, noting the potential for future discoveries which could provide greater insight into one of Washington's major slave-holding farms. Kalorama Park was landmarked for archaeological significance by the District of Columbia government in 2010.

There is great public interest in the archaeological study of slavery-related sites throughout the United States and elsewhere. Recent discoveries on the lives and habits of enslaved individuals have caused archaeologists to re-evaluate past finds in a new light. They have resulted in more informed approaches to the study of slave-holding estates such as John Little's. As one of only a handful of known slavery-related sites in the District of Columbia that have not been paved over or destroyed, Kalorama Park has unique potential to help us comprehend the broader patterns of slavery in Washington, D.C.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Benbow, Mark, "Christian Heurich," *Immigrant Entrepreneurship, German-American Business Biographies,* http://immigrantentrepreneurship.org/entry.php?rec=38, 2014.

Clephane, Walter C., "The Local Aspect of Slavery in the District of Columbia," *Records of the Columbia Historical Society,* Vol. 3, Washington, D.C., 1900.

Communication of N. Michler, Major of Engineers, to the Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, relative to a suitable site for a public park and presidential mansion, submitted to accompany the Bill (S. 549) for the establishment and maintenance of a public park in the District of Columbia, February 13, 1867. Serial Set Vol. No. 1278, S. Misc. Doc. 21.

Cranz, Galen, **"**Changing Roles of Urban Parks/From Pleasure Garden to Open Space**," at** http://www.spur.org/publications/article/2000-06-01/changing-roles-urban-parks

Cultural Tourism DC, *Roads to Diversity: Adams Morgan Heritage Trail*, 2005.

D.C. Building Permit database, Brian Kraft for the D.C. Historic Preservation Office.

D.C. Parks and Recreation Buildings Reconnaissance Survey for Kalorama Park, 1875 Columbia Road, NW, August 23, 2013.

District of Columbia Parks and Recreation Master Plan Historic Preservation Review, prepared for the D.C. Office of Planning and D.C. Historic Preservation Office by History Matters, LLC, March 2014.

Eig, Emily Hotaling, "Kalorama," in *Washington at Home*, ed. Kathryn S. Smith (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010).

Franklin, John Hope and Loren Schweninger, *Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantation,* (New York: Oxford University Press USA, 2000) pp. 211-213.

Goode, James M., *Best Addresses: One Hundred Years of Washington's Distinguished Apartment Houses* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Books, 1988).

Goode, James M., *Capital Losses: A Cultural History of Washington's Destroyed Buildings* (Washington, D.C., Smithsonian Books, 1979).

Heurich, Christian, *From My Life 1842-1934/From Haina in Thuringia to Washington in the United States of American/Life Story and Recollections of Christian Heurich* (Washington, D.C., 1934).

Hynson, Jerry M., *District of Columbia Runaway and Fugitive Slave Cases, 1848-1863,* Heritage Books Inc., Westminster, Maryland, 1999.

Kail, Wendy, *On the Track – Thomas Peter, Henry Clay, and the Duchess of Marlborough*, (Washington, D.C.: Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, September 2013).

Kraft, Brian, unpublished research paper on Columbia Heights, 2007.

Pitch, Anthony, *The Burning of Washington* (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1998).

Proctor, John Clagett, "Christian Hines, Author of 'Early Recollections of Washington City,' with notes on the Hines Family," read before the Columbia Historical Society March 19, 1918, and found at http://archive.org/stream/jstor-40067120/40067120_djvu.txt

Proctor, John Claggett, *The Evening Star*, "The Story of Famous Taylor's Lane Road," January 28, 1934, p. 64.

"Proposed Museum Sites Are Studied by Planning Body," *The Evening Star,* January 15, 1931.

Provine, Dorothy S., *Compensated Emancipation in the District of Columbia, Petitions Under the Act of April 16, 1862* (Westminster, Maryland: Willow Bend Books, 2005) introduction.

"Recreation Center, Park and Branch Library Are Objective of Kalorama Citizens' Group," *The Washington Post,* October 28, 1940.

"Statue, Found on Street, Identified as Stolen," *The Washington Post*, November 15, 1928, p.20.

Still, William, *The Underground Railroad*, Revised Edition, 1878, Philadelphia, Pa., p. 68. Still made this observation in recounting the 1856 escape of Maria Dorsey from Washington, D.C.

$2,000,000 Is Asked to Extend Parks," *The Washington Post*, December 13, 1938.

Wender, Harry S. Papers, Historical Society of Washington, D.C., MS 0379.

Wilson, Peter C., LA, *Site Analysis: Kalorama Park, NW, District of Columbia*, August 2014.

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

Name of Property | County and State

____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

---

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property __approx. 3 acres_____

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: Longitude:

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:

Name of Property | County and State

2.Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3.Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4.Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

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

The Kalorama Park site is bounded by Columbia Road on the east, by Kalorama Road on the south, by 19th Street on the west, and, on the north, by the rear property lines of houses and apartment buildings facing Mintwood Place in Northwest Washington, D.C.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are those of the park.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: __Mara Cherkasky, historian, for Kalorama Citizens Association
organization: _Prologue DC, LLC_____
street & number: _603 Rock Creek Church Road, NW_____
city or town:__Washington_____ state: _DC__ zip code:_20010_____
e-mail_____mara@prologuedc.com_____
telephone:__202-997-1542_____
date:__September 18, 2015_____

name/title: __Mary J. Belcher, independent historian, for Kalorama Citizens Association
organization: _____
street & number: _1869 Mintwood Place, NW, Apt. 44_____
city or town:__Washington_____ state: _DC__ zip code:_20009_____
e-mail_____maryjbelcher@comcast.net_____
telephone:__202-462-9069
date:_September 18, 2015_____

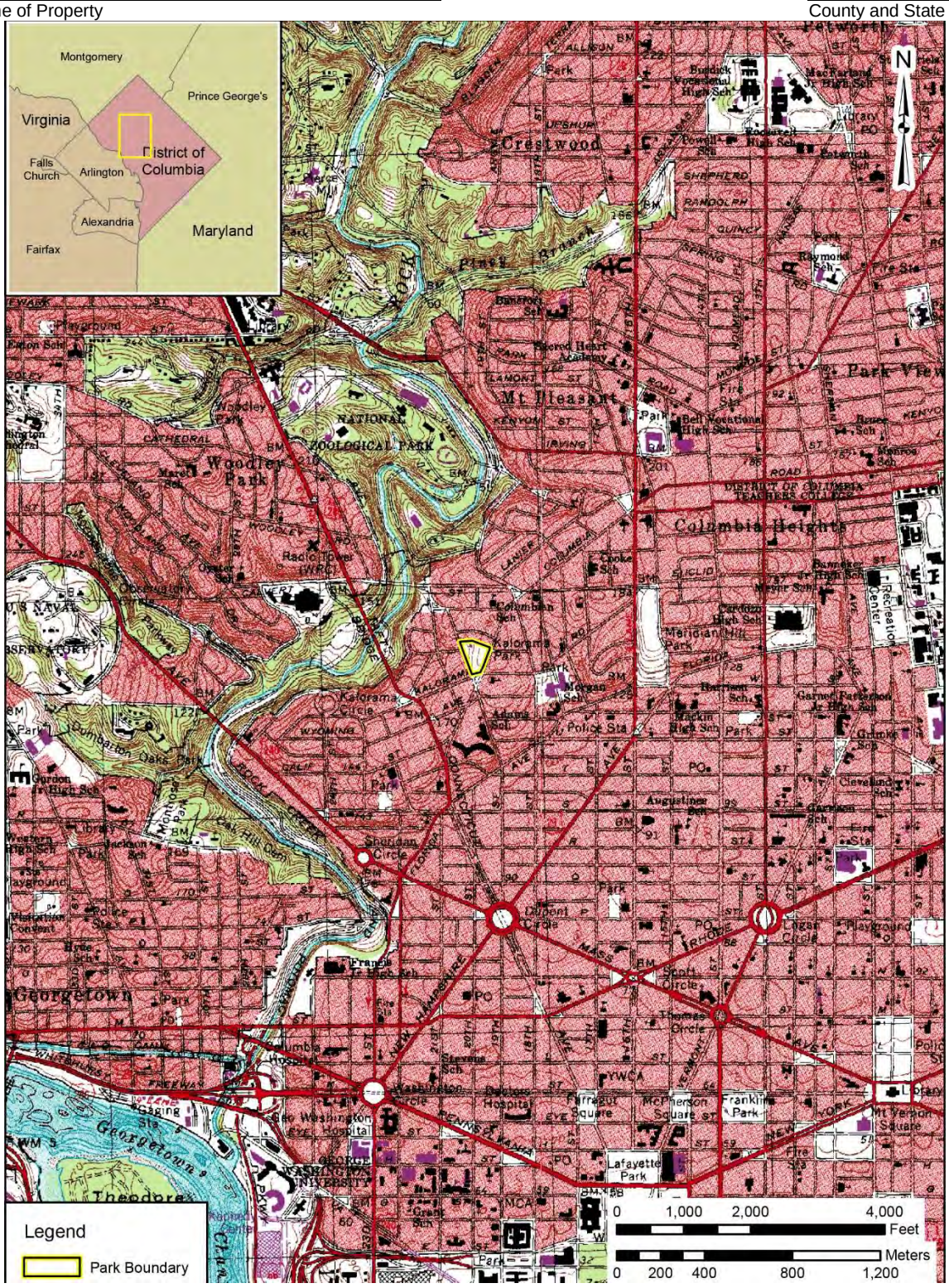
Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

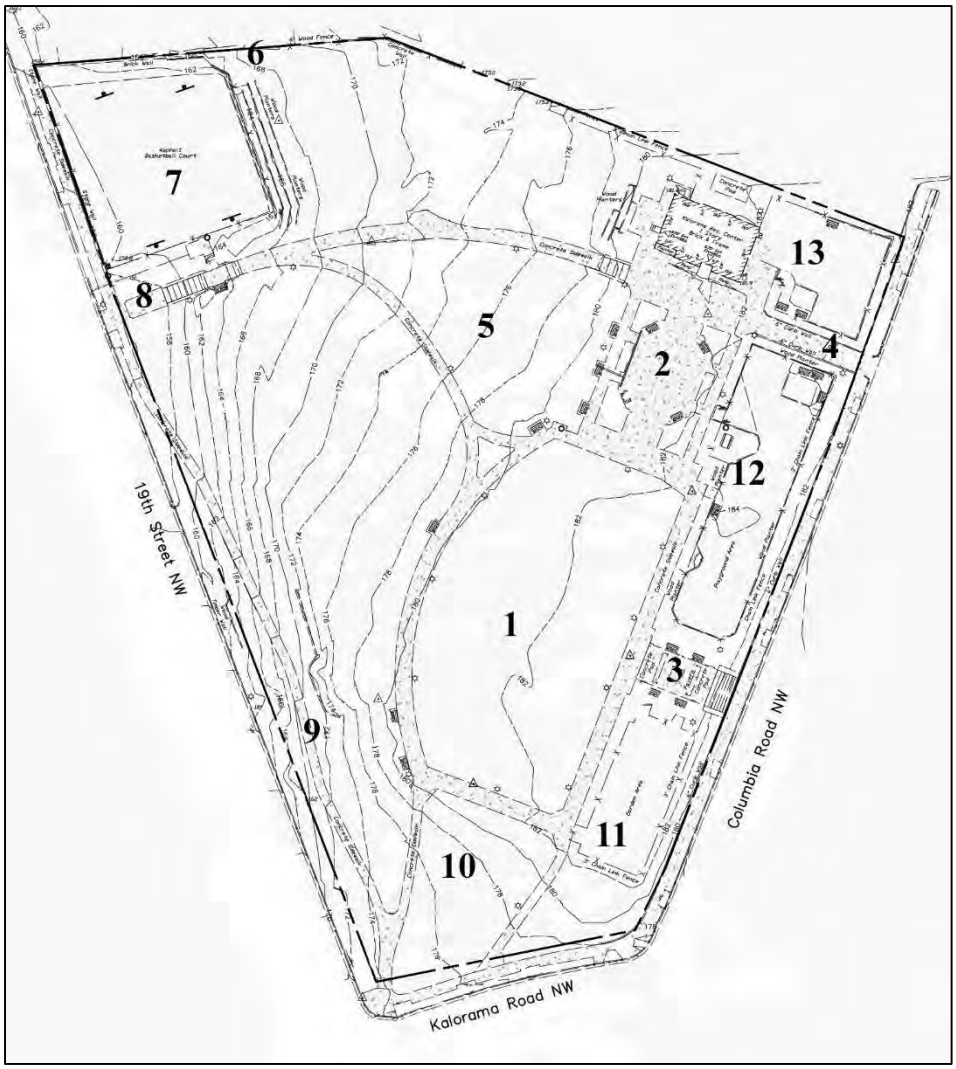
- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

- **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.)



U.S. Geologic Survey map of Kalorama Park (from *Archaeological Investigation at Site 51NW061, Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C., Final Report, The Louis Berger Group, Inc., for C&E Services of Washington, D.C., 2010*)



SKETCH MAP OF KALORAMA PARK, WITH KEY AREAS NUMBERED

1. **Central oval or green space**
2. **Plaza and fieldhouse**
3. **Formal entrance courtyard from Columbia Road**
4. **Service road and walkway from Columbia Road**
5. **Upper western hillside with curved walks**
6. **Location of 2009 archaeological discovery**
7. **Basketball courts**
8. **19th Street entrance with stairs**
9. **19th Street walkway**
10. **Southern end of park**
11. **Community garden**
12. **Older children's playground**
13. **Tots' playground**

Photo Log:

1. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. View of central oval area looking west from courtyard entrance from Columbia Road. Photo 1 of 19.

1a. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. View of central oval looking southwest from northeast. Photo 2 of 19.

1b. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. View from central oval looking north toward plaza and fieldhouse. Photo 3 of 19.

1c. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. View of central oval looking south from plaza. Photo 4 of 19.

2. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Plaza area looking south from fieldhouse. Photo 5 of 19.

2a. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Fieldhouse, main entrance, viewed from plaza facing north. Photo 6 of 19.

3. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Formal entrance courtyard, looking northwest from Columbia Road. Photo 7 of 19.

3a. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Formal entrance courtyard, looking west from Columbia Road. Photo 8 of 19.

4. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. View of service road and walkway, looking west from Columbia Road. Photo 9 of 19.

5. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. View from upper western hillside, looking northwest toward basketball courts. Photo 10 of 19.

6. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Site of 2009 archaeological investigation at northeastern edge of basketball court, looking north toward rear of houses and apartment building along Mintwood Place. Photo 11 of 19.

7. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Basketball courts, looking east-southeast from 19th Street. Photo 12 of 19.

8. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. 19th Street entrance with stairs, looking northeast from 19th Street. Photo 13 of 19.

9. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. 19th Street walkway looking south (uphill). Photo 14 of 19.

9a. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. 19th Street walkway looking north (downhill). Photo 15 of 19.

10. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Southern area of park, looking northeast from corner of 19th Street and Kalorama Road. Photo 16 of 19.

11. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Community garden, which borders Columbia Road, looking north. Photp 17 of 19.

12. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Older children's playground, looking north. Photo 18 of 19.

13. Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C. Photo by Mary Belcher, 2015. Tot lot, looking west from Columbia Road. Photo 19 of 19.

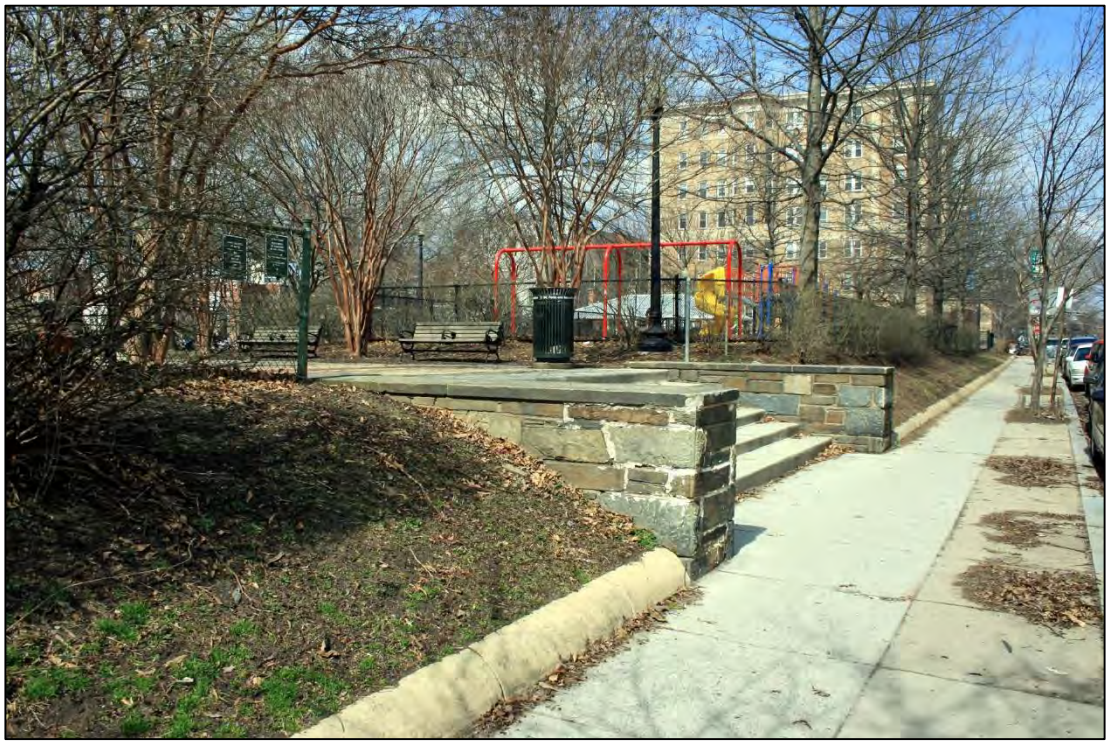
1. (Above) View of central oval area looking west from courtyard entrance from Columbia Road. When John Little's manor house was standing, this walkway would have led to its front door.
1a. (Below) View of central oval looking southwest from northeast.

1b. (Above) View from central oval looking north toward plaza and fieldhouse.

1c. (Below) View of central oval looking south from plaza.

2. (Above) Plaza area looking south from fieldhouse.

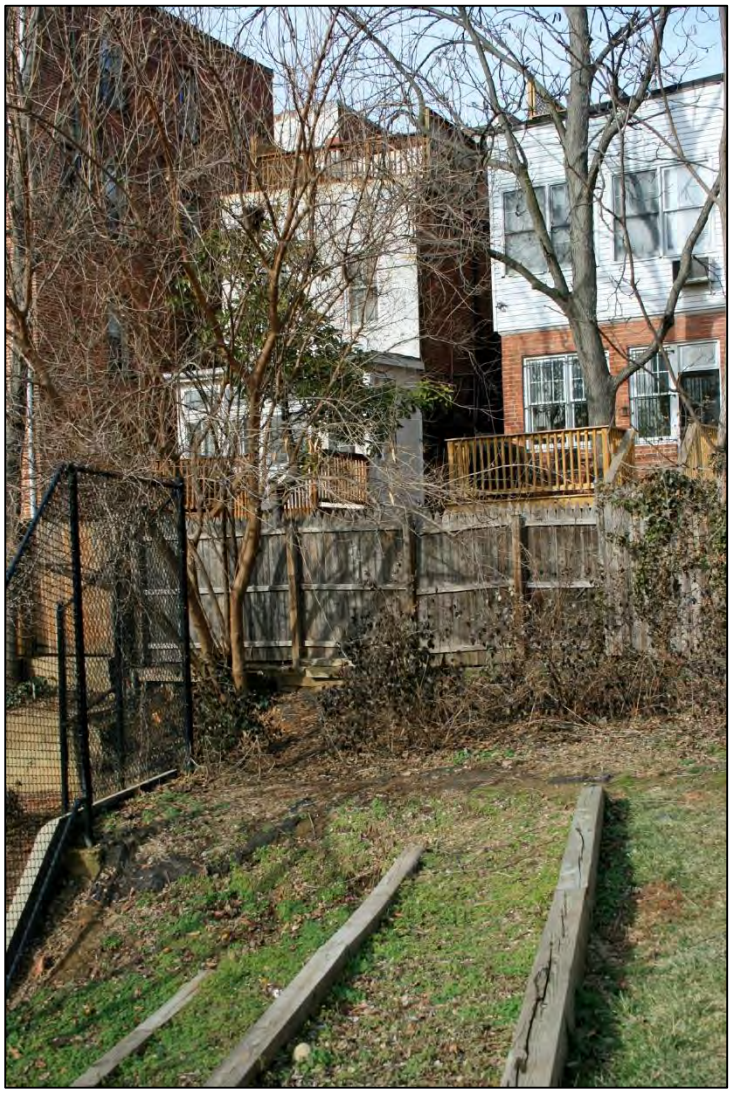
2a. (Below) Fieldhouse, main entrance, viewed from plaza facing north.



3. (Above) Formal entrance courtyard, looking northwest from Columbia Road.

3a. (Below) Formal entrance courtyard, looking west from Columbia Road.

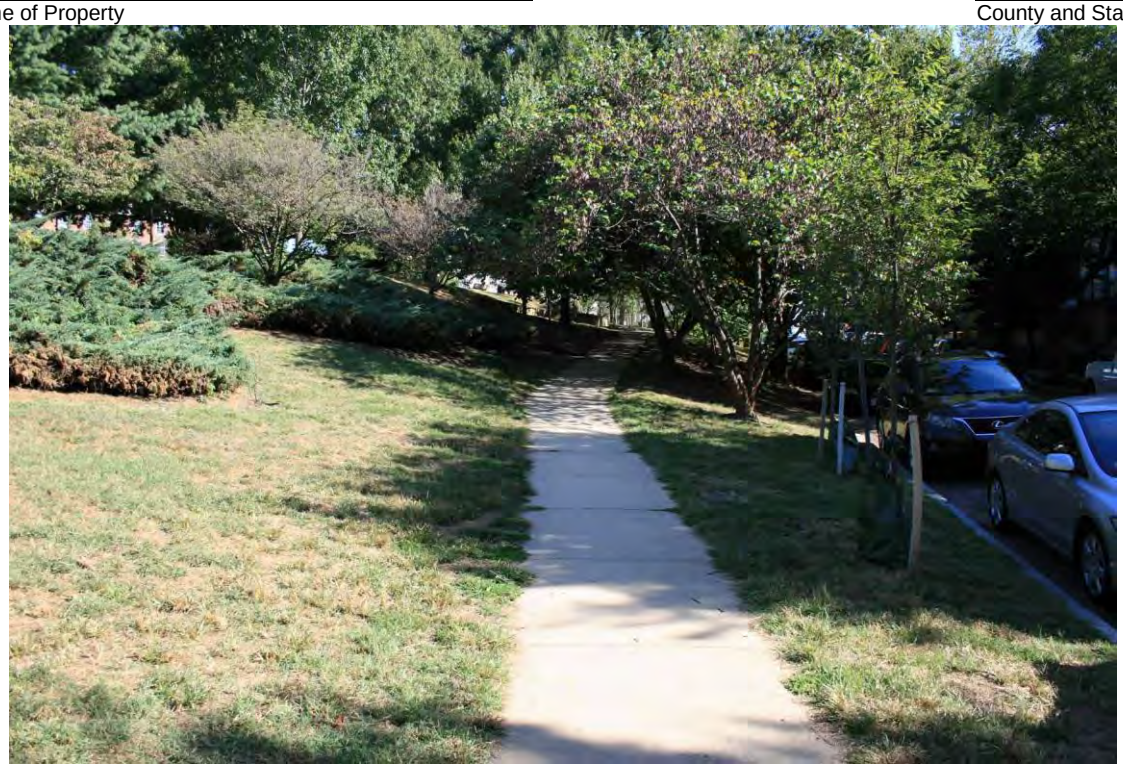
4. (Above) View of service road and walkway, looking west from Columbia Road.
5. (Below) View from upper western hillside, looking northwest toward basketball courts. The curved pathway at left traces a driveway that led from the manor house to a stable that once sat at the northwest corner of the grounds.



6. Site of 2009 archaeological investigation at northeastern edge of basketball court, looking north toward rear of houses and apartment building along Mintwood Place. The investigation arose after contractors working in the park accidentally exposed the structural remains of at least two and possibly three outbuildings on the grounds of John Little's manor house. The structural remains were left in place and covered over; a concrete retaining wall was built to the west of the survey area, where it abutted the basketball courts, to protect the site.

7. (Above) Basketball courts, looking east-southeast from 19th Street.

8. (Below) 19th Street entrance with stairs, looking northeast from 19th Street.



9. (Above) 19th Street walkway looking south (uphill). In 1947, park designers envisioned a more formal promenade with a retaining wall and benches along 19th Street.

9a. (Left) 19th Street walkway looking north (downhill).

10. (Above) Southern area of park, looking northeast from corner of 19th Street and Kalorama Road.

11. (Below) Community garden, which borders Columbia Road, looking north.

12. (Above) The playground for older children, which borders Columbia Road, looking north.
13 (Below) The tots' playground, viewed looking west from Columbia Road.

END NOTES

[1] Deeds recorded Oct. 3, 1822, Liber WB-6. The first is a Deed of Trust dated July 18, 1822, in which William Thornton and John Holmead for the first time officially record the fact that Thornton bought 33.75 acres from Holmead on December 6, 1817, with $1,380 Thornton borrowed from the "office of Discount and Deposit" in Washington. The Deed of Trust is made to Colonel George Bomford, who signed the note that allowed Thornton to borrow the money. In the event that Thornton fails to repay the bank on the schedule required, the deed gives Bomford the right to sell the land for the amount required. Thornton also states in the deed that it extends to the Baron Hyde de Neuville for a $1,000 loan made to Thornton; again, if Thornton fails to repay him, Bomford has the right to sell the land to satisfy de Neuville's loan. The Thornton-Holmead-Bomford deed describes the land, with references to: the road that leads from Georgetown to Mr. [George] Johnson's mill on Rock Creek; portions of the land tracts known as Plain Dealing and James's Park; and the adjacent lands of Michael Nourse, Thomas W. Pairo, and Robert Peter's "Mount Pleasant." The second a Deed of Trust dated July 18, 1822, in which William Thornton and Thomas Peter as the executor of John Peter Jr"'s estate for the first time official record the fact that Thornton bought 22.75 acres from Peter on March 21, 1815, for $1,380 from the office of Discount & Deposit. The Deed of Trust is made to Colonel George Bomford, who signed the note that allowed Thornton to borrow the money. As the above deed, it gives Bomford the right to sell the land if Thornton fails to repay the bank. It also names Baron Hyde de Neuville for lending Thornton $1,000—again giving Bomford the right to sell the land if Thornton fails to repay de Neuville's loan. The Thornton-Peter-Bomford deed describes the land, with references to it being part of a tract of land called "Mount Pleasant"; the old Bladensburg Road; the proximity of a "Branch" [Slash Run] that crosses the road; the tract called "The Widow's Mite"; stone markers numbered 28, 29, and 30; the main road leading from George Town to the Race Ground; and the fact that part of Mount Pleasant had been sold by Thomas Peter to Washington Bowie.

[2] Brian Kraft, unpublished research paper on Columbia Heights.

[3] "Thorough-bred Horses to be sold at private sale," *United States Telegraph*, June 4, 1828.

[4] *On the Track – Thomas Peter, Henry Clay, and the Duchess of Marlborough*, by Wendy Kail, archivist, Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, Washington, D.C., September 2013, p. 3.

[5] University of Aberdeen, see http://www.aoc.gov/architect-of-the-capitol/dr-william-thornton

[6] District of Columbia Communicated to Congress, Jan. 1, 1796, p. 134, signed by District Commissioners Gustavus Scott, William Thornton, and Alex. White; see https://books.google.com/books?id=eRVFAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA133&lpg=PA133&dq=District+of+Columbia+Communicated+to+Congress,+January+8+1796&source=bl&ots=Kxi3KvcYoF&sig=acYELiuFcgNn7JR19i3O0HDFdpA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CCEQ6AEwAWoVChMI68X9u4y9xwIVRVU-Ch0AMgsY#v=onepage&q=District%20of%20Columbia%20Communicated%20to%20Congress%2C%20January%208%201796&f=false .

[7] http://www.aoc.gov/architect-of-the-capitol/dr-william-thornton; William Thornton Papers, Library of Congress, Finding Aid at http://rs5.loc.gov/service/mss/eadxmlmss/eadpdfmss/2006/ms006027.pdf

[8] Anthony Pitch, *The Burning of Washington* (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1998), p. 132.

[9] Boiler improvements for stills – List of Patentees Communicated to the House of Representatives, February 22, 1805, American State Papers 037, Miscellaneous Vol. 1, Publication No. 193; An improved still — List of Patentees Communicated to the House of Representatives, January 14, 1811, American State Papers 038, Miscellaneous Vol. 2, Publication No. 284; Fire-arms — List of Patentees Communicated to the House of Representatives, January 21, 1812, American State Papers 038, Miscellaneous Vol. 2, Publication No. 308; Paddle-wheel steamboat — List of

Patentees Communicated to the House of Representatives, January 30, 1815, American State Papers 038, Miscellaneous Vol. 2, Publication No. 383.

[10] "Presidency—Gen. Washington and John Quincy Adams," [Fredericktown, MD] *Republican Gazette & General Advertiser*, August 30, 1823, p. 2.
[11] Anna Maria Thornton Papers, MSS51862, Library of Congress, reel 1 of 2, diary for May 1828 and beyond.
[12] Deed recorded November 15, 1828, Liber W.B. 23, folio 434-436, at the D.C. Archives.
[13] John Clagett Proctor, "Christian Hines, Author of 'Early Recollections of Washington City,' with notes on the Hines Family," read before the Columbia Historical Society March 19, 1918, and found at http://archive.org/stream/jstor-40067120/40067120_djvu.txt
[14] District of Columbia Land Records, Liber 65, pp. 76-81, Deed of Trust from John Little to J.B.H. Smith for $4,800 borrowed from Smith to buy the land Nathan Towson, executor of the estate of Joseph Lovell. (National Archives record group 69.)
[15] The precise construction date of the manor house is unknown. The house appears on maps dating back to the mid-1850s; it was demolished in 1937.
[16] Moses Bell sued for and won his freedom five years after John Little bought him in Alexandria and re-sold him to John Reiling, a butcher near the Navy Yard, who then re-sold him to a third butcher, James Rhodes. An all-white jury in 1841 voted to grant Moses Bell's petition for freedom because it was illegal for Little to have brought Bell into the District to re-sell him. Little was not charged with a crime. After Rhodes appealed, the U.S. Supreme Court in a landmark decision upheld the lower court's verdict and Bell's freedom was secure. *(Bell v. Rhodes,* Washington, D.C. Circuit Court, March Term 1842, Civil Trials #332, National Archives Record Group 21, and *Rhodes v. Bell,* U.S. Supreme Court, January term, 1844*)*.
[17] *The Baltimore Sun*, September 12, 1844.
[18] The 1870 Census shows Leander Prout and his wife Sophia living in Philadelphia's 8th Ward, where he worked as a drug packer. They shared their household with another couple and a teenager, none of whom had the last name Prout.
[19] By 1862, the District of Columbia's largest slaveholder, George Washington Young, owned nearly 70 people; eight other farmers and mill owners each held 20 to 30 enslaved people. In this context, John Little's slave estate—17 people by 1862—made him a significant slaveholder. (Dorothy S. Provine, *Compensated Emancipation in the District of Columbia, Petitions Under the Act of April 16, 1862* (Westminster, Maryland: Willow Bend Books, 2005) introduction.
[20]John Hope Franklin and Loren Schweninger, *Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantation,* (New York: Oxford University Press USA, 2000) pp. 211-213.
[21] Still, William, *The Underground Railroad*, Revised Edition, 1878, Philadelphia, Pa., p. 68. Still made this observation in recounting the 1856 escape of Maria Dorsey from Washington, D.C.
[22] *The Evening Star*, May 24, 1861, "MORE TROOPS.—*Arrival of the First and Second Ohio Regiments."* On May 27, 1861, the *National Intelligencer* reported that the Ohio Regiments have "gone into camp north of the city." On June 5, 1861, the *Intelligencer* reported on a Strawberry Festival "held in the grove on the Bloomingdale Farm, the residence of Mrs. Emily Beale, near the encampment of the Rhode Island and Ohio regiments …"
[23] Washington Evening Star, June 17, 1861, p. **3.**
[24] Jerry M. Hynson, *District of Columbia Runaway and Fugitive Slave Cases, 1848-1863* (Westminster, Maryland: Heritage Books Inc., 1999), p. 95.
[25] Walter C. Clephane, "The Local Aspect of Slavery in the District of Columbia," *Records of the Columbia Historical Society,* Vol. 3, Washington, D.C., 1900. Clephane reported that on January 6, 1862, Republican Sen. James W. Grimes of Iowa introduced a bill to end the abuse of "safe keeping" of enslaved people in the City Jail. Lincoln on January 25, 1862, ordered the Marshall of the jail "not to receive into custody any persons claimed to be held in service or labor within the District or elsewhere, not charged with any crime or misdemeanor …"
[26] House of Representatives, 38th Congress, 1st Session, Executive Document No. 42, *"Emancipation in the District of Columbia, Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury," February 17, 1864.* The Emancipation Commission compensated 909 District slaveholders for the loss of nearly 3,000 formerly enslaved people.
[27] Dorothy S Provine, *Compensated Emancipation*, Petitions No. 744, 745 and 746, pp. 183-184.
[28] Dorothy S Provine, *Compensated Emancipation*, Petitions No. 744, 745 and 746, pp. 183-184.
[29] U.S. Census for 1870.

[30] Ancestry.com U.S. Civil War Draft Registration Records, 1863-65, show Benjamin Purnell, Leander Prout and William Crown all working as butchers in 1864.
[31] U.S. Census for 1870.
[32] U.S. Census for 1870
[33] U.S. Census for 1870.
[34] *Communication of N. Michler, Major of Engineers, to the Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, relative to a suitable site for a public park and presidential mansion, submitted to accompany the Bill (S. 549) for the establishment and maintenance of a public park in the District of Columbia, February 13, 1867.* Serial Set Vol. No. 1278, S. Misc. Doc. 21 (pp. 4-5). Michler noted that Little's farm consisted of 38 acres—not the 56.5 he bought in 1836; it is unknown whether this was the amount of land he was willing to sell, or whether he had already begun selling off parts of his property.
[35] John Little Death Certificate, No. 8888, Board of Health District of Columbia, D.C. Archives.
[36] U.S. Census for 1880.
[37] In 1880, the sisters originally divided the property into 9 lots in Liber Governor Shepherd, Folio 107, in the D.C. Surveyor's Office. In 1883, Ida, Sophia, and Finella subdivided lot 2 into lots 10 and 11 in Liber Governor Shepherd, Folio 170, in the D.C. Office of the Surveyor.
[38] *The Evening Star*, February 9, 1895, classified ad for Protestant Episcopal services; http://www.stmargaretsD.C..org/about/church
[39] *The Evening Star*, November 20, 1888, classified ad for "*A Special meeting …"*
[40] Statistical Map No. 6 Showing the System of Water Supply & Distribution. City of Washington. To accompany the annual report of the Commissioners for the year ending June 30, 1891 (Library of Congress, at http://www.loc.gov/resource/g3851fm.gct00191/?sp=6).
[41] Statistical Map No. 10 Showing the Location of Street Railways. City of Washington. To accompany the annual report of the Commissioners for the year ending June 30, 1891 (Library of Congress, at http://www.loc.gov/resource/g3851fm.gct00191/?sp=10).
[42] *Roads to Diversity: Adams Morgan Heritage Trail*, Cultural Tourism DC, 2005; Emily Hotaling Eig, "Kalorama," in *Washington at Home*, ed. Kathryn S. Smith (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010); D.C. Building Permit database, Brian Kraft for the D.C. Historic Preservation Office.
[43] *The Evening Star*, September 20, 1901, p. 5.
[44] *The Evening Star*, January 7, 1903.
[45] Finella M. Alexander on www.findagrave.com.
[46] *The Evening Star*, October 28, 1903, p. 20.
[47] Deed dated December 2, 1903, recorded December 23, 1903 in Liber 2793, Folio 124 at the D.C. Archives; *The Washington Post*, December 13, 1903 p. T3; *The Washington Post*, March 8, 1919, p.3.
[48] *The Evening Star*, December 26, 1903, "Sales of Realty," p. 17.
[49] *The Washington Post*, December 16, 1903, p. 14. The February 5, 1904, deed was recorded February 8, 1904, in Liber 2764, Folio 342 at the D.C. Archives.
[50] Mark Benbow, Marymount University, "Christian Heurich," *Immigrant Entrepreneurship, German-American Business Biographies,* http://immigrantentrepreneurship.org/entry.php?rec=38, 2014.
[51] Christian Heurich, *From My Life 1842-1934/From Haina in Thuringia to Washington in the United States of American/Life Story and Recollections of Christian Heurich* (Washington, D.C., 1934) p. 26.
[52] An Act Authorizing the joining of Kalorama avenue, ch. 1763, 33 Stat. 514 (April 28, 1904).
[53] *The Washington Post*, April 9, 1904, p. 13. Note that this article notes the square footage of the southern portion of the property of 43,439 sq. ft, or approximately 1 acre, and refers to 283 feet of frontage on Columbia Road, but the 1903 article, supra note 17, indicates that he purchased only 60 feet of frontage.
[54] "Experts Vary a Dollar a Foot in Appraising Condemned Ground," *The Washington Post*, November 1, 1905; *The Washington Post,* December 13, 1905, p. 16. The Congressional act provided for a jury to determine the amount of damages.
[55] Permit no. 4720, April 22, 1911, for shed at 1869 Columbia Road (lot 800), on microfilm in Washingtoniana Division, D.C. Public Library; Instrument no. 101, recorded April 6, 1926, Liber 5735, Folio 30, at the D.C. Archives.
[56] *The Evening Star*, July 3, 1924, p. 8.
[57] *The Washington Post*, March 8, 1919, p.3.

[58] See case file for Civil Action No. 5070 in the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia, available at the National Archives.
[59] Permit no. 4572, February 19, 1921 for garage at 1867 Columbia Road (lot 813), on microfilm in Washingtoniana Division, D.C. Public Library.
[60] "Statue, Found on Street, Identified as Stolen," *The Washington Post*, November 15, 1928, p.20.
[61] Salvage ads in the Evening Star, April 22, 1937, through August 1, 1937.
[62] "Proposed Museum Sites Are Studied by Planning Body," *The Evening Star,* January 15, 1931.
[63] $2,000,000 Is Asked to Extend Parks," *The Washington Post*, December 13, 1938.
[64] "Recreation Center, Park and Branch Library Are Objective of Kalorama Citizens' Group," *The Washington Post,* October 28, 1940.
[65] "Celebration in Washington," *Daily Union*, July 7, 1849.
[66] "The Orphan Children," *States*, July 15, 1858.
[67] "Oldest Citizens Celebrate," *The Washington Post*, July 5, 1913, p. 2.
[68] June 2, 1942, memorandum from Frank T. Gartside, Assistant Superintendent, National Capital Parks.
[69] National Capital Parks Notice dated September 1, 1954, re: Land Order No. 142.
[70] General Development Plan, Columbia Rd. & Kalorama Rd. NW, Kalorama Park & Playground, Reg. 655, signed by Supt. of Recreation, D.C., April 29, 1947.
[71] January 23, 1947, minutes of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.
[72] Galen Cranz, "Changing Roles of Urban Parks/From Pleasure Garden to Open Space," at http://www.spur.org/publications/article/2000-06-01/changing-roles-urban-parks
[73] *District of Columbia Parks and Recreation Master Plan Historic Preservation Review*, prepared for the D.C. Office of Planning and D.C. Historic Preservation Office by History Matters, LLC, March 2014, pp. 10-11.
[74] "Flagpole Dedicated at Kalorama Grounds," *D.C. Citizen*, August-September 1949.
[75] Peter C. Wilson, LA, *Site Analysis: Kalorama Park, NW, District of Columbia*, August 2014.
[76] James M. Goode, *Best Addresses: One Hundred Years of Washington's Distinguished Apartment Houses* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Books, 1988); James M. Goode, *Capital Losses: A Cultural History of Washington's Destroyed Buildings* (Washington, D.C., Smithsonian Books, 1979); Emily Hotaling Eig, "Kalorama," in *Washington at Home*, ed. Kathryn S. Smith (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010); D.C. city directories.
[77] D.C. Recreation Board - From Report to the Commissioners for Year ending June 30, 1949, pp 205-206; letter dated February 23, 1949, from Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary to Harry Wender (Harry S. Wender Papers, Historical Society of Washington, D.C., MS 0379).
[78] Harry S. Wender Papers, Historical Society of Washington, D.C., MS 0379, folder 57.
[79] April 9, 1948, letter from the National Capital Park and Planning Commission letter to Milo Christensen, Superintendent, D.C. Recreation Dept., Re: Transfer of Playgrounds between White and Negro Use;
June 29, 1948, letter from the D.C. Recreation Department to the D.C. Recreation Board (Harry S. Wender Papers, Historical Society of Washington, D.C., MS 0379, folders 67 and 57).
[80] Hopkins real estate map, 1894; circles showing investigative sites superimposed for this report.
[81] D.C. Department of Recreation Project, Phase II, July 31, 1986, Engineering-Science, Inc., Washington, D.C.
[82] Belcher, Mary, Nomination of John Little's Farmhouse at Kalorama Park to the National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, approved 2008.
[83] Ruth Trocolli, Ph.D., City Archaeologist, D.C. Historic Preservation Office: August 14, 2015, email to Mara Cherkasky.
[84] *Archaeological Investigation at Site 51NW061, Kalorama Park, Washington, D.C., Final Report, The Louis Berger Group, Inc., for C&E Services of Washington, D.C., 2010*
[85] *District of Columbia Parks and Recreation Master Plan Historic Preservation Review*, prepared for the D.C. Office of Planning and D.C. Historic Preservation Office by History Matters, LLC, March 2014, p. 10.
[86] *District of Columbia Parks and Recreation Master Plan Historic Preservation Review*, prepared for the D.C. Office of Planning and D.C. Historic Preservation Office by History Matters, LLC, March 2014, pp. 10-11.
[87] *D.C. Parks and Recreation Buildings Reconnaissance Survey* for Kalorama Park, 1875 Columbia Road, NW, August 23, 2013.