

What's In A Name: Profiles of the Trailblazers



*History and Heritage
of
District of Columbia
Public and Public Charter
Schools*



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
D.C. COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Funds for the DC Community Heritage Project are provided by a partnership of the Humanities Council of Washington, DC and the DC Historic Preservation Office, which supports people who want to tell stories of their neighborhoods and communities by providing information, training, and financial resources. This DC Community Heritage Project has been also funded in part by the US Department of the Interior, the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund grant funds, administered by the DC Historic Preservation Office and by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. This program has received Federal financial assistance for the identification, protection, and/or rehabilitation of historic properties and cultural resources in the District of Columbia. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or disability in its federally assisted programs. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240.” In brochures, fliers, and announcements, the Humanities Council of Washington, DC shall be further identified as an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

INTRODUCTION

The “*What’s In A Name*” project is part three of a continuing effort by the Women of the Dove Foundation to promote deeper understanding and appreciation for the rich history and heritage of our nation’s capital by developing a reference tool that profiles District of Columbia schools and the persons for whom they are named. Historic Preservation schools, other District of Columbia Public Schools and Public Charter schools are included in this phase of the project.

The Women of the Dove Foundation, founded in 2004, is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life locally and globally through community outreach programs.

A review of over two centuries of public education in the District of Columbia reveals that the number of schools has grown from two schools in 1805 to nearly one hundred fifty in 2010. More than 90% of the schools have been named for people; many of whom are instantly recognizable while others are vaguely remembered or have drifted into obscurity. The Women of the Dove Foundation’s project will examine DC Public Schools, with a major focus on schools that have been identified as *Historic Preservation Schools*, and bring to life the history and heritage of the schools and the persons for whom they are named.

It is the sincere hope of the Women of the Dove Foundation that this document will be a useful tool to many. We thank the Humanities Council, the Historic Preservation Office, our project manager, resident scholar, researchers volunteers, and all others who supported this effort.

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INTERPRETATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

- HPS = Historic Preservation School
- EC = Education Center
- ES = Elementary School
- JHS = Junior High School
- MS = Middle School
- SHS = Senior High School
- VHS = Vocational High School

JOB BARNARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Barnard Elementary School, 430 Decatur Street NW, opened in February, 2003. Serving grades Pre-Kindergarten-4th, it is among the few DC public schools to receive a distinguished Great Schools Rating of 9 out of 10. Barnard's motto is "a

school is as good as the community that keeps it." The original school was designed in 1926 and built between 1926 and 1928 for white students.

The original structure was an eight-room school, and eight more rooms, with an assembly hall/gymnasium, were added in 1928. Louis Justement, a well-known DC architect, designed the extensible school, and Skinker & Garrett were the builders. John B. Ginechesi built the 1928 extension. The school was constructed in sections over the course of two years, while most other extensible schools took decades to build.



The school was named after Job Barnard (June 8, 1844—December 28, 1923), a former associate justice of the Supreme Court for the District of Columbia. Barnard volunteered in the Civil War in 1862 and served with the 73rd

Indiana regiment as a private in Company K. He graduated with a law degree from the University of Michigan and was admitted to the bar of Crown Point, Indiana, in 1867. He relocated to DC and served as assistant clerk of the Supreme Court for the District of Columbia, in 1873.

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL MULTICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL



The Alexander Graham Bell Multicultural High School, 3145 Hiatt Place NW, was originally built in 1910. The architects were Leon E. Dessez and Snowden Ashford. In 1916, an assembly hall, central section and north wing were added to the building. In

1931, a rear wing and third floor were added. And, in 1951, there were rear wing additions. The school began as Powell Elementary School and served white students. The first portion, a two-story eight-room section, at the southern end of the current complex, was praised as a "thoroughly modern building" with up-to-date lighting, heating and ventilation. The school was renamed Alexander Graham Bell Vocational High School in 1948. In the mid-1980s, the interior of the school was remodeled.

The current building that houses Alexander Graham Bell Multicultural High School, 16th and Irving Streets NW, in Columbia Heights, was completed in 2006. The 600 students come from all over the city and the world, representing 30 different countries. The community is committed to multicultural and multilingual academic and career education.



The school was named in honor of Alexander Graham Bell (March 3, 1847—August 2, 1922), a teacher, advocate for the hearing impaired, scientist, inventor and engineer. Bell is credited with inventing the first practical telephone. Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, he founded the Bell Telephone Company in 1877. Bell died at his home near Baddeck, Nova Scotia.

WILLIAM BENNING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



William Benning Elementary School was originally built in 1883, the two story red brick building received an addition in 1911 and was rebuilt in 1943. Originally a two-story, four-classroom building, the old school was built on square 5052 lot 802, 805; with the new structure erected on square 5053. Constructed at 4180 Minnesota

Avenue between Benning Road and Foote Street NE, the site is now the edge of the Minnesota Avenue Metro station. This eight-regular classroom building was designed to be a temporary structure. In 1952, the old building was discontinued as a school and it became the storage space for a warehouse. In January 1953, the building was discontinued as a warehouse and became Benning Annex on September 1, 1954. The new school building was designed by Berla, Abel and Weinstein and constructed by Associate Builders in 1977 at 41st and East Capitol streets NE. The building is made of white brick and exposed concrete.

The school closed completely in June 2008. The original building, constructed with Greek Revival details, was for white students. It was named after William Benning (c 1771-December 13, 1831), a farmer and businessman who built the bridge across the Anacostia River. Born in Ophelia County, Virginia, Benning was the son of Isaac Benning and Lucy Benning. He was educated in the county schools and relocated to Washington in 1794, where he would become a member of the board of directors of the Bank of Washington. He had one daughter.



JAMES BIRNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The original James Birney Elementary School was constructed in 1889. It was the first public school built for blacks in Hillsdale on Nichols Avenue between Talbert Street and Howard Road. The original structure was combined with the Hillsdale School until 1901. In 1901, the old Birney School was moved to the back of the schoolyard and an eight-room brick building, named James Birney Elementary School, was constructed on the site. With a continuing increase in enrollment, the school expanded in 1914 with six more rooms and an assembly hall. The Birney Annex (the old Birney School) was razed that same year.

In 1962, the James Birney Elementary School was renamed Nichols Avenue Elementary School, 2427 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue SE. The new name reflected the street name before it was changed to Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue.



The school was named after James Gillespie Birney (February 4, 1792—November 25, 1857), a distinguished opponent of slavery. A former slaveholder, Birney freed the individuals he legally owned as slaves. In



1834, and “advocated publicly the immediate emancipation of slaves.” He also founded an anti-slavery paper, *The Philanthropist*, in Cincinnati in 1836. The following year, he was appointed corresponding secretary of the American Anti-Slavery Society in New York. In 1840, Birney was nominated by the Liberal Party as their candidate for the U.S. presidency. He moved to Saginaw, Michigan, in 1842, and wrote “The American Churches, the Bulwarks of American Slavery.”

ROBERT BRENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Robert Brent Elementary School is located in the Capital Hill neighborhood of Southeast Washington, DC. At Robert Brent Elementary School, parental involvement, support,

and leadership create a unique partnership for world class teaching and learning. This specific location has been used for educational purposes since 1809. During that time a portion of the lot was purchased, for one hundred dollars, for the Washington Academy. The Washington Academy went through multiple iterations and later became the home of Eastern High School. However, in 1883, the site was turned into what is now known as Robert Brent Elementary School.

