National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2019

Virginia Avenue Corridor

National Mall & Memorial Parks

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Cultural Landscape Summary & Site Plan

Cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Resources Inventory System:

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources and cultural landscapes. The set of CRIS records for cultural landscapes is referred to as CRIS-CL.CRIS-CL records conform to a standardized data structure known as the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI). The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CRIS are: Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2006), Director's Order 28 (Cultural Resources) and Director's Order 28a (Archeology).

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI)

The CLI is the data structure within CRIS used to document and evaluate all potentially significant cultural landscapes in which NPS has, or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest.
Each CRIS-CL record is certified complete when the landscape is determined to meet one of the following:

Landscape individually meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation; or,
Landscape is a contributing element of a property that is eligible for the National Register; or,
Landscapes does not meet the National Register criteria, but is managed as cultural resources because of law, policy or decisions reached through the park planning process.

Cultural landscapes vary from historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes to historic ethnographic landscapes, but may also fit within more than one type. Those eligible for the National Register have significance in the nation's history on a national, state or local level, as well as integrity or authenticity. The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are: *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish…a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places…of historic properties…*

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a)…Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA…No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior…

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(c) Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying… historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Council and the Secretary…

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A) Management Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories…about cultural resources in units of the national park system…Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes,… and historic sites…

Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources.

Inventory Unit Description:

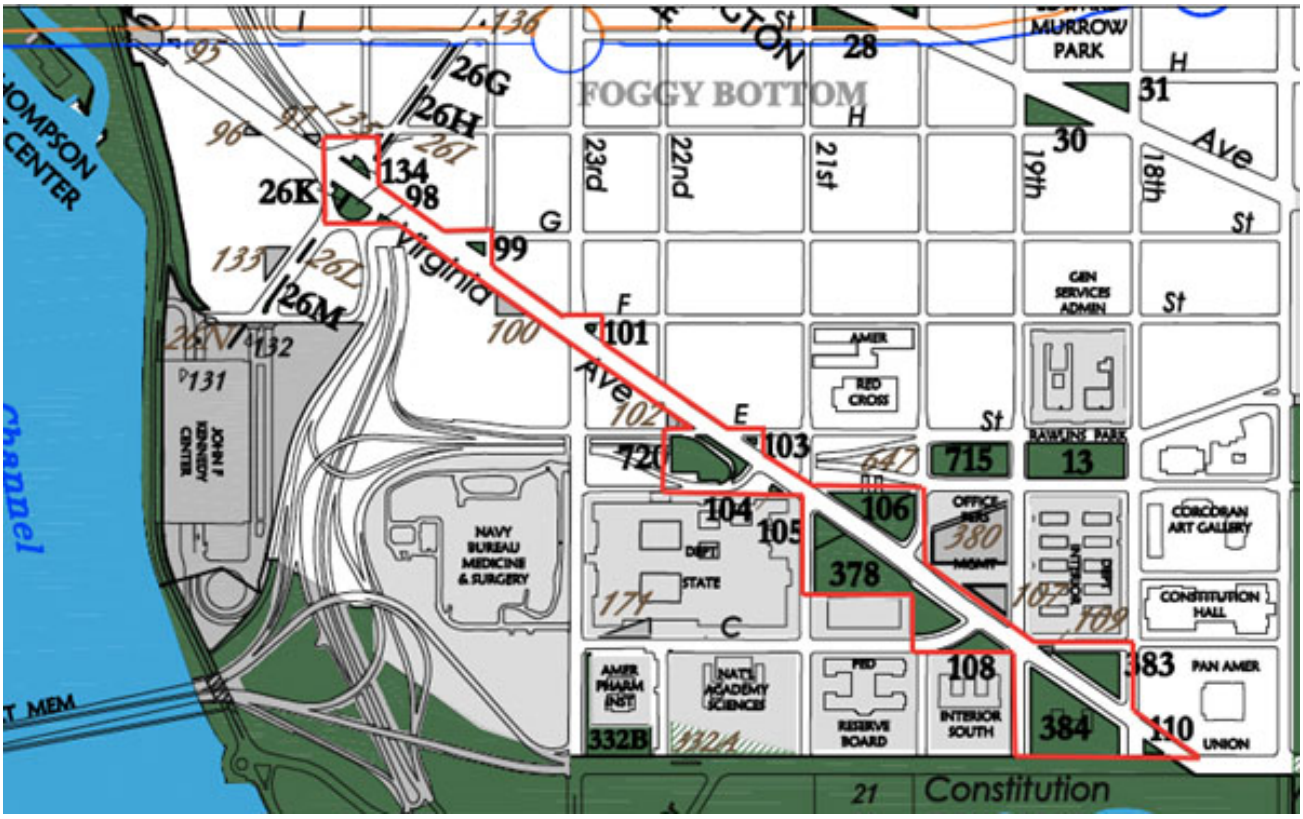
Virginia Avenue NW is a cultural landscape in southwest Washington, DC. Located in the southwest quadrant, the segment of the avenue included in this cultural landscape inventory runs diagonally, southeast to northwest, for approximately one mile, between 18th Street NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW. The cultural landscape is made up of fourteen reservations, managed by the National Capital Region, National Mall and Memorial Parks. Reservation numbers from southeast to northwest include: 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 384 (Pan American Annex), 108, 106 (San Martin), 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park), 104, 103, 720 (Galvez), 101, 99, 98 and 134 (Juarez). The reservations are all small parks, many of them triangle shaped, some with statues, fountains and/or plazas. They range in size from approximately 0.01 acres to 2.2 acres.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW
Virginia Avenue NW was first laid out as part of Pierre L'Enfant's plan for the city of Washington, in 1791. Despite its proximity to the White House and central Washington, DC, the avenue remained largely undeveloped until the late 19th century. Virginia Avenue NW was unpaved until the 1870s and the triangle parks created as a result of the L'Enfant plan were not improved until the early 20th century. The Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) delineated, landscaped and enclosed these small parks for the first time between 1899 and 1912. During the 1930s, the southern half of Virginia Avenue NW saw its first large-scale development, after a number of federal agencies relocated their headquarters to either side of the avenue. This was followed by a massive redevelopment and highway construction project that reshaped the avenue's northwest section in the 1950s and 1960s. Between 1947 and 1977, the NPS redesigned many of Virginia Avenue NW's larger reservations, working with local, national and international architecture firms to design spaces that would accommodate a number of statues of Latin American revolutionary figures.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY
Virginia Avenue NW derives national significance as one of the major public avenues envisioned in Pierre L'Enfant's 1791 Plan of the City of Washington. It was listed to the National Register under Criteria A, B and C in 1997, as part of the L'Enfant Plan. The period of significance is 1790-1942. This CLI recommends expanding the period of significance to include local significance under Criteria A and C, for the period that covers the actual construction of the Virginia Avenue NW small park reservations between 1899-1912, as well as the postwar urban renewal and beautification efforts that reshaped the avenue and many of its open spaces between 1950 and 1977. Under Criterion B, this CLI recommends expanding the period of significance for Reservation 383 (Bolivar), to include the date of the installation of the sculpture Felix de Weldon's equestrian statue of Simon Bolivar, in 1959.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION
This CLI finds that Virginia Avenue NW retains integrity from all three periods of significance: the L'Enfant Plan (1791-1792); the period of initial construction under the OPBG (1899-1912); and post WWII urban renewal and beautification efforts that included the dedication of a significant part of the landscaped to Latin American liberators (1950-1977). Original landscape characteristics and features from all three periods are present along Virginia Avenue NW, and the landscape displays all seven aspects that determine integrity, as defined by the National Register of Historic Places.

Site Plan



Project boundaries for Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape.

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Virginia Avenue Corridor
Property Level:	Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	600216
Parent Landscape:	600216

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	National Mall & Memorial Parks - Virginia Avenue Corridor - NAMA
Park Organization Code:	3408
Park Administrative Unit:	National Mall & Memorial Parks

CLI Hierarchy Description

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

This Cultural Landscape Inventory was researched and written by Shannon Garrison, Research Associate, University of Pennsylvania. Primary and secondary source material from within the National Park Service and local repositories was utilized to complete the inventory and is listed in the bibliography. Research and editorial assistance was provided by: Daniel Weldon, NCR CLI Coordinator, National Capital Region, National Park Service; Maureen Joseph, Regional Historical Landscape Architect, National Capital Region, National Park Service; Catherine Dewey, Chief of Resource Management, National Mall and Memorial Parks, National Capital Region, National Park Service; Justine Bellows, Acting Cultural Resources Program Manager, National Mall and Memorial Parks, National Capital Region, National Park Service; Randall Mason, Associate Professor, Historic Preservation, University of Pennsylvania; Ashley Losco, Cultural Landscape Intern, University of Pennsylvania; and Jacob Torkelson Cultural Landscape Intern, University of Pennsylvania.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 11/14/2018

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Date of Concurrence Determination: 02/12/2019

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Memorandum:

To: Regional Landscape Architect, National Capital Region

From: Acting Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks

Subject: Statement of Concurrence, Virginia Avenue Northwest

I, Patricia Trap, Acting Superintendent of National Mall and Memorial Parks, concur with the findings of the Virginia Avenue Northwest Cultural Landscape Inventory for, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory for the Virginia Avenue Northwest is hereby approved and accepted.

Catherine C. Dewey 11/23/18

Acting Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks Date

Statement of Concurrence
Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape Inventory

The preparation of this CLI for Virginia Avenue NW is part of the National Park Service's efforts to update cultural resource inventories, as required by Section 110 (a) (1) of the National Historic Preservation Act.

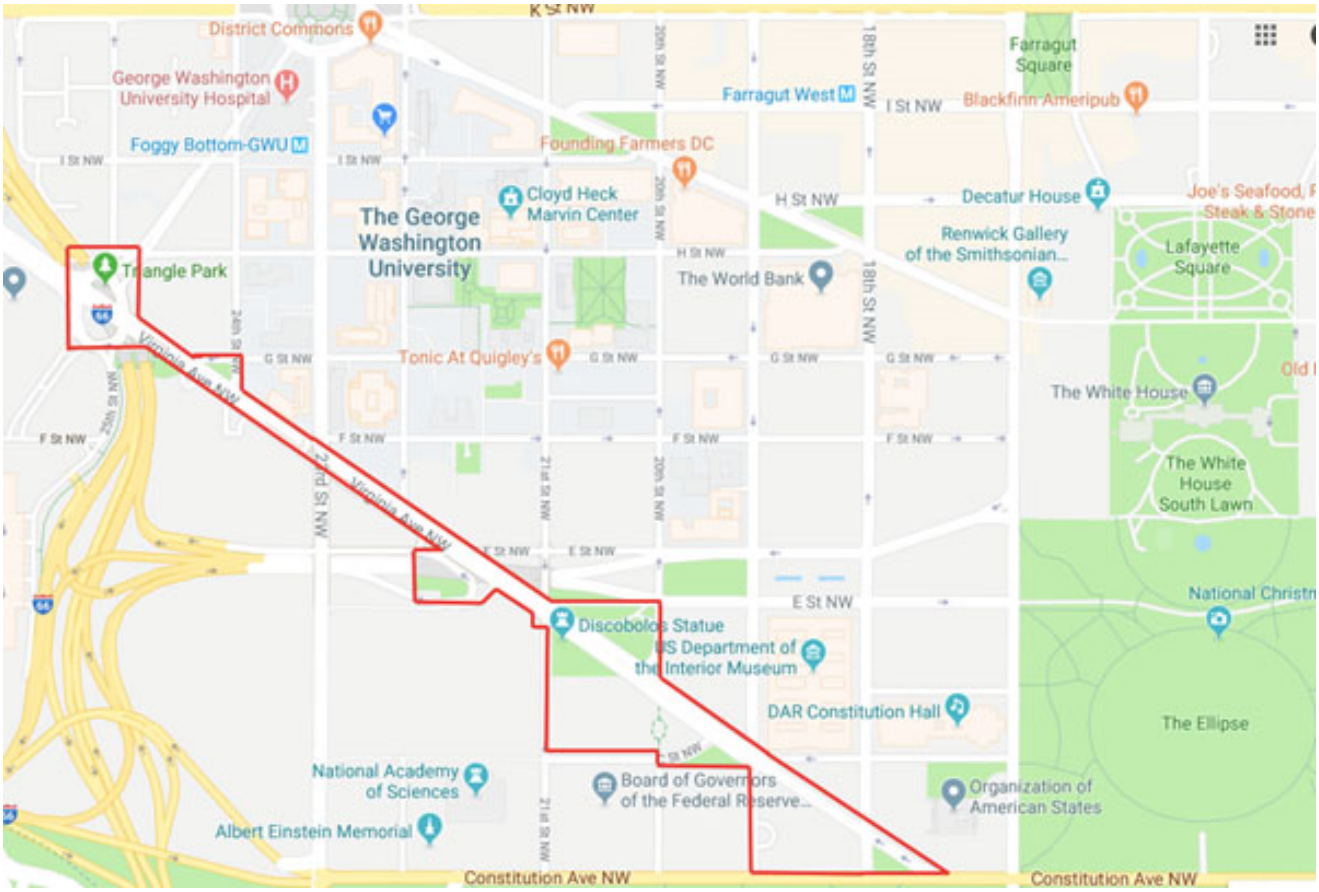
- The D.C. Historic Preservation Office (DC HPO) concurs with the findings of the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape Inventory. The DC HPO further concurs that the cultural landscape resources of the Virginia Avenue NW, as enumerated, retain integrity to the site's period of significance; 1791-1792; 1899-1912; 1950-1977 and contribute to its historic character.

David Maloney
District of Columbia Historic Preservation Officer

2/12/2019
Date

Please email signed PDF copy to Daniel Weldon, NCR CLI Coordinator at daniel_weldon@nps.gov

Location Map:



Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape, showing location in relation to White House.¬¬

Regional Context:

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 11/23/2018

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape is currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the L'Enfant Plan. It was designed as one of the main ceremonial approaches to the capital, as part of L'Enfant's plan for Washington, DC. Since the early 20th century, it has also served a variety of significant beautification, commemoration and political functions.

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Interest: Unrestricted

Explanatory Narrative:

There is unrestricted access to all reservation

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Land Narrative:

Adjacent lands outside the boundaries of the park include the streets and sidewalks along Virginia Avenue NW and the surrounding parks that are not managed by the National Park Service. This land is part of the original L'Enfant right of way and thus part of the larger landscape. It was transferred to various city entities for management during the 19th and 20th centuries. Other contributing adjacent lands include the Federal Reserve Annex Building, located within Reservation 378, and the Pan American Annex building, located within Reservation 384. These buildings are not owned, managed or maintained by the National Park Service but are an integral part of the landscape of their respective reservations.

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

Virginia Avenue NW is listed on the National Register under Criteria A, B, and C, for its national significance as part of the 1997 L'Enfant Plan of Washington, DC. The National Register lists the period of significance as 1791-1942. The cultural landscape is listed under Criterion A for its national significance in the areas of community planning and development; landscape architecture; politics and government, and transportation. It is listed under Criterion B for its association with Pierre Charles L'Enfant. It is listed under Criterion C for its association with Pierre Charles L'Enfant's internationally influential design, and as an early American example of Baroque City planning.

Existing NRIS Information:

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Contributing
National Register Classification:	District
Significance Level:	National
Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria:	B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
Significance Criteria:	C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Community Planning and Development
Area of Significance Category:	Entertainment - Recreation
Area of Significance Category:	Landscape Architecture
Area of Significance Category:	Politics - Government

Statement of Significance:

The Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape consists of fourteen small park reservations located along Virginia Avenue NW, between 18th Street NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW, from southeast to northwest: Reservations 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 384 (Pan American Annex), 108, 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), 106 (San Martin), 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park), 104, 103, 720 (Galvez), 101, 99, 98, 134 (Juarez). These reservations are managed by the National Park Service, National Mall and Memorial Parks.

The avenue itself, and several of the open spaces along it, were designed as part of Pierre Charles L'Enfant's 1791 Plan of the City of Washington, and included in Andrew Ellicott's 1792 modified map of L'Enfant's plan. Working from the L'Enfant and Ellicott plans, in the late 19th and early 20th century, the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) delineated and landscaped small park reservations throughout the city. The OPBG built the small parks along Virginia Avenue NW between 1899 and 1912. Between 1950 and 1977,

much of the area was redeveloped as part of the National Capital Planning Commission's (NCPC) vision of a modern Washington. Highway construction, in particular the E Street Expressway, and massive mixed use developments, like the Watergate and Columbia Plaza, resulted in the expansion and redesign of several of the reservations. Many of the newly designed small parks exhibited hallmarks of the modern aesthetic, and celebrated Latin American independence through the installation of statuary and dedicated features like plazas and fountains. The National Park Service (NPS) managed these midcentury changes, and subsequent maintenance and upkeep. The current cultural landscape closely resembles that which was designed during the postwar period.

Virginia Avenue NW derives national significance, as one of the major public avenues envisioned in Pierre L'Enfant's 1791 Plan of the City of Washington. It was listed to the National Register under Criteria A, B and C in 1997, as part of the L'Enfant Plan. The period of significance is 1790-1942.

This CLI recommends expanding the period of significance to include local significance under Criteria A and C, for the period, which covers the actual construction of the Virginia Avenue NW small park reservations between 1899-1912, as well as the postwar urban renewal and beautification efforts that reshaped the avenue and many of its open spaces between 1950 and 1977. Both of these periods represent important eras in Washington DC park planning and design, under the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (1899-1912), the National Park Service, and National Capital Planning Commission (1950-1977). In the early 20th century, the OPBG treated small parks as important "breathing spaces" within an increasingly congested city, and their development was part of an urban parks movement focused on improving access to light and fresh air. After World War II, the NPS, working with the NCPC, embraced a modern approach to park planning. The "clear and build" ideals of midcentury urban renewal resulted in the complete redevelopment of a number of Virginia Avenue NW's small parks. The dedication of many of these spaces to Latin American revolutionary figures, during the same period, reflects an important expression of Cold War era concerns related to the spread of communism in South and Central America. Further, the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape contains significant local examples of the modernist movement's approach to landscape design.

Under Criterion B, this CLI recommends expanding the period of significance for Reservation 383 (Bolivar), to include the date of the installation of the equestrian statue of Simon Bolivar, in 1959. The statue is an original work of Felix de Weldon, a prolific artist best known for his design of the Marine Corps War Memorial, which depicts a group of marines raising a flag on Iwo Jima.

CRITERION A
National: 1791-1792
The L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington was listed in the National Register in 1997. As part of that nomination, small parks that retain integrity to this period, including those located along Virginia Avenue NW, are considered nationally and locally significant under Criterion A, for their association with the creation of the nation's capital, and for their significance in the history of community planning, landscape architecture, politics and government, and transportation. As the capital of a new nation, Washington, DC served as a model for American city planning and a symbol of government power. L'Enfant was influenced by the Baroque designs of several European cities and 18th century gardens, as well as the political system of the new United States. The commemorative and symbolic location of buildings, streets and vistas, resulted in a singular American example of a city that physically expresses its national political role. The L'Enfant plan influenced the design of American cities such as Buffalo, New York and Cincinnati, Ohio, as well as national capitals, including Canberra, Australia and New Delhi, India.

Local: 1899-1912; 1950-1977
Though designed in 1791, most L'Enfant parks were not constructed until the late 19th and early 20th century, when population growth resulted in the extension of services to previously undeveloped parts of the capital. Beginning in 1871, the OPBG developed small parks throughout DC, including those along Virginia Avenue NW, as "breathing spaces," that offered simple landscaped areas for passive recreation, within an increasingly congested city. The first improvements to Virginia Avenue NW's small park reservations date to 1899, when the Office of Public Buildings and grounds graded, landscaped and enclosed several triangle parks along the northwest half of the avenue. The OPBG improved the last of the original L'Enfant reservations along Virginia Avenue in 1912. L'Enfant small parks that were first developed or improved in the early 20th century, under the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds, are eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, for their local significance in the areas of community planning and recreation. They are important examples of the

OPBG era of park construction which lasted from 1871-1931.

The Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape is also considered locally significant in the area of community planning for the post-WWII redevelopment of several of its reservations, the result of larger efforts throughout the city of Washington to modernize sections of the historic core. In the 1950s, the National Park Service began redesigning several of the small parks along the southeastern half of the avenue. Meanwhile, the National Capital Planning Commission identified the northwestern half of Virginia Avenue NW as an area in need of renewal, and in the 1960s approved plans for developments like the Watergate Complex and Kennedy Center, as well as highway construction and street widening that reshaped many of Virginia Avenue NW's reservations. These parks are important examples of the city's postwar attempt to revitalize areas of downtown Washington, as well as the National Parks Service's approach to park design during the mid-20th century.

Many of Virginia Avenue NW's small parks that were redesigned between 1950 and 1977 are also significant in area of Politics/Government as important local examples of how symbolic gestures, in this case the installation of statues of Latin American revolutionaries, reflected Cold War concerns about the spread of communism in South and Central America. The United States government used the Virginia Avenue NW landscapes to strengthen diplomatic ties with various Latin American countries. Dedication ceremonies were not simply celebrations of these nations' histories, but emphasized shared democratic ideals and the continued need for cooperation between the Americas to ensure their protection in the face of communism. Statue unveilings were often presided over by high level officials, including, the case of the statue of Simon Bolivar, President Eisenhower.

CRITERION B
National: 1791-1792
The Virginia Avenue Cultural Landscape is listed in the National Register, as part of the 1997 nomination, under Criterion B for its association with Pierre Charles L'Enfant. L'Enfant was a French artist and engineer who formed a friendship with George Washington while serving in the Revolutionary War. After the announcement of the movement of the national capital to Washington, L'Enfant requested the honor of designing a plan for the new city. Inspired by European and American precedents L'Enfant's final design is considered his masterwork, and has guided the development of Washington since its publication in 1791.

Local: 1959
Reservation 383 (Bolivar), part of the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape, is considered significant for its association with the sculptor Felix de Weldon, who was responsible for the equestrian statue of Simon Bolivar, located within the reservation's southeast plaza. The bronze equestrian statue, a gift of the Venezuelan government, was designed by de Weldon, a member of DC's Commission of Fine Arts, and cast in Brooklyn in 1956. It is among the largest equestrian statues in the western hemisphere, measuring 27 feet from its base to the tip of Bolivar's sword. Felix de Weldon was a prolific sculptor, responsible for a number of public monuments. His best known work is the Marine Corps War Memorial, which depicts a group of marines raising a flag on Iwo Jima. The Bolivar statue is one of only two statues that are original designs, rather than reproductions, that are permanently displayed along Virginia Avenue NW.

CRITERION C
National: 1791-1792
Under Criterion C, the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape is considered nationally significant as part of Pierre Charles L'Enfant's internationally influential design, and as an early American example of Baroque City planning. L'Enfant developed his plan for the City of Washington in 1791, and Andrew Ellicott mapped and modified the plan the following year. The design, which remains largely in place, was an early American experiment in the use of Baroque urbanism. In keeping with Baroque planning, L'Enfant organized a hierarchy of public space throughout the city, with the main ceremonial areas centered between the Executive Mansion and Congress. Smaller circles and plazas, intended as sites of memorials, monuments and fountains, were located at intersections throughout Washington, including one at the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW. The L'Enfant Plan also resulted in a number of small triangular, "parklets" where diagonal avenues met the grid of streets. These parklets are also present along Virginia Avenue NW. By superimposing a series of oblique avenues on top of a regular grid of streets, L'Enfant combined the American preference for orthogonal city planning with the European taste for grand diagonal avenues. The meeting of diagonal and orthogonal thoroughfares created the basis for the historic and contemporary system of parks in Washington, DC. As such, the large open spaces, as well as the smaller triangle parks located along Virginia

Avenue NW, contribute to the overall plan of the city.

Local: 1950-1977
Virginia Avenue NW is also considered significant as a local expression of modernist landscape design, typical of the postwar period. Distinctive characteristics of modern landscape architecture include the use of simplified forms, bold, abstract geometry, spare plant palates and little ornamentation. The National Park Service redesigned several Virginia Avenue NW reservations in the 1960s, often time in collaboration with notable American or Latin American architects, practicing in the modernist style. Reservation 110 (Artigas) was redesigned by the nationally recognized firm H2L2. The NPS designed Reservation 383 (Bolivar) in collaboration with Venezuelan architect Cesar Casielles. Well-known Mexican architect Luis Ortiz Macedo consulted with the Park Service on the design for Reservation 134 (Juarez), and Reservation 720 (Galvez) was partly designed according to a plan for the E Street Expressway, first laid out by modernist architect and planner Chloethiel Woodard Smith. George E. Patton, a nationally significant landscape architect designed the initial plan for Reservation 378, the Federal Reserve Annex garden. Minimalist plazas and planting plans, like those found at Bolivar Plaza, San Martin Park, and Patton's Robert Latham Owen fountain, reflect the modern landscape movement's attempt to address the massive social, physical and economic upheavals that affected cities throughout the country in the postwar period. Pared down, easily legible designs, featuring clean lines, simple forms and restricted use of materials and plant palates, were attempts to abandon the idea of architectural "style," in order to present a more universally appealing, timeless landscape, as part of an effort to respond to a rapidly changing, modern world.

