**DC Historic Preservation Office** 801 North Capitol Street, NE Washington, DC 20002 202-442-8800 Suite 3000 This group of houses on M Street is one of the finest flat-fronted rows in the city. The heavily ornamented roofline and architraves are typical of the Italianate style. EHT Traceries, Inc.



## M O U N T VERNON S Q U A R E HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Mount Vernon Square Historic District is a late-19th-century commercial and residential neighborhood located within the historic boundaries of the District of Columbia's Federal City. The historic district covers an area that includes, in whole or in part, twelve city blocks in northwest Washington. The district is bounded generally by New York Avenue on the south; 1st Street on the east; N Street between 1st and 5th Streets and M Street between 5th and 7th Streets on the north; and 7th Street between M Street and New York Avenue on the west. The area includes approximately 420 properties. The 408 contributing buildings were constructed between 1845 and 1945.

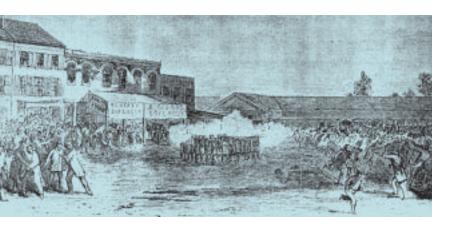


The neighborhood has a rich collection of architectural styles, including the Italianate, Queen Anne, and various vernacular expressions of academic styles. The district has a variety of building types and sizes that includes two-story, flat-fronted row houses, three- and four-story, bay-fronted row houses, small apartment buildings, corner stores, and an unusually intact row of 19th-century commercial buildings fronting on the 1000 block of 7th Street, N.W. and the 600 block of New York Avenue, N.W. Although exhibiting a diversity of styles and types, the neighborhood's building stock is united by a common sense of scale, size, and use of materials and detail. The variety of architectural expression and overall cohesiveness of the building stock is an important character-defining feature of the district.

Above: Although platted as part of the Federal City in 1790, the area saw little development in the period between 1790 and 1820. The completion of 7th Street by 1822 laid the foundation for commercial development and residential growth north of Massachusetts Avenue. 1857 Map of Washington, A. Boschke, Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division.

RIght: The laying of streetcar rails along the north/south corridors of 4th, 7th, 9th, and 11th Streets and east on New York Avenue increased development in the Mount Vernon community.

Historical Society of Washington, D.C., ca. 1900.



The Northern Liberty House Riot arose from the attempt of the Know-Nothing Party to prevent registered voters of Washington from participating in the city elections being held at Northern Liberty Market, June 1, 1857. Frank Leslie's Illustrated newspaper, 1857.

## EARLY DEVELOPMENT HISTORY OF THE MOUNT VERNON SQUARE AREA

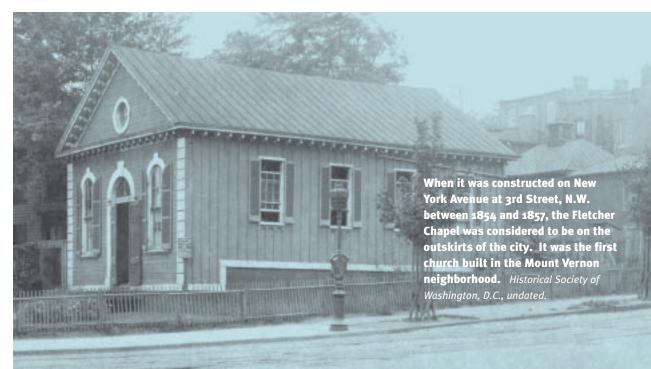
In 1791, when the District of Columbia was established, the area that would become the Mount Vernon Square neighborhood was part of a tract of land known as Port Royal, which originally encompassed 500 acres patented by John Peerce in 1687. The land was initially subdivided by a deed of gift from John Peerce to his three sons in 1740. Subsequent to the Peerce ownership, numerous land transactions occurred between 1740 and 1794 among the Coombs and Downes families and, by 1794, Joseph Coombs, Jr., owned the land that was designated Reservation 8 on L'Enfant's 1791 plan for the new Federal City. The historic plan of the nation's capital was designed by Pierre L'Enfant in 1791, and details a city with a coordinated