Robert Brent was the first mayor of Washington, DC. Owning a fair amount of land when the Federal Government decided that much of it would make a lovely capital enabled him to step into this role. Born in Stafford County, Virginia in 1764, Robert Brent became a prosperous merchant, most notably by selling the government the sandstone required to build the White House and the Capitol.



He was asked by Thomas Jefferson to become the first mayor of the new City of Washington. In Brent's ten terms, provisions were made to continue laying out roads, establish a tax system, build public markets, and to establish a public school system.

Robert Brent was one of three hundred seventy local luminaries that signed a pledge by President Jefferson to build a public school system in the nation's Capital. He died in 1819. Brent School was built as a classic eight room brick building and named for Brent in 1883. A fire in 1962 prompted discussions of a new school. The current building was completed in 1968, and the original was demolished. It is now the site of Brent's new playground.

ANNA BURDICK VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL



Anna Burdick Vocational High School, 13th and Allison streets NW, a Colonial Revival style red brick and limestone structure, was built in 1939. The school was a vocational high

school for girls, designed to prepare students for skilled jobs, including medical secretary, practical nursing, clerk-typist, retail, cosmetics, dressmaking and office machines. The school was renamed the Burdick Career High School and was opened to male students. With these changes, courses expanded to include barbering, computer repair and auto technical work. The school closed in June 1996. The Gladys and Benjamin Amos Campus of the Dorothy I. Height Community Academy Public Charter School currently operates out of the building.

The school is named after Anna Lalor Burdick (1869—1944), who worked for the U.S. Department of Education as special agent for Trade and Industrial Education for Girls and Women, and laid the foundation for industrial education for girls. During Burdick's career, she served as teacher, superintendent, university instructor and guidance director in Iowa. At the time of her retirement in 1939, she had completed 50 years of continuous service in the field of public education.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Carver Elementary School

1930. The oldest section of the building was the north block, which was razed in 1969 and replaced with a new structure. Snowden Ashford (1866-1927), who was most proud of his work designing, maintaining and inspecting DC schools, served as one of the architects.



Deanwood School

The school was named in honor of George Washington Carver (January 1864—January 5, 1943), the noted scientist. Carver, born into slavery in Missouri, was an American scientist, botanist, educator and inventor. He conducted research alternative crops to cotton, including peanuts, soybeans and sweet potatoes. The most popular of his 44 practical bulletins for farmers contained 105 food recipes using peanuts. He also developed and promoted about 100 products made from peanuts, including cosmetics, dyes, paints, plastics, gasoline and nitroglycerin. He received numerous honors for his work.



CESAR CHAVEZ PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FOR PUBLIC POLICY



Grades 6-9
Kenyon St. NW



Grades 9-12
12th St. SE



Grades 9-12
Hayes St. NE

The first Cesar Chavez Public Charter School was founded in 1998 in response to lagging academic performance, low high school graduation and low college matriculation rates among DCPS students. Founder Irasema Salcido wanted to provide all students with a rigorous and high quality education that would prepare them for college and inspire them to be active citizens. By 2003, the school had reached capacity and could no longer meet the strong demand for its program. Therefore, school administrators took the first step towards expansion by developing a vision of growth that would ultimately have the school serving 3,000 students in grades 6-12. Today, the school serves over 1,400 students on four campuses.

The school's namesake is *César E. Chávez*, (1927-1993), who led the fight to improve the lives of thousands of the most desperate Americans—migrant farm workers. He peacefully stood up to the powerful and well-connected business leaders that dominated the agricultural industry. His humility, leadership and persistence inspired many. People all over the world remember him as a man of courage who fought to improve lives and to bring respect, dignity, justice and fair treatment to the poor.



JOHN F. COOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



John F. Cook Elementary School, 30 P Street NW, was built in 1925 with Albert L. Harris as architect. The school is an example of the extensible school building type favored by Harris. It

represents one of the most spartan examples of its type and, unlike many, the entire school was constructed at the same time rather than in phases. The school was also one of the last additions to the group of traditionally black schools clustered along 1st Street, NW. It was built to handle the overflow of students from nearby Slater and Langston schools. The school currently serves grades pre-Kindergarten-6th.

The school was named in honor of John F. Cook (1810-March 21, 1885), a pre-Civil War educator in DC. In 1810, Cook, his mother and other family members achieved emancipation through a legal purchase. He was sent to the Columbia Institute School for free black children. After graduating, he



renamed the school—Union Seminary—and was responsible for its stature as one of the city's best equipped schools for legally free children. In 1841, Cook became the city's first black Presbyterian minister. A year later, he helped found the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church.

HENRY D. COOKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Henry D. Cooke Elementary School, 2525 17th Street NW, a Renaissance style building, was designed by the noted architectural firm, Marsh and Peter, and completed in 1909. In 1921, four rooms were added to the south side of the building and, in 1960, a classroom wing was added to the

east side. The 10-room school was an unusually large elementary school building for its time, incorporating several of the recommendations of the 1908 Schoolhouse Commission. The new features included an assembly room located in the center of the floor plan and galleries encircling the auditorium that could be used as a balcony. Upon its completion, the building was so large that it was not entirely filled with students. By 1921, however, it was overcrowded, due to new apartment houses in the area, necessitating the need for expansion.

The Cooke school was named in honor of Henry David Cooke (November 23, 1825—February 24, 1881), the city's first governor, who served from 1871 to 1873. Cooke was an American financier, journalist, railroad executive and politician. In 1870, the national capital was having financial problems. At that time, both Congress and the local government were more involved with racial integration and civil rights policies than with fiscal solvency or basic city services. With popular sentiment behind him, Republican political boss Alexander Shepherd convinced the Congress to unite the governments of the City of Washington, Georgetown and Washington County under a single territorial government, with the governor to be appointed. Congress passed the bill in January 1871 and, in February, President Ulysses S. Grant appointed Cooke as governor.



CALVIN COOLIDGE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Calvin Coolidge Senior High School, 6315 5th St NW, was built in the Georgia Colonial style in 1940. Nathan Wyeth was the architect. Alterations and additions to the building were

completed in the late 1940s when a gym was added. By 1960, the building consisted of 62 rooms and could hold 1473 students. In 1984, another gym was added, allowing for one on the northeast and southeast sides of the building. Today, Coolidge High School is a public magnet school serving over 600 students in grades 9–12. The school offers Advanced Placement courses in science, English, math and history.

The school was named in honor of the 30th president of the



United States, Calvin Coolidge (July 4, 1872 – January 5, 1933). Coolidge was also the 29th vice president of the United States. During his presidency, he spoke out in favor of civil rights for African Americans and Catholics. Coolidge is credited with restoring confidence in the White House following scandals involving his predecessors. He also gained a reputation as a small government president and a person who said very little.