Another significant modern landscape along Virginia Avenue NW, is the garden designed for the north lawn of the Federal Reserve Annex, at Reservation 378, completed in 1977. An early work of landscape architects Wolfgang Oehme and James van Sweden, the firm itself identifies the park as the first example of the New American Garden style of landscape design, for which they would become internationally known. Inspired by the modern movement, the New American Garden style embraced seasonality and the aesthetic of the Great Plains and North American meadows. The style is characterized by massive beds planted with swaths of grasses and perennials. Oehme, van Sweden's design for Reservation 378 captures a transitional period in modern landscape architecture, as the strict rigidity of earlier designs began to give way to more naturalistic expressions of seasonality and embrace of specific time and place. Oehme, van Sweden incorporated many elements from modernist George E. Patton's earlier design for the park—including specially designed hardscapes and small scale features such as lamp posts—with their signature masses of native grasses, black-eyed susans and sedums. These meadow-like plantings softened Patton's original landscape, reflecting a symbolic break with the formal, European-inspired modern style, and signaling the beginning of a new, more expressive modern landscape architecture.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Historic Designed Landscape

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Plaza/Public Space (Square)

Primary Current Use: Plaza/Public Space (Square)

Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
RECREATION/CULTURE	Current, Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type Of Name
Virginia Avenue, NW	Both Current And Historic
Artigas	Both Current And Historic
Bolivar	Both Current And Historic
San Martin	Both Current And Historic
Federal Reserve Annex	Both Current And Historic
Edward J. Kelly Park	Both Current And Historic
Galvez	Both Current And Historic

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1608	Explored	Captain John Smith is first English settler to explore and map the Potomac River and its Eastern Branch.
CE 1612	Platted	Captain John Smith publishes General Historie of Virginia, which maps his explorations along the Potomac River, its Eastern Branch and the area around Rock Creek.
CE 1632	Land Transfer	Charles Calvert, 5th Lord Baltimore, granted the land that would become Washington, DC to Cecilius Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore, who named the land Charles County
CE 1686	Land Transfer	William Langworth granted a patent for Widows' Mite, the future site of most of Virginia Avenue NW
CE 1689	Land Transfer	Wiliam Hutchison granted 150 acres along the rim of the Potomac and Rock Creek, called The Vineyard.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1714	Land Transfer	Thomas Fletchall purchases Widow's Mite from Wiliam Langworth's daughters and builds the first known structure on the property, a house near the intersection of present day 19th and M Streets NW
CE 1751	Land Transfer	Jacob Funk purchases approximately 91-acres from Widow's Mite and 35-acres from the Vineyard—a total of 126-acres—with plans to establish a new village, called Hamburg. The planned village ran through the center of Virginia Ave NW, between modern day 19th and 23rd Streets NW. Funk divided the land into 234 lots and sold many in the late eighteenth century, but the village was never built
CE 1764	Land Transfer	David Burnes inherits 450 acres associated with the track of land known as the Vineyard, roughly corresponding with the portion of modern day Virginia Avenue NW between 17th and 19th streets. This portion of the study area maintains an agrarian character throughout his ownership.
CE 1790 - 1791	Established	The Residence Act of 1790 establishes the District of Columbia. Maryland and Virginia cede the area within a 100-square-mile diamond, laid out by Andrew Ellicott and Benjamin Banneker, to the federal government.
CE 1791	Designed	Pierre L'Enfant lays out the new federal city of the District of Columbia, sited between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. The final design encompassed approximately 6,111 acres and included Virginia Avenue NW. Along the planned avenue, L’Enfant located three large open spaces, including one, shaded and identified as No.4, that was intended for eventual development by one of the nation’s fifteen states.
CE 1791	Land Transfer	Owners of property within the city of Washington, including tracts along Virginia Avenue NW, transferred land to the federal government, as part of fifteen deeds of trust, executed on June 28 ad 29, 1791
CE 1792	Designed	Andrew Ellicott retained to reproduce a city plan based on L’Enfant’s original, after L'Efant is dismissed from his position. Ellicott makes a number of small, but significant changes to Virginia Ave NW. These include the reshaping of L’Enfant’s reservation No.4, the deletion of one of the avenue's large open areas, and the addition of six new triangular spaces along the avenue.
CE 1800	Moved	The federal government officially moved from Philadelphia to Washington.
CE 1801	Established	The 1801 Organic Act places the District of Columbia under the control of the US Congress and organized the unincorporated area north of the district into Washington County.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1831	Built	New York Congressman John Peter Van Ness and his wife, Marcia Burns Van Ness commission Benjamin Henry Latrobe to build their estate, the Van Ness Mansion, adjacent to the President's Grounds at the point where Virginia Avenue NW, met the mouth of the city canal. The house is erected adjacent to Maria's childhood home, Burnes Cottage.
CE 1872 - 1880	Paved	Virginia Ave NW between Constitution Ave NW and 25th Street NW is paved with gravel.
CE 1872 - 1880	Planted	Rows of poplar trees planted in the strips of grass known as "parkings" alongside the graveled section of Virginia Ave NW.
CE 1872 - 1880	Urbanized	Gas lamps installed along the avenue between 22nd Street NW and 26th Street NW.
CE 1894	Demolished	The historic Burnes Cottage is demolished and replaced by the Columbia Athletic Club track, altering the southeast terminus of the cultural landscape.
CE 1899	Built	The OPBG makes the first improvements to the Virginia Avenue NW's small parks. Reservations 98 and 134 (Juarez) are combined into a single reservation, graded, seeded, curbed, planted with eighty-five flowering shrubs and 20 trees, and enclosed with iron post and chain fencing. Reservation 99 is surfaced it with soil and compost, sodded and seeded, planted with 144 flowering shrubs and fenced in.
CE 1901 - 1902	Built	Between 1901 and 1912, the OPBG improves several previously undeveloped small parks along the eastern half of Virginia Avenue. These parks are graded, planted with turf grass and enclosed with post and chain fencing or quarter round curbing. Some were planted with trees.
CE 1901 - 1902	Designed	The McMillan Commission publishes its plan for the 20th century development of Washington, DC. The plan includes a proposed extension of the National Mall which would cover part of Virginia Avenue NW, between 18th St NW and New York Avenue NW. The Commission's report recommended that the entire area, from New York Avenue NW to the river "be treated as a wood, planted informally but marked by formal roads and paths" citing the Bois de Bologne in Paris as an inspiration. At the intersection of New York Avenue and Virginia Avenue NW, the Commission proposed a new circular park, matching the size of existing L'Enfant circles like Washington and Dupont.
CE 1910	Built	The construction of the Pan American building alters the southeast terminus of Virginia Avenue NW. The construction of the building facilitated the removal of the historic Van Ness Mansion. However, the stable remained on the site.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1917 - 1919	Built	During WWI, temporary structures are constructed on several empty lots bordering the avenue, including a few public reservations. These included a large stucco building, identified as “Temporary Building No. 4” located on Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex)
CE 1931	Planned	The eastern end of Virginia Avenue NW is earmarked as part of the Northwest Rectangle, an enclave of government offices similar to the Federal Triangle
CE 1931 - 1947	Maintained	Management of federal reservations is transferred to the National Park Service, NPS maintains small parks along Virginia Avenue NW. Some new plantings are installed during this period but no major changes are made to any individual reservations, of the landscape as a whole
CE 1933	Built	The Public Health Services Building (now Interior Department South) is the first federal building established within the Federal Rectangle. The building’s northern elevation was located across C Street from Reservation 108.
CE 1936	Built	The Department of the Interior Building is built, its southern elevation faced Reservation 383 (Bolivar)
CE 1939 - 1941	Built	U.S. Department of War establishes new headquarters south of Virginia Avenue NW, at 23rd and D Streets, NW. The northeast corner of the original Department of War Building, completed in 1941, is adjacent to Reservation 104.
CE 1942	Altered	Construction of a Virginia Avenue NW underpass is completed, below 23rd Street NW.
CE 1950	Built	Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson redesigns reservation 110 around a statue of Uruguayan revolutionary, General Jose Gervaso Artigas.
CE 1956	Built	NPS redevelops Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park) to accommodate the installation of a bronze reproduction of the Discus Thrower, or Discobolos.
CE 1959	Built	Reservation 383 (Bolivar) is completely rebuilt to accommodate an original Felix deWeldon statue of Simon Bolivar. NPS landscape architects worked with Venezuelan architects to design a plaza for the statue and a large memorial pool/fountain.
CE 1960 - 1965	Altered	Construction of the west leg of the Inner Loop freeway requires tunneling under the intersection of Virginia and New Hampshire Avenues NW, resulting in the destruction of one of L’Enfant’s original squares, Reservation 134 (Juarez).

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1964 - 1965	Altered	Sections of Virginia Avenue NW between 21st and 22nd Streets, NW tunneled under for the E Street Expressway. Construction of the tunnel and a new offramp from the Potomac Freeway results in the destruction of Reservation 106 (San Martin). and the addition of a new Reservation along Virginia Avenue, NW, Reservation 720 (Galvez), located between 21st and 22nd Streets NW
CE 1968	Built	Reservation 134 is rebuilt. Working with a Mexican architectural firm, the NPS redesigns the southern half of the avenue with a plaza and installs a statue of Benito Juarez.
CE 1971 - 1976	Built	Reservation 106 is expanded and rebuilt. An early 20th century statue of General Jose De San Martin, previously located in Judiciary Square is moved to the newly designed reservation.
CE 1974 - 1976	Built	Completion of the new Federal Reserve Annex—the William McChesney Martin, Jr. Building, results in the creation of a new federal reservation, Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex). Landscape architect George Patton designs the garden facing Virginia Avenue NW. Newly designed space includes a tennis court and memorial fountain.
CE 1976	Built	Statue of General Don Bernardo de Galvez installed in Reservation 720.
CE 1976 - 1977	Built	After a storm destroys much of the original landscaping at Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), the firm of Wolfgang Oehme and James van Sweden to rehabilitate the space.
CE 1985	Maintained	The San Martin statue and surrounding landscape are rehabilitated.
CE 1987	Established	200 19th century rowhouses, immediately north of Virginia Avenue NW, between 26th Street and New Hampshire Avenue are designated as a DC landmark and listed on the National Register.
CE 2010	Maintained	The Juarez Statue at Reservation 134 is rehabilitated.
CE 2018	Maintained	NPS completes a yearlong restoration of the pool at Reservation 383 (Bolivar). A rehabilitation to the landscaping around the Federal Reserve Annex at Reservation 378, under supervision of the Federal Reserve is underway.

Physical History:

Introduction

The Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape consists of fourteen small park reservations located along Virginia Avenue NW, between 18th Street NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW, from southeast to northwest: Reservations 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 384 (Pan American Annex), 108, 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), 106 (San Martin), 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park), 104, 103, 720 (Galvez), 101, 99, 98, 134 (Juarez). These reservations are managed by the National Park Service, National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Colonial History and Settlement: 1608 to 1790

The first documented exploration of the area around Washington, DC was in 1608, when Captain John Smith mapped parts of the Potomac River and initiated contact with Native American tribes. He encountered a large Native American settlement, the seat of the Algonquin-speaking Nocotchtanks, located directly south of present day Washington.

On June 20, 1632, King Charles I granted the land that would become Washington, DC to Cecilius Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore, who named the land Charles County. (Riggs 1946/47:250). In 1662, Lord Baltimore awarded the first patent in the region to George Thompson, a clerk of the Charles County Court. Thompson was granted 1800 acres comprising three tracts: Duddington Manor, Duddington Pasture, and New Troy. These tracts made up the majority of the future city of Washington, including land where the National Mall, White House, and U.S. Capitol now stand.

Additional patents were granted through the 1670s and 1680s, including a patent for Widow's Mite, the future site of most of Virginia Avenue NW, granted to William Langworth in 1686. Widow's Mite extended northward from the Tiber Creek—which ran east from the Potomac along what is now Constitution Avenue and the National Mall—to modern-day Columbia Road, near 18th Street NW. It included land between Rock Creek and "a bounded oke [oak]," which marked the beginning of Richard Pinner's tract, called Father's Gift, later sold to John Peerce and renamed Port Royal and Jamaica (Gahn 1936:18; McNeil 1991:36). The Vineyard, which encompassed 150 acres along the rim of the Potomac and Rock Creek, including the southern portion of Virginia Ave NW, was surveyed in 1689 and granted to William Hutchison in 1696 (Gahn 1936:14; McNeil 1991:51). That same year, a new county, called Prince George's County was formed out of the original Charles County. The land, located in the colony of Maryland, included the entirety of the future District of Columbia (McNeil 1991:36).

Most of these tracts were left vacant until the early eighteenth century, at which point land turned over to successive generations, some of whom sold to new owners. In 1714, Thomas Fletchall purchased Widow's Mite from William Langworth's daughters, and built the first known structure on the property—a house near the intersection of present day 19th and M Streets NW (McNeil 1991:37).

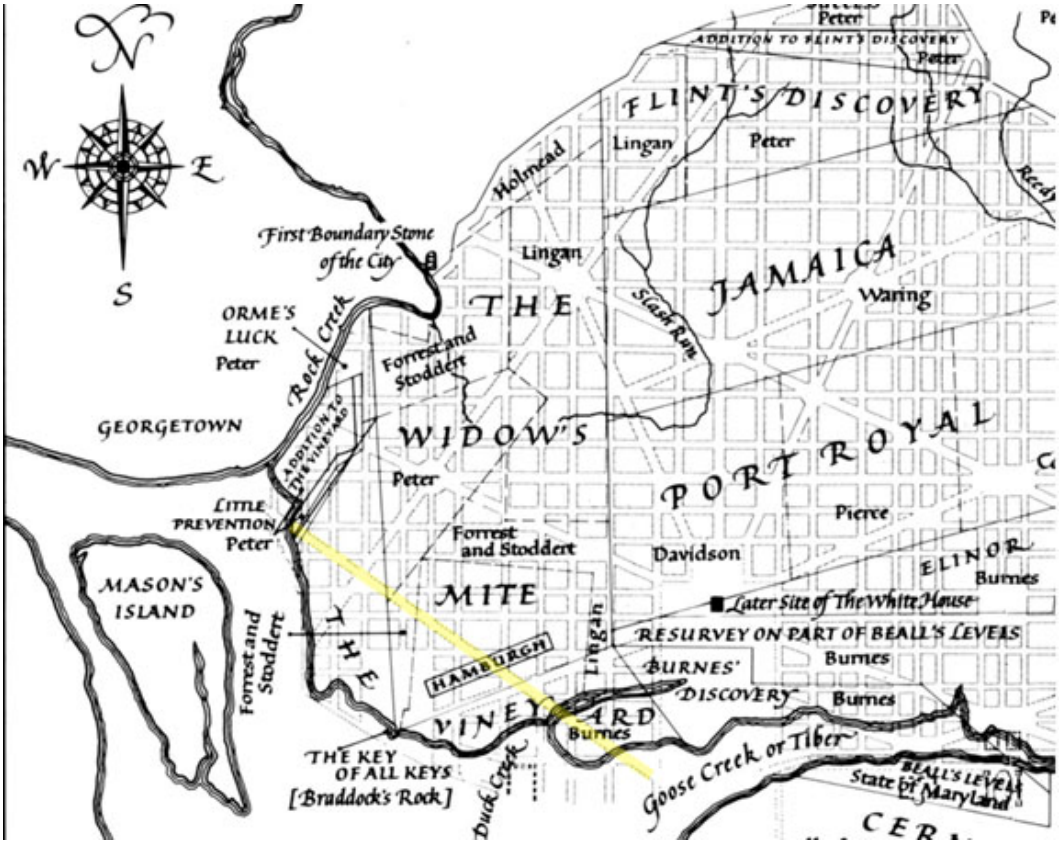
Specifics regarding the development of Widow's Mite and the Vineyard are limited. Landowners established tobacco plantations on their tracts, as was the norm throughout Prince George's County. Georgetown, founded in 1751, as a tobacco port, was the only urban development in the area. Further division of the land occurred in the mid eighteenth century, when Jacob Funk purchased approximately 91-acres from Widow's Mite and 35-acres from the Vineyard—a total of 126-acres—with plans to establish a new village, called Hamburg. The planned village ran through the center of Virginia Ave NW, between modern day 19th and 23rd Streets NW, stretching from mouth of the Tiber Creek to present day H Street, NW. Funk subdivided the land into roughly 50, rectangular blocks, organized on a grid of streets, with smaller blocks located along the riverfront and larger blocks and lots extending north. Funk sold several of his 234 lots in the late eighteenth century, but these owners would not inhabit the village as it was originally planned, because Hamburg was never actually built. Funk's 130-acres made up an integral part of what would become the nation's capital, and it was eventually swallowed up as part of L'Enfant's plan for Washington. The southern most section of Virginia Ave NW, east of 19th St NW, was probably part of 29 acres sold to James Burns in 1764. The northern half Virginia Ave NW, west of 23rd St NW, was likely part of a tract sold to Robert

Peter in 1765, and eventually renamed “Mexico.” (DC Preservation 2003:2-3; McNeil 1991:39,51).

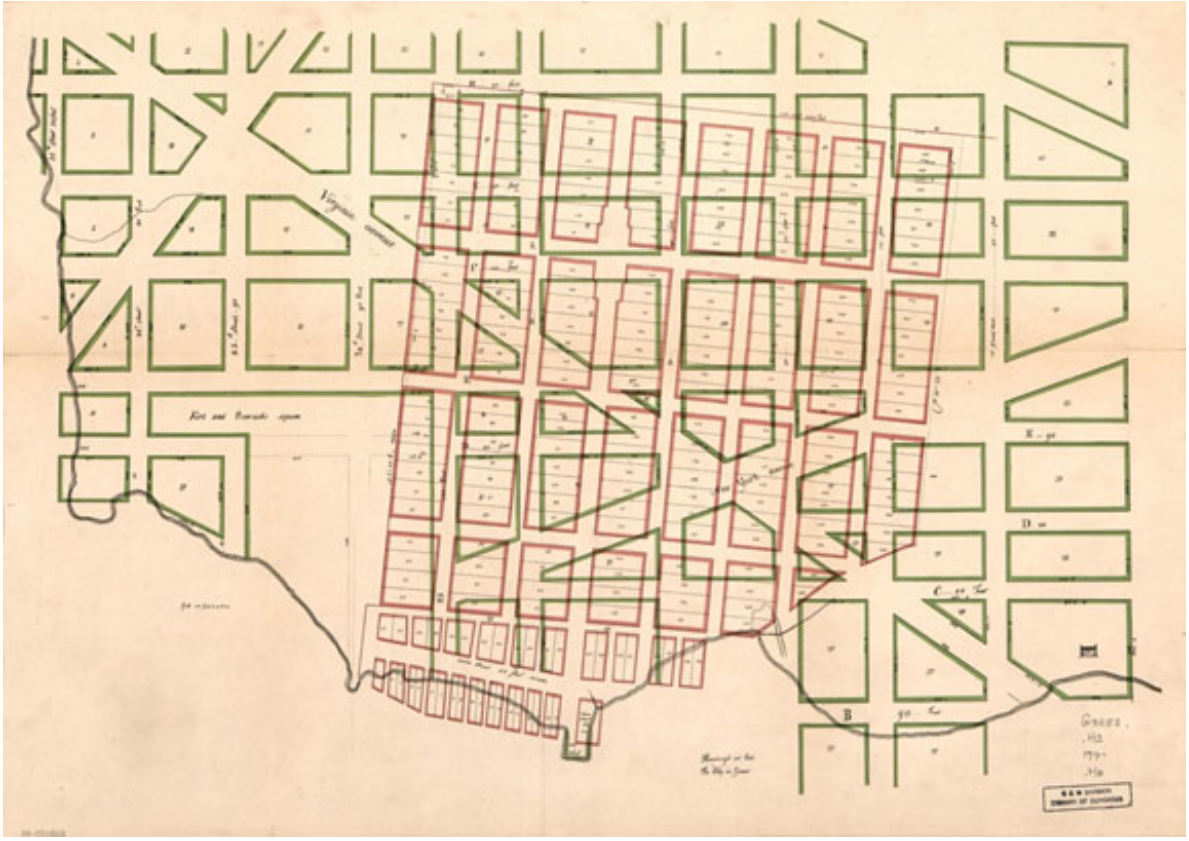
By 1764, David Burnes inherited his father’s landholdings associated with the Vineyard, which was an area of approximately 450 acres. In subsequent decades, his landholdings would grow and extended from present day Foggy Bottom, encompassed the White House Grounds, and extended east to the current location of Mount Vernon Square. In 1764, the couple moved into a simple one and a half story Tidewater cottage and cultivated the land using enslaved labor. The house became known as Burnes Cottage. To support agricultural practices, ancillary farm buildings were constructed, and fields planted. After the platting of the city, areas associated with roadways, including Virginia Avenue, that were not formally constructed, remained planted in crops (Williams 2018: 35-37). For more regarding the contribution of Burnes to the development of Washington D.C., the reader is encouraged to review James Goode’s Capital Losses.

Summary:
Between 1608 and 1790, Europeans replaced Native Americans as the main inhabitants of land that would eventually become Washington, DC. As European immigration increased, established Native American settlements were abandoned or taken by force. Forests were cleared to make way for agriculture as European-born subsistence farmers began to plant for profit (Bushong 1990:12,16). Colonists established a number of tobacco plantations between the Potomac and Anacostia rivers.

The future site of Virginia Avenue NW was first patented to William Langworth, in 1686, as part of a tract called Widow’s Mite. A second tract, the Vineyard, comprised part of the avenue’s southern half, and was patented to William Hutchison in 1696. The land switched hands in the eighteenth century. Langworth’s heirs sold Widow’s Mite to Thomas Fletchall in 1714 and Robert Parker acquired the Vineyard. In 1763, Joseph Funk purchased 130-acres near the eastern junction of Rock Creek and the Potomac for subdivision and eventual development as a village called Hamburg. Funk sold a number of his original 234 lots speculatively, but the village itself was never built.



Map Showing Tracts of Land in Prince George's County, Maryland Conveyed to the Federal City and Ownership of the Land on June 28 & 29, 1791, when the first Trust Deeds were Signed. Future site of Virginia Avenue NW highlighted. Priscilla W. McNeil, 1991.



Proposed Hamburg subdivision in Red with L'Enfant's overlay in green. Partial cadastral map showing Washington, DC Street System Superimposed on earlier Hamburg Street Plan. Unknown author, 1800. Library of Congress.

The L'Enfant Plan: 1791 to 1792

In 1790, the Residence Act authorized President Washington to select the location for the permanent capital of the United States of America. On January 24, 1791, Washington announced the capital would be built on a ten-mile tract centered at the confluence of the Potomac and Anacostia rivers. Washington appointed three commissioners of the District of Columbia—David Stuart of Virginia and Thomas Johnson and Daniel Carroll of Maryland—to survey the city and oversee construction of government buildings. Andrew Ellicott and Benjamin Banneker, working under the direction of the DC Commissioners, marked out a diamond-shaped area, measuring ten miles on each side, and encompassing territory in Maryland and Virginia, including the forks of the Potomac River and its Eastern Branch, which would eventually be renamed as the Anacostia River. Forty boundary stones, laid at one-mile intervals, established the boundaries based on celestial calculations made by Banneker, a self-taught astronomer of African descent, and one of the few free blacks living in the vicinity. (Leach 1997:VIII.7). Maryland and Virginia ceded the area within the 100-square-mile diamond to the federal government. Within the district, the area at the meeting of the Potomac and Eastern Branch rivers was laid out as the City of Washington.

Major Pierre Charles L'Enfant, a French artist and engineer, who had formed a friendship with George Washington while serving in the Revolutionary War, requested the honor of planning the new capital. The final design encompassed approximately 6,111 acres; an area that was double the size of colonial Boston, New York and Philadelphia combined. The fact that the area was largely undeveloped gave the city's founders the unique opportunity to create an entirely new capital city

(Leach 1997:VIII:7)

After surveying the site, L'Enfant developed a plan that featured ceremonial spaces and grand radial avenues inspired by Baroque city planning, while respecting the natural contours of the land in the manner of picturesque English garden design. L'Enfant's plan drew on both European and colonial traditions, transforming the practicality of the ubiquitous American grid through a more profound native understanding of the European Baroque style (NPS L'Enfant Plan National Historic Landmark Draft, 47).