system of radiating avenues, parks, and vistas. Originally, at the intersection of the grand avenues, L'Enfant designated reservations to be divided among the states in the Union to improve and landscape as appropriate. Now known as Mount Vernon Square, Reservation 8, with its intersecting diagonal avenues and broad vistas, was created between 7th and 9th Streets where Massachusetts and New York Avenues, N.W., intersected at K Street, N.W., as a major focal

point of the L'Enfant Plan. By the 1830s, the area was known as the "Northern Liberties," a term presumably borrowed from Philadelphia that was bestowed on regions beyond the limits of a city. Bounded approximately by 3rd, 15th, G, and O Streets, N.W., the Northern Liberties area of Washington, D.C. experienced almost no development initially, save for a few scattered wood frame dwellings surrounded by vast squares of open land. Few residents lived north of M Street at the time. The name "Northern Liberties" was further established by the passage of an 1809 Act to Prevent Swine from Going At Large. This act designated Massachusetts Avenue as the boundary beyond which pigs were allowed to roam. The area where Massachusetts Avenue bisected the Mount Vernon neighborhood was considered the northernmost limit of the populated area of the city. Two major undertakings on Mount Vernon Square stimulated the development of the neighborhood: the Northern Liberties Fire Company firehouse was built in 1840 and the Northern Liberty Market was completed in 1846. The square became a thriving commercial center for the emerging residential neighborhood.

Growth in the Northern Liberties was spurred by the creation of the 7th Street Turnpike. Chartered by Congress in 1810, it ran north from the Center Market on Pennsylvania Avenue to the District line at Boundary Street (now Florida Avenue), where it turned northwest to Rockville, Maryland. Seventh Street, laid between 1818 and 1822, became the spine of the community, as well as a primary transportation artery that led into the center of the city.

Prior to the Civil War, religious institutions began to move into the area. The first church in the Mount Vernon Square area was Fletcher Chapel, built in 1855, at 4th Street and New York Avenue, N.W. In



## Sixth Street north of L Street

Historical Society of Washington, D.C., 1949.

2001, the building was restored to its original appearance of vertical board and batten sheathing, an exterior treatment for rural structures popularized by Andrew Jackson Downing in his influential 1842 publication, Cottage Residences. The Fletcher Chapel represents a vernacular expression of this academic style. Although this modest building was constructed on what was considered the outskirts of the city, it was well sited and exerted a strong spiritual influence on the neighborhood.



## SUBDIVISION AND IMPROVEMENTS/ BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

By 1860, the conditions around the Northern Liberty Market were so unsanitary that citizens filed a successful petition requesting the removal of the Market. When it was demolished, the immediate future of the square was uncertain; yet, for the surrounding community, the square remained an essential element of its identity. A report by Brevet Brigadier General Nathaniel Michler of the Office of Public Buildings, Grounds, and Works appears to be one of the first documented sources to label the site as Mount Vernon Place. This 1867 report included citywide recommendations for landscaping improvements, with particular attention paid to "a large reservation, known as Mount Vernon Place."

Commercial buildings along 7th Street and New York Avenue were three and four stories in height with retail located on the ground floor and the upper floors occupied by residential or office tenants. *Library of Congress*, 1929.