ADELAIDE DAVIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Adelaide Davis Elementary School, 4430 H Street SE, designed in the International Style, was completed in 1946. Though its construction was halted in 1942, funds were committed to ensure the construction of this modern eight-classroom building. Built for 200 students, the school consisted of large and bright classrooms with air cooling systems, an indoor playground and a green-tiled corridor. In 1948, an eight-room addition, including an auditorium and a gym, was urged by the school board.

The school was named in honor of Adelaide Davis, a recognized leader who contributed much to the progress of the school system during her service as principal and supervisory officer. Her influence was felt in the increased effectiveness of classroom instruction and community service. She served students at Abbott School, Seaton School, Webster School and Henry School. She was principal at Emery School when it was first erected in 1903. She also served as president of the Principal's Association during the time when the teacher's retirement law was enacted.

ALICE DEAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Alice Deal Junior High School, 3815 Fort Drive NW, was built in 1930 by the National Construction Company. It was designed in the Colonial Revival style. Although the search for a suitable site

started in 1926, the construction of the school did not begin until August 1930, when Fort Reno was chosen as its site. The school was built to relieve congestion at the E.V. Browne School. In 1984, it was voted as one of the top two hundred outstanding schools in the country. The newly renovated school serves students in grades 6-8.

The school was named in honor of educator Alice Deal (December 16, 1877—March 31, 1928). In 1908, Deal was appointed to teach mathematics at McKinley Manual



Training School in DC. She also served as principal of Columbia Junior High School. She was considered a pioneer in the junior high school movement.

THE WILLIAM E. DOAR PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The William E. Doar, Jr. Public Charter School for the Performing Arts (WEDJPCS) opened with 153 students in September 2004 and is located at 705 Edgewood Street, Northeast, Washington, DC. In February 2005, the school received a charter from the District of Columbia Public Charter School Board to enroll students in grades PK3 – 7th and added grade 9 in September 2006. In spring 2008, the same board granted another charter to open a charter school at the Armed Forces Retirement Home, the only federally secured campus for a Public Charter Day School in the District of Columbia. The first WEDJPCS 12th grade class graduated in June 2010.

WEDJPCS is a co-educational day school that provides a college- preparatory standards based curriculum; professional artistic instruction; and practice in visual, performing, written and physical forms as they relate to Theater, Movement and Music.

Born in Charleston, South Carolina in 1911, William E. Doar, Jr., graduated from College of the City of New York in 1937. He initiated the desegregation of facilities at St. John's Episcopal Hospital and placed the first African American doctor on its staff. He helped integrate the Nursing School at the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital and worked with Congressman Adam Clayton Powell in integrating stores in Harlem. Initiated into Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated in 1934, he served in many capacities including National Executive Secretary for 30 years. In 1995, the building housing the International Headquarters of Phi Beta Sigma was named for him.

CHARLES DREW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Charles Drew Elementary School, 56th and Eads streets NE, was erected in 1953. During the summer of 2010, Sorg Architects started developing plans to modernize the school. The school was named after the distinguished physician, Dr. Charles Drew (June 3, 1904—April 1, 1950) on April 28, 1960. A native Washingtonian, Dr. Drew was known for his work with blood plasma.

He was a professor of surgery at Howard University and chief surgeon at Freedman's Hospital. In 1941, Dr. Drew was appointed director of the first Red Cross Blood Bank, supplying blood to American servicemen and servicewomen. He was also a surgical consultant to the surgeon general of the US Army.



JAMES B. EDMONDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



James Barker Edmonds Elementary School, 9th and D streets, NE, was built for white students. The building was designed, in 1902, by Marsh & Peter and constructed, in 1903, by Pavarini & Greer. From 1937-1951, Edmonds

merged with Maury and Peabody elementary schools. In 1951, it was deemed a single school unit. On September 19, 1951, the Peabody-Edmonds School unit was established. In 1960, the only kindergarten room was created, complementing the seven graded classrooms. After Edmonds closed, it became the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education headquarters. Currently, it is used as a multipurpose space that houses the DC Teachers Federal Credit Union, Associates for Renewal in Education and a day care center.



The original school was named after Attorney James Barker Edmonds (May 20, 1832— December 29, 1900), who practiced law in DC and served as president of the board of commissioners from 1883-1886.

ELIOT-HINE MIDDLE SCHOOL



Hine Junior High School

The Hine Junior High School's original location was 335 8th Street SE. The original site was the former Eastern High School, built in 1892, and Towers Elementary School, built in 1887. Those schools joined to become Hine Junior High

School, in 1932, for white students. In 1952, black parents boycotted the use of nearby annexes as schools for their children instead of the construction of new buildings or the transfer of low-population white schools to the black division. In 2008, Eliot Junior High School and Hine Junior High School, 1830 Constitution



Eliot-Hine Middle School

Avenue NE, were consolidated as the Eliot-Hine Middle School was established due to the consolidation of former The school combines the names of and Lemon G. Hine. The new address is Washington, DC.



Charles W. Eliot

Hine Junior High School was named after Lemon G. Hine, a civil rights lawyer and politician. Eliot Junior High School was named after Charles William Eliot (1834–1926), the former president of Harvard University.

WILLIAM GARRISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



William Lloyd Garrison Elementary School, 1200 S Street NW, was built in 1964. Originally named the Garrison School, it had a program capacity of 470 students within 60,000 square feet of space. The school currently serves 227 students from pre-

Kindergarten-5th grade. Garrison's mission is to create a nurturing and tolerant environment that supports and enhances student learning, emphasizing education, cultural diversity, individual learning styles, self-respect and community interaction. The library underwent a complete makeover due to funding from Target and the Heart of America Foundation. In addition to a renovation of the physical space, the library will gain more than 2,000 new books, as well as technology upgrades, in 2011.



Garrison School was named in honor of William Lloyd Garrison, a prominent American abolitionist, journalist and social reformer. He is best known as the editor of the abolitionist newspaper, the *Liberator*. As one of the founders of the American Anti-Slavery Society, he promoted immediate emancipation. Garrison was also a prominent voice of the women's suffrage movement.

MILDRED GREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Located at 1500 Mississippi Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, this school was opened on January 31, 1966. The architectural firm was Maclane and Chewing. The mission of Mildred Green Elementary School was to prepare students for academic

and social success by promoting high levels of achievement, expecting quality instruction and the use of modern technology. The school offered a highly competitive, student-centered program that was characterized by academic excellence and shared decision-making. Green elementary offered instruction to students from pre-kindergarten through the sixth grade. The ethnicity of the school was 99% African-American.

The school was named in honor of Mildred Green, a native Washingtonian who graduated from Central High School, Wilson Normal School (DC Teachers College now the University of the District of Columbia) and George Washington University. Miss Green was initially appointed as an elementary teacher at the Addison School on September 1, 1919. Subsequent teaching assignments included the Curtis-Hyde and Truesdell Schools. An outstanding teacher, Miss Green was promoted to a principal in 1937 and served at the Blake, Henry-Polk, Edmonds-Maury, Powell and Raymond Schools. She was principal at Raymond School when she died in October, 1956. Teachers, students and parents remember her understanding, professional leadership and high standards of conduct and achievement. She is considered a master teacher and builder of character.

The Mildred Green Elementary School was closed in 2008, one among the 23 Washington, DC public schools that were shuttered during that year.

GRIMKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Grimke Elementary School was named after Archibald Grimke (1849-1930, a lawyer, author, and race advocate. He and Francis Grimke were born into slavery to Nancy Weston, a slave and her owner Henry Grimke. The school was named in honor of an illustrious family,

brothers Archibald and Francis and their aunts Sarah and Angelina, anti slavery advocates. Archibald Grimke attended Lincoln College in Pennsylvania and became one of the first African American to attend and graduate from Harvard Law School. In 1905, he moved to Washington, D.C. with his daughter Angelina. Grimke became president of the American Negro Academy, the nation's prominent black intellectual society. It is said that he was a founder of the National Association for Colored People (NAACP) and served as president of the Washington branch. Archibald Grimke's daughter, Angelina Weld Grimke taught English at the Armstrong Manual Training School and later at the Dunbar High School.

Grimke School was formerly the Phelps School. In 1933, Grimke School was housed in the Cleveland building. It was renamed Grimke in 1934 and in 1937, it was the Cleveland-Grimke School. Francis Grimke graduated from The Princeton Theological Seminary and married Charlotte Forten. He was the pastor of the



Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church for over 60 years. Forten was one of the co-founders of the Colored Women's League in 1894. The Grimke Elementary School, now government offices is located at 1923 Vermont Avenue, Northwest Washington. Some of its graduates were Congressman Walter E. Fauntroy, Dr. Virginia H. Howard, Mrs. Lois Turner H. Reeder and Joseph Drew, nephew of Dr. Charles Drew.

PATRICIA R. HARRIS EDUCATIONAL CENTER



The Patricia R. Harris Educational Center, formerly Friendship Educational Center, is located at 4600 Livingston Road in Southeast Washington, DC. A vocational school for classes for pre-kindergarten through tenth grade, the building is a 358,000

square-foot structure located near the southern tip of the city. The school's ethnicity is predominantly African-American. Most of the students are from low-income families.

The educational center was named for Patricia Roberts Harris. Ms. Harris was born in 1924. She graduated summa cum laude majoring in government and economics from Howard University and from George Washington University School of Law where she ranked first in a class of 94 students. She was a cabinet officer in the administration of President Jimmy Carter, the first African American female ambassador representing the United States and a distinguished legal educator. President Lyndon Johnson appointed Harris as ambassador to Luxembourg in 1965. When Jimmy Carter was elected President of the United States, he appointed Ms. Harris as Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. In 1979, she was appointed Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare which transitioned to Health and Human Services. When Jimmy Carter's term ended, Ms. Harris returned to practicing law and the directorship of several corporations and foundations. In 1982, she ran for mayor of Washington, DC but came in second in the Democratic Primary. Ms. Roberts lost her battle with breast cancer and died in 1985. Due to low enrollment, the Patricia Roberts Harris Educational Center was closed in 2008, one of the 23 DC public schools shuttered that year.



CHARLES HART MIDDLE SCHOOL



Charles Hart Middle School, 601 Mississippi Avenue SE, was built in 1956 with an original program capacity of 1,110 students. The current mission of the school is to build C.H.A.R.A.C.T.E.R. by celebrating Success,

Honoring our Past, Achieving Greatness, Respecting Everyone, Acquiring Knowledge, Continuing to Grow, Tackling Challenges, Emerging as Leaders, Representing Hope. The school currently serves 425 students in grades 7-8.

The school was named in honor of Charles Hart, who was principal at Eastern High School for 27 years. Hart was also a graduate of Eastern High School and the Washington Normal School. He joined the public school system as a mathematics teacher. He was noted for his enthusiastic promotion of high school sports. In 1900, he brought into use the first set of eligibility rules for student athletes. He died at his home in DC at the age of 71.



PHOEBE HEARST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Phoebe Apperson Hearst Elementary School, 3950 37th Street NW, opened in 1932. The school was designed under Municipal Architect Albert L. Harris and built by Ralph S. Herzog. It is a brick and limestone trimmed building with a symmetrical façade.



It is the only DCPS school accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Hearst is known for its six-foot marble and bronze aquarium donated by the namesake's son, William Randolph Hearst. The school is named after Phoebe Apperson Hearst (December 3, 1842—April 13, 1919). Hearst was born in Franklin County, Missouri. Prior to the Civil War, Hearst earned a certificate enabling her to become a teacher in the Missouri school system. Throughout her career, Hearst built schools and libraries in the United States. She also traveled internationally. She married George Hearst, who would later become a U.S. Senator. A year after the marriage, Hearst gave birth to a son, William Randolph Hearst. Upon her husband's death, Hearst gave generously to several institutions, including her favorite, the University of California at Berkeley. The money was used to develop a scholarship fund that helped women attend the university.



FLORA HENDLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The Flora L. Hendley Elementary School, 425 Chesapeake Street SE, was designed by Murphy & Locraft and built by Eisen-Magers Construction Company, in 1959.

The school is named after Flora L. Hendley (December 6, 1858—June 29, 1945). Hendley served the DC public schools from 1876-1924. She began teaching in an old building on the corner of 5th and I streets NW. In 1881, she was transferred to the Riggs School, where she taught for nine years. In 1890, Hendley became principal of the Seaton School, where she served for 18 years. In 1908, she was promoted to supervising principal. For more than 10 years, Hendley labored unceasingly for the enactment of a law providing pensions for teachers. After many setbacks, that would have stopped more timorous individuals, Hendley and her colleagues were victorious. Hendley retired after 48 years with the benefit of a pension she worked so hard to bring to fruition for all teachers.

CHARLES HOUSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Charles H. Houston Elementary School, 1100 50th Place NE, was designed by Victor B. Specter & Associates and built by Merando, Inc., in 1962. The school is named after Charles Hamilton Houston

(September 3, 1895—April 22, 1950). Houston was known as "The Man Who Killed Jim Crow" because of the central role he played in nearly every civil rights case brought before the U.S. Supreme Court between 1930 and 1954. His brilliant plan to attack and defeat racial segregation by declaring the "separate but equal" doctrine as inherently unequal, especially as it pertained to public education, was the master stroke that led to the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, in 1954. Houston also trained future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall during his tenure at Howard University Law School.



THOMAS JEFFERSON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Thomas Jefferson Junior High School, 801 7th Street NW, was designed in 1939 and built in 1940. The architect was Nathan C. Wythe and the builder was Jeffress-Dyer, Inc. The Georgian-Colonial brick and limestone

building was one of the first elementary schools in DC. The original Jefferson School was organized in 1924. In 1937, the need arose for a new school building due to overcrowding, nearby railroad yards and traffic congestion. On December 8, 1940, the new building was dedicated as an "institution dedicated to democracy." Elementary classes were opened in four rooms in December 1947, discontinued in 1949 and then reopened from 1952 until 1954. Jefferson was converted to a senior high school in 1977, with a \$1 million dollar addition containing recreation and community centers, a new branch library and a health clinic. In 1983, it was voted an outstanding school. It is the only school in the nation to be named by an act of Congress as a memorial to a U. S. president.

Jefferson Junior High School was named in honor of our nation's third president. Thomas Jefferson (April 13, 1743–July 4, 1826). Jefferson was the principal author of the Declaration of Independence and an influential Founding Father who envisioned America as a great "Empire of Liberty."