Notations on L'Enfant's original 1791 plan explain how he first chose the locations for significant buildings and squares, including the sites for the Executive Mansion and Congress. They were located on small, centrally located hilltops, whose higher elevations provided "the most advantageous ground, commanding the most extensive prospects" (Bedner 2006:11). Connections between prominent sites were established via wide, diagonal avenues—oriented northwest to southeast and northeast to southwest—which L'Enfant specified should be grand and lined with trees, to emphasize reciprocal views. Notes suggested naming the avenues after the original thirteen colonies. On top of this, L'Enfant overlaid an orthogonal grid of streets, oriented in the cardinal directions. The size of individual blocks varied, ranging from small squares to larger rectangles. While the diagonals would provide sweeping vistas toward monuments and significant buildings, the intersection of the streets and the avenues would create opportunities for ornamental green spaces filled with fountains, obelisks or statues dedicated to military and political heroes (Leach 1997:VIII7-8). The entire plan encompassed the area between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, from their convergence, north, toward modern-day Florida Avenue, originally named Boundary Street (Bedner 2006:11-12).

Though the entire plan was designed to connect to and emphasize the importance of the around the area between the Capitol Building and the Executive Mansion, the network of small open spaces included outside this area was an integral part of L'Enfant's design. On paper, he shaded and numbered fifteen squares at the intersections of the diagonal avenues, indicating that the squares were to be "divided among the several States in the Union, for each of them to improve, or subscribe a sum additional to the value of the land for that purpose." L'Enfant speculated that the population would grow and be evenly distributed if each of the states participated in a square's development, creating small villages with residents and legislators from individual states clustered around the squares. The open spaces and markets planned throughout the city would promote a functional and balanced settlement. As such, the plan of the capital reflected the nation it represented. The squares, named for the states, would be separate unto themselves, yet "most advantageously and reciprocally seen from each other…connected by spacious Avenues round the grand Federal Improvements…," much like the United States, bound together by the Constitution. L'Enfant specified that each reservation would feature statues and memorials to honor citizens worthy of imitation. The urban landscape would thereby embody and perpetuate the nascent country's values and ideals (Leach 1997: VIII:8).

In addition to the state squares, L'Enfant included more than two dozen open spaces throughout the city, in the form of squares, circles, triangles and other shapes. Most sites were located at the intersections of diagonal and grid-ed streets. L'Enfant's notes do not include formal plans for these smaller spaces, though many of them formed shapes like goose foots and bowties which are common devices in Baroque Urban plans, used to focus attention on secondary views and frame important sites (Fanning 2005:19)

On L'Enfant's original plan, Virginia Ave NW stretches northwest, at an angle of 136 degrees, from a riverside plaza along the mouth of the Tiber Creek to a circle on the west bank of Rock Creek, in present day Georgetown. The circle is also the terminus for Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Starting in the northwest and concluding in the southeast along the corridor, there are a number of large open spaces along the avenue, including one of L'Enfant's original fifteen squares—a circle at the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and New Hampshire Ave NW, which L'Enfant shaded and labeled No. 4. Three large rectangular spaces also appear as part of the plan: an open space approximately the size of a small L'Enfant city block, located at the intersection of Virginia Ave NW and modern day K Street NW; a large, two and a half block space located along Virginia Ave NW, roughly between

modern day G Street NW and D Street NW; and a two block space located at Virginia Ave NW , between E Street NW and the entrance to the Potomac.

President Washington and Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson oversaw the real estate transactions necessary to finance the city's physical development. At the suggestion of Georgetown businessman, George Walker, they used a unique scheme for obtaining the land from original proprietors, with transactions contingent upon the yet-unfinished city plan. The government would purchase land designated for federal buildings at approximately $67 an acre. The proprietors would donate to the government land set aside for streets and avenues. The remaining acreage would be divided into city blocks, and each block would be further subdivided into lots. The lots in each block would be split evenly between the government and the original owners. Proceeds from the sale of the federally owned lots would fund the construction of government buildings and the improvement of parks. Anticipating that the value of the land would increase significantly, the proprietors retained only 16 percent of their original holdings, turning over 84 percent of it to the federal government (Leach 1997:VIII:8-9).

Approximately 30 tracts of land lay within the boundaries of the city of Washington, when the federal government signed an agreement with the proprietors on March 30, 1791. Fifteen deeds of trust, executed on June 28 and 29, 1791, made the transfer of land to the federal government official. These deeds do not include the customary descriptions of property lines or individual holdings, making a full list of proprietors difficult to determine. Wishing to avoid delays or disputes, the federal government was purposefully vague regarding property lines and ownership of original land and put in place measures allowing eventual seizure by eminent domain, if necessary. In the southwest area that had been subdivided and partially sold as the village of Hamburg, for example, there was real concern that property owners who had bought into the development would be difficult to locate or prove uncooperative. Anticipating problems, the Maryland legislature passed a law in 1790, stipulating that if a property owner refused to deed away his land, or was deemed unable or "legally incompetent" to do so, that land could be seized by the United States. The limit on size of such land seizures was listed as 130 acres—exactly the size of the Hamburg development. Ultimately, the government's agents were able to locate most of Hamburg's lot owners, and the eminent domain option was little used in the area that would become Virginia Ave NW. Additional property owners who appear in either the proprietor's agreement of March 30, 1791 and/or a deed of trust form June 1791, include probable owners of the remainder of Virginia Ave NW, David Burns, who inherited land from his father James, and Robert Peter, owner of the tract, Mexico (McNeil 1991:39,51).

The first sale of federal lots in the city of Washington took place in October 1791. Believing the sale would hinder the city's development, L'Enfant refused to furnish his plan for use. The sale was a failure, with only thirty-five of the 10,000 potential lots sold. Under pressure from the DC Commissioners, President Washington relieved L'Enfant of his position, and retained Andrew Ellicott to reproduce a city plan based on L'Enfant's original. Ellicott's map largely followed the L'Enfant Plan, the most notable change being his straightening of Massachusetts Avenue. Ellicott also eliminated L'Enfant's notes concerning the installation of statues, monuments and memorials at public spaces throughout the city, as well as his fifteen yellow-shaded reservations, thereby abandoning any comprehensive plan for the treatment of the city's open spaces, excepting his predecessor's directive to divide the avenues into "footways, walks of trees and a carriage way." Streets and avenue names first appeared on Ellicott's plan, although the convention of naming avenues after states in the union is thought to have been originally conceived by L'Enfant (Leach 1997:VIII:9-10).

In 1792, Andrew Ellicott and Benjamin Banneker set to work implementing the final plan, focusing on the city's monumental core. The construction of streets created additional federal acreage at the many odd-angled intersections. While these spaces were largely amorphous in L'Enfant's original plan, Ellicott reconfigured the areas at many of the intersections, cutting off some of their acute angles to form neat circular or rectangular openings (Leach 1997:VIII.11). The result was the creation of open spaces, located within street rights of way.

Along Virginia Ave NW, Ellicott made several changes, including reshaping L'Enfant's circular reservation No. 4 as a square, eliminating the rectangular open space between G and D Streets NW, extending the open space between E St and the Tiber north of Virginia Ave NW by one block, and

delineating six triangular spaces along the avenue. These triangles were not numbered for division as part of city blocks, and while Ellicott's plan did not include directives as to their development, it can be presumed that they were intended as federally owned open space.

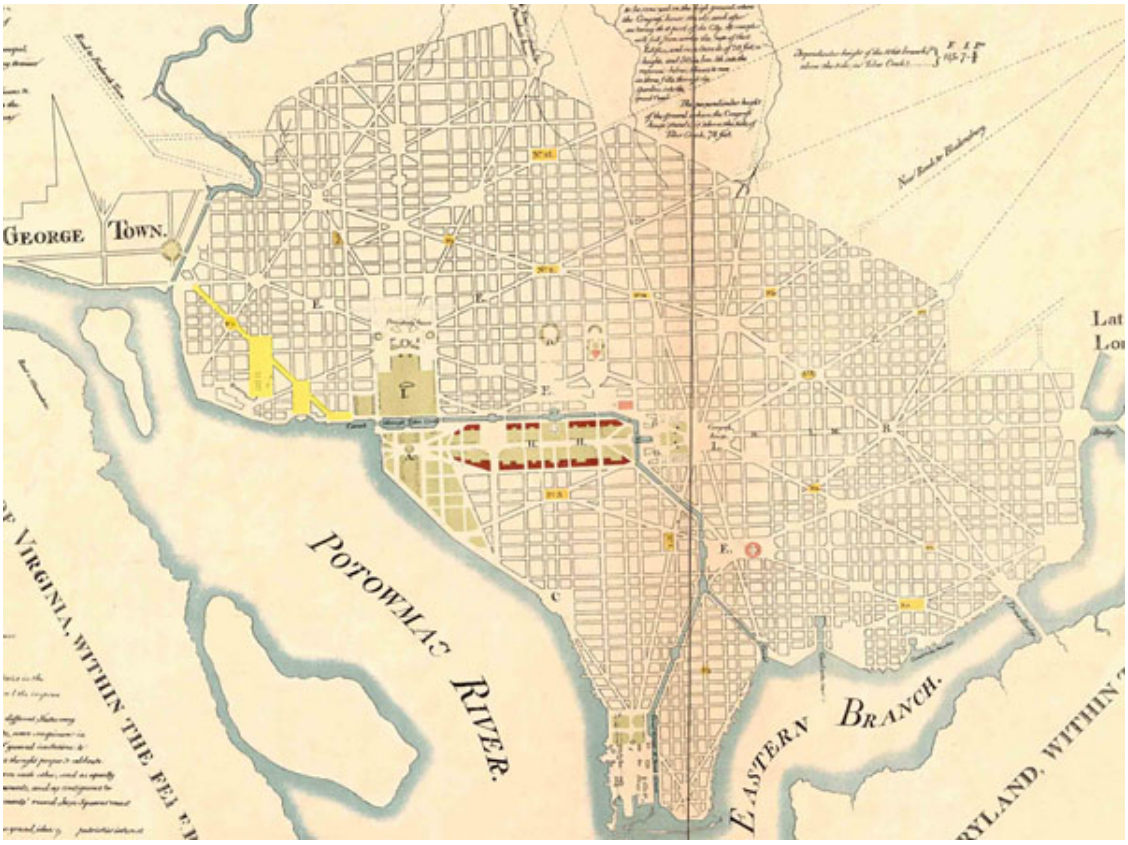
Summary:
In 1791, the L'Enfant Plan for the city of Washington included the first design for Virginia Ave NW. The diagonal avenue was oriented in a northwest direction and connected the Tiber Creek with a circular park in Georgetown. Along the avenue, L'Enfant located three large open spaces, including one, shaded and identified as No.4, that was intended for eventual development by one of the nation's fifteen states. The avenue itself was not named as part of the 1791 plan, but it is generally assumed L'Enfant's intention was the avenues would all be named after states of the union.

In 1791 owners of land along Virginia Ave NW, including several investors in an early development called Hamburg, donated the area for the avenue's development to the federal government. The donation was part of an arrangement worked out by George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, whereby land considered part of the rights-of-way for use as streets and avenues was given freely and all other land within the city limits was split between original owners and the government.

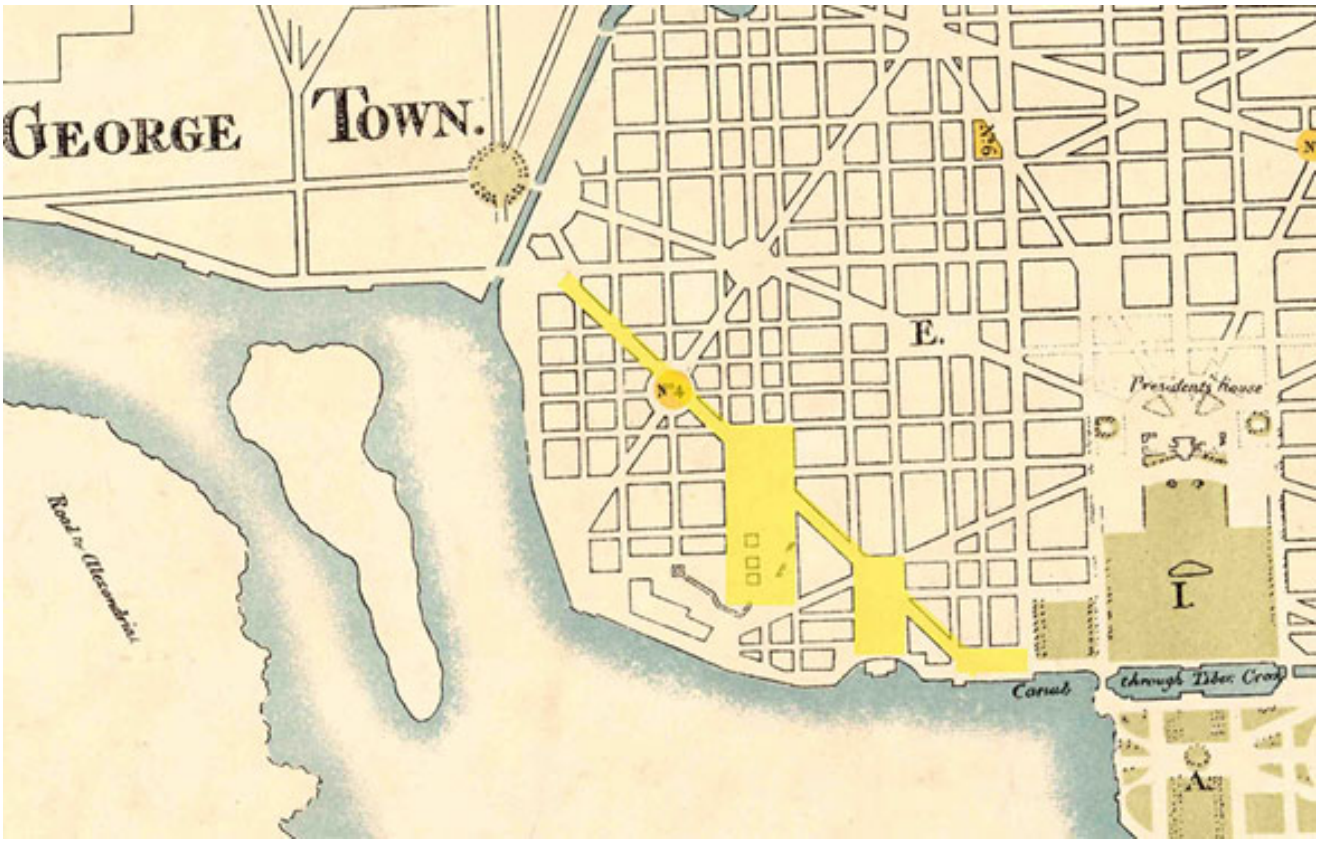
In 1792, following L'Enfant's dismissal from the project, Andrew Ellicott drafted a new map of Washington, which made a number of small, but significant changes to Virginia Ave NW. These included the reshaping of L'Enfant's reservation No.4, the deletion of one of the avenue's large open areas, and the addition of six new triangular spaces.

No actual physical improvements were made to Virginia Ave NW during this period. In 1792, the land was still rural in nature and undeveloped beyond a handful of family plantations.

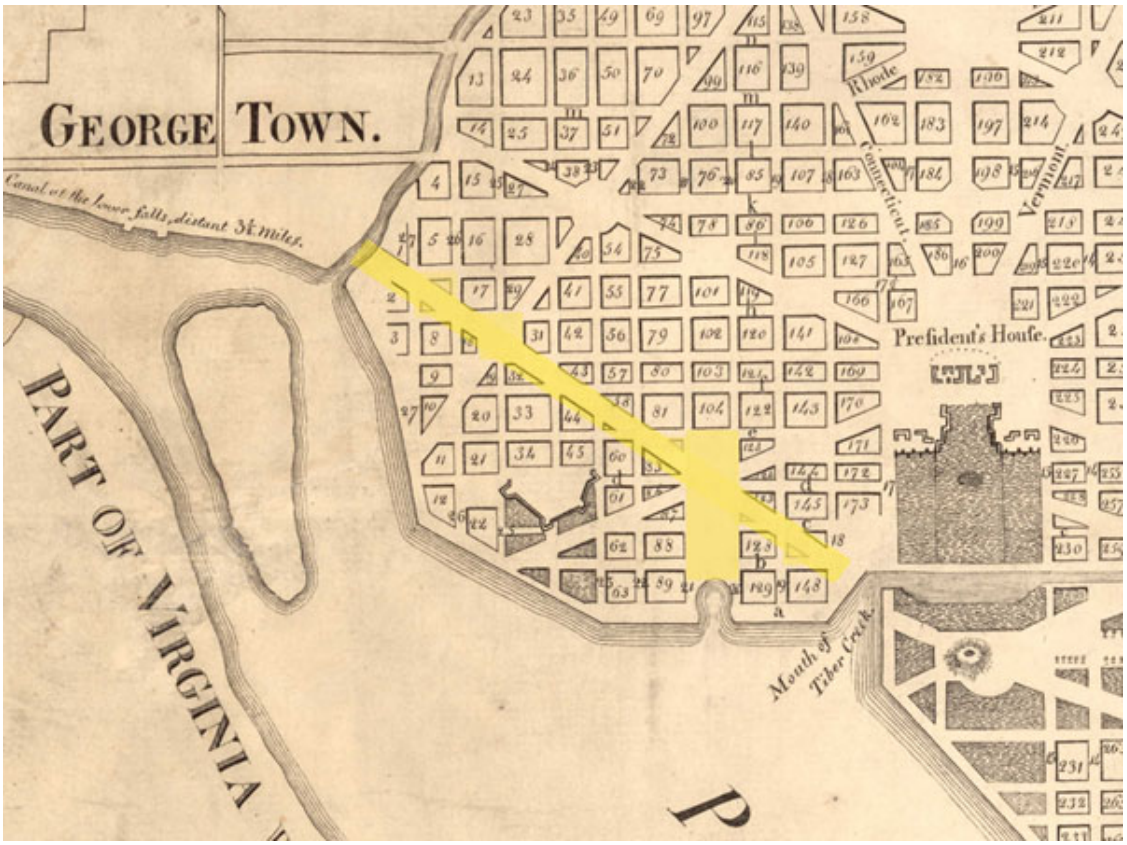
More information on the L'Enfant Plan can be found in the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview.



Plan for the City Intended for the Permanent Seat of the Government of the United States, showing Virginia Avenue NW with open spaces highlighted. Pierre Charles L'Enfant; US Coast and Geodetic Survey and United States Commissioner of Public Buildings, 1791. Library of Congress.



Plan for the City Intended for the Permanent Seat of the Government of the United States, showing Virginia Avenue NW with open spaces highlighted. Pierre Charles L'Enfant; US Coast and Geodetic Survey and United States Commissioner of Public Buildings, 1791. Library of Congress.



Plan of the City of Washington in the territory of Columbia, showing Virginia Avenue NW with open spaces highlighted.. Andrew Ellicott, 1792. Library of Congress.

Early and Mid-Nineteenth Century Developments: 1793 to 1861

The federal government officially moved from Philadelphia to Washington in 1800 and in 1803, Nicholas King published his survey of the entire area included in the L'Enfant Plan as "Plan of the City of Washington, Laid down agreeable to the Surveyor's returns by Nich. King L.C.W." Despite completion of the survey, between 1801 and 1849, efforts to implement L'Enfant's plan were generally limited to the areas immediately surrounding federal buildings. The result was a capital city without paved streets, piped water or sewer systems. The only streets constructed from the city's budget during this early period were Pennsylvania Avenue NW, from the Capitol to Georgetown, F Street NW from 7th to 15th Streets and the eastern section of Maryland Avenue, where the post road entered the city. These streets were graded and paved beginning in 1803. (Bishop 2015:23-24; Leach 1997:VIII.13-14).

Without roads, or even many buildings, park development and landscaping efforts during Washington's first 50 years were meager at best, and focused on improving the property surrounding new buildings and planting trees along paved avenues. The first documented effort to plant trees dates to 1807, when Thomas Jefferson oversaw the installation of four rows of Lombardy poplars along Pennsylvania Avenue. The first city park, the northernmost section of President's Park (now Lafayette Square) was landscaped in the 1820s, in advance of a visit by the Marquis de Lafayette. (Leach 1997 VIII:14).

A 1931 map of DC, published by AC Harmon, traced the development of the city as of 1802. The map shows a few buildings south of Virginia Ave NW, scattered around the Hamburg wharf, and some between Virginia Ave NW and Pennsylvania Ave NW, directly west of the Executive Mansion, but there is no evidence of development along Virginia Avenue NW itself. The street itself was platted, but unpaved. In 1813, New York Congressman John Peter Van Ness and his wife, Marcia

Burns Van Ness—sole heir to one of the largest property holdings in Washington—commissioned Benjamin Henry Latrobe to build their estate, the Van Ness Mansion, adjacent to the President's Grounds at the point where Virginia Avenue, NW, met the mouth of the city canal. Although the estate became a center of early Washington social life, the Van Ness's had few neighbors on Virginia Avenue (HABS No.DC-712:4).

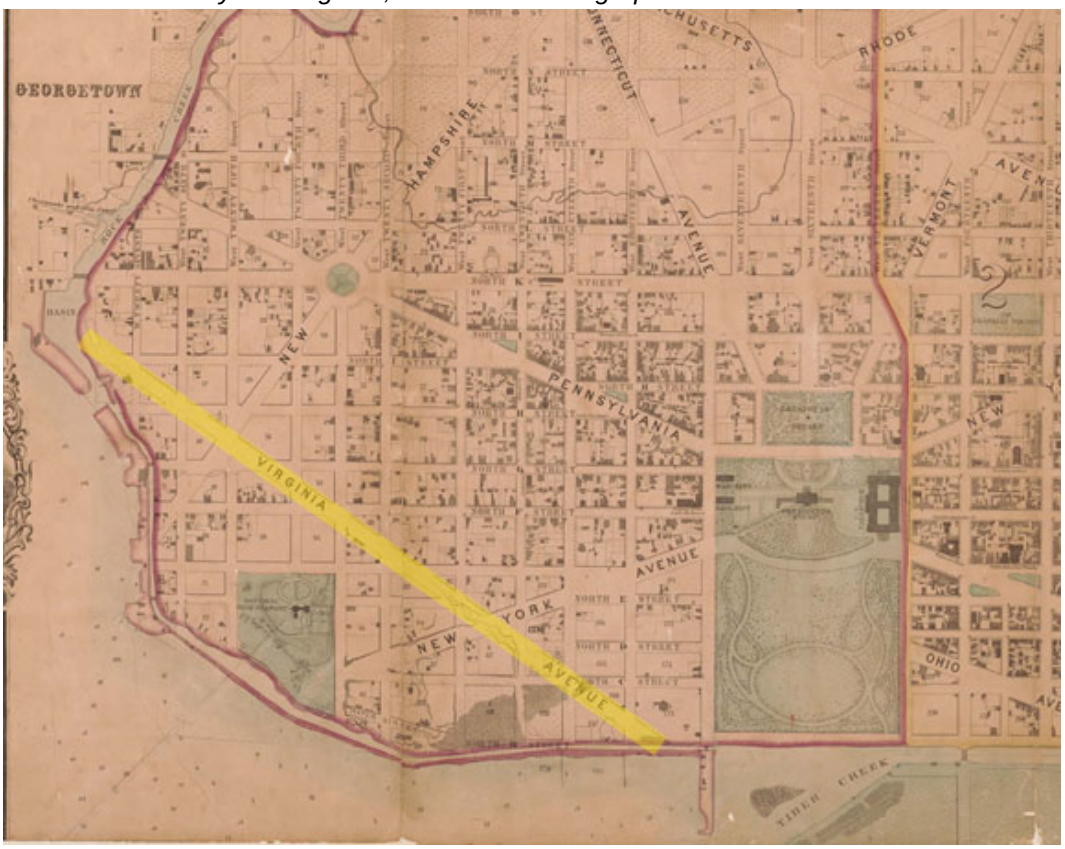
The mid nineteenth-century marked increasing interest—both public and private—in the improvement of Washington and foreshadowed the vast development that would begin in the 1870s. In 1849, the Department of the Interior (DOI) was created, and charged, among other duties, with the care and development of federal property in the city of Washington (Leach 1997:VIII.16). Albert Boschke's Map of Washington City captures development along Virginia Ave NW in the decade preceding the Civil War. At the time of its publication, in 1857, approximately fifteen structures faced the avenue. The majority of these are clustered at the intersection of 22nd St NW and just north of the Naval Observatory. The Observatory, established in 1842, drove some early development to the area north and east of the waterfront, where a number of buildings were located along established wharves. Boschke's Map shows the beginning of the city's expansion west of Pennsylvania Ave NW, but unpaved roads and lack of services in the area stifled major construction in the southwest. Boschke depicts Virginia Avenue NW as still partially under water. His map shows a stream running down the avenue at the intersection of New York Ave NW, between 19th and 20th Streets NW and the western most portion of the avenue, terminating at Rock Creek Basin, is all marshland. Boschke published a second map of Washington in 1861, which depicts the same conditions along Virginia Avenue as shown in the 1857 map.