Many unsuccessful attempts to landscape and improve the square were undertaken over the years. In an effort to provide more direct routes through the area, both Massachusetts and New York Avenues were extended through Mount Vernon Square. Although asphalt carriage roads divided the square into several triangles, landscaping improvements were gradually carried out. In 1877, the District Board of Public Works constructed concrete roadways and planted lawns and shrubbery in the square. It also installed sidewalks, curbing, and an ornamental iron fountain on a mound at the center. Despite these improvements, the conditions in the square were unpleasant and often dangerous. Its central mound proved to be the only safe point for pedestrians who sought to escape the wheels of rapidly passing carriages. Area property owners were displeased and petitioned for the removal of the roadways and improvement of the park. Finally, in 1882, the carriage roadways were closed and removed, and replaced by gently curving footpaths. Drinking fountains and lampposts were installed, flowerbeds were planted, and the ornamental fountain was given a new coat of paint. These improvements finally created a place of rest and relaxation for the neighborhood.

With increasing development beyond Mount Vernon Square and the removal of the Northern Liberty Market, the community lost its identity as the Northern Liberties. Fortunately, the park improvements to Mount Vernon Square provided the area with a new center from which to take its new identity. Thus, the neighborhood to the north of K Street, along New York and Massachusetts Avenues, N.W., was labeled Mount Vernon, an honor consistent with the longstanding practice of commemorating and honoring our first President. Throughout the city, statues and monuments were erected in honor of George Washington: the Washington Statue in Washington Circle was



unveiled in 1860; the Washington Monument was opened to the public in 1888; and The Columbian College honored its foremost advocate by officially changing its name to The George Washington University in 1904. Washington's estate on the Potomac River

was named in honor of Admiral Edward Vernon, who had commanded the British fleet in the Caribbean. Mount Vernon served as Washington's sanctuary during his many years of public service, and the name was used frequently to commemorate the first President.

## **COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

With the exception of the area immediately around the Northern Liberty Market and along 7th Street, N.W., the Mount Vernon Square area remained sparsely developed until just before the Civil War, when widespread improvements began taking place north of Massachusetts

Avenue, N.W. Bv the end of the war, the area north of downtown experienced an explosion of residential construction. This growth was fueled by the city's severe lack of housing, the growth of the federal government, the expansion of the local



Left bottom: In 1890, the most prominent speculative development in the neighborhood was undertaken by noted Washington architect T.F. Schneider. To create distinction between each of the 53 rowhouses, Schneider alternated each building's form and size, applied detailing, and varied entrance styles. EHT Traceries, Inc.

Left and below: The availability of mass-produced components from pattern books and hardware supply catalogues allowed local builders to easily reproduce the most fashionable architectural styles. Builders could put brackets, finials, molded bricks, and cast iron components together in infinite variations. EHT Traceries, Inc.



economy, and a population that doubled between 1860 and 1870 and continued to grow almost thirty percent each decade throughout the remainder of the 19th century.



The streetcar opened up the area for residential development, making it more convenient for government employees and other workers to live in the area and commute downtown to work and shop. The neighborhood was well served by public transportation, with trolley lines eventually running along 9th, 7th, and 4th Streets, N.W. by the 1890s. Development took place on a scale previously



unknown in Washington. Unlike earlier development that depended on gradual expansion or infill within walking distance of the city's central core, the streetcar provided access to an enormous area of buildable land at one time. However, one of the important qualities of the Mount Vernon neighborhood, and one that makes it distinct from much of the Victorian city, is that the majority of its housing stock was constructed by individual homeowners rather than by speculative builders who constructed extensive repetitive rows. This type of development created a distinctiveness typified by the 400 block of M Street, N.W., and is an important characteristic of the neighborhood. One notable exception is the block bounded by L, M, 5th, and 6th Streets, N.W., which was designed and constructed in its entirety by architect-developer T.F. Schneider in 1890.

By the end of the 19th century, 7th Street, N.W., had developed as one of the city's most important commercial strips, with buildings similar in scale and architectural expression to their residential counterparts. The 1000 block of 7th Street, N.W., is one of the most intact rows of Victorian-era commercial buildings in the city. Many of these buildings have elaborate cast iron, stone, and wood detailing designed to engage the eyes of pedestrians and streetcar passengers. Constructed in 1888 as a paint store, 1015 7th Street, N.W. features a massive bracketed cornice supporting a pediment with the original owner's name and date of construction. The upper-floor windows have elaborately decorative cast iron hoods.