JOHN H. JOHNSON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



John Hayden Johnson Junior High School, 1400 Bruce Place SE, was built in 1970.

The school is named after Dr. John Hayden Johnson (February 17, 1875—April 21, 1954). Dr. Johnson, born in

DC, attended the city's public schools and Howard University Preparatory School for two years. He graduated from Howard University Medical School in June 1900. After a four-month internship, he began practicing medicine on November 1, 1900. He organized the first physicians' reading club, which continues today. He was also a member of the Board of Management of the YMCA, a charter member of the Mu-So-Lit Club, an Odd Fellow Mason and a member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of DC. Dr. Johnson served for 21 years as a member of the DC Board of Education. He received a testimonial tribute at Metropolitan A.M.E. Church in June 1936 for his untiring efforts to benefit and advance African Americans.

KENILWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Kenilworth Elementary School, 1300 44th Street NE, was built in the Colonial Revival style, in 1933, by the Industrial Engineering and Construction Company based on a design from the office of the municipal architect. Alterations and additions were

made in 1959 and 1962.

The first Kenilworth School was built in 1903 for white students. The original building consisted of brick with limestone. Because of deteriorating conditions, including wall cracking, the old building was abandoned in 1931 and students were moved into portable spaces. In 1932, construction began on a one-story, four-room brick building. It was transferred to the black division in 1954.

The school is named after Kenilworth, the neighborhood in which it is located. Kenilworth began as a white suburb in the late 1800s. It is now largely African-American, dominated by Kenilworth Courts, a 1960s-era garden apartment housing complex.



Kenilworth Courts

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School, 3200 6th Street SE, was built in 1971. The school seeks to inspire young learners to become highly motivated contributors to society.

The school is named after Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (January 15, 1929—April 4, 1968), the leader of one of the first successful nonviolent demonstrations—the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which lasted from December 1955–December 1956. During the boycott, King's family home was bombed and he experienced abuse meted out by professional and ordinary white men and women. In the 11-year period between 1957 and 1968, King traveled over six million miles and spoke over 2500 times. During these years, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama, that caught the attention of the entire world, providing what he called a “coalition of conscience.” He also wrote “Letter from a Birmingham Jail,” which became a manifesto. He was the main speaker at the peaceful March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, which attracted more than 250,000 people. He delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech. In 1957, King was the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. Upon acceptance of the prize money, totaling \$54,123, he indicated that it would be donated to fund civil rights causes.



STEPHEN KRAMER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Stephen Elliot Kramer Junior High School, 1700 Q Street SE, a Colonial Revival/ Neoclassical style building made of brick and limestone, was built in 1943 by the Ross Engineering Company. When the school opened on April 12, 1943, it had a program capacity of

1,000 students. On opening day, however, there were 1,240 students. And, in 1948, there were 1,490 students. The school had the highest junior high school enrollment in the city. Due to overcrowding, students had to attend classes in shifts. Renamed the Kramer Middle School, it currently serves students in grades 6-8.

The school's namesake is Stephen Elliot Kramer (d. June 11, 1936), who served the city's public school system for 40 years as an educator and school executive. Dr. Kramer was also a trustee for George Washington University, his alma mater.



LANGDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Construction for the Langdon Elementary School, 1900 Evarts Street NE, began in 1928 and was completed in 1930. Albert L. Harris served as the architect of the Colonial Revival style brick and limestone building. Additions and alterations to the school took place in 1959 and 1970.

The Langdon Elementary School was named for the surrounding community, Langdon Park, developed largely by the Baker family, who used the name of their ancestral home in England. Harris designed the school as the "first of a new type of school building," consisting of two two-story classroom wings connected by a long narrow corridor. In 1959, a classroom addition was appended to the rear of the east wing. In 1970, an annex was added to the rear of the west wing and a learning center constructed within the original courtyard.

Until 1954, the Langdon School served the largely white and Jewish community that surrounded it. After 1954, the school's population changed as the community demographics changed. By the early 1960s, Langdon students were primarily black.

MAMIE D. LEE SCHOOL



Mamie D. Lee School, 100 Gallatin Street, NE, sits on one acre of land directly behind the Fort Totten Metro Station. The modern architectural design was conceived to

accommodate the social, educational and physical needs of students with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Instruction is guided by individualized education programs (IEPs) and provided to students from ages 3-21. Classes have a 1:8 teacher-to-student ratio and instruction centers on academic, adaptive, communication, motor, health and transition areas.



The school is named in honor of Mamie D. Lee, a native Washingtonian and a DCPS alumnus. Lee, who was forced to retire at 41 years old due to visual impairment, became deeply interested in children with severe

intellectual disabilities. Recognizing that they needed constant attention in the classroom, Lee initiated a program to train parents to assist their children. She also established a library for the Council of Exceptional Children, the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving the educational success of individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

JOHN T. LOGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The Logan Elementary School, 3rd and G streets NE, was originally built in 1891 as a Colonial Revival style brick and limestone structure by the John W. Hunt Company. It was not until 1935, however,

that the present building on 3rd Street was constructed and occupied, maintaining the original building as an annex. In 1946, an addition was approved and by 1949 the two new wings were completed. The additions to the 16-room building included 10 classrooms, a library, kindergarten, recreational room, offices and a combination auditorium-gym to house 885 pupils. The old building was sold in 1949 to the Lalor Medical Center. In the mid-1980s, developers purchased the old building and converted it into a condominium residence. Alterations to the new building were made in 1965. Capitol Hill Montessori at Logan relocated to the Logan Building in September 2011.



The school was named in honor of John Alexander Logan (February 9, 1826—December 26, 1886), a soldier and political leader. Logan served in the Mexican-American War, was a general in the Union Army during the Civil War and served as an Illinois senator and congressman. Regarded as the founder of Memorial Day, his likeness appears on a statue in Logan Circle.

LUDLOW-TAYLOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The current Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School, 659 G Street NE, merged from multiple institutions in 1971. Taylor Elementary School was originally built in 1891 near 7th and G streets. Ludlow Elementary School was originally built in 1904 near 6th and G streets.

Taylor Elementary has been a site of many changes. In January 1966, the Board of Education sought to redesign and relocate the school in order to save 13 houses and a 12-unit apartment near 7th and G streets NE. At that time, the school was called Ludlow-Blair-Taylor Elementary. There was also controversy that loomed over the prospective change: some residents were concerned that if the school was relocated the black population would be displaced and integration wouldn't occur. Ludlow Elementary is named after William Ludlow (November 27, 1843—August 30, 1901). Ludlow graduated from West Point in 1864 and became a brigadier general in 1898. Taylor

Elementary is named after Zachary Taylor (November 24, 1784—July 9, 1850). Taylor was a lieutenant in the U.S. Army and the 12th president of the United States.



William Ludlow



Zachary Taylor

HENRY MACFARLAND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



MacFarland Junior High School, 4400 Iowa Ave NW, was designed by architect Albert L. Harris and built in 1923 for white students. The design served as a model for junior high schools in DC. The original building had three stories

and 15 evenly spaced windows along the main elevation. A long limestone strip at the frieze includes the name of the school and highlights the three center bays. In 1925, the north block was added, and, in 1931, the south wing was added. Renamed MacFarland Middle School, it currently serves over 160 students in grades 6-8.



The school was named in honor of Henry B. MacFarland (b. February 11, 1861), a lawyer, newspaper correspondent and DC Commissioner from 1900 to 1910. Macfarland was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Henry B. MacFarland

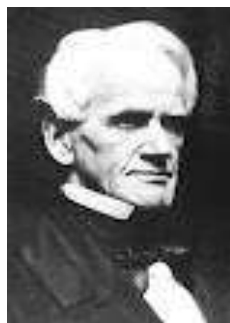
HORACE MANN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The Horace Mann Elementary School, 4430 Newark Street NW, is a three-time recipient of the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School Award, a program honoring public and private elementary, middle and high

schools that are either high performing or have improved student achievement to high levels.

It was named after Horace Mann (May 4, 1796—August 2, 1859), called the “Father of the Common School.” Mann, who was born in Franklin, Massachusetts, began his career as a lawyer and legislator. When he was elected to act as secretary of the newly-created Massachusetts Board of Education in 1837, he used his position to enact major educational reform. He spearheaded the Common School Movement, ensuring that every child could receive a basic education funded by local taxes. His influence soon spread beyond Massachusetts as more states took up the idea of universal schooling. In 1851, Mann became the first president of Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. On August 2, 1859, Mann uttered perhaps his most famous words to Antioch's graduating class: "be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity."



THURGOOD MARSHALL PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL



Thurgood Marshall Public Charter High School, 2427 Martin Luther King, Jr., Ave. SE, was established in 2000. It is located in the old Nichols Avenue School building designed by Clarence Harding and built in 1901. In 2011, 75% of the

graduating class received scholarships and financial aid for college.

The school is named after the first African American U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Thurgood Marshall (July 2, 1908—January 24, 1993). Marshall used the court system to systematically challenge segregation. He successfully sued the University of Maryland School of Law in 1933 for refusing to accept Donald Gaines Murray, an African American Amherst College graduate with flawless credentials. Marshall became the chief counsel for the NAACP and argued an impressive 32 cases before the Supreme Court; he won 29 of them. Marshall believed that integration was the only remedy for the damaging effects of racism. After he integrated the University of Maryland Law School, he integrated political primary elections in *Smith v. Allwright* (1944); successfully argued that racially-based restrictive covenants were legally unenforceable in *Shelley v. Kraemer* (1948); desegregated graduate schools nationally (1950); and dismantled school desegregation in *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954). He also ended segregation on buses and ended the Montgomery Bus Boycott by winning *Browder v. Gayle* (1956). His record of advocacy and success led President John F. Kennedy to appoint him to the U.S. Court of Appeals and President Lyndon B. Johnson to appoint him to the office of U.S. Solicitor General. In 1967, President Johnson appointed him to the U.S. Supreme Court, where he amassed a record of strong support for the constitutional protection of individual rights.



JOHN WALKER MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



John Walker Maury Elementary School, 13th & Constitution streets NE, was built in 1886 for white students in the Capitol Hill neighborhood. By the early 1950s,

demographics on Capitol Hill shifted, creating a greater demand for classroom space for black students. In 1951, the Maury School was transferred from the “white division” to the “colored division.” After the desegregation of schools in 1954, Maury School served elementary age children of all races in the immediate area of Capitol Hill. Today, Maury School serves nearly 300 students from Pre-kindergarten-5th grade.

The school was named in honor of John Walker Maury (1809—February 2, 1855), the 14th mayor of the City of Washington. Maury, a native Washingtonian, served from 1852 to 1854. Maury was also a prominent lawyer, president of the Bank of the



Metropolis and trustee of Columbian College (now George Washington University). As mayor, he had three significant accomplishments. The first was working with philanthropist William Wilson Corcoran to convince Congress to appropriate funds for the Government Hospital for the Insane (now St. Elizabeth’s Hospital). The second was overseeing the

start of the city’s public waterworks construction. The third was appropriating money to pay sculptor Clark Mills to complete the statue of Andrew Jackson that stands in Lafayette Park.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL



McKinley High School is located at 151 T Street in Northeast Washington, D.C. The United States Congress allocated \$26 million in 1926 for the construction of the building. McKinley Tech grew out of the old Central which was at 7th and Rhode Island Avenue. In 1885, Professor C.H.

Koyle gave instruction in shop to students. Instruction began in 1901 for manual training. It was called the Manual Training School No. 1. On January 29, 1902, it was formally dedicated as McKinley Manual Training High School. In 1908, Congress enlarged the school adding an assembly hall, shops, drawing and cooking departments. In 1923, Congress passed the Five Year Building Program and \$12,200,000 was allocated for McKinley. On June 23, 1926 ground was broken for the new school, McKinley High. It was later renamed the McKinley Technical High School, a specialized school for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The curriculum includes specialized instruction in biotechnology, engineering, information technology, and mass media technology. The United States Congress allocated \$26 million in 1926 for the construction of the building at 2nd and T Streets NE, in the Eckington area. The school is originally named for William McKinley, the 25th President of the United States. The school enrollment of 2400 fell to 500 in the late 1990's. The school continued to offer programs in printing, automotive technology, and other technical fields. McKinley was exclusively for whites of the Washington, D.C. area and was later integrated by an Executive Order in June 1954 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. By 1960, integration occurred and African American students were the majority of the school population. Mayor Anthony Williams promised a school with an emphasis in technology. In 2000, a decision was made to keep the school open and renovate the old building. The newly renovated school opened in 2004 with grades 9-12, with an enrollment of 800 students.



EMMA MERRITT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Former Merritt Elementary School

Merritt Elementary School is located at 5002 Hayes Street, NE, Washington. It was named for Emma F.G. Merritt who was a native of Virginia. She came to Washington, DC at the age of 3. She attended Howard

University, Columbia University, and the Phoebe Hearst Kindergarten Training School of DC. She also studied at the Berlitz School of Language in Paris. She taught at Stevens School and held the 7th grade teaching principal ship position of the Banneker School.

In 1897 she was chosen to organize and conduct programs in elementary schools for colored children in the Office of the Director of Primary Instruction. In 1926, she was promoted to Supervising Principal.

The school erected in 1944 as a junior high and elementary school. In 1949 the junior high pupils moved from Merritt School to Miller Junior High School.

On January 25, 2001, President George W. Bush visited Merritt School to talk about his plans for improving education.

EUGENE MEYERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



nEugene Meyers Elementary School is located at 11th and Clifton Streets in Northwest Washington, D.C. The school was one of 23 schools that closed due to under enrollment. It was named after Eugene Meyers, the grandfather of chairman of

Donald E. Graham, chairman of Washington Post. However, in January 2011, a school fire at Takoma Park Educational Center allowed the school board to temporarily reopen Meyers because its structure was still intact. It allowed the Takoma Park student population of 400 to stay together. He was born in Los Angeles, California October 31, 1875. He attended the University of California, Yale and Syracuse. He was a banker, newspaper publisher, and political servant. In 1917, Meyers came to D.C. to serve under President Woodrow Wilson. He also served under Presidents Hardy, Coolidge, Hoover and F.D. Roosevelt.



He was interested in the Public Schools and started the Eugene and Agnes Meyers Foundation to benefit them. He had benefit projects at Thomas and Walker Jones Schools. Also Jefferson Junior High, the Urban Service Corp and Education Experiment in Talent Searching. He also had projects for service for children at Murch and Lafayette elementary schools and McFarland Junior High.

KELLY MILLER MIDDLE SCHOOL



Old Kelly Miller



New Kelly Miller

Kelly Miller Middle School, 301 49th Street NE, opened in 2004 as a \$35 million showcase for DCPS. Every classroom is equipped with a whiteboard and computers. A particular source of pride is the media production room, where students broadcast announcements and produce programs virtually wired to all classrooms. The school is named for Kelly Miller (July 18, 1863—December 29, 1939), who was a professor of mathematics and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Howard University. Born in Winnsboro, South Carolina, he was awarded a scholarship to Howard, where he completed the Preparatory Department's three-year curriculum in Latin, Greek and mathematics in two years (1880-1882). At Howard,



he also received a B.S., an M.A. in mathematics and a law degree. Before beginning his tenure as a professor at Howard, he taught mathematics at the M Street High School in DC from 1889-1890. Noted for his brilliant mind, Miller became a major figure at Howard. He also gained national attention as a leader during the early 20th

century strategic conflict often characterized as a struggle between Booker T. Washington's "accommodationism" and W. E. B. Du Bois' "radicalism."

SCOTT MONTGOMERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Scott Montgomery Elementary School is located in the 500 block of P Street, Northwest, Washington. It is in the Shaw area. It was erected in 1949 as Scott Montgomery Elementary School, Division 11. In 1950, the building was used as Scott Montgomery Elementary School, Division 11, with a minimum capacity, 17 rooms and 612 pupils. In 1956, it was discontinued as Scott Montgomery School and became Scott Montgomery-Morse School unit. At the end of the 2009-2010 school year, Scott Montgomery Elementary School closed and transferred their students to the newly renovated Walker-Jones Education Campus.

The school was named after Dr. Winfield Scott Montgomery, formerly assistant superintendent of schools. He was born in slavery in Mississippi in 1853. His family moved to New Orleans until he was 10. He attended high school at the Leland and Gray Seminary in Townshend, Vermont. He became a protégé of a federal officer from New Hampshire. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1878 with honors. His interest was in education. He taught in Townsend, Vermont and later became a temporary teacher in Washington, D.C. He served as a Professor of Ancient and Modern Language at Alcorn University in Mississippi. He returned to Washington, D.C. in 1892 serving as Principal, Supervising Principal and Assistant Superintendent in charge of colored schools in D.C. He continued to pursue his study of medicine receiving his medical degree from Howard University Medical School in 1890. In June 1924, Montgomery retired as assistant superintendent of schools because of age, relinquishing his responsibilities to Garnet C. Wilkinson. Dr. Winfield Scott Montgomery died in 1990.

J. C. NALLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Old Nalle Elementary School



Nalle Elementary School Today



J.C. Nalle Elementary School is located at 50th and C Street, in the Marshall Heights neighborhood of Southeast Washington, D.C. It was newly renovated. The architect of the new addition was Charles Irving Bryant and Associates. It is in an area struggling with poverty and neglect. This area is surrounded by low income houses and abandoned houses. There are 400-500 students at Nalle where 90% come from single family homes and the windows at Nalle are covered with metal boarders .All of the students are African Americans Nalle has become a “full service community center”. In 1950, Nalle became a Division 12 school by Board Order.

The school was named for John C. Nalle who was born in Culpeper, Virginia in 1856. In 1873, he began teaching in the D.C. Public Schools and was promoted to Principal of Lincoln School in 1883. He also served as Principal of Jones, Logan and Stevens Schools. In September 1902, he was promoted to Supervising Principal, assigned to Division 10. He was considered a dynamic, energetic, intelligent, efficient and foresighted administrator. He was also an active member of the Masons and a member of the Oldest Inhabitants Association. In July 1934, he died in Highland Beach, Maryland.

OYSTER-ADAMS BILINGUAL SCHOOL



Oyster-Adams Bilingual School has two locations: 2801 Calvert Street (Oyster campus) and 2020 19th Street (Adams campus). Both are in the Northwest quadrant of Washington, D.C. The school serves grades pre-kindergarten through eight. For the past 30 years,

Oyster-Adams has served a dual-language education program model within DC and in the country. This school is extremely unique in which students are taught in English and Spanish by two teachers in each class, an English speaker and a Spanish speaker. In the early 1990's when the school district slated Oyster for closure because there was no money to fix or replace the 47,000-square-foot aging building, parents took action. They



James Oyster

formed the 21st Century school fund to explore options and put together a creative solution that provided Oyster a new school and not a taxpayer expense. Under an innovative public-private partnership Oyster gave about half its property, a good chunk of its playground, to a developer to

construct a 211 unit apartment building. In exchange, the developer built a school. The 57,000-square-foot new bilingual elementary school consists of four floors above grade with a brick veneer exterior. The masonry and steel building also features a 12,000-square-foot parking garage. Its unique design features a two-story gym on the second floor with a cafeteria directly below. In 2001, it became the first new public school built in the District of Columbia in over 25 years. James F. Oyster and Henry B. Adams are the namesakes of Oyster-Adams bilingual school. Oyster was a former DC school superintendent. Adams was an American author, historian, and critic. His famous memoir *The Education of Henry Adams* (1918) was posthumously awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1919.



PHELPS ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



The Phelps Vocational School, 704 26th Street NE, was built in 1934 by the Catalano Construction Company. It is a Colonial Revival/Neoclassical style brick building. Originally built as a vocational school for black males, the school accepted black females in 1942 and was renamed the Phelps Career High School. In 1972, a multi-purpose room was added. In 2008, the school received a major overhaul and was renamed the Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School serving students from grades 9-12.



Seth Ledyard Phelps (January 31, 1824—June 24, 1885) was an American naval officer, politician and diplomat. Phelps served in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War and was later appointed president of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia. He was born in Chardon, Ohio, and enlisted in the U.S. Navy shortly before his 18th birthday. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Phelps was commanding the gunboat USS Conestoga, and later gained command of two additional timber-clad gunboats, the USS Tyler and USS Lexington. He was instrumental in the Union victory at the Battle of Fort Henry on the Tennessee River in 1862, serving as part of General Ulysses S. Grant's invasion force. Phelps died in Lima, Peru.



WILLIAM B. POWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The William B. Powell School, 1350 Upshur Street NW, was built in 1929. Albert L. Harris served as the architect. Like many school buildings of the 1920s, Powell was designed as an extensible school: the building was constructed in sections to accommodate an expanding population. When enlarged in 1959, a new classroom block was appended to the east wing.

The school was named in honor of William B. Powell, the city's superintendent of public schools in the late 19th century.

CHARLES W. RAYMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Charles W. Raymond Elementary School, 915 Spring Road NW, was constructed in two sections in 1924 and 1928, with alterations in 1964 when classrooms on the west side were added. Albert L. Harris was the architect. Designed as an extensible building for white children, it is one of the sparest of the extensible school designs of the 1920s. Its notable feature is its long rectangular red brick box with scant limestone trim. A limestone strip at the parapet provides space for the school's name.

The school was named in honor of Charles W. Raymond, who served as engineer commissioner from 1888 to 1890, and a U.S. Corps of Engineers member. Raymond graduated from West Point and served as assistant engineer in the construction of the defenses of Alcatraz Island near San Francisco, California.

CARLOS ROSARIO INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL



The Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School opened in 1998, becoming the first adult public charter school in the nation. The school has its roots in the

Program of English Instruction for Latin Americans (PEILA) established in 1970 by Carlos Manuel Rosario. In 1978, PEILA relocated to the Gordon building in Georgetown, merged with the Americanization Program and was renamed the Gordon Center. In 1992, the school was renamed the Carlos Rosario Adult Education Center. In 1996, the Carlos Rosario Adult Education Center was forced to close. Two years later, after the budget crisis was resolved, the school reopened as the Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School. In 2000, the school expanded to six locations to accommodate high demand. In 2001, school administrators signed a long-term lease agreement with the DC government to renovate and occupy the former Wilson Teachers College building at 1100 Harvard Street NW. The grand opening and dedication occurred in 2004.

The school was named for Carlos Manuel Rosario who was born in Puerto Rico. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in North Africa, France and Germany. He moved to DC in the early 1950s and later joined the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Recognizing the need for better services to the Latino community, Rosario embarked on a mission to establish organizations to meet those needs. He did so with great success and dedicated leadership. PEILA was one of the earliest and most enduring programs that he founded.



LUCY D. SLOWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Slowe Elementary School, 1404 Jackson Street NE, has a student population of 232, serving pre-Kindergarten-5th grade.

The school was named in honor of Lucy Diggs Slowe (July 4, 1885—October 21, 1937). Diggs,

born in Virginia, was one of the original founders of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the first black sorority in the U.S., at Howard University in 1908. Transcending the era's limits, Slowe was a woman of many "firsts." In 1922, she was appointed the first dean of women at Howard University. She continued as a college administrator for 15 years. She was also a tennis champion: she won the first national title of the American Tennis Association in 1917 and became the first African American woman to win a major sports title.



TREE OF LIFE COMMUNITY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL



Tree of Life Community Public Charter School, 2315 18th Place NE, opened in Fall 2000. Since 2000, the school has leased and occupied two other facilities: a leased space with a children's museum, which sold the property, and a co-used space in a DCPS building. In spring 2006, administrators purchased and renovated a building that provides adequate classroom, office, library, computer laboratory, lunchroom and meeting spaces. The school utilizes the gymnasium and field at the nearby recreation center for physical education classes. Currently serving 266 students, the school is a family-centered and full-service school for grades pre-Kindergarten-8.

GEORGE TRUESDELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

George Truesdell Elementary School, 800 Ingraham Street NW, began as the Brightwood Park School, which was constructed in 1908 with Robert F. Beresford as the architect. In 1926, a long classroom wing was added. In 1937-1938, the original building was demolished and replaced with a west wing added to the 1926 section. An auditorium was also added to the rear of the building. Municipal Architect Nathan C. Wyeth designed the new additions. In 1942, Truesdell became a laboratory school connected to Wilson Teachers College and was called the Truesdell Laboratory School.

The school was named in honor of District Commissioner George Truesdell, who served from 1894 to 1897. Truesdell, a real estate entrepreneur, developed and laid streets in Eckington, and provided the initial infrastructure for the Soldiers' Home streetcar line.

VAN NESS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The Van Ness Elementary School, erected in 1908, was a two-story structure with an attic and basement. Double 3/6/6 windows decorated the facades, with brick pilasters separating them. The main entrance was framed by a wooden portico, atop six steps, and under a Palladian window. Brick belt coursing separated the basement from the first floor. The entire building was set five steps up from the surrounding sidewalk. In 1956, the old building was replaced by a new structure on 5th Street between L and M streets, SE. The school is currently closed.

The Van Ness School was named in honor of John Peter Van Ness (1770—March 7, 1846), a congressman, the ninth mayor of the City of Washington and the first president of the National Metropolitan Bank. Van Ness was also second vice president of the Washington National Monument Society in 1833, president of the commissioners of the Washington City Canal in 1834 and president of the Branch Bank of the United States. He remained president of the National Metropolitan Bank from 1814 until his death.



THE RICHARD WALLACH SCHOOL



The Wallach School, 7th and D streets SE, was designed and constructed in 1864 by the firm of Cluss and Kammerhueber. The school had 10 oblong classrooms which accommodated 600 pupils. The high ceilings, brick decoration, and disguised ductwork and plumbing made the building a novelty in the city. Before the construction of the Wallach School, most public school classes in DC were held in rented rooms and makeshift buildings. Mayor Richard Wallach envisioned a "school within the reach of every child" and a building whose beauty and elegance would instill pride and admiration in both students and citizens. He sought to change the widespread notion that public schools were for paupers. The school reflected the most modern features of its day, with scientific ventilation and heating systems, a large assembly hall and covered passages to the outhouses. Wallach operated as a school until 1949. It was razed in 1950 and replaced with Hine Junior High School.

Richard Wallach (April 3, 1816–March 4, 1881) was an American politician who served as the first Republican mayor of the City of Washington from 1862 to 1868. As mayor, Wallach established a paid fire department; had roads and sidewalks paved; planned and executed a modern sewer system; and doubled the number of public schools. The Wallach School on Capitol Hill was named in his honor in 1864. A contemporary of Abraham Lincoln, he was a staunch opponent of emancipation and suffrage for newly-freed African Americans. Interestingly, he encouraged school integration. However, his general lack of sympathy for African Americans resulted in his ouster: through the passage of Congress' Reconstruction Act in 1867, newly-enfranchised African American men voted him out of office.



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL



The Booker T. Washington Public Charter School, 1346 Florida Avenue, NW, opened for the 1999-2000 school year. It is an academically-oriented vocational school whose mission is to educate students in grades 9-12, as well as adults, for construction and building trades and prepare them for life-long learning.

The namesake, Booker T. Washington (April 5, 1856—November 14, 1915), according to Wikipedia, “was an American, educator, author, orator and political leader. Washington was the dominant figure in the African American community in the United States from 1890 to 1915. Representative of the last generation of black leaders born during slavery, he spoke on behalf of blacks living in the South.

He was born into the legal system of slavery and after emancipation moved with his family to Malden, West Virginia. At age nine, he began working in a salt furnace and later in a coal mine. Determined to get an education, he enrolled at the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute (now Hampton University) in Virginia in 1872. He worked as a janitor to help pay expenses. He graduated in 1875 and returned to Malden, where for two years he taught children during the day and adults at night. He joined the Hampton staff in 1878-1879.

In 1881, Washington was selected to head a newly established normal school for blacks in Tuskegee, an institution with two small converted buildings, no equipment and very little money. Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute became a monument to his life's work. In 1915, the school had more than 100 well-equipped buildings, 1,500 students, 200 faculty members teaching 38 trades and professions, and an endowment of approximately \$2 million. Washington believed that the best interests of black people in the post-Reconstruction era could be realized through education in the crafts, industrial skills and the cultivation of the virtues of patience, enterprise and thrift.

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