Summary:
No known development of either Virginia Ave NW, or any of its small parks, occurred in the early nineteenth century. During this period, the federal government was focused on improving the area between the Executive Mansion and Capitol Building. Land for the future Virginia Ave NW had been cleared, but was unpaved and in places, still underwater. The Van Ness Mansion, built in 1813, at the avenue's southeast terminus, was a center of early Washington social life, but did not drive development to the surrounding area. Albert Boschke's 1857 map shows approximately fifteen buildings, probably all residential, scattered along Virginia Avenue NW.

More information on early nineteenth century Washington can be found in the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview.

Historical Map of the City of Washington, District of Columbia: View of the City and Location of the Houses in the Year 1802, the beginning of Washington. A.C.Harmon, 1931. DC Library Special Collections.

Van Ness House, 17th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C.. Photographer unknown dated 1900-1908. Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.



Map of Washington City, District of Columbia. Albert Boschke, 1857. Library of Congress.

Civil War: 1861 to 1864

During the Civil War, Washington's population exploded with military personnel, government workers and vast numbers of formerly enslaved peoples. Troop movement displaced everyday commerce and made physical improvements to infrastructure difficult. Most public works projects came to a halt between 1861-1864, during which time the city's parks and other open spaces became ideal campsites for troops protecting Washington. Crude encampments, barracks, temporary offices and hospitals were erected wherever open land was available, including many sites that would eventually become small parks. South and west of Virginia Ave NW, a number of soldiers' camps and horse corrals were located along the Potomac River. Between Washington Circle NW and Virginia Ave NW, Camp Fry housed invalid Union soldiers and Veteran Volunteer Corps (DC Preservation 2003:7).

Summary:
During the Civil War, open spaces throughout the city were requisitioned for use by the military, serving as campsites, makeshift hospitals or temporary office space. More research is needed to determine if any of these sites were located along Virginia Ave NW. No evidence of Civil War-era use was found during research for this CLI, though there is documentation of Civil War activity along the waterfront, where camps and horse corrals were established, and at Camp Fry, an invalid soldiers camp located between Virginia Ave NW and Washington Circle.

Improvements Under the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds: 1865 to 1901

Washington's population more than tripled as a result of the war, growing from 61,000 in 1860 to 200,000 in 1864 (Leach 1997:VII.19). New stores, hotels and row houses rose quickly along the city's main thoroughfares, as development began to spread outside the central Pennsylvania Ave NW corridor for the first time. In the sparsely developed area in the city's southwest, industry along the waterfront spurred growth along Virginia Avenue NW's western edges. Working class immigrants from Ireland and Germany moved to the area, seeking employment at the Way family glass factory, established in 1806, the Goodey Lime Kilns, est. 1864, or one several breweries like Albert Frury or Heurich, established in the 1870s (DC Preservation 2003:5). Washingtonians began referring to the newly industrialized neighborhood as "Foggy Bottom."

As private investment grew, so did the need for sewers, streetlights and other urban improvements. In the decade following the war, the federal government scrambled to keep up with rapid growth and provide services to residents. In June 1864, Congress took the first step in a larger push toward infrastructure construction, passing an act to clear the streets and parks of squatters' shacks and other unauthorized structures (Leach 1997:VIII.19). For much of the nineteenth century, federally owned open spaces had been used as dumping grounds for pasture for livestock.

Further legislation, known as the Parking Act, narrowed the area that required federally funded improvement. Passed on April 6, 1870, the act formed the Parking Commission, which effectively allowed private encroachment upon many of L'Enfant's small open spaces and rights-of-way. The legislation enabled a number of these parks to be improved with plantings, fenced in, and maintained by owners or occupants of abutting properties, without transfer of land, thus reducing the federal government's immediate responsibility for a number of reservations (Leach 1997:VIII.22).

A short-lived territorial government, formed by a congressional act of February 2, 1871, drastically changed the face and reputation of Washington, and inspired decades of growth, investment and improvement. The government founded the Board of Public Works, and in four short years, under the control of Alexander "Boss" Shepherd, the board undertook the monumental task of improving the city's neglected infrastructure. Shepherd's comprehensive plan called for grading and paving streets and laying sewer and drainage systems. By 1872 most of the streets in the northwest and several in the southeast and southwest were under construction, or had been completely graded and paved with concrete, wood or stone (Leach 1997:VIII.22). Under Shepherd, the Board of Public Works proposed "parking" the city's wide streets and avenues. The term "parking" referred to the practice of bordering roadways with long strips of lawn and planting trees, in an effort to reduce paving costs. The Parking Commission oversaw the work and eventually planted over 60,000 street trees throughout the city (Beveridge 2013:182).

Street paving throughout Washington resulted in the delineation of the many of L'Enfant's open spaces for the first time. Though located within street rights-of-way, these square, circle and triangular-shaped areas were not considered "parkings," or part of the roadways, and were therefore outside the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Works. Instead, as part of overall federal lands, their management fell under the Office of Public Buildings and Ground of the Army Corps of Engineers. The Office of Public Buildings and Grounds was founding in 1867, when jurisdiction over federal parklands within Washington, DC transferred from civilian control, under the Department of the Interior, to control of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, part of the Department of War. Lt. Nathaniel Michler was appointed officer of the newly formed Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG).

In his writings and reports, Michler expressed the popular belief that park development could lead to societal reform. Parks would not only improve the appearance of the city, but would "largely contribute to the health, pleasure and recreation of its inhabitants." Additionally, the improvement and maintenance of both parks and roads would provide much-needed employment in the war-ravaged capital. "Public works should be, in more sense than one, public benefactors." He wrote and recommended that the city's innumerable indigent freed slaves be hired as laborers, and disabled veterans be employed as watchmen and gatekeepers in public reservations (Leach 1997:VIII.21).

Michler's thinking was in keeping with the Urban Parks Movement, which gained momentum in the second half of the 19th century and advocated for the inclusion of open space in rapidly developing metropolitan centers. The movement emphasized the need for parks where city dwellers could find

refuge from the dirt, heat and crowds of American cities. New York's Central Park (1859), designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, influenced the establishment and design of large parks in numerous American cities, including Fairmount Park in Philadelphia (1865), San Francisco's Golden Gate Park (1870), and Forest Park in St. Louis (1876) (Bushong 1990: 61; Poss 2013:29). Olmsted and other Urban Parks advocates believed parks were imperative to good health and provided both physical and spiritual benefits to people. Many park designs from this era were influenced by aesthetic philosophies and landscape theories emphasizing the sublime, beautiful and picturesque. In Olmsted designed parks, winding walks and drives offered a variety of scenes meant to elicit a range of intellectual and emotional responses (Ranney 1990; Hawkins 1991:277,258; Poss 2013:29).

While the Urban Parks Movement is usually associated with larger Washington, DC park projects, including the 1890 legislation that created Rock Creek Park, its influence trickled down to affect thinking related to smaller urban spaces as well. Small Parks were considered vital aspects of an urban park system—especially when they were located within crowded residential areas, where they might serve as "lungs" or "breathing spaces" and would be readily accessible to those unable to venture farther into the country for relief from urban ills. By linking urban parks to issues of health and social reform, advocates were able to secure funding for park construction in cities throughout the country. In 1887 New York City passed a Small Parks Act, authorizing the construction of recreational spaces throughout the city, with a focus on tenement districts (Citizens Union 1897: 2). In Washington, DC pressure to build parks in rapidly developing neighborhoods led to investment in improving many of L'Enfant's designed open spaces for the first time (Jordan 1994:85-856; Cranz 2004:102-103; Leach 1997:VIII.31).

During his tenure, Michler oversaw the restoration of squares like Franklin Park, which had been reallocated for military use during the war, as well as the creation of new parks at Farragut and McPherson Squares. He also recommended the creation of the circular parks at the intersections that are now Thomas, Scott and Dupont Circles and the development of parks in the open spaces east of the Capitol Building, which he described as a "hitherto much neglected portion of the city as far as the general government is concerned" (Leach 1997:VIII.20-21). In keeping with L'Enfant's original plans for these open spaces, Michler recommended the installation of fountains and statuary in Small Parks throughout the District (Miller 2002:94).

In 1871, Michler's successor, Orville E. Babcock, oversaw the first survey to locate all the federally owned spaces within the street rights-of-way. The result of Babcock's survey was published as a set of eight sheets, titled "Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia, showing the Public Reservations." They depict central Washington, DC, within the boundaries of the original L'Enfant Plan, and identify 250 circles, triangles, and squares, all shaded green. In the accompanying 1871 Report of the Chief of Engineers, Babcock praised "The Board of Public Works [for] making such valuable improvements in every direction, and taking such liberal and energetic action in beautifying the city, that their efforts should be seconded as much as possible by enclosing such small triangular and circular reservations as come within the line of the city improvements, thus making green and beautiful what are now, in most cases, open places of sand and mud." (Barthold 1993:33; Leach 1997:VIII.23).

In addition to his "Plan of the City of Washington," Babcock also published a list of federal reservations in the 1872 Annual Report of the Chief Engineer in Charge of the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds. The compilation includes most of the original L'Enfant reservations, as well as about eighty parcels created by street and avenue intersections. The properties are described by shape, location and condition. The first mention of triangular reservations along Virginia Avenue NW appear in this report. There are four total: Virginia Avenue NW and Eighteenth Street NW (1,1082 square feet); a pair of triangles at Virginia Avenue NW and 24th Street NW (both 468 square feet); and one at Virginia Avenue NW and Twenty-fifth Street NW (1,171 square feet). All four triangles are listed as vacant and unimproved (1872 Annual Report:1030). There is no mention of L'Enfant's original reservation No.4, located at the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW and the circle no longer appears on historic maps from the late 19th century, including the 1880 Statistical Maps.

Having made this initial inventory, Babcock set out to systematically improve the reservations in neighborhoods developing in the wake of extension of services by the Board of Public Works. But despite such obvious progress, the territorial administration was beset with corruption. Congress instigated an investigation as early as 1872 and testimony at the hearing included accusations that contracts were awarded at inflated prices to companies owned by Board of Public Works members and their friends. In addition, it was indicated that the board focused on improving areas—namely, the northwest—where they and their cronies owned property, while working class areas such as Foggy Bottom and Capitol Hill were ignored. By 1874 the entire territorial government was dissolved amid financial obligations and scandal (Leach 1997.VIII.24).

With the demise of the Board of Public Works, responsibility for the streets, bridges and other public spaces reverted to a three person Board of Commissioners, consisting of William Dennison, Henry T. Blow and John H. Ketcham. Throughout the 1880s-90s the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the Army Corps of Engineers continued to work together to improve the city's infrastructure. By 1881, most of the avenues had some type of pavement, such as asphalt block, granite, cobblestones, wood blocks or gravel (Leach 1997:VIII.26).

Sometime between 1872 and 1880, Virginia Ave NW between Constitution Ave NW and 25th Street NW was paved with gravel. Rows of poplar trees were planted in the strips of grass known as "parkings" alongside the graveled section of Virginia Ave NW. A number of gas lamps were also installed along the avenue between 22nd Street NW and 26th Street NW. Still, as of 1880 Virginia Avenue had no water mains, limited sewers and was unpaved west of 25th Street (City of Washington, Statistical Maps 1880).

Paved streets significantly improved transportation throughout the city, while the development of parks scattered along the avenues beautified urban life in the nation's capital. In the 1880s, the city commissioners published detailed maps showing the locations of street lamps and shade trees and indicating street-sweeping schedules. The Office of Public Buildings and Grounds published similar maps to accompany their annual reports, indicating the locations of parks under its jurisdiction with numbers assigned for management purposes. The 1884 Annual Report described the 246 federal reservations by size, shape and state of improvement. For the first time the reservation were identified by official numbers, their shapes and conditions described in detail. Along Virginia Ave NW, eight park reservations were listed. Full descriptions from the 1884 report are copied below, with reservations listed from the northwest to southeast. The total area of the reservations are listed in feet.

• Reservation 91, a trapezoid, 9,426 square feet between 25th and 26th Streets NW and the intersections of Virginia Avenue and New Hampshire Avenues NW, (now part of Reservation 134, Juarez);
• Reservation 92, a triangle, 640 square feet, between 24th and 25th Streets NW and intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and G Street NW (now part of Reservation 98);
• Reservation 93, a 4,897 square foot triangle, between 24th and 25th Streets NW at the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and G Street NW (now part of Reservation 99);
• Reservation 94, a 6,164 square foot triangle located between 23rd and 24th Streets NW and the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and F Street NW (now part of a DC maintained reservation);
• Reservation 95, a 3,832 square foot triangle located between 21st and 22nd Streets NW and the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and 22nd Street NW (now part of a DC maintained reservation);
• Reservation 96, an 11,096 square foot triangle located between 20th and 21st Streets NW at the intersection of Virginia and New York Avenues NW (now part of Reservation 105, Edward Kelly Park);
• Reservation 97, an 11,470 square foot triangle, located between 20th and 21st Streets NW at the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and New York Avenue NW (now part of Reservation 106, San Martin);
• Reservation 98, a 7,250 square foot triangle located between 17th and 18th Streets NW at the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and B Street NW (now Reservation 110, Artigas).

All eight of these reservations are described as "vacant and unimproved" indicating that they had been delineated by surrounding street construction, but had yet to be curbed, fenced in or planted

(1884 Annual Report:2356).

The surveys of federal land in the city were not only valuable as management tools, but also increasingly necessary to settle legal disputes. When the OPBG surveyed the reservations in 1887, private buildings, railroad tracks and other intrusions occupied several of them. No illegal uses are listed in the descriptions of the Virginia Avenue NW reservations, which continue to be described as unimproved (1887 Annual Report: 2601). A court battle related to the reclamation of the Potomac Flats resulted in one final survey of federal property in 1894. The report noted the recent improvement of twenty-eight small public spaces in the eastern and southern quadrants, and regretted that lack of funds would prevent improvements to the nearly 100 similar spaces in these areas. Noting the “increased prosperity of this section of [Washington] and the large number of private improvements in progress” the OPBG recommended more “attention be given” to this previously underserved part of the city (1894 Annual Report: 3280-3281). In the survey, the Virginia Avenue NW reservations were still listed as unimproved (1894 Annual Report: 3279-3280). An 1890s photo taken from the Washington Monument shows development along the avenue was clustered around the industrial western edge of the Foggy Bottom neighborhood. The small parks themselves appear open and undeveloped, but do not seem to be clearly defined.

The first improvements to Virginia Avenue NW were made in the summer of 1899. The OPBG Annual Report describes the extent of improvements at four separate reservations. All the reservations had been renumbered since 1884. Reservations 98 and 134 (previously reservation 91 and 122), located at the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW and “hitherto unimproved,” were “highly improved” and combined into a single reservation. Improvements at this park, one of L’Enfant’s original fifteen squares, included grading, covering the area with soil and compost, seeding, and installation of a water pipe for irrigation. The OPBG enclosed the reservation with ornamental iron post and chain fencing. Posts featured a lattice pattern of banding around the base, a border of stars near the top and caps, which identified the property as OPBG. Fencing of this type was used throughout Washington, DC during the late 19th century. The OPBG also replaced a granite block apron along 25th Street NW with 43 linear feet of 6-inch curbing and 43 feet of 6-foot wide brick pavement, and landscaped the park with eighty-five flowering shrubs and 20 trees (1900 Annual Report pt.8:5254). The location of the plantings within the reservation is not specified.

At Reservation 99 (previously reservation no. 91, now part of Reservation 134, Juarez), located at the intersection of Virginia Avenue NW, 24th Street NW and G Street NW, the OPBG graded the federally owned area. The OPBG continued improving the reservation by introducing soil and compost, bordered the park with sod and seeded grass, installed a water pipe at an unspecified location, and erected a post and chain fence of the same type described above. They also planted 144 flowering shrubs of unknown species (1900 Annual Report pt.8:5254).

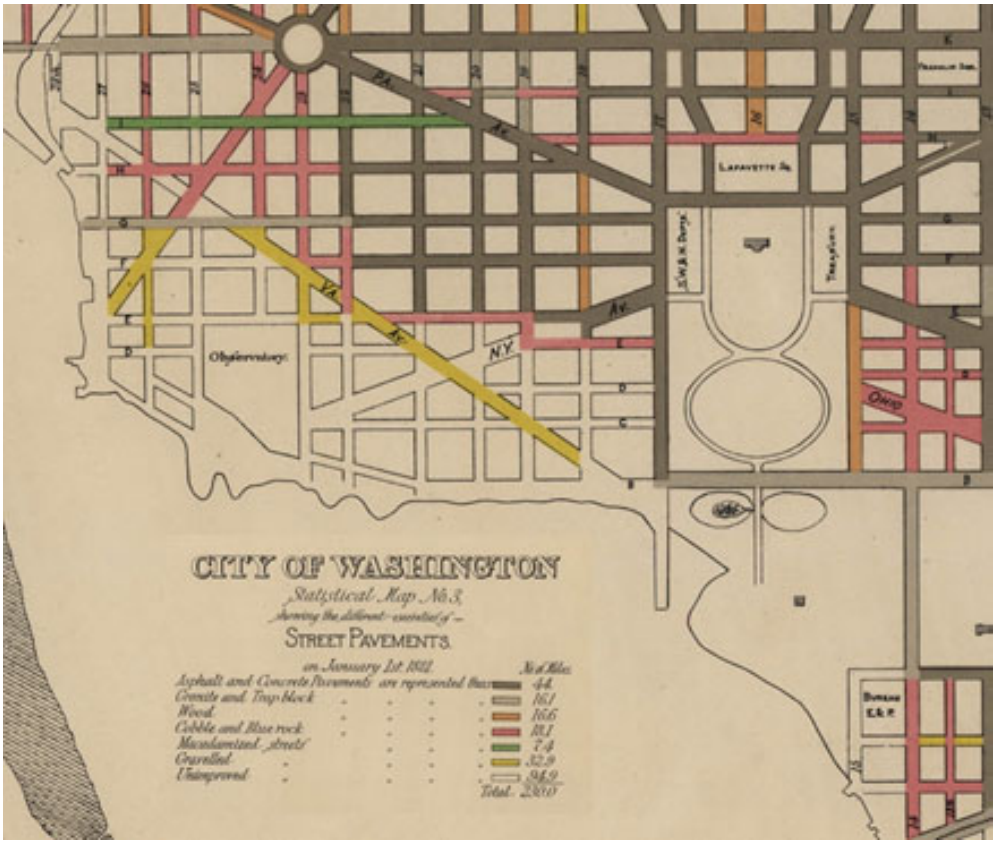
Reservation 100 (previously reservation no. 94, now part of a DC maintained reservation) at Virginia Avenue NW, 24th Street NW and F Street NW received improvements similar to Reservation 99: grading, surfacing with soil and compost, a sod border, seeding, installation of a water pipe and installation of a post and chain fence. The OPBG planted 62 flowering shrubs and two trees within this reservation. The location and variety of plantings are unknown (1900 Annual Report pt.8:5254).

At Reservation 102 (previously reservation no. 95, now part of a DC maintained reservation), located at Virginia Avenue NW, E Street NW between 21st and 22nd Streets NW, the OPBG covered the surface with soil and compost, seeded and laid soil around borders, installed a water pipe and post and chain fence and planted 58 flowering shrubs and five trees (1900 Annual Report pt.8 :5254).

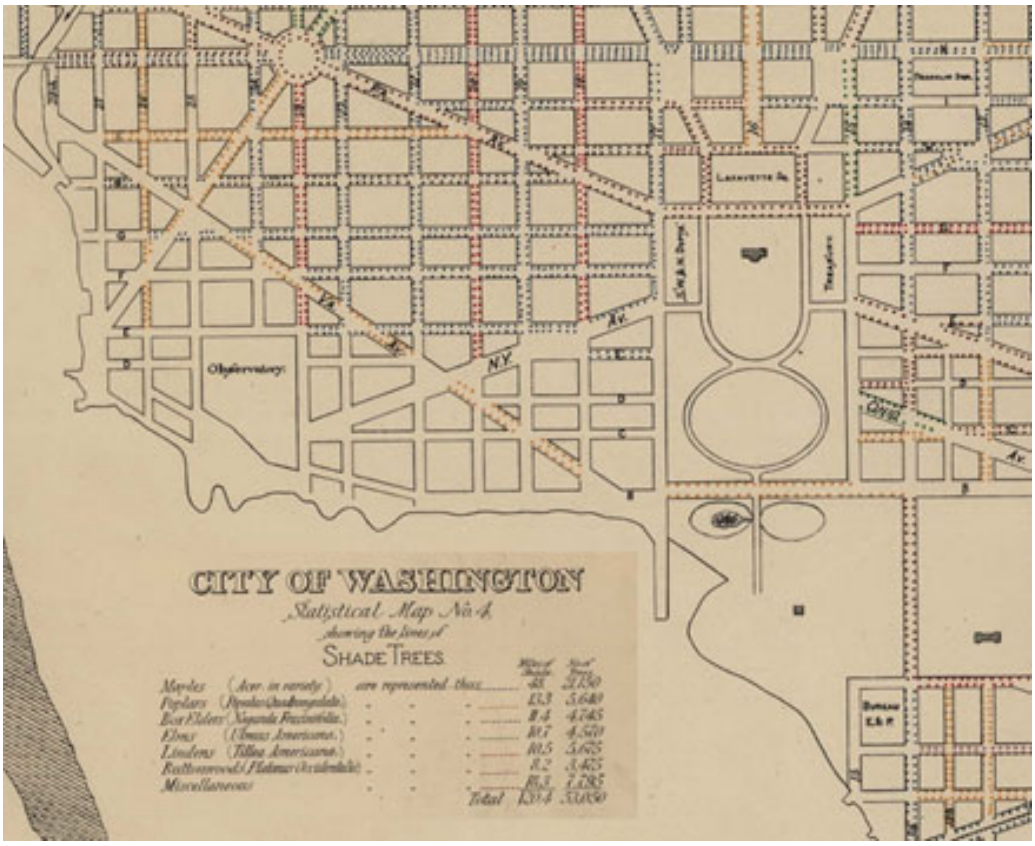
The report does not mention the additional reservations east of 21st Street NW, nor do they appear on the 1900 map of OPBG improved parks. These reservations are also absent from the 1901 Annual Report, which documents the installation of a single streetcar track through Reservation 134 (Juarez). The only other improvements mentioned in the report are the DC government’s laying of concrete sidewalks outside Reservations No. 99 (now Reservation 134, Juarez) and 102 (now DC maintained) (1901 Annual Report:3707). More research is needed to determine when the eastern-most reservations were first developed.

Summary:
The period between 1870-1901 saw the construction of a number of small parks that were first designed as part of the L'Enfant Plan. Along Virginia Avenue NW, the first OPBG improvements date to 1899 and 1900 and were focused along the western half of the avenue. The OPBG graded, landscaped and fenced in Reservations 98, 99, 100 and 102, between 21st Street NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW. Development in this neighborhood, known as "Foggy Bottom," was concentrated around several industries located along the river. Residents were working class, primarily Irish and German immigrants. Historic photos show the eastern half of Virginia Avenue NW was largely vacant, and the park reservations east of 20th Street NW not yet clearly defined.