Development slowed in the 20th century, as the neighborhood was largely built out. Several small-scale apartment buildings were constructed at the turn of the century, including 302 N Street, N.W.; 314-318 M Street, N.W.; the Oakmont at 221 Morgan Street, N.W.; 115



Historical Society of Washington, D.C., 1950.

New York
Avenue,
N.W.; and
the Mohawk
at 426 M
Street, N.W.
Automobile
facilities,
laundries,
stores, and
warehouses

These houses were characteristic of Mount Vernon's pre-Civil War architecture. Houses were typically two or three stores in height with flat facades, flat or shallow pitched roofs, and simple bracketed cornices of wood. Similar examples remain in the historic district along the 400 block of Ridge Road, N.W.

With the growth of the city's African-American population, the Mount Vernon neighborhood became home to many important African-American religious institutions. The Central M.E. Church on 5th Street was demolished for the construction of the Metropolitan Community Church. Historical Society of Washington, D.C., 1950.

were also constructed along the increasingly busy New York Avenue commuter route. In particular, the Yale Laundry at 443 New York Avenue, N.W., constructed in 1902 and expanded in the 1910s and 1920s, and The Washington News publishing warehouse, constructed in 1928 at 1121 5th Street, N.W. are important examples of the introduction of non-residential uses to the neighborhood in the 20th century.

### **ALLEYS**

Development was not restricted to the lots fronting the neighborhood's L'Enfant streets. While individual owners and speculative builders constructed handsome middle-class row houses in the latest architectural styles on the street-fronting lots, residential construction of a more modest type took place along the alleys that cut through the center of these blocks. Small, flat-fronted, two-storied wood and brick houses were constructed to provide less expensive housing for the working poor. The alleys were disproportionately occupied by African Americans and also served as home to a variety of recent immigrant populations. Alleys also functioned as a location for neighborhood support services, housing stables, carriage houses, and commercial functions.

In the interior of several of the squares, including along Goat Alley, Brown's Court, and Ridge, Morgan and Kirby Streets, N.W., extensive collections of utilitarian buildings such as residential, commercial, and auxiliary structures, were constructed. Buildings on these alleys tend to be relatively spare in their exterior detailing, with simple wood or brick corbelled cornices. During the late 19th and early 20th

## Home to the first permanent African-American high school in the country, the M Street High school was recognized as a National Historic Landmark in 1986. Library of Congress, 1895.

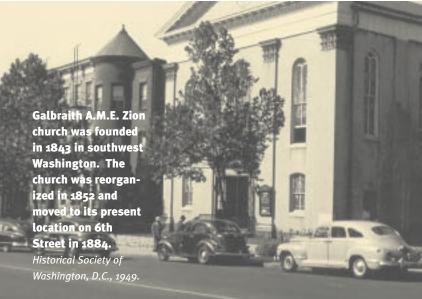
centuries, social and humanitarian organizations worked to rectify a nd relieve the deplorable living conditions of alley residents. As part of this effort, alleys such as Ridge, Morgan, and Kirby were widened to become legal city streets and, today, survive with their late-19th-century appearance largely intact. On the inner block alleys such as Goat's Alley and Brown's Court there has been more extensive loss of alley architecture. Nevertheless, the collection of buildings and configuration of the alleyways throughout the district retain sufficient integrity to convey a significant aspect of Washington's urban history and architectural development.

# Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church built this 2-story brick and stone structure in 1909. Over the years the church at 1219 New Jersey Avenue, N.W., has been occupied by numerous congregations and is now home to the Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church. EHT Traceries, Inc.

## **ARCHITECTURE**

The Mount Vernon Square Historic District is significant in its reflection of late-19th-century building trends and characteristics, which were influenced and shaped by the introduction of municipal building codes, the mass production of building elements, the standardization of the building industry, and the rise in construction of speculative row houses for a growing middle-class market. The district offers a fine illustration of the row house form, and its transformation from the wood frame, flat-fronted row house most common prior the Civil War, to the exuberant bay-front row house, which dominated the city in the late 19th century.

The earliest buildings in the district were constructed between the 1830s and the 1860s, as development gradually moved northward from downtown. Set well behind the building line, these row houses



were typically of modest wood-frame construction, with flat fronts and finished in wood clapboards or brick. Cornices constructed of wood with brackets or dentils are spare and simple in design.

Two specific aspects of the new building codes enacted in the 1870s had a profound impact on the design of row houses in the Mount Vernon area: the prohibition against wood construction and the legalization of projections beyond the building line into public space. With new requirements for fireproof construction, brick became the city's most common building material. Dark red pressed brick became particularly common for row house façades between 1875 and 1900, and was available in a variety of specialty shapes. By 1880, castellated brick corbelling and formed metal replaced wood cornices on new houses. Brick façades were typically unpainted, further adding to the aesthetic uniformity of the neighborhood's continuous

Background: The American News Company building on 5th Street was built in 1928. In a letter accompanying the building permit, it was noted that the business would employ 33 people and would undertake the wholesaling of magazines. D.C. Building Permit #5670, January 23, 1928.

rows. By the 1890s, row houses tended to be somewhat larger, more typically a full four stories (three above an English basement), rather than the three stories found earlier. Turrets, gables, pyramidal towers, and other features often animate row house rooflines.

A revision to the city's building codes in 1871 allowed bays to project beyond the building line into public space. Projecting bays and examples of their evolution between 1870 and 1900 are important architectural components of the Mount Vernon Square Historic District. The earliest bays, dating from the 1870s, were typically of wood-frame construction. The variety of shapes, articulation and fenestration of the projecting bays provides a distinctive richness to the streetscapes within the historic district.

## **RESIDENTS AND CIVIC LIFE**

The 19th-century residents of Mount Vernon were a diverse group that included whites, African Americans, and immigrants who held a variety of professional and working class jobs. Many of the early residents were merchants who were associated with businesses along 7th Street, N.W. or operating out of stalls at the Northern Liberty Market. Among them was Joseph Prather, a butcher at the Market, who had a house constructed at 415 M Street, N.W., in the 1860s. The white residents who moved to the neighborhood between the early 1870s and the 1900s came from around the country, including New England, the Midwest, and far Western states. They were government clerks, clergymen, small businessmen, tradesmen, skilled and unskilled laborers, and professionals, such as doctors, lawyers and dentists. African Americans during this period were typically from the District, Maryland, or Virginia and were employed as coachmen, hucksters, laborers, domestic servants, and laundresses. After 1900, African Americans from throughout the Southern states lived in the Mount Vernon neighborhood reflecting the early-20th-century migration to northern cities.

With the growth of the city's African-American population, the Mount Vernon Square neighborhood gained new churches and schools. African Americans moved into formerly white churches and constructed new religious buildings, such as the circa 1874 frame building of Gethsemane Baptist Church, which stood at the intersection of Ridge and 5th Streets, N.W.; the 1894 People's

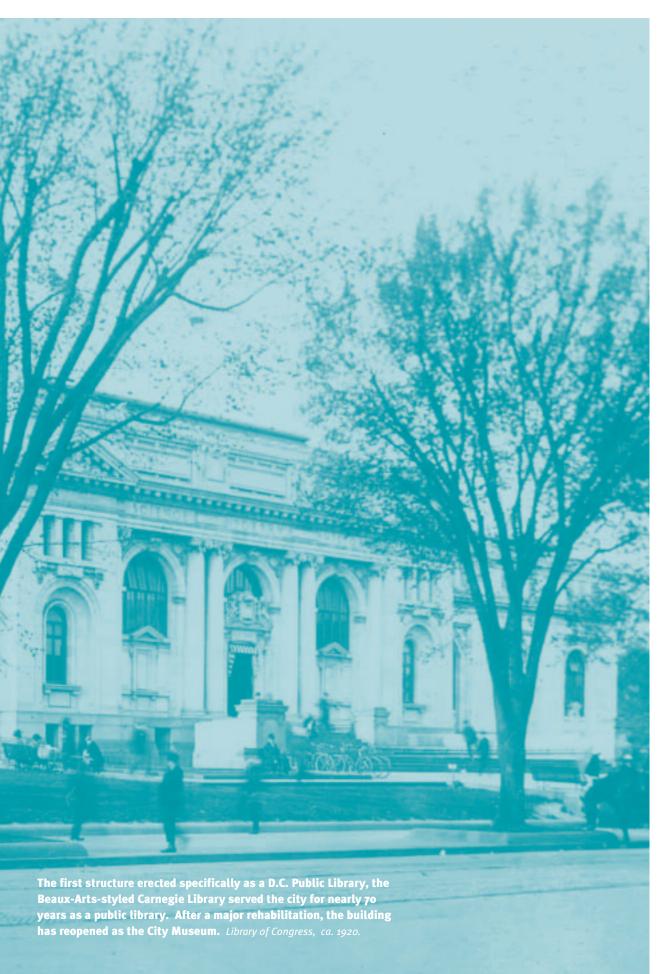
Congregational Church on M Street between 6th and 7th Streets, N.W.; and the Galbraith A.M.E. Zion Church which was established in the neighborhood in 1884, and erected its current building at 1114 6th Street, N.W., in 1924. Within the boundaries of Mount Vernon, few public schools existed. Consequently, the neighboring schools played an important role in the social life of the entire community. Illustrating the racially mixed nature of the area, the number of elementary schools designated for African-American children nearly equaled that of schools for whites until the elimination of segregation in 1954. Unlike the elementary schools that served the communities in which they were located, the high schools drew their enrollments from the entire city; students attended them according to their interest in the curricula offered, including academic, business, science, or manual training. The M Street High School, located at New York Avenue and M Street, N.W., was the nation's premier African-American high school in its day and is now considered the first permanent high school for African Americans in this country. Begun as the Negro Preparatory School, the M Street High School was established in 1870 for the training of future African-American teachers. The M Street High School, now known as the Perry School, was recognized as a National Historic Landmark in 1986.

## **CONSTRUCTION OF CARNEGIE LIBRARY**

The most notable non-residential building in the neighborhood was the Central Library of the District of Columbia, located on Mount Vernon Square. President McKinley signed the bill authorizing construction of the library on government land on March 3, 1899, just two months after steel magnate and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie promised to provide funding for the building's construction. As one of the most ornate and lavish of the Carnegie-funded libraries, the Washington Central Library

As automobile travel became more prevalent in the early 20th century, 7th Street and New York Avenue became principal commuter routes. Gas stations, automobile garages, laundries, and warehouses lined these commuter corridors. Historical Society of Washington, D.C., December 1947.





served as a model for numerous Carnegie libraries across the country.

Architects William S. Ackerman and Albert Randolph Ross were selected from twenty-five entrants to design the new library. Having been provided with no stylistic guidelines, Ackerman and Ross drew upon the Beaux-Arts traditions for the design of the new Washington Public Library. The building features prominent entryways with monumental arches; stone exterior walls with emphasized horizontal coursed lines; and hallmark Beaux-Arts details such as ornate keystones, paired columns, pilasters, floral swags, shields, and escutcheons. The Library was completed in December 1902, and formally dedicated on January 7, 1903.

## THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND THE INFLUENCES ON THE MOUNT VERNON SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD

The development of residential suburbs marked the beginning of a gradual exodus of the white middle class from integrated urban neighborhoods like Mount Vernon. African Americans were also on the move, drawn to the section of the city north of Mount Vernon and near U Street, which was becoming Washington's premier African-American community. The population surge during World

Situated in the center of Mt. Vernon Square, the view of the building (Carnegie Library) would be obtained from Massachusetts Avenue, K Street and New York Avenue, and would add dignity and beauty to a portion of the city where ornamentation is somewhat lacking." U.S. Congress, Senate 1899, 3-5. Public Buildings and Grounds.

War II, as well as the racially restrictive covenants enforcing segregation throughout the city, prompted a resurgence of Mount Vernon's African American population because the residential neighborhoods open to African Americans were limited to older communities such as Mount Vernon. This population influx resulted in numerous conversions of white churches to African-American congregations. The Church of God on 4th Street built a new sanctuary in 1926 on the corner of 3rd Street and New Jersey Avenue, N.W. Seven new churches were built for African-American congregations in the early 20th century and, by mid century, all the churches in Mount Vernon had African-American congregations.

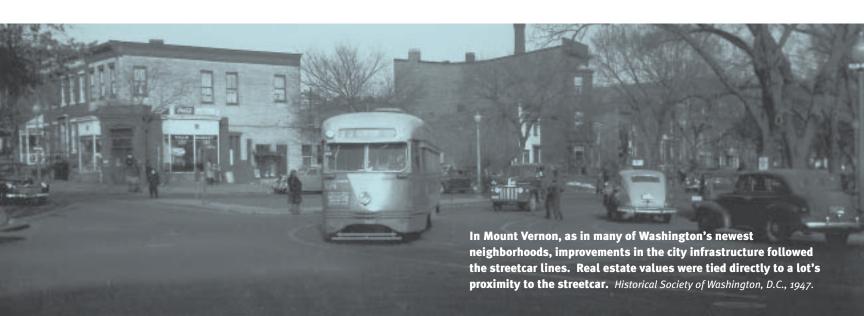
In 1948, however, the Supreme Court reversed its previous rulings, finding that covenants violated the Federal Civil Rights Act and were contrary to the public policy of the United States. Legally, African Americans were now free to buy anywhere in the city, and movement from the older neighborhoods to outlying suburbs was no longer restricted to whites. By the 1950s, the aging housing stock of Mount



The second Northern Liberty Market on 5th Street between K and L Streets was completed in 1874. Distinguished by towers, dormers, and rich brickwork, the new Market was touted as one of the most innovative structural achievements in Washington; the iron and steel truss roof spanned the full length and width of the building. Historical Society of Washington, D.C., 1915.

Vernon and its surrounding neighborhoods was no longer deemed desirable by middle-class residents who were now able to move to newer houses in the expanding suburbs. Dwellings were increasingly leased, rather than owner-occupied, and many of the single-family residences were divided into apartments and rooming houses for a more transient population. Increased density, overcrowding, and poverty began to plague the once middle-class area.

In 1966, the Mount Vernon community was targeted as part of the larger Shaw urban renewal zone, making federal funds available for the area's redevelopment. This zone, never before thought of as a single cohesive neighborhood, was bounded by Massachusetts Avenue and K Street, N.W., to the south; 14th Street, N.W., to the west; Florida Avenue, N.W., to the north; and the railroad tracks leading north from Union Station to the east. The planned renewal





The Fire Truck Company #4 on M Street was constructed in 1895 to serve the Mount Vernon neighborhood. Its two-story, red brick design is typical of Washington's pre-War firehouses and resembles its residential neighbors in detailing, materials and scale. Historical Society of Washington, D.C., 1920.

was interrupted, however, when destructive riots followed the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in April 1968. The race riots began along 14th and U Streets, N.W., and continued south along the commercial spine of 7th Street, N.W. The devastation affected much of the social and economic infrastructure of this commercial corridor and severely crippled the Mount Vernon neighborhood for close to three decades.

During the urban renewal era of the 1960s and 1970s, sections of the neighborhood were cleared and historic buildings lost to the construction of modern suburban-style garden apartments. In 1980, the Carnegie Library was partially renovated to serve as part of the University of the District of Columbia. The University planned to use the building as its centerpiece and to expand its campus north for several blocks, requiring the demolition of additional historic row houses to accommodate its growth. The expansion never took place and, thus, vacant land and parking lots blighted the heart of Mount Vernon for more than twenty years.



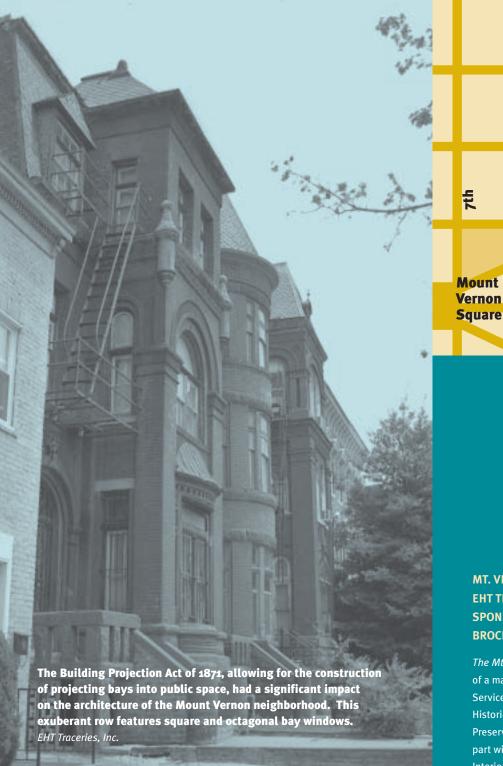
Developing into one of the largest commercial laundries in the city, Yale Steam Laundry was established in 1885. The Yale Steam Laundry on New York Avenue was constructed in 1902 to the designs of local architect Thomas Francis, Jr. Washingtoniana Room, Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 1970s.

## THE MOUNT VERNON SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT TODAY

The construction of the MCI Arena and the opening of the Mount Vernon Square Metro Station in the 1990s continued to bring change to the neighborhood. Reinvestment and rehabilitation along 7th Street and New York Avenue, N.W., are making formerly dilapidated buildings vital components of a re-energized community. With the opening of the MCI arena, the area directly south of Mount Vernon, known since the 1930s as "Chinatown," has become increasingly



The Colonial Revival-styled District of Columbia Police Department, No. 2 Precinct Station at 5th & L Streets, N.W., was constructed in the mid-1930s. Sited on a triangular lot that historically was occupied by the Abbott School, the red brick Police Station is two stories in height with a corbelled brick cornice. Historical Society of Washington, D.C., 1949.



MT. VERNON HISTORIC DISTRICT **EHT TRACERIES, INC.** SPONSORED BY THE D.C. PRESERVATION LEAGUE **BROCHURE DESIGN BY HENNESSEY, INK** 

**N** Street

**Ridge St** 

**M Street** 

**L Street** 

**K Street** 

6th

New York Ave

**Morgan St** 

M O U N T VERNON SQUARE

The Mt. Vernon Historic District brochure has been funded with the assistance of a matching grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, through the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Historic Preservation Program, under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This brochure has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior. This document was developed by the D.C. Preservation League in consultation with the D.C. Historic Preservation Office, District of Columbia Government. Anthony Williams, Mayor. Printed 2003.

This program receives federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1973, as amended. The U.S. Department of Interior and the District of Columbia prohibit the discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, or handicap in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program activity, or if you desire further information, please write to Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

lively and diverse, with the addition of a variety of restaurants, bars, clubs, and stores.

The rehabilitation and adaptive use of the Carnegie Library as the City Museum by the Washington Historical Society once again provides an anchor to the Mount Vernon community. The gradual rehabilitation of individual buildings and the landmark designation of historic buildings, such as the Yale Steam Laundry, the 7th Street Industrial Bank, and the O Street Market, have all contributed to the rejuvenation of the 7th Street corridor and the entire Mount Vernon Square neighborhood.