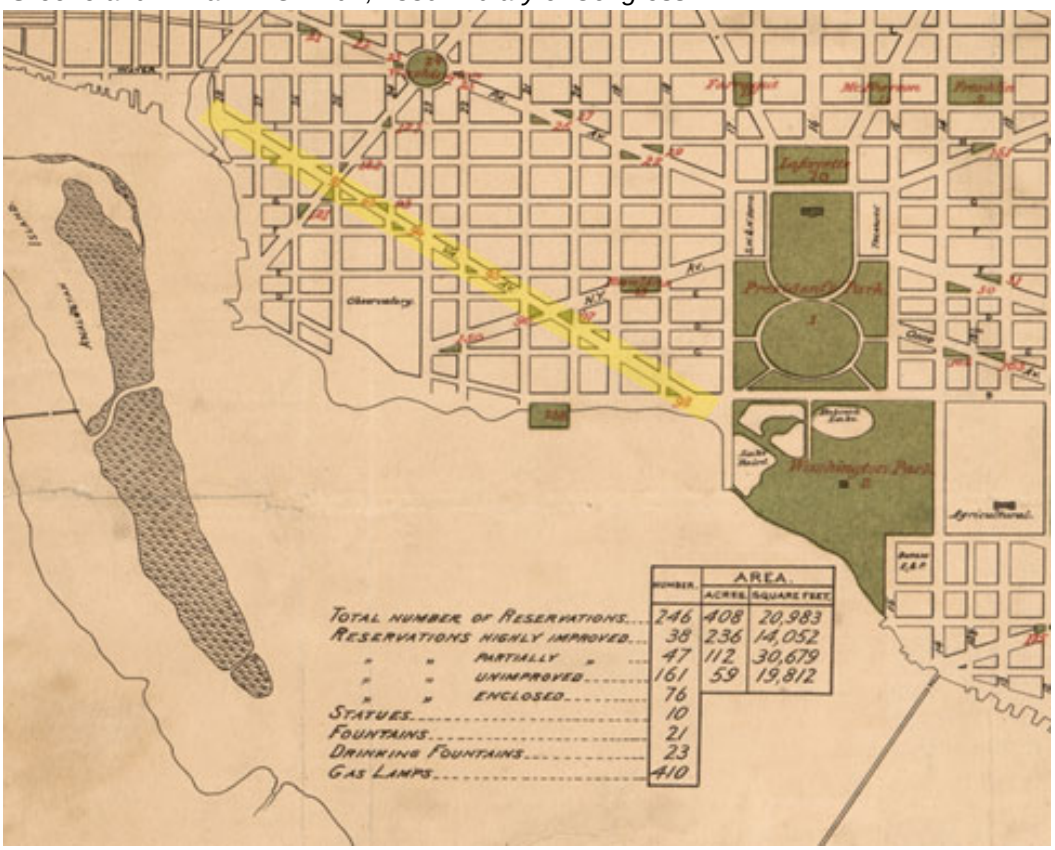
More information on this period of small park design can be found in the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview.



City of Washington Statistical Map Showing Street Pavements. F.V. Greene and William T.O. Bruff, 1880. Library of Congress.

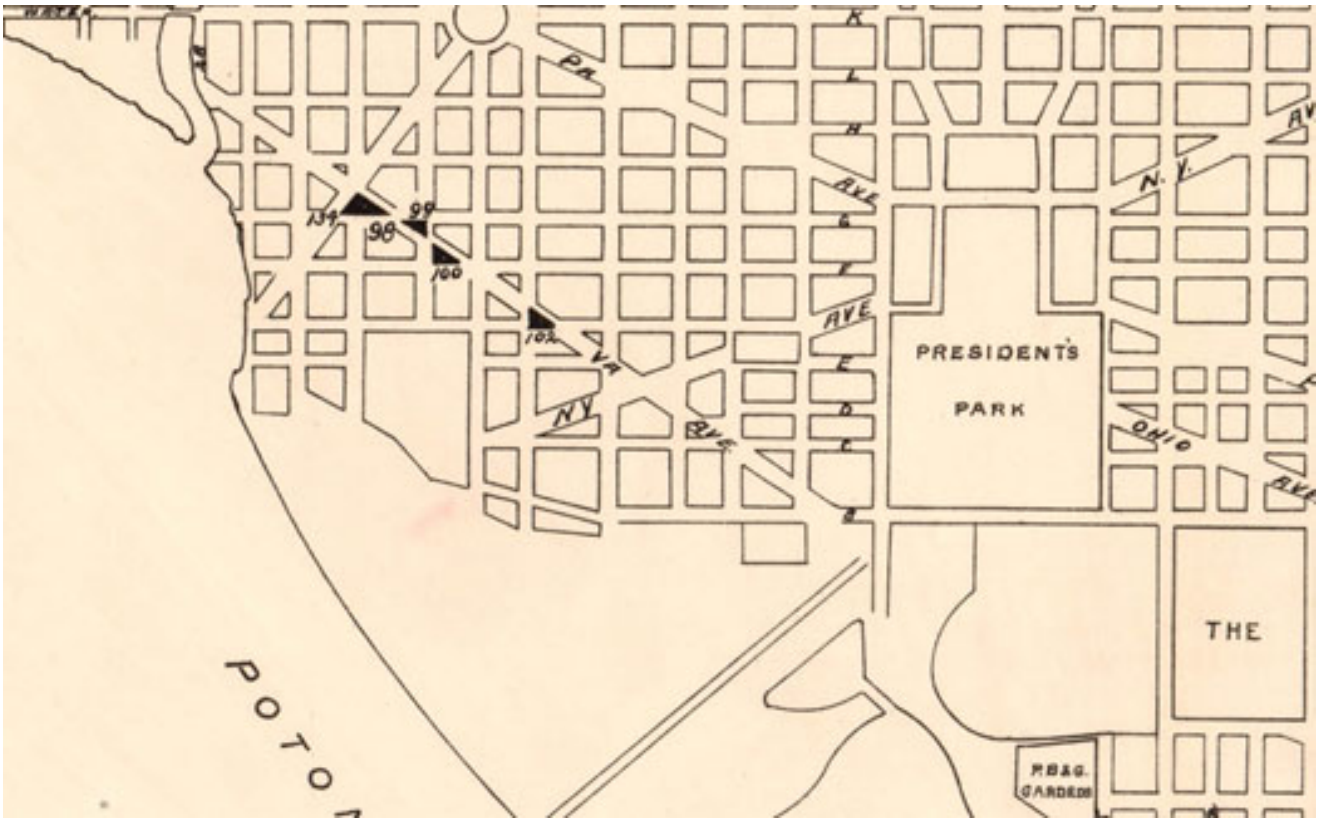


City of Washington Statistical Map Showing Shade Trees. Virginia Avenue NW is lined with poplar trees. F.V. Greene and William T.O. Bruff, 1880. Library of Congress



Map of the City of Washington Showing the Public Reservations Under Control of the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds. Virginia Avenue Reservations highlighted. William Forsyth, A.F. Rockwell, 1884. Library of Congress.

Aerial view of Virginia Avenue from Washington Monument, 1890 (Gelman Library, GWU). The photograph likely dates to 1894 or 1895 as the Burnes Cottage is no longer in the photograph with a known removal date of 1894.



1900 Map of the City of Washington Showing U.S. Reservations Improved During Fiscal Year 1900. F.F. Gillen and Theo Bingham, 1900. Library of Congress.

The McMillan Plan, World War I and Development Along Virginia Ave NW: 1901 to 1929

As the 1901 centennial of the city of Washington approached, a consensus emerged that a plan was needed to guide the city into the 20th century. A joint committee formed by Congress held its first meeting February 21, 1900, with Sen. James McMillan of Michigan as chairman and McMillan's secretary, Charles Moore, as secretary. Another committee, including Daniel Burnham, visionary of Chicago's influential World's Columbian Exposition, landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., architect Charles F. McKim, and sculptor Augustus St. Gaudens, was formed to advise the Senate Commission. The report they produced aimed "to prepare for the city of Washington such a plan as shall enable future development to proceed along the lines originally planned—namely, the treatment of the city as a work of civic art—and to develop the outlaying parks as portions of a single, well considered system" (Leach 1997:VIII.32).

The McMillan Commission's plan for Washington is widely regarded as one of the seminal documents in the history of American city planning. The final plan resulted in widespread improvements to the entire District of Columbia and a vastly improved recreational infrastructure. Moreover, as a prime example for the City Beautiful movement, the plan aspired to promote public welfare, civic virtue, social harmony, economic growth and an increased quality of life through park planning and naturalistic design. City Beautiful practitioners sought to induce social reform through pleasant, functional and inspirational design. They shunned the creation of beauty solely as an aesthetic exercise and instead promoted beautification as a way of encouraging a sense of collective wellbeing and shared identity within urban populations. This focus on betterment reflected the larger national context of Progressivism, a reform-minded political movement that targeted a wide range of societal ills ranging from child labor to the wanton destruction of America's national resources. Both Progressivism and the City Beautiful also recalled the Urban Parks movement that began in the mid-nineteenth-century, as a response to the increasingly undesirable and harmful living conditions within

major metropolitan areas (Fort Circle Draft 2014:VIII.90-91).

The final plan, published in 1902, included a social component, but was also a masterwork of functional design. The Commission repeatedly stressed that its primary objectives were to update and enhance the L'Enfant Plan and to expand it beyond the old city boundaries via a modern systems of parks and parkways, encompassing the entire District of Columbia, and extending into Maryland and Virginia (Fort Circle Draft 2014:VIII.90). Specifically, the Commission called for extending Washington's ceremonial core; consolidating city railways and alleviating at-grade crossings; clearing slums; designing a coordinated municipal office complex in the triangle formed by Pennsylvania Avenue, 15th Street and the Mall; reclaiming the Anacostia flats; preserving space for parks in the rapidly developing suburbs; and establishing a comprehensive recreation and park system that would preserve the ring of Civil War fortifications surrounding the city (Leach 1997:VIII.33; Moore 1902).

A few pages were devoted to the treatment of the smaller parks along L'Enfant's original avenues. The report acknowledged their bountiful placement, and importance as spaces for passive recreation and beautification, but criticized the sculptural decoration as "out of keeping" with the design of the rest of the parks. It also suggested that older small parks should be adapted to the needs of individual neighborhoods and offer "special forms of recreation chosen with a view to the surroundings and capabilities of each particular area." Playgrounds, bandstands and concert groves, electric fountains and specialty gardens were presented as possibilities and a variety of activities, suited to different types of users, was encouraged. No specific recommendations related to individual small parks were made beyond those listed above as included in the report (Moore 1902:79-81; Leach 1997:VIII.33).

In Washington's historic center, the plan focused on redesigning the National Mall, and reinterpreting the spirit of L'Enfant's plan through the City Beautiful movement's Neoclassical principals. Romantic Victorian landscapes were replaced with simple, symmetrical plans. Inspired by their European travels, the McMillan Commission designed formal spaces, with wide-open vistas, large geometric lawns, and ordered rows of trees, directing views towards proposed or existing monuments. Landscapes were designed to emphasize and enhance L'Enfant's axial relationships between symbolic buildings. The final plan featured a rectangular "green carpet" extending the length of the National Mall, from the Potomac River, to the Capitol Building, The Commission's three-dimensional model showing their proposed changes to the city included approximately two and a half blocks of densely planted trees, forming "green walls" bordering either side of the Mall, west of 17th Street NW (Moore 1902:51). The lush plantings extended north, from land recently reclaimed from the Potomac River, to Virginia Avenue NW, east of New York Avenue. This area appears in the model as completely covered with trees. A large triangular park covered over three city blocks between Constitution Avenue NW, Virginia Avenue NW and a proposed new diagonal located south of New York Avenue. The McMillan Plan included a second large triangle park, directly north of Virginia Avenue NW, bordered by 18th St NW and New York Avenue NW. Approximately two and half blocks, this area was also heavily planted and featured a central open lawn. The Commission's report recommended that the entire area, from New York Avenue NW to the river "be treated as a wood, planted informally but marked by formal roads and paths" citing the Bois de Bologne in Paris as an inspiration (Moore 1902:51). At the intersection of New York Avenue and Virginia Avenue NW, the Commission proposed a new circular park, matching the size of existing L'Enfant circles like Washington and Dupont.

This newly proposed park space mirrored a planned extension of the National Mall to the southwest. Taken as a whole, the project reshaped L'Enfant's original rectangular park into a large diamond-shaped public space that connected the Capitol Building to the east, the White House to the north, the Lincoln Memorial to the west and the Jefferson Memorial to the south (Moore 1902:35). The reclamation of the Potomac Flats, begun in 1882, effectively added an additional mile to L'Enfant's originally designed park. By expanding the National Mall north to New York Avenue NW and south to the Potomac River, the new composition became "a symmetrical, polygonal, or kite-shaped figure bisected from east to west by the axis of the Capitol and from north to south by the White House axis. Regarding the [Washington] Monument as the center, the Capitol as the base and the White House as the extremity of one arm of a Latin cross, we have at the head of the composition on the banks of the Potomac a memorial site of the greatest possible dignity, with a second and only less

commanding site at the extremity of the second arm" (Moore 1902:36).

Along with a scale model of their proposed plan, the McMillan Commission also produced a model of existing conditions within the District of Columbia. This model shows Virginia Avenue NW, was generally undeveloped between New York Avenue NW and Constitution Avenue NW. Appendix G of the McMillan Commission's 1902 report lists all the lands in the District of Columbia devoted to public use. Included in the list are sixteen triangle parks along Virginia Avenue NW, reservations nos. 94-100 and 102-110, located at one block intervals between 17th and 28th Streets NW. Reservation 101, a trapezoid shaped park, was located between 22nd and 23rd Street NW at the intersection of Virginia Avenue and F Street NW (Moore 1902:158). The report does not include descriptions of conditions at these reservations.

More research is needed to determine when the reservations east of 21st Avenue NW were first improved by the OPBG. A photograph taken from the Washington Monument circa 1912 confirms that this part of Virginia Avenue was essentially open land. Rows of poplar trees, planted in the 1870s by the Board of Public Works, line both sides of the street. The only reservation that appears clearly defined is Reservation 110 (Artigas), at the easternmost corner of Virginia Avenue NW. Post and chain fencing has been installed along the park's Virginia Avenue NW side. Several plantings line the park's perimeter, what appear to be young trees are also visible.

Since the House of Representatives never approved the McMillan Plan, no funds were appropriated to implement it. As a result, the proposed extension of the National Mall along the southeastern half of Virginia Avenue NW was never realized. Instead, the OPBG continued to improve the triangle reservations along the avenue as funding became available. Research for this CLI did not identify the exact dates of many of these improvements, though it is thought they were all completed by 1912. More specific information may be found in OPBG annual reports from the years 1906-1912, which were not located during the course of this CLI's research.

In the early 20th century, the federal government began buying up land along the southeast section of Virginia Avenue NW. They purchased the lot occupied by the deteriorated Van Ness house and razed it in 1907. However, the Van Ness Carriage house remains on the site and is designated as the DC Landmark. On its site, Andrew Carnegie funded the construction of the Pan American Union, completed in 1912 (HABS No. DC-712:5; Pan American Union National Register Nomination 1969:5).

Major public works projects stalled during World War I, when temporary structures were constructed on several empty lots bordering the avenue, including a few public reservations. These included a large stucco building, identified as "Temporary Building No. 4" located on the reservation between Virginia Avenue NW, New York Avenue NW, 20th and 21st and C Streets NW, now numbered Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex).

In 1926, the OPBG, now reorganized as the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks (OPBPP), began a program of documenting and photographing each reservation in Washington's park system. Over three years they surveyed every public park within the city. Along Virginia Avenue NW, photos show most reservations were laid out simply, consisting of lawns, a few trees and post and chain fencing. Quarter-round concrete curbing, a 20th century replacement for the Victorian-era post and chain fences, appears at least one reservation, Reservation 110 (Artigas). Several others seem to be in the process of having their fencing pulled down and replaced with the preferred concrete curbs, as chains are missing in many photos, and in others only a handful of posts are visible. The WWI-era temporary building was still extant as of 1927, and a gas station, located on Reservation 108, at 19th Street NW, takes up most of that federal reservation.

Descriptions of conditions at individual reservations are included below. OPBG survey photos for all Virginia Avenue NW reservations were not located during the course of research for this CLI, and where reservations are missing it should be assumed the corresponding photos were missing from the National Park Services land files for that reservation. The order of reservations described is from the southeast to the northwest end of Virginia Avenue NW. All photos were taken in 1927. Copies of OPBG photos are included in this report as part of Appendix A. These photos suggest that despite

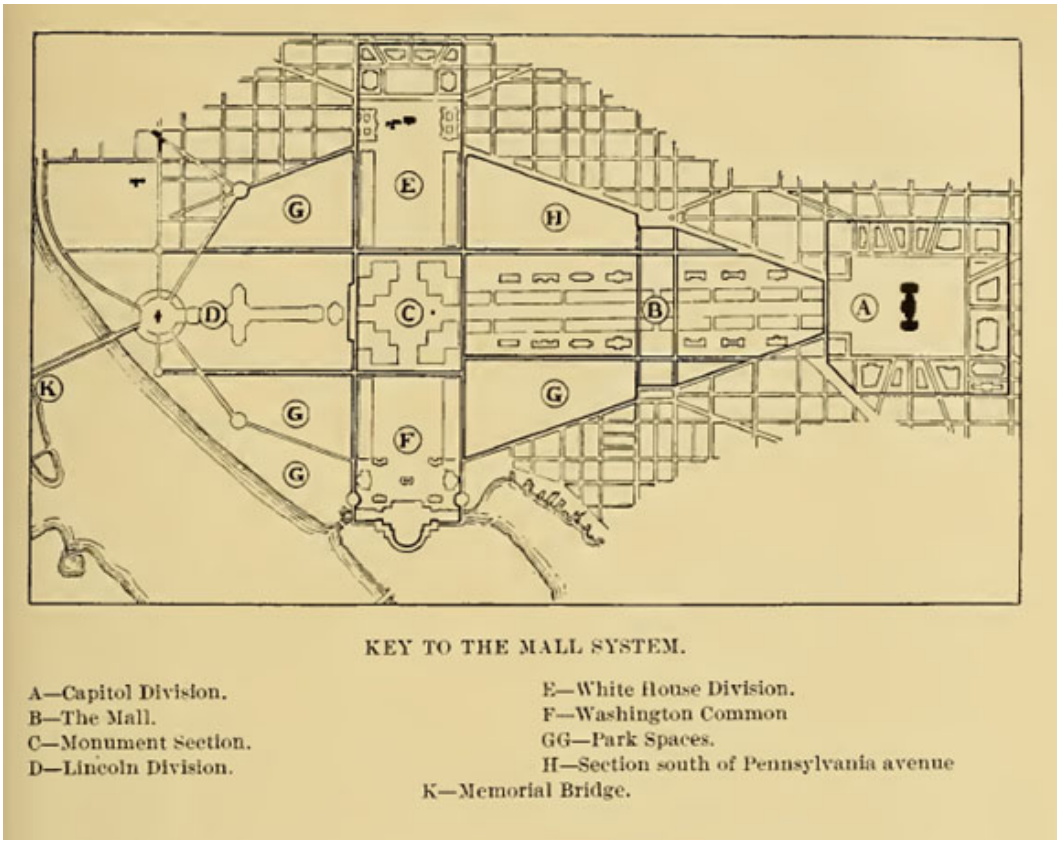
interest in expansion of the National Mall along Virginia Avenue NW, the small parks located along avenue received no extensive landscaping as a result of the McMillan Plan.

• Reservation 110 (Artigas): Virginia Avenue NW, 18th and B Streets NW. Triangle reservation. Flat lawn planted with turf grass and enclosed with concrete quarter-round curbing. At least five trees appear in OPBG photo. Trees species is not identifiable. A traffic sign is posted at one corner of the reservation.
• Reservation 108: Virginia Avenue NW and C Street NW, west of 19th Street. Triangle reservation at the end of commercial block with a gas station taking up the majority of the reservation.
• Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex): Virginia and New York Avenues NW, 20, 21st and C Streets NW. Entire reservation is taken up by a Temporary Building No. 4, built during WWI.
• Reservation 104: Virginia Avenue NW, D and 21st Streets, NW. Small triangle reservation at the end of a residential block. Flat, appears unplanted and unmaintained/unimproved beyond four OPBG fence posts, missing chains.
• Reservation 103: Virginia Avenue NW and E Street NW. Small triangle reservation at the end of a residential block. Flat lawn surrounded by OPBG post and chain fencing, with metal fencing erected behind OPBG posts. Lot appears to be used and maintained by the owner of the adjacent house.
• Reservation 99: Virginia Avenue NW, 24th and G Streets, NW. Triangle shaped reservation. Flat lawn planted with turf grass and enclosed with 364 feet of post and chain fencing. Shrubs and two trees planted along the 24th Street NW side. An undated survey form from the NPS land files suggests the trees may have been small leaved lindens (Tilia cordata).
• Reservation 98: Virginia Avenue NW, 25th and G Streets, NW. Triangle-shaped reservation. Flat lawn planted with turf grass, enclosed with post and chain fencing around perimeter, though chains have been removed. Reservation is surrounded with street trees, planted between the sidewalk and curb.
• Reservation 134 (Juarez): New Hampshire and Virginia Avenues NW, 25th and G Streets, NW. Triangle reservation. Flat lawn planted with turf grass and enclosed with post and chain fencing. 3-4 trees planted along the eastern side; shrubs visible at southeast and northeast points. No plant types are identifiable. Street trees line curb between sidewalk and street along the New Hampshire Avenue NW.

Summary:
Between 1901 and 1929, the OPBG improved several previously undeveloped small parks along the eastern half of Virginia Avenue. These parks were graded, planted with turf grass and enclosed with either with post and chain fencing or quarter round curbing. Some were planted with trees. Two buildings were erected on public reservations in the early 20th century: a temporary structure built during WWI at Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), at the corner of Virginia Avenue NW, New York Avenue NW, 20th and 21st and C Streets NW and a gas station located on Reservation 108. Despite renewed interest in the area as part the McMillan Plan's proposed extension of the National Mall north to New York Avenue NW, the OPBG/OPBPP's improvements of reservations during this period were limited to the simplest options for small parks.

More information on the McMillan Plan and its effects on Small Parks in Washington can be found in the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview.

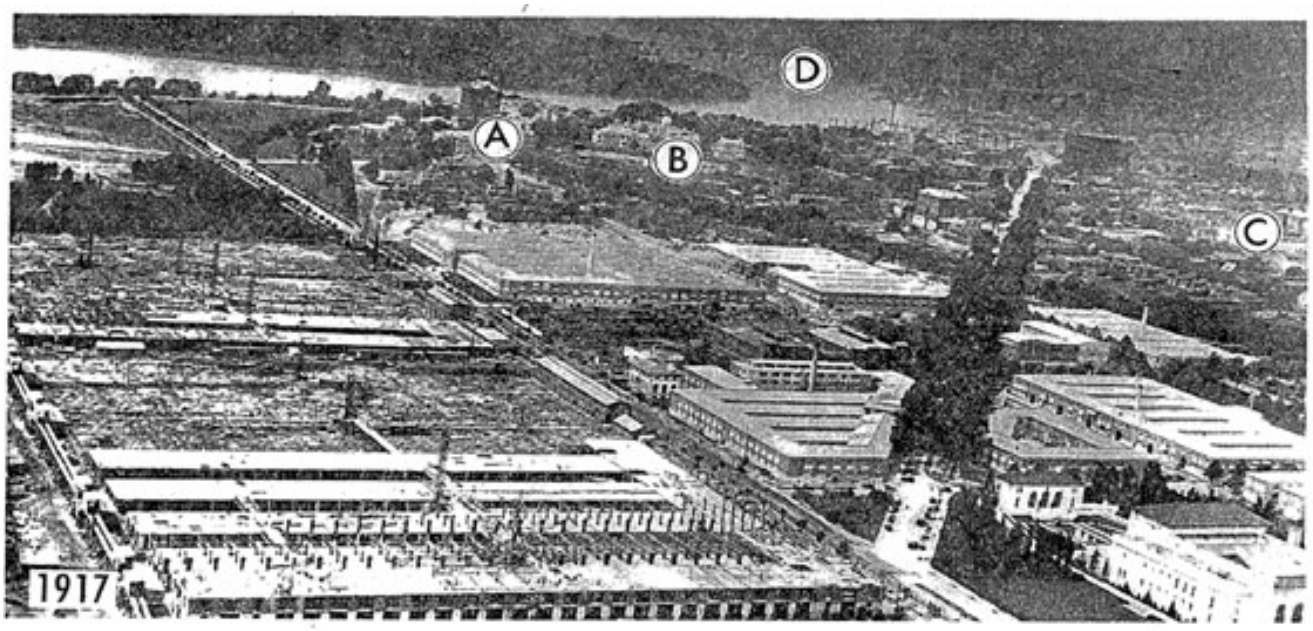
1901-1902 artistic rendering of McMillan Plan model, from Worthy of a Nation: Washington, DC from L'Enfant to the Capital Planning Commission, Frederick Guttheim and Antoinette Lee, 2006.



Mall System Key from McMillan Plan, 1902.

1901-1902 scale model of existing conditions in Washington, DC. Virginia Avenue NW, extends diagonally from the Washington Monument, in the lower left corner. National Archives. Image from Worthy of the Nation, 2006.

Undated photo, taken circa 1912, showing Virginia Avenue NW. Photo taken from Washington Monument. Detroit Publishing House.



From The Washington Post showing temporary buildings constructed along Virginia Avenue NW in 1917. The Navy and Munitions Building is under construction at the bottom left. The Pan American Union can be seen at the bottom right. The Washington Post Oct. 30, 1958, B1.

Temporary office building erected on Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park)/378 (Federal Reserve Annex) during World War I. OPBPP Survey Photo, 1927. NPS Land Files.

Photo from OPBG survey, showing reservation no. 98, a small park at the intersection of Virginia Avenue, 25th and G Streets NW. 1927. The gas works are visible to the west. NPS Land Files.

The Northwest Rectangle and Federal Development Along Virginia Avenue NW: 1930 to 1947

In 1933, responsibility for the federal reservations throughout Washington, DC, including those along Virginia Avenue NW, transferred from the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, to the Department of the Interior, under the purview of the National Park Service (NPS).

As early as the 1931, the eastern end of Virginia Avenue NW had been earmarked as a future enclave of government offices, similar to the Federal Triangle. Part of a proposed “Northwest Rectangle,” the planning effort, led by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission (NCPPC), predecessor to the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), was an attempt to revitalize the area following the decline and closure of several factories located along the riverfront. In June 1934, the NCPPC published a site plan entitled. Site Plan for Public Building Group: Northwest Area; Study A. The area was to consist of a complex of federal and institutional buildings within a landscaped rectangle, bounded by Constitution Avenue on the south, New York Avenue and E Street on the north, 17th Street to the east and 23rd Street to the west. (Brasell 2017:22: Hotaling Eig 1998:VIII.31).

The Public Health Services Building (now Interior Department South) was the first federal building established within the Federal Rectangle. It was completed in 1933, with its primary elevation facing Constitution Avenue, between 19th and 20th Streets NW. The building’s northern elevation was located across C Street from Reservation 108. Completed in 1936, the Department of the Interior Building’s southern elevation faced Reservation 383 (Bolivar), across C Street NW. In 1937, the Federal Reserve moved to a new building (the Marriner S. Eccles Building), directly west of the Public Health Services Building with its main elevation also facing Constitution Avenue NW. In 1939, the U.S. Department of War established new headquarters south of Virginia Avenue NW, at 23rd and D Streets, NW. The northeast corner of the original Department of War Building, completed in 1941,

was adjacent to Reservation 104. Considered obsolete by the time of its completion, the War Department never occupied the building. Instead, it was taken over by the State Department, who moved in in 1947.

These buildings marked the first sustained investment along the southeastern half of the avenue, and foreshadowed larger urban renewal projects to area's west. Treatment of adjacent small parks remained simple. 1938 photos of Reservation 383 (Bolivar), and Reservation 107 (now the U.S. Office of Personnel Management Building) show both were maintained as flat, featureless lawns, surrounded by perimeter sidewalks.

NPS surveys from this era document the size, shape and features extant at the Virginia Avenue NW reservations, circa 1935. Details related to each reservation are copied below. Where reservations are missing it should be assumed that the corresponding survey form is missing from that reservation's NPS land file. The order of reservations described is from the southeast to the northwest end of Virginia Avenue NW. Copies of OPBG photos are included in this report as part of Appendix B and are on file with NPS, National Capital Region.

• Reservation 110 (Artigas): A triangular reservation measuring 179.3 feet along Virginia Avenue NW, 147.4 feet along Constitution Avenue NW, with 412.6 linear feet of 8.9-foot-wide concrete walks around the perimeter of the reservation. 411.2 linear feet of concrete coping, .65 feet wide surrounded the reservation. 41 square feet of shrub beds and 9,028.24 square feet of lawn are recorded, as well as six trees of undocumented species. Additional small-scale features included 1 water stand pipe and 1 trash basket.
• Reservation 108: A triangular reservation at the end of a developed block, surrounded by 104 feet of 13.15-foot wide concrete walks, located along C Street and Virginia Avenue NW. Landscaping was limited to 235 square feet of lawn. No other vegetation or small-scale features were recorded.
• Reservation 106 (San Martin): Survey form exists but was never completed. A drawing depicts the dimensions of the triangular reservation as 175.9 feet along Virginia Avenue NW, 151.43 feet along 20th Street NW, and 153.53 feet along New York Avenue NW.
• Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park): Survey form exists but was never completed. A drawing depicts the dimensions of the triangular reservation as 176.27 feet along Virginia Avenue NW, 153.86 feet along New York Avenue NW, and 151.76 feet along 21st Street NW.
• Reservation 104: A small triangle reservation at the end of a developed block, surrounded by 104.27 linear feet of 9.68-foot-wide concrete sidewalks, located along Virginia Avenue and D Street NW. Landscaping was limited to 934 square feet of lawn. No other vegetation or small-scale features were recorded.
• Reservation 103: A small triangle reservation at the end of a developed block, surrounded by 172.74 linear feet of 7.29-foot-wide concrete sidewalks. Landscaping was limited to 1215 square feet of lawn. No other vegetation or small-scale features were recorded.
• Reservation 101: A small triangle reservation at the end of a developed block, surrounded by 142.5 linear feet of 8.39-foot-wide concrete sidewalks. The reservation was documented as 1,013 square feet of unimproved land. No lawn, vegetation or small-scale features were recorded.
• Reservation 99: A triangle reservation surrounded by an undocumented length of sidewalk and 342.83 linear feet of concrete coping. Landscaping included a 4,876 foot lawn, 612 square feet of shrub beds, of unidentified species 183 feet of privet hedges (Lingustrum regeliarum), planted along the G Street and 24th Street NW and three Linden (Tilia cordata) trees, located at reservation's endpoints. Small-scale features included 1 water-stand pipe, of which the location is undocumented.
• Reservation 98: A triangle reservation surrounded by 590 linear feet of concrete sidewalk, and 456.35 feet of concrete coping. Landscaping included 10,153 square feet of lawn and 250 feet of privet hedges (Lingustrum regeliarum), planted along G Street and 25th Street NW. Small scale features included a water meter box, of which the location is undocumented.
• Reservation 134 (Juarez): A triangle reservation surrounded by 591 feet of 5.82 wide concrete sidewalk. Landscaping included 10,004.5 square feet of lawn, 671 square feet of shrub beds, 198 square feet of flower beds and eight trees. The location and species of vegetation is undocumented. Small scale features included a water pipe, the location of which was likewise unspecified.

As development continued through the 1940s, increased traffic along Virginia Avenue and in the surrounding Foggy Bottom neighborhood, resulted in construction of an underpass below 23rd Street

NW. The project, completed in 1942, was designed to eliminate a bottleneck along the avenue, which had become a major commuter route for workers living in Georgetown and Virginia (The Washington Post, Nov. 14, 1942, B1). The overpass project was an early attempt to address traffic issues in the area, the result of increased car ownership and suburbanization.

Summary:
Management of all federal reservations in Washington, DC, including those along Virginia Avenue NW, transferred from the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, to the Department of the Interior, under the purview of the National Park Service (NPS), in 1933.

During the 1930s, the southern half of Virginia Avenue NW saw its first large-scale development, as the area was included as part of the Northwest Rectangle and a number of federal agencies relocated their headquarters to either side of the avenue. New building on or near Virginia Avenue NW included the Public Health Services Building (now Interior Department South), the Department of the Interior Building, the Federal Reserve Building (now the Marriner S. Eccles Building) and the State Department's Department of War Building. There is no documentation that any of Virginia Avenue's small parks were redeveloped as a result of the Northwest Rectangle project. Photos from the period and NPS survey forms suggest that they continued to be treated simply and were minimally landscaped. Post and chain, visible in OPBG photos from 1927, has been removed, and landscaping is generally limited to lawns, though some reservations were planted with trees, hedges, shrubs and flower beds.

Reservation 383 (Bolivar), photographed in 1938. NPS Historic Negative Collection. Image from Department of Interior National Register Nomination.

From The Washington Post showing newly built federal buildings along Virginia Avenue NW as part of the Northwest Rectangle project. The Washington Post Oct. 30, 1958, B1.

Statues of the Liberators and Urban Renewal Along Virginia Avenue NW: 1947-1977

In 1947, the country of Uruguay gifted the United States a bronze statue of General Jose Gervaso Artigas. The statue was a copy of an original, designed by Juan Luis Blanes and his father Juan Manuel Blanes, cast in 1898, and erected atop the Monumento al Procér, in San Jose, Uruguay. An important revolutionary figure, Artigas is considered a founding father of Uruguay. The gift, meant to symbolize the diplomatic ties between Uruguay and the United States, arrived in DC on April 16, 1947. The Commission of Fine Arts (CFA), established in 1910 to oversee the design of public art, buildings and spaces in Washington, approved and officially accepted the sculpture on June 26, 1948 (Claret 2018:10-11).

The permanent site for the statue, Reservation 110 (Artigas), was chosen for its proximity to the Organization of American States (OAS). Originally founded as the Pan American Union (PAU), and located at the corner of 17th Street NW and Constitution Avenue, the PAU/OAS served as a focal point for cultural activity in Washington, focusing on promoting economic, social, juridical and cultural relations among member states (Pan American Union National Register Nomination 1969). Construction of a new annex, located at Constitution Avenue NW, between 18th and 19 Streets NW (now Reservation 348) began in 1948. Originally, the CFA considered placing the statue on the grounds of the new annex, but delays in construction and pressure to publicly display the gift before the building's completion, resulted in an alternative solution. Reservation 110 (Artigas), located between the two buildings, offered an opportunity to connect the original OAS with its annex, via a newly designed public space. The CFA and National Capital Park and Planning Commission approved the site in late 1948, and the contracted the architects of the OAS annex, Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson (H2L2), to design the statue's pedestal and surrounding park space (Claret 2018:1-2).

In October 1949 $23,000 was approved for the redevelopment of Reservation 110 (Artigas) and in 1950, H2L2 submitted a final set of drawings to the CFA (Claret 2018:18). The final design features a semi-circular flagstone platform, with a granite square, on which the 9-foot tall Artigas statue sits atop a 4 foot 9 inch granite pedestal. On the curbing of the inscription bordering the semi-circular platform and incised inscription reads “The Liberty of America is My Aim, and Its Attainment My Only Objective.” Incised letters on the south base of the pedestal identify Jose Artigas as the “Father of the Independence of Uruguay. The north side of the pedestal reads “From the people of Uruguay to the people of the United States.” Artigas faces the Mall, and a granite bench located on the opposite side of flagstone path that runs through the park, parallel to Constitution Avenue.

The prominent placement of the Artigas statue, on a reservation facing the National Mall, reflects Cold War era concerns related to the preservation of democracy in South America. With the U.S.S.R expanding its influence in the region, the United States was eager to promote connections between North and South America and emphasize the region’s shared history and democratic values. On the occasion of the statue’s unveiling, Secretary of State Dean Acheson emphasized “Uruguay’s independence and freedom” (New York Times, June 20, 1950). Editorial pages drew more direct connections between Artigas and the Cold War fight for democracy. In an article describing the statue, The New York Times called Uruguay “our proudest example of Latin-America democracy” (New York Times, June 20, 1950). The Washington Post described the presentation as “important both as a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Artigas’ death [as well as] a testimony to the very real friendship that exists between the two countries.” A friendship which found the United States and Uruguay “staunchly allied both formally and morally, in most major causes affecting the hemisphere (The Washington Post, June 19, 1950, 6)”

Anticipating gifts of statuary from other South American countries, legislation was introduced as early as 1948, to approve of their acceptance and placement as a group. Consulted on the subject, H2L2 suggested they “could be disposed advantageously along C and 18th Streets…ordering the triangular lawn of North of Virginia Avenue” (Claret 2018:15). The theme of South American liberators echoed the ornamentation of the main OAS/Pan American Building, which featured a bas-relief on its façade depicting the meeting between Simon Bolívar and José de San Martín. Bolívar and San Martín. Plaques bearing the name of various liberators were also present in the building’s patio (Claret 2018:13).

Not all statues erected along Virginia Avenue NW were in keeping with the Latin American theme. In 1956 Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park) was redeveloped to accommodate the installation of a bronze reproduction of the Discus Thrower, or Discobolo, a statue by the Greek sculptor Myron, dating to the 5th century, BC. Cast in Florence, Italy, the approximately 14-foot tall statue was presented to the U.S. by Italian President Giovanni Gronchi (The Washington Post Feb. 26, 1956). The figure was a gift of appreciation to the United States for their efforts in returning the original ancient Greek sculpture to Italy after World War II. The statue rests on a white marble capital excavated from ancient ruins in the city of Rome. The supporting column is African gray granite with a travertine marble base, approximately 10 ft. 6 in. tall (Smithsonian Inventory of American Sculpture: Control no. DC000186). The sculpture was surrounded by a perimeter lawn and walks, and in keeping with the directives of the Northwest Rectangle plan, designed to serve as a courtyard for workers at the new State Department Extension Building, then under construction (Northwest Rectangle National Register Nomination VII:11). In 1959 the park was named in honor of Edward J. Kelly, Superintendent of National Capital Parks from 1950-1958

Ultimately, however, many of the small parks along Virginia Avenue NW would be redeveloped in celebration of Latin American liberation. The Artigas statue was the first of several statues of South American revolutionaries installed along the avenue between 1950 and 1976—the height of the Cold War. In 1959, a statue of Simon Bolivar joined it. The leader of over 200 battles against South America’s Spanish colonizers, and liberator of six South American countries, Bolivar was sometimes referred to as “the George Washington of South America.” Felix De Weldon, a member of DC’s Commission of Fine Arts, and the creator of the Iwo Jima Memorial statue designed the bronze equestrian statue, a gift of the Venezuelan government. At the time of its casting, in 1956, it was among the largest equestrian statues in the Western Hemisphere, measuring 27 feet from its base to the tip of Bolivar’s sword (The Washington Post Nov. 20. 1956, A6; Goode 2008:198). In order to

accommodate the statue, Reservation 383 (Bolivar) was completely redesigned. William Berman of the National Park Service worked with Cesar Casielles of Venezuela to develop asymmetric modern plaza, with marble terrace, landscaped walkways and a tiled, polygonal pool, with six jets shooting streams of water, representing the six countries liberated by Bolivar. The statue was placed on a 10-foot tall Swedish granite pedestal. As testament to the growing importance of such symbolic gestures, the Bolivar statue was accepted by no less than President Eisenhower, who described it as a “symbol of the will of the United States and Venezuela to live and work together.” Eisenhower also noted the recent free election of Venezuelan president Romulo Betancourt, after a decade of dictatorship (The Washington Post, February 28, 1959, B1). The entire two block area along Virginia Avenue NW, from Constitution Avenue NW to C Street NW and 17th to 19th Streets NW, was officially dedicated the Plaza of the Americas in 1960.

Just as the southeastern half of Virginia Avenue NW was beginning to develop an identity associated with the history of the Americas, the National Capital Planning Commission began exploring changes to the street’s traffic patterns that would impact the form and integrity of small parks located along the northwestern half of the avenue. Bridge and highway construction, street widening, and the approval of large-scale development projects resulted in the loss of some original L’Enfant reservations in the 1960s, as well as the expansion and addition of new park spaces. In 1960, the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge opened, connecting Foggy Bottom with NW Virginia. It was the first phase in a five year highway construction project proposed for the neighborhood. Plans were underway for a massive mixed-used development between New Hampshire Avenue NW and the Potomac, on the former site of the Washington Gas Light Company’s factory, which had been demolished in 1947. The Watergate Complex would eventually consist of six buildings, the first of which, Watergate East, fronting Virginia Avenue NW at New Hampshire Avenue NW was completed in 1964. The same year, President Johnson broke ground on the Kennedy Center, located immediately south of the Watergate.

Anticipating the impact developments like the Watergate and the Kennedy Center would have on Virginia Avenue NW, the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) voted to redesign the avenue, to better accommodate increased use. Described as “a nondescript thoroughfare that once linked the Potomac Flats with the Gas Works,” by the 1960s Virginia Avenue NW had developed into one of the most heavily traveled commuter feeders in the downtown area—with a minimum of 2,000 cars per hour during peak use (HABS No. DC-712:5). This, combined with the new federal buildings and apartment complexes like Columbia Plaza, necessitated the street’s widening. The highway department recommended expanding the avenue from five to six lanes and dividing the traffic rotary (Reservation 134, Juarez) at the intersection Virginia Avenue NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW to allow traffic to pass directly down the avenue (The Washington Post, February 7, 1964).

The widening and redesign of northwest sections of Virginia Avenue NW, were eventually completed as part of a much larger project, which began in 1960, with the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge and included the construction of the E Street Expressway, the Inner Loop, the Potomac River Freeway and the redesign of K Street NW. In 1964, The Washington Post described the undertaking as “Washington’s biggest single highway construction project of all time,” (The Washington Post, Nov. 22, 1964, B1). In 1964 and 1965 sections of Virginia Avenue NW between 21st and 22nd Streets, NW and were tunneled under for the E Street Expressway, which extends from the Kennedy Center, east to 20th Street. New park space would cover the tunnel, connecting Virginia Avenue NW with “handsome broad green mall” extending from Rawlins Park at 18h Street NW, to the Pan American Health Organization at 23rd St NW. According to architect, Chloethiel W. Smith, the design for the expressway “subject[ed] itself to the disciplines of [the] already established pattern, and not destroy it” (The Washington Post, Oct. 19, 1961). The triangle park at Reservation 106 (San Martin) was destroyed during construction, but rebuilt and expanded as part of a 1976 redesign. The construction of the tunnel and a new offramp from the Potomac Freeway also resulted in the addition of a new Reservation along Virginia Avenue, NW, Reservation 720 (Galvez), located between 21st and 22nd Street NW. The design of both reservations is discussed in greater detail below.

Meanwhile, the construction of the west leg of the Inner Loop freeway required tunneling under the intersection of Virginia and New Hampshire Avenues NW, resulting in the destruction of one of L’Enfant’s original squares, Reservation 134 (Juarez). In May 1965, the National Capital Planning Commission released recommendations for redeveloping parks and streetscapes affected by the

surrounding construction. The NCPC goal for Virginia Avenue NW was to create variety in the streetscape, while establishing a unified composition. Redesigning the system of small parks running the length of the avenue was their main suggestion for achieving this uniformity amid diversity. Although the small triangle parks were “a happy byproduct” of the L’Enfant Plan, after the avenue was widened, the existing triangles would be too small to effectively produce this effect. As a result, many of the Virginia Avenue triangles were expanded, and their landscapes redesigned so that they were better incorporated with grounds abutting federal buildings. A divided oval plaza was proposed for the former triangle at Reservation 134 (Juarez), with the area reserved as the future site of a monument or fountain. The new Reservation 720 (Galvez), created as the result of freeway offramp, was part of the plan, as were a series of new walkways with potted plants and benches connecting the Virginia Avenue NW small parks with newly designed freeway overlooks and the Kennedy Center to the south. The Washington Post criticized the plan’s simple landscape design, which consisted mainly of “planting new trees and other greenery around the badly carved up area” as the equivalent of “sprinkling parsley on a bowl of spaghetti.” Even NCPC urban designer, Donald E. Johnson had to admit the design was “only a minimum beginning of what ought to be done” (The Washington Post, May 23, 1965).

The potential negative effects development might have on Virginia Avenue NW were also a concern of First Lady Claudia “Lady Bird” Johnson, who between 1965 and 1969, undertook a campaign to restore natural beauty to blighted downtown areas, beginning in the nation’s capital. Lady Bird’s Beautification Program was a two-part project, focused on improving the appearance of Washington’s most heavily touristed areas, while simultaneously addressing the deteriorating condition of parks and streetscapes throughout DC (Gould 1999:67). In 1966, the program paid for a landscape study of Virginia Avenue NW, and many of the improvements to reservations that were affected by the construction of the E Street Expressway were also undertaken as part of the Beautification Program. These included tree planting, sodding and seeding along Virginia Avenue NW, between 20th Street and 23rd Streets NW, completed in 1968. That same year saw more general landscaping and planting of trees and shrubs at reservations along the entire length of Virginia Avenue NW. At larger reservations, such as Reservation 383, now regularly referred to as Bolivar Plaza, the NPS planted magnolia trees and installed seasonal flowerbeds of annuals including tulips in spring, marigolds and petunias in summer and mums in the fall. Colorful water lilies were also added to the pool (Beautification Files 1965-1969, on file with NPS, National Capital Region).

Though the Post predicted that the NCPC would end up just planting grass at the proposed oval at Reservation 134 (Juarez), the southern half of the park was ultimately redesigned in 1968, in preparation for the installation of a statue of Benito Juarez, erected the following year. A gift from Mexico, the bronze statue of Juarez is a duplicate of an 1895 work by Enrique Alciati, originally cast in Rome, and currently standing in Oaxaca. The duplicate was cast at the foundry Fundidores Artisticos, in Mexico City, and sent to the United States in return for a statue of Abraham Lincoln, presented to Mexico by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1966. Juarez, Mexico’s 26th President, was known as “the builder of modern Mexico” and defender of the republic against foreign intervention (Goode 2008:215). The 12-foot tall statue was thus in keeping with the symbolic celebration of Latin American independence along Virginia Avenue NW. The statue stands on a granite pedestal 13 feet 4 inches high. Bronze lettering on the pedestal’s northeast face reads, in English: “Respect for the Rights of Others is Peace, Benito Juarez, 1806 1872, The People of Mexico to the People of the United States of America,” and below the English, in Spanish “El Respeto al Derecho Ajeno es la Paz Benito Juarez 1806 1872 El Pueblo de Mexico al Pueblo de los Estados Enidos de America.” The surrounding plaza, designed by the National Park Service in consultation with Mexican architect Luis Ortiz Macedo, is made up of granite pavers. At its northeast end, three granite steps descend from the plaza to a concrete walk which provides access to the public sidewalk (Oehrlein and Associates 2010:4). A surrounding lawn slopes southeast and is landscaped with trees.

The completion of the E Street Expressway, in 1964, resulted in the eventual redesign of Reservation 106 (San Martin), located north of Virginia Avenue NW, between 20th and 21st NW. The park was expanded to include land bordering the newly constructed tunnel and segment of New York Avenue NW, that was closed as the result of construction. In 1971 the National Park Service landscape architects Frank Neubauer and Darwina Neal, together with the firm of Donovan and Associates, completed a total redesign of the reservation. (Northwest Rectangle NR Nomination:VII.13). The

major new focus, the southeast corner, featured a large, circular Belgian block plaza, designed in the Modernist style. The plaza is raised and framed by specially designed, elliptical concrete benches along the east and west side, and a low concrete memorial wall to the north. The site is centered around a statue of General Jose De San Martin. The bronze equestrian statue, copied from an original by Augustin-Alexandre Dumont, was a 1924 gift from the citizens of Argentina to the United States. In 1925, it was installed in Judiciary Square. Ultimately, though, it was determined that the statue of San Martin, a leading figure in the fight for Argentine, Chilean and Peruvian independence, was better suited to Virginia Avenue NW. It was moved to Reservation 106 (San Martin) and rededicated in 1976. Raised lettering on the front of the statue's concrete pedestal identifies the figure as "Liberator General Jose de San Martin." Along the plaza's back wall raised copper lettering reads: "Jose de San Martin, founder of Argentine Independence, who led the liberating army across the Andes and gave freedom to Chile and Peru, his name like Washington, represents the American ideal of democracy, justice, and liberty." The landscape surrounding the plaza was simply planted with rows of trees while curving walkways formed biomorphic lawn panels north and west of the plaza.

The same year the San Martin statue moved to Virginia Avenue NW, a final revolutionary statue found its home on the avenue. General Don Bernardo de Galvez was Spanish, rather than Latin American, but was associated with the American Revolution and was responsible for driving the British out of western Florida and the Gulf of Mexico. The 12-foot tall bronze statue, designed by Juan de Avalos, was a gift from Spain, in celebration of the U.S. Bicentennial. The statue was installed at Reservation 720 (Galvez), a former parking lot, north of the State Department Building, that was redeveloped as a park as part of construction of Potomac Freeway offramp in 1964. King Juan Carlos of Spain presented the gift as part of a 1976 ceremony on site. Architect Chloethiel Woodard Smith, responsible for the E Street Expressway, designed the simple 15-foot tall granite base. The surrounding park was simply treated, with a linear concrete walkway running south from Virginia Avenue NW to a series of steps that descend to the sunken offramp and the State Department building across the street. Belgian block pavers lead from the walkway to the statue itself. The west and north sides of the park are surrounded by a pink granite wall, under which the E Street Expressway was tunneled (Goode 2008:213).

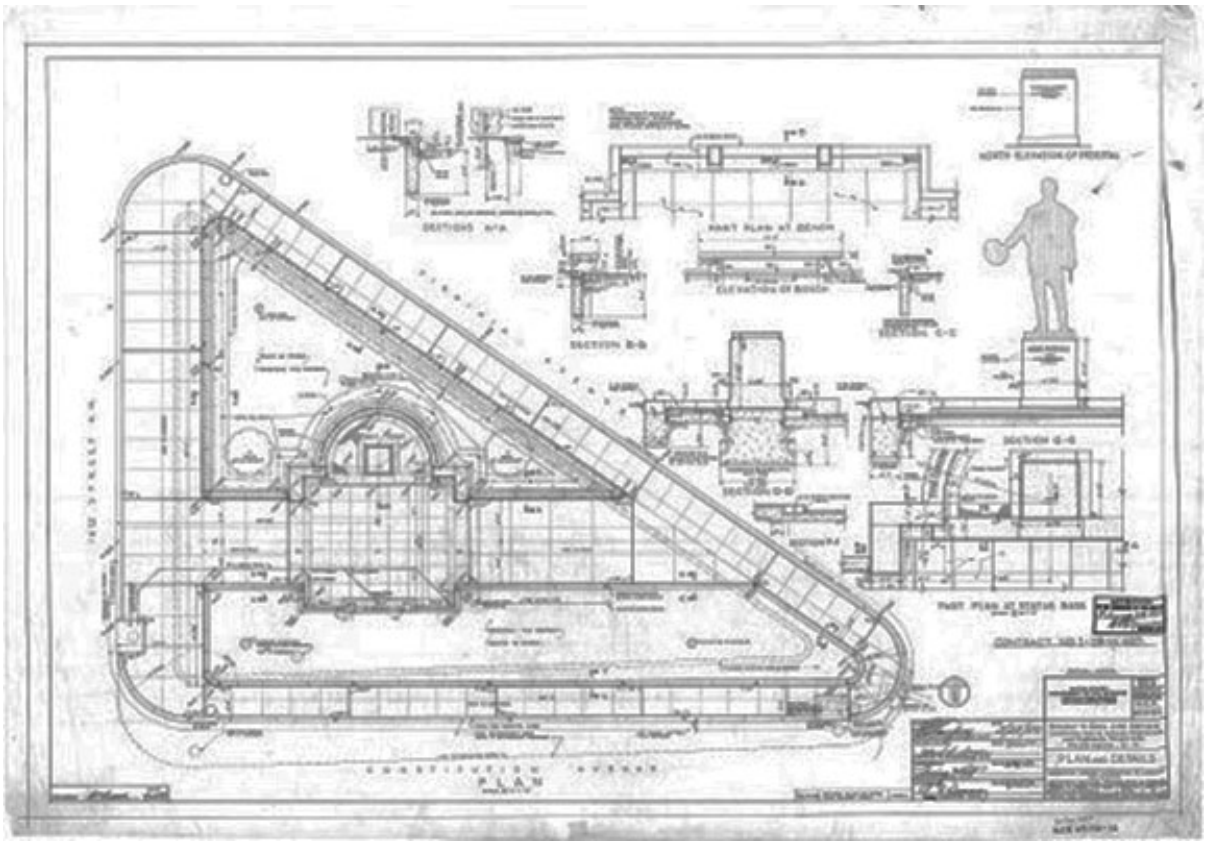
Meanwhile, directly southeast, construction of the new Federal Reserve Annex—the William McChesney Martin, Jr. Building—completed in 1974, resulted in the creation of a new federal reservation, Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex). Located directly southeast of Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park), the land for the annex had previously been used as a parking lot for the Fed's Marriner S. Eccles Building (1937). Prior to that it was the site of a WWI era temporary building. H2L2, the architecture firm responsible for the OAS annex at Reservation 384 (Pan American Annex) and the plaza at Reservation 110 (Artigas), designed the Martin building in the International Style. The final design nods to the Neoclassicism of surrounding Federal buildings in its use of white marble and the structure's tripartite focus, featuring a clear delineation and treatment of the annex's base, main body and roof. As part of the building's construction the entire site was landscaped for the first time, and the greenspace along Virginia Avenue NW, between 20th and 21st Streets, greatly expanded. Prominent landscape architect, George Patton, designed the original landscape over an underground parking lot. The final garden featured elements of the Modernist style Patton was known for, including specially designed lampposts, raised granite beds, a sunken tennis court along the park's western edge and plantings of evergreen and magnolias throughout. At the reservation's southeast corner, Patton designed a distinctly Modernist hardscape, centered around a large oval granite fountain and surrounding terraced plaza with built in seating. In 1976, the site was dedicated to Robert Latham Owen, Senator from Oklahoma (1907-1905), member of the Cherokee Nation and a principle advocate of the Federal Reserve Act.

In 1976, a storm destroyed much of Patton's original landscape. The Federal Reserve hired the firm of Oehme, van Sweden (OvS) to rehabilitate the space. Their final design, completed in 1977, is an early example of the style the firm is now most associated with—known as the New American Garden style. Characterized by massed plantings of grasses and perennials, the style referenced the meadows of the Great Plains and made use of plant material that would provide visual interest in all four seasons. Oehme, van Sweden broke the space along Virginia Avenue NW into separate seating areas and dramatic plantings. Large lawns panels provided space for rotating displays of sculpture,

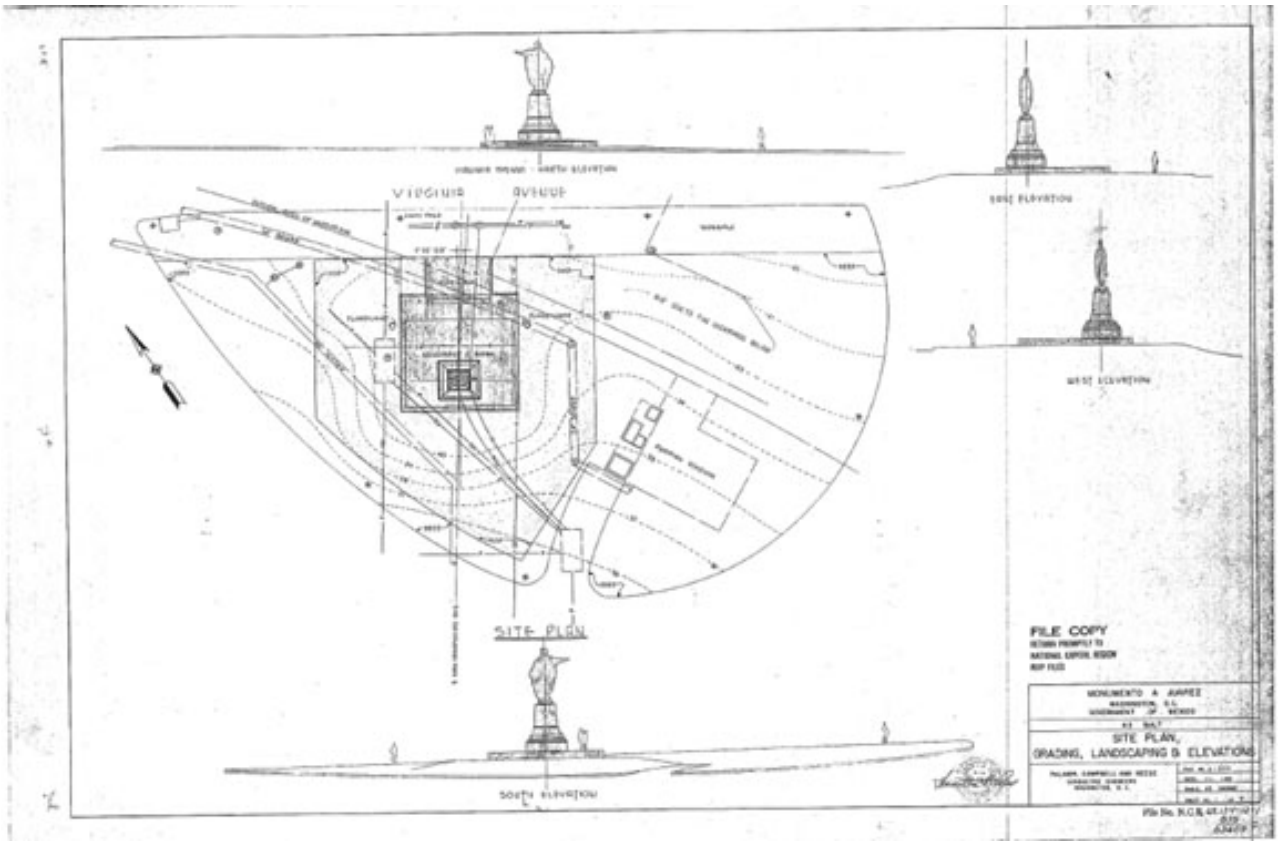
while benches along the lawn's perimeter walks invited Federal Reserve workers and pedestrians to linger (Cultural Landscape Foundation retrieved 07/10/2018). Oehme, van Sweden preserved many elements of Patton's original landscape design, most notably the Owen fountain, raised plant beds and Modern style lampposts, surrounding these elements with their signature massive plant beds, filled with grasses and sedum and black-eyed susans.

In a 2010 interview, van Sweden referred to project at Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex) as "our big break" and the first example of the New American Garden style in the United States. The firm would go on to design similar landscapes for the National Academy of Sciences, the German American Friendship Garden on the National Mall and the New American Garden at the National Arboretum.

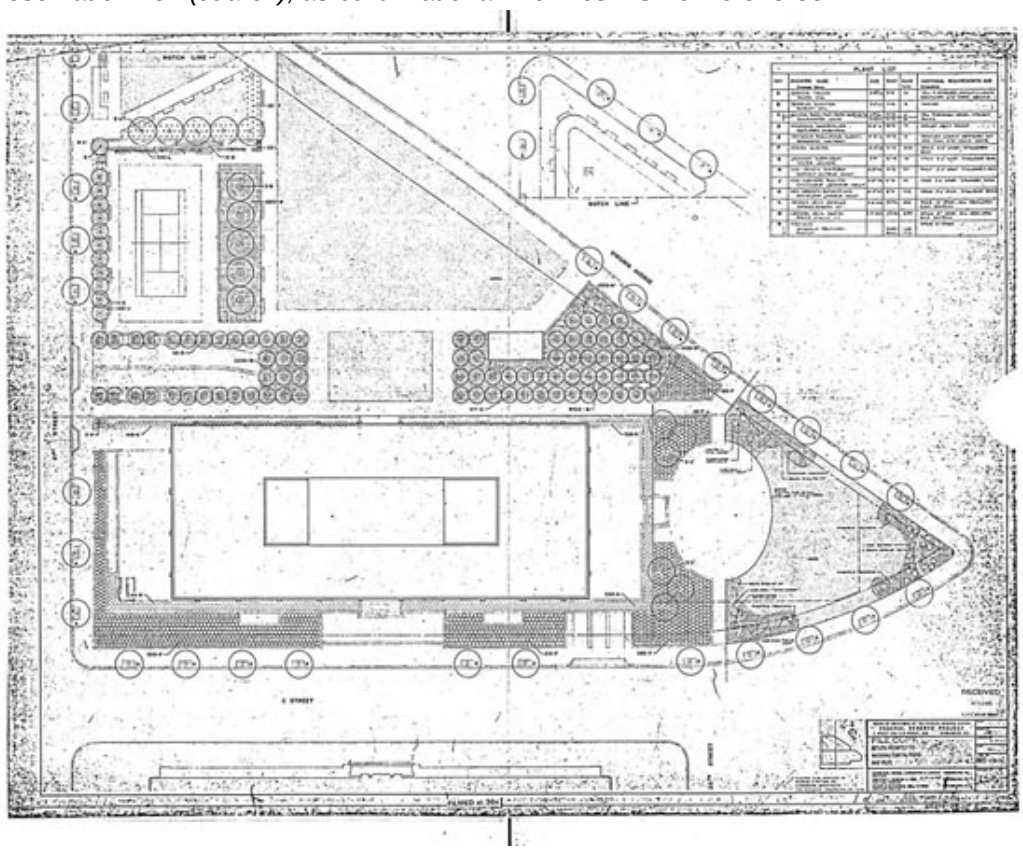
Summary:
1947-1977 saw a number of significant changes to Virginia Avenue NW. Between 1950 and 1976, four statues devoted to Latin American Revolutionaries were installed along the avenue, at reservation 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 106 (San Martin), and 134 (Juarez). Another statue, dedicated to Spanish general Bernardo de Galvez, a participant in the American Revolution, was erected at reservation 720. These reservations were redesigned, often in collaboration with prominent architecture firms or architects, a number of them Latin American, in anticipation of each statue's placement. An additional statue, the Discobolos, was installed at Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park) in 1956. In the 1960s, construction of the E Street Expressway and the Potomac River Freeway resulted in tunneling under of Reservation 134 (Juarez). The Reservation was reshaped and redesigned in 1968. Reservation 106 (San Martin) was temporarily destroyed during construction of the E Street Expressway, but was redeveloped and expanded in 1976. Highway construction also resulted in the creation of a new reservation, Reservation 720 (Galvez), in the 1960s, after completion of a freeway offramp. Additional developments along Virginia Avenue NW included the 1974 completion of the Federal Reserve Annex, located south of Reservation 378. As part of the building's construction, prominent modern landscape architect George Patton designed a large garden behind the building, along Virginia Avenue NW. After a storm destroyed much of Patton's design, the firm of Oehme, van Sweden produced a new landscape plan for the space, in a style that would come to be known as the New American Garden style.



Monument to Gen. Jose Artigas, Plan and Details; Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson, architects, February 24, 1950. RG 79, NCP Drawings, 69.110, National Archives, Cartographic and Architectural Collection.



Consulting engineering firm Palmer, Campbell and Reese's plans for the redesigned southern half of Reservation 134 (Juarez), as built. National Archives RG 79 No.875-83414.



George Patton's 1973 Planting Plan for Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex). On file with the National Park Service, National Capital Region.

Virginia Avenue Recent History: 1978 to Today

After several decades of development along Virginia Avenue, the past forty years has been relatively free of change. The initial postwar population boom was followed by and economic downturn that would define the character of the city in the last half of the 20th century. Middle class residents began to leave Washington en masse—lured by the promise of a new kind of suburban life.

Large-scale urban renewal projects like the Watergate, Columbia Plaza and construction of the E Street Expressway, as well as the growth of George Washington University, led to the loss of a large percentage of 19th century building fabric in the Foggy Bottom neighborhood. Empty factory buildings were dilapidated and surrounding worker housing was considered "blighted" and earmarked for demolition. But fearing continued development and loss of the neighborhood's historic character, local residents mobilized to protect approximately 200 19th century rowhouses, immediately north of Virginia Avenue NW, between 26th Street and New Hampshire Avenue, as part of the Foggy Bottom Historic District. The district was designated as a DC landmark and listed on the National Register in 1987 (Snyderman 1987).

Efforts to preserve the neighborhood's residential character continued through the 1990s, as commercial development spread from the Northwest Rectangle. The cost of housing in the neighborhood rose steadily through the 1980s and 1990s, despite trends in the opposite direction throughout much of DC. This was largely the result of scarcity, driven by an influx of office construction between Virginia Avenue NW and Pennsylvania Avenue NW, and the rapid expansion of George Washington University. Population in the neighborhood dropped from 14,500 residents in 1976, to less than 10,000 in 1996 (The Washington Post Sept.7, 1996:E1). By the early 1990s, residents referred to the university as "The Thing That Ate Foggy Bottom," the result of the school's destruction of blocks of townhouses for campus buildings, and the conversion of existing apartments into student dormitories (The Washington Post, Jan. 13, 1990:E1; The Washington Post, April 25, 1992:E1).

Despite continued development pressure, Virginia Avenue NW remained largely unchanged through the 1980s and 1990s. The NPS continued to conduct regular maintenance to the avenue's small park reservations, replacing and rehabilitating landscape materials as necessary and caring for the statuary. A rehabilitation of the San Martin statue and surrounding landscape was completed in 1985 (Jose de San Martin Rehabilitation Plans 1985). In the early 2000s, parts of Virginia Avenue NW were included in the National Capital Planning Commission's Memorials and Museums Master Plan. The NCPC identified the E Street Expressway interchange, directly south of Reservation 134 (Juarez), as one of its prime sites, capable of accommodating memorials or museums of "lasting historical and national importance." The E Street Expressway's high visibility and strong axial relationship with the White House and Lincoln Memorial made it a strong candidate for future development (NCPC 2004:17,36). Walt Whitman Park, directly east of Reservation 106 (San Martin), was also considered a prime site, the development of which might drive new economic activity to a part of Virginia Avenue that was generally abandoned on evenings and weekends (NCPC 2004:62). The east side of Rock Creek, at the northwest terminus of Virginia Avenue NW, was also identified as a potential candidate for future use. Though not a prime site, the NCPC identified it as suitable for a "small commemorative" space related to its historic importance as a gateway to the city (NCPC 2004:116).

However, none of the spaces surrounding Virginia Avenue NW have been developed as a result of the Memorials and Museums Master Plan, the street's proximity to Washington's ceremonial core makes it a prime candidate for future commemorative use. In the meantime, Virginia Avenue's more recent history is being re-evaluated and appreciated as part of the city's 20th century development. In 2014, the National Capital Planning Commission, working with Cultural Tourism DC, published the Foggy Bottom/Northwest Rectangle Heritage Trail Assessment Report. Through a study of the neighborhood's history, and proposed development of a self-guided walking tour, the NCPC sought to

activate the neighborhood's streets, including Virginia Avenue NW, in an effort to "enhance the quality of the public spaces for the enjoyment of residents, workers, and visitors" (NCPC 2014:1). The proposed tour included a north loop that, while centered around the 19th century historic district, also included stops at the Watergate and Kennedy Centers, and an entire south loop devoted to the development of federal buildings as part of the Northwest Rectangle. The inclusion of these buildings and developments as historically significant landscapes coincides with recent NPS restoration of some of the small parks dating to this period. In 2010, a condition assessment of the Juarez Statue at Reservation 134 lead to rehabilitation of the statue and plaza. In summer 2018, the NPS completed a yearlong restoration of the pool at Reservation 383 (Bolivar), and a rehabilitation to the landscaping around the Federal Reserve Annex at Reservation 378 was underway at the time of this report's writing.

During the week of October 15th, 2018, after the original version of this document was submitted to NCR for concurrence, all of the yew hedges were removed from Reservation 383 in order to address issues associated with rodent habitats. To keep the document accurate and up to date, the NCR CLI Coordinator documented the reservation on Monday October 29th, 2018. Only two sets of mass plantings of sedum were noted in the reservation along the southern edge. None of the previously documented trees were removed. Damage was documented on the parget of the stairs and its remains unclear when this damage occurred. The NCR CLP will work with the staff of the National Mall and Memorial Parks to develop replace vegetation recommendations that are in keeping with the historic character of the reservation. Please review Appendix D to see the character of the reservation. Future CLIs must document the changes to the cultural landscape.

Summary:
The past forty years have seen relatively few changes along Virginia Avenue NW. However, several spaces immediately adjacent to the avenue have been proposed as sites of future museums or national memorials, no plans for major new developments are currently underway. In the meantime, the National Park Service has continued regular maintenance at individual small parks, and completed rehabilitation projects at several reservations, including Reservation 106 (San Martin), 383 (Bolivar), and 134 (Juarez). As of the completion of this report, a Federal Reserve managed restoration was underway at Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex).

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

This section provides an evaluation of the physical integrity of the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape characteristics and features present during the periods of significance with existing conditions. Landscape characteristics are the tangible and intangible aspects of a landscape that allow visitors to understand its cultural value. Collectively, they express the historic character and integrity of a landscape. Landscape characteristics give a property cultural importance and comprise the property's uniqueness. Each characteristic or feature is classified as contributing or non-contributing to the site's overall historic significance.

Landscape characteristics consist of landscape features. Landscape features are classified as contributing if they were present during the property's period of significance. Non-contributing features (those that were not present during the historical period) may be considered "compatible" when they fit within the physical context of the historical period and attempt to match the character of contributing elements in a way that is sensitive to the construction techniques, organizational methods or design strategies of the historic period. Incompatible features are those that are not harmonious with the quality of the cultural landscape and, through their existence, can lessen the historic character of a property. For those features that are listed as undetermined, further primary research, which is outside the scope of this CLI, is necessary to determine the feature's origination date.

Landscape characteristics identified for Virginia Avenue NW are: location; land use; topography; spatial organization; circulation; cluster arrangement; views and vistas; vegetation; small scale features and constructed water features.

This section also includes an evaluation of the landscape's integrity in accordance with the National Register criteria. Historic integrity, as defined by the National Register, is the authenticity of a property's identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the site's historic period. The National Register recognizes seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Several or all of these aspects must be present for a site to retain historic integrity. To be listed in the National Register, a property not only must be shown to have significance under one or more criteria, but must also retain integrity to its period or periods of significance.

Note: Reservations numbers for the small parks located along Virginia Avenue NW were changed several times during their history. This A&E refers to both. When historic reservation numbers are used, current reservation numbers have been included in parentheses.

INTEGRITY
Summaries of landscape characteristics identified for Virginia Avenue NW are listed below.
Land Use:
Throughout its history, the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape has consistently maintained a number of original uses, all designed as part of L'Enfant's original plan. These include transportation, recreation, commemoration and political use. Subsequent periods of significance resulted in the redesign of the avenue's small parks to accommodate new modes of thinking regarding recreation, changing modes of transportation and shifting political priorities. These developments were in keeping with, and expanded upon, L'Enfant's original intentions for Virginia Avenue NW. As a result, the landscape retains integrity to all three periods of significance.

Topography:
Throughout its history, the topography of Virginia Avenue NW has been relatively flat. This is in keeping with the natural topography of the land that the avenue was built on, and the L'Enfant Plan for streets and open spaces throughout the city of Washington. Parks were first graded as part of their initial period of constructions, from 1899 to 1912. Slight topographical changes to the landscape via raised plazas, terraces and slightly sloped lawns, were designed or introduced during the third period of significance. These changes were relatively minor and did detract from the original impression of a generally flat streetscape. They are still, however, considered significant. As such, the landscape retains integrity to all three periods of significance.

Spatial Organization:
All small parks designed as part of the original L'Enfant Plan had highly developed, geometric relationships to other L'Enfant-designed spaces, such as streets and avenues, surrounding small parks, seats of government and planned commemorative sites. Spatial organization of Virginia Avenue NW consists of the centrally located avenue with small park reservations located on either side. Sightlines and direct connections between small parks and other designed elements, were defining organizing principles of the plan, and expressions of the Baroque city planning that inspired L'Enfant. These relationships were first established by the OPBG during the initial period of small park construction along Virginia Avenue NW, which lasted from 1899 to 1912. As a result, the landscape retains integrity of spatial organization to the first and second periods of significance.

In general, the spatial organization of individual reservations along the avenue dates to the third, midcentury period of significance (1950-1976), when many of the small parks were redesigned to accommodate statues, commemorative fountains or street/highway expansion and most Virginia Avenue small parks also retain integrity of spatial organization to the third period of significance.

Circulation:
All the L'Enfant small parks are located within traffic rights-of-way, and as a result, city streets border the parks on all sides. The relationship of the reservations along Virginia Avenue NW, to the surrounding street grid, is a fundamental element of the L'Enfant Plan and an integral part of the circulation pattern L'Enfant developed for the city as a whole. The OPBG defined this relationship during the second period of significance, when they built the small parks along Virginia Avenue NW, delineating them from surrounding streets with curbing and fencing. Virginia Avenue NW's primary circulation system, designed during the first period of significance and built during the second, remains intact and the landscape retains integrity to this period.

As with spatial organization, the design of the circulation patterns present at individual reservations generally dates to the third period of significance, when these parks were redesigned around modern plazas, newly installed statues and commemorative water features. As a result, the circulation of Virginia Avenue NW also retains integrity to the third period of significance.

Cluster Arrangement:
Clusters of rectangular and triangular open spaces along Virginia Avenue NW were designed during the first period of significance, as part of the L'Enfant plan, and built/expanded by the OPBG, during the second period of significance, The relationship of these small parks to one another is an expression of the L'Enfant Plan's overall spatial organization, which established direct links and geometric connections between various elements. Despite various periods of redevelopment along the avenue which affected the location and layout of individual small parks, the current cluster arrangement retains integrity to the first period of significance. During the third period of significance, an additional cluster arrangement was designed for the avenue, consisting of the thematic arrangement of statues devoted to Latin American liberators, installed at small parks between 1950 and 1976. These statues are all extant and thus the landscape retains additional integrity to the third period of significance.

Views and Vistas:
Vistas from small parks towards government buildings and monuments were a defining characteristic of the L'Enfant Plan and an important aspect in its overall spatial organization. These vistas were designed to connect smaller spaces with sites of national importance, binding the city together through a constant reminder of shared American values. The main sightlines designed for Virginia Avenue NW were views southeast, toward the Tiber Creek and National Mall and northwest to Georgetown. Additional views included sightlines down the street grid at F and G Streets NW, between Virginia Avenue NW and the Executive Mansion, as well as between planned open spaces, including reservations No. 4 and other open space along Virginia Avenue, New Hampshire and New York Avenues NW. Views between smaller parks, including circles, triangles and medians, further enforced Washington's city plan, designed by L'Enfant as a reflection of America itself. The construction of the Virginia Avenue NW parks during the second period of significance established these planned views for the first time, and established additional ones, directed toward new monuments, like the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. While mid-rise development in the 20th century has obstructed some of these views, enough remain intact for the Virginia Avenue Cultural Landscape to retain integrity to the first and second periods of significance. Between 1950 and 1976, a number of views were introduced at individual reservations, framing newly installed statuary. As a result, several small parks also have integrity of views and vistas to the third period of significance as well.

Vegetation:
Vegetation was not included as part of L'Enfant's original design for open spaces in Washington. As part of the delineation and development of small parks in the early 20th century, the OPBG planted turf grass, shade trees and flowers in small parks along Virginia Avenue NW. Research for this CLI did not uncover any specific planting plans for these reservations, and no vegetation is believed to date to the second period of significance. Elements of landscape designs installed during the mid-century period of redevelopment along the avenue, including plant material and planting plans, are intact. Thus, the Virginia Avenue NW landscape retains integrity to the third period of significance.

Small Scale Features:
Small scale features found along Virginia Avenue NW include five statues, installed in five small park reservations during the third period of significance, and a number of lampposts, benches, built in seating, trashcans and curbing, designed as part of redevelopment or redesigns of reservations dating to the same 1950 to 1976 period. Many of these features were specifically designed as part of larger plazas and exhibit characteristics of modern landscape design, such as the use of simplified, geometric forms and lack of ornamentation. The statues depict a number of "liberators," who helped secure independence throughout South and North America. These include, from SE to NW: General Jose Gervasio Artigas, Simon Bolivar, General Jose de San Martin, Bernardo de Galvez, and Benito Juarez. With the exception of the San Martin statue, which dates to 1924, all of the statues were cast between 1950 and 1976. Several are copies of originals located in South America. A sixth statue, a 1956 copy of an ancient Greek Discus Thrower by Myron, is located in Reservation 106 (San Martin) and was a gift from Italy. The statues and other small scale features, described in detail below, retain integrity to the third period of significance.

Constructed Water Features:
Two large decorative fountains, dating to the third period of significance are located at reservations 383 (Bolivar), and 378 (Federal Reserve Annex) along Virginia Avenue NW. These fountains were designed as part of the redevelopment of the southeast half of the avenue, as an enclave of government offices. The 1959 redesign of Reservation 383, as Simon Bolivar Plaza, included the construction of an asymmetrical blue tile pool. Six jets spouting water high into the air represented the six countries liberated by Bolivar. In 1974, construction of a new Federal Reserve annex building on Reservation 378 included the design of a circular memorial fountain dedicated to Robert Latham Owen, co-sponsor of the Federal Reserve Act. Landscape architect George E. Patton designed the modernist fountain as a complement to the new building. Both of these fountains are still present and retain integrity to the third period of significance.

THE SEVEN ASPECTS OF INTEGRITY

Location:
The location aspect of integrity involves the place where the landscape was constructed. Although the size shape of individual reservations has changed somewhat since their initial period of construction, the overall landscape of Virginia Avenue NW remains in the same location as it was originally laid out by Pierre Charles L'Enfant, and built by the Office of Buildings and Grounds. Individual reservations match those built or rebuilt during the second and third periods of significance. Thus, the landscape retains integrity of location to all three periods of significance.

Design:
Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure and style of a cultural landscape or historic property. Although changes have been made to accommodate new modes of transportation and increased development along the avenue, many essential aspects of L'Enfant's design for Virginia Avenue NW remain intact, including the axial relationship of the avenue to the National Mall and the location of several open spaces along the streetscape. Design changes during the second period of significance, the initial period of construction, included the addition of new triangular reservations, all in keeping with the original L'Enfant design. Several of these reservations were expanded during the third period of significance, and re-landscaped in a simple, geometric, style reflective of the modern movement. Elements of design from all three periods remain intact, with the overall landscape reflecting the design developed and implemented during the first and second period and most individual reservations reflecting the third period of significance.

Setting:
Setting is the physical environment of a cultural landscape or historic property. When the Virginia Avenue NW cultural landscape was first designed, the area surrounding the street was undeveloped, rural and occupied by only a few local landowners. During the 19th century, industry grew along the northwestern half of the avenue and worker housing sprang up throughout the neighborhood. The southeastern half of the avenue remained generally undeveloped until the 20th century, save for a few large homes and the naval observatory to the south. Beginning in the 1930s this part of the avenue was developed as federal office space. During the postwar period, the northwestern half of the avenue was redeveloped as part of an urban renewal project, and large, mixed-use apartment buildings replaced factories and other industrial buildings. The current setting of Virginia Avenue NW closely resembles the combination of mixed apartments and office space established during the third period of significance and the landscape retains integrity to this period.

Material:
Materials are the physical elements of a particular period, including construction materials, paving, plants and other landscape features. The majority of the current construction material and some plant materials date to the third period of significance, and the redesign of individual reservations during the postwar era. As such, the landscape retains integrity of material to the third period of significance.

Workmanship:
Workmanship includes the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular period. Original workmanship from the Virginia Avenue NW's initial period of construction was largely lost during the third period of significance, the

result of street-widening, redesign of small park reservations and other redevelopment along the avenue. However, much of the workmanship dating to the postwar period, including sculpture, metal work, and stone and tile masonry techniques, remains intact, and the site retains integrity of workmanship to the third period of significance.

Feeling:
Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period. As the essential landscape and layout L'Enfant designed for Virginia Avenue NW remains extant, historic feeling from the first period of significance has been preserved. Elements of the avenue introduced during the second period of significance, when the open spaces resulting from L'Enfant's plan were first established as small parks, is also intact. As is the feeling introduced during the third period of significance, when the landscape became a heavily trafficked modern street, and federal office buildings and apartment blocks replaced 19th century factories and homes. As a result, the site retains integrity of feeling to all three periods of significance.

Association:
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. Virginia Avenue NW is associated with Pierre L'Enfant and the 18th century planning of Washington, DC, as well as the 19th and early 20th century development of the L'Enfant Plan under the Office of Public Building and Grounds. Links to the first and second periods of significance are evident in the width of the street, its strong diagonal position among a series of orthogonal streets and its series of open spaces resulting from the intersection of diagonal with grid. L'Enfant's original design has not been substantially altered since it was first developed between 1899 and 1912, and the avenue retains integrity of association to the first and second periods of significance.

A second association, with Latin American countries and the 18th century fight to overthrow colonial rule in South and Central America, was introduced to Virginia Avenue NW during the third period of significance. Between 1950 and 1976, four statues of figures involved in independence movements throughout Latin America were installed in reservations along the avenue. These statues are a physical manifestation of Cold War attempts to strengthen relationships between the United States and its Latin American neighbors, by emphasizing their shared revolutionary pasts, and commitment to democracy, in the face of growing Soviet influence.

Additionally, individual reservations, specifically Reservations 383 (Bolivar), and 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), are associated with significant midcentury artists, such as the sculptor Felix de Weldon (Reservation 383, Bolivar) and landscape architects, including George E. Patton and the firm Oehme, van Sweden.

Landscape Characteristics and Features
This section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1791-1792; 1899-1912; 1950-1977), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource.

Landscape Characteristic:

HISTORIC
Land use refers to the principle activities conducted upon the landscape and how these uses organized, shaped, and formed the land. Pierre L'Enfant designed the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape in 1791, its primary use, a transportation route, with several open spaces, at least one of which was intended as a public square. The diagonal avenue served as an entryway into the city from the west, where it connected Washington with Georgetown, an established tobacco port. To the southeast, the avenue terminated at the mouth of the Tiber Creek. The public square, one of 15 numbered open spaces on L'Enfant's plan, represented one of the nation's original states. Thus from the outset aspects of the Virginia Avenue Cultural Landscape were designed for symbolic use, in addition to practical purposes.

The avenue itself was platted, but not paved until the 1870s. The open spaces surrounding the avenue were first delineated as a result of street paving and the OPBG improved these spaces, landscaping them for use as small parks, during the second period of significance. Considered too small for extensive recreational use, the reservations along Virginia Avenue NW were minimally planted with grass, shrubs, shade trees and flowers, to beautify the increasingly busy street, and provide places for passive recreation. Most of these reservations were redesigned during the third period of significance, when much of the neighborhood was redeveloped as part of federal office expansion and urban renewal efforts. New designs for the parks retained their historic use as places of passive recreation, while adding a new commemorative aspect to many reservations, with the installation of statues celebrating Latin American liberators along the avenue. In 1974, an element of active recreation in the form of a tennis court was introduced at Reservation 378, as part of the newly built Federal Reserve Annex.

EXISTING CONDITION
Virginia Avenue NW continues to function as a city street, as it has since it was first platted in the late 18th century. Its use as part of the larger symbology of L'Enfant's plan for Washington is also intact, legible in the overall interplay of the diagonal avenue with surrounding orthogonal streets and open spaces, the avenue's continued use as a main western approach to the city, and the axial connections it provides with Georgetown and the National Mall, which was extended in the early 20th century after the infill of the Tiber Creek. Recreational and commemorative uses, added during the second and third periods of significance, are also present. The Virginia Avenue NW triangle parks serve surrounding office workers looking to enjoy lunch or after work hours outdoors, as well as tourists and locals alike interested in the avenues statues and sculptures.

ANALYSIS
The use and purpose of the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape has not changed since the first period of significance, when the site was designed by Pierre L'Enfant as a primary entrance road into the city of Washington, surrounded by several open spaces and imbued with symbolic meaning. Recreational (both passive and active) and commemorative uses were added to the landscape during the second and third period of significance and are also unchanged. As a result, the site retains full integrity of land use to all three periods of significance.

LANDSCAPE FEATURES
Feature: Continual use of Virginia Avenue as a major thoroughfare in the Washington D.C. street network.
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Continual use of Virginia Avenue as a major thoroughfare in the Washington D.C. street network

Feature Identification Number: 186131

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

HISTORIC
Topography refers to the three dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features such as slope, articulation, orientation, and elevation. The Virginia Avenue NW cultural landscape was designed for an area of naturally flat land between two creeks, the Tiber and Rock Creek, both tributaries of the Potomac River. Much of the northwest half of the avenue was originally marshland, located at a slightly lower elevation than the southeast section of the street. Both the northwest and southeast ends of the avenue originally bordered water (Rock Creek to the north and the Tiber Creek to the south). Pierre L'Enfant's plan for the city of Washington did not call for any major changes to the site's natural topography.

The Department of Engineers graded Virginia Avenue NW in the 1870s, before paving the street. During the second period of significance, the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds graded the small park reservations along the avenue as part of their initial construction. No changes to the landscape's flat topography were introduced during this period. In the 1960s, highway construction and redevelopment around the northwest half of the avenue resulted in the introduction of new traffic patterns, sloping onramps, drops in street grade, and tunneling under Virginia Avenue at 24th St NW and Virginia Avenue NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW. As a result of these changes, the NPS reshaped and redesigned several Virginia Avenue NW triangle parks. Overall, the new designs maintained the flat topography of individual reservations, especially along the sides bordering Virginia Avenue NW, though some introduced gentle slopes and raised plazas. Topographic variations at Reservation 720 (Galvez) where a lawn descends along the park's southeast side, bordering an off ramp from the Potomac River Freeway, and Reservation 134 South, where a newly designed half-moon shaped reservation included a small sloped lawn behind the statue of Benito Juarez are examples of the type of topographic changes that resulted from tunneling and freeway construction. The raised plazas at Reservations 383 (Bolivar), and 106 (San Martin) are reflective of the subtle topographies of modernist style hardscapes introduced at several reservations during this time.

EXISTING
The current overall topography of the Virginia Avenue NW streetscape remains generally flat, with a slight decrease in elevation along the northwest half. Changes to individual reservations dating to the third period of significance, including the introduction of gently sloping lawns Reservations 720 (Galvez), the southern half of Reservation 134 (Juarez), and the northern section of Reservation 106 (San Martin), bordering the E Street Expressway, are still intact. As are topographic changes introduced as part of modernist hardscapes at Reservation 106 (San Martin), 383 (Bolivar), and 378 (Federal Reserve Annex). No major new construction or redesigns of the road, or its surrounding reservation have taken place since 1976.

ANALYSIS
The overall topography of Virginia Avenue NW has changed very little since its initial period of design, when it was laid out with no changes to the naturally flat topography typical of a marshy, low-lying riverland. Road and park construction during the second period of significance resulted in grading of the site, but no significant changes to its topography. Redevelopment during the third period of significance introduced gentle slopes to some newly designed reservations, tunneling and small elevation changes to the avenue itself as well as topographic elements included in designed hardscapes, such as raised plazas and fountains. These changes did not detract from the overall topography present during the first and second periods, and remain intact today. The site, therefore, retains integrity of topography to all three periods of significance.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Relatively flat topography

Feature Identification Number: 186132

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Left: Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park) showing flat topography typical of majority of Virginia Avenue NW landscape. Center: slight slope designed for Reservation 134 (Juarez). Right: Topography of raised plaza at Reservation 106 (San Martin).

HISTORIC
A site's spatial organization refers to the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in the landscape, including articulation of ground, and vertical and overhead planes that define and create spaces. All small parks designed as part of the original L'Enfant Plan had highly developed, geometric relationships to other L'Enfant-designed spaces, such as streets and avenues, surrounding small parks, seats of government and planned commemorative sites. Sightlines and direct connections between small parks and other designed elements, were defining organizing principles of the plan, and expressions of the Baroque city planning that inspired L'Enfant. Among the primary organizing elements of the plan for Washington, was a series of diagonal avenues, including Virginia Avenue NW, superimposed on a grid of orthogonal streets. The wide avenues served as ceremonial entryways to the city, providing direct connections with important sites. In the case of Virginia Avenue NW, the avenue was designed to connect the established village of Georgetown,

directly west of Rock Creek, with central Washington, the mouth of the Tiber Creek, and the western edge of the planned National Mall.

L'Enfant allocated space for fifteen squares throughout the capital, to be turned over to individual states for development as places of commemoration and public use. These spaces were located throughout the city, including Reservation 134 (Juarez, formerly Reservation No.4, located at the intersection of Virginia and New Hampshire Avenues, NW). L'Enfant believed initial investment in these dedicated public spaces would spur development and growth throughout the nascent city.

Andrew Ellicott's 1792 plan for Washington abandoned notes related to relying on states for improvement of these dedicated open spaces, and ultimately most were developed by the Office of Buildings and Grounds, at the same time as surrounding triangle parks. These small, geometrically shaped parks were created at the meeting of diagonal and orthogonal streets throughout the city and are another organizing principal of L'Enfant's plan. While L'Enfant provided no specific directions regarding the use of these spaces, some along Virginia Avenue NW, such as Reservations 134 (Juarez), 106 (San Martin), 378 (Federal Reserve Annex) and 110 (Artigas), are identifiable as part of the original plan. These wedge and square-shaped open spaces mirror the geometries of the overall L'Enfant Plan in miniature.

No major modifications to the overall spatial organization of Virginia Avenue NW were made during the second period of significance, when the small parks surrounding the avenue were actually built. Research for this CLI did not locate any specifics regarding the OPBG's design of individual reservations along Virginia Avenue NW. A list of improvements found in Annual Reports includes discussion of installation of curbing, concrete sidewalks and perimeter fences and the planting of a large number of flowering shrubs and trees at Reservations 134 (Juarez), 99, 100 and 102. It is unclear whether these descriptions are entirely accurate, as photos from the 1920s suggest these small parks were treated simply, planted with turf grass, perhaps a few trees and enclosed with fencing. Any formal plantings that were in fact, installed, were likely grouped together to form a central focal point, intended to provide visual interest for passing pedestrians. Considered too small for extensive landscaping, this is how the OPBG treated smaller reservations throughout the city in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

More extensive redesign of the interior organization of individual reservations dates to the third period of significance, when many of the small parks along Virginia Avenue were completely redesigned around the instillation of statues, commemorative fountains, and in the case of Reservations 378 (Federal Reserve Annex) and 384 (Pan American Annex), entire buildings. Unlike the classical, centralized focus of spatial organization under the OPBG, mid-century landscape architects working with and for the National Park Service favored asymmetrical plans that fore fronted the placement of newly installed statues and fountains, while dividing larger reservations into separate areas for different uses. As with the second period of significance, redesign of individual small park reservations did not affect L'Enfant's overall spatial organization of the Virginia Avenue NW landscape. This is despite the loss and/or reshaping existing reservations and introduction of several new parks during the second period of significance, the result of highway construction in the early 1960s.

EXISTING
The overall spatial organization of Virginia Avenue NW remains much the same as Pierre L'Enfant designed it during the first period of significance. The number and shape of individual small park reservations surrounding the avenue has changed somewhat. However, their development and design has never detracted from the spatial organization of the landscape as a whole. Virginia Avenue NW remains a main entry point to central Washington, connecting both the Potomac River and Georgetown with the National Mall. The Washington Monument, a 20th century addition to the landscape, now serves as a beacon at the southeast end of the avenue, replacing the Tiber Creek, which was reclaimed in the late 19th century. L'Enfant's plan anticipated the construction of new monuments and areas of commemoration, so the addition of the Washington Monument only amplifies organizing principles established during the first period of significance.

The development of small park reservations during the second and third periods of significance

resulted in the establishment of new patterns of spatial organization, between small parks and within individual sites. These continue to be expressed through visual connections dating to the initial period of construction, during the OPBG era, and a shared language of modernist landscape design, and theme of Latin American independence, still present at small parks along Virginia Avenue NW.

Descriptions of existing interior organization of individual reservations, listed from southeast to northwest, are included below:

Reservation 110 (Artigas): A small, 0.06-acre park, organized around the statue of General Jose Gervasio Artigas, which is located in the center of this triangular shaped reservation, within a semicircular plaza, facing the National Mall, located directly across Constitution Avenue NW. A small lawn borders the Virginia Avenue NW side of the park, which is surrounded by perimeter sidewalks. A stone bench is across the sidewalk from the Artigas statue, along the park's Constitution Ave NW side.

Reservation 384 (Pan American Annex): The 0.64-acre reservation is organized around the Pan American/Organization of American States Annex, a large, centrally-located rectangular building facing Constitution Avenue NW. A lawn borders the 18th Street NW and Virginia Avenue NW sides of the triangular reservation. A parking lot and semi-circular drive are located along 19th Street NW. The site is surrounded by perimeter sidewalks, and circulation patterns focus on access to the building via its primary south facing façade, and western entrance near the parking lot.

Reservation 383 (Bolivar): A 2.19-acre, triangular reservation, with asymmetric organization, focused around two main features; a statue of Simon Bolivar and surrounding marble plaza and walkway, which encompasses the site's southeast and eastern sections; and a five-sided polygonal pool and fountain, surrounded by a lawn, which is the focus of the central and eastern half of the site. The abstract geometries used to organize the site are hallmarks of modern landscape design. Perimeter sidewalks surround the park.

Reservation 108: A 0.30-acre reservation organized around a perimeter sidewalk and central lawn.

Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex): A 2.26-acre reservation, primarily organized around the Federal Reserve's William McChesney Martin Jr. Building, the main entrance of which faces C Street NW. Along Virginia Avenue NW, a large garden, designed in 1977, by the firm Oehme, van Sweden (OvS) covers an underground parking structure. The park is divided into distinct spaces: a recreational area with tennis court at the park's western side, bordering 21st Street NW; a large central lawn in the center of the park is dedicated to temporary sculpture displays and is surrounded by walks and seating areas; and a memorial fountain and garden made up of raised beds and masses plantings encompassing the southeast corner, bordering Virginia Avenue NW and C Street NW. The reservation is directly adjacent to Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park). Perimeter sidewalks surround the entire site.

Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park): Reservation 105 is a 0.24-acre triangular reservation directly adjacent to Reservation 378, bordering the Federal Reserve garden's northwest side. The park is organized around a statue of the Discus Thrower, which has been installed within an interior lawn, surrounded by a triangular walkway that reflects the shape of the reservation. A number of benches face the statue and the Virginia Avenue NW and planted beds and sidewalks border the 21st Street NW sides of the park.

Reservation 106 (San Martin): a one-acre reservation, with asymmetric organization. The primary focus of the park is the circular plaza and statue of Jose de San Martin, located at the corner of Virginia Avenue NW and 20th Street NW. Several walks crisscross the lawn that makes up the rest of the park, carving out abstract geometric panels of grass. Circulation is both direct and meandering: a linear path connecting 20th and 21st Street NW, while more meandering, routes radiate around the plaza. The northern edge of the park is bordered by a granite wall that separates the park from the E Street Expressway tunnel, below.

Reservation 104: A 0.02-acre triangle of Belgian block at the northeast corner of the State

Department building.

Reservation 103: A 0.02-acre triangle, at the western corner of a larger triangular reservation managed by DC. Vents appear to cover the entirety of NPS-owned area.

Reservation 720 (Galvez): A 0.93-acre reservation divided into three sections: a flat rectangular lawn with a statue of Bernardo de Galvez, bordered by a pink granite wall on two sides, blocking views to the E Street Expressway on the west and a parkway offramp to the south ; a sloping parabolic shaped lawn with an eastern border defined by the offramp; and a shoehorn-shaped sliver of land just east of the offramp. The reservation is organized around, and defined by, the offramp. Pedestrian circulation consists of a linear path between E Street and the offramp and sidewalks along Virginia Avenue NW.

Reservation 101: A 0.02-acre reservation located at the eastern corner of Virginia Avenue NW and E Street NW. The tiny NPS managed area is maintained by the hotel that takes up the rest of the block.

Reservation 99: A 0.05-acre reservation, simply organized around an interior lawn. Perimeter sidewalks surround the reservation.

Reservation 98: A 0.05-acre reservation, simply organized around an interior lawn. Perimeter sidewalks surround the reservation.

Reservation 134 north: A 0.18-acre, parabola-shaped reservation simply organized around an interior lawn with some landscaping. Perimeter sidewalks surround the reservation.

Reservation 134 south (Juarez): A 0.18-acre, parabola-shaped reservation organized around the statue of Benito Juarez, which faces Virginia Avenue NW and is located within a rectangular plaza. The plaza and surrounding plantings are slightly off center, in keeping with the asymmetric organizational style favored by modern landscape architects and observed at many of Virginia Avenue NW's small parks

EVALUATION
The overall spatial organization of the Virginia Avenue NW cultural landscape retains integrity to the first and second periods of significance, when the avenue was designed and constructed. Alterations made to Virginia Avenue NW during the third period of significance did not greatly affect the organizing principles laid out by L'Enfant and built by the OPBG. The avenue remains a wide diagonal gateway, leading to central Washington from the west. Reservation 134 (Juarez), one of L'Enfant's original fifteen squares, was redesigned in the 1960s, when Virginia Avenue NW was routed through its center, but it is still extant as a public space. All of the features listed above possess easily legible relationships, and display obvious connections, to other L'Enfant features, along the avenue itself, as well as the orthogonal street grid.

The spatial organization of individual reservations generally dates to the third period of significance, when these spaces were redesigned in the modern style, and reorganized around the placement of statues. Individual reservations with integrity to the third period of significance include: Reservations 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), 106 (San Martin), 720 (Galvez), and 134 (Juarez). The interior spatial organization of these small parks has not changed significantly since they were designed, between 1950 and 1976.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Overall spatial organization centered along the axis of Virginia Avenue, with secondary relationships to monuments and other elements of the larger L'Enfant plan

Feature Identification Number: 186133

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 110; design centered on General Gervasio Artigas statue including perimeter walks

Feature Identification Number: 186134

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 383; asymmetrical design including the Simon Bolivar Memorial, plaza, and fountain

Feature Identification Number: 186135

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 378; Oehme, van Sweden asymmetrically designed landscape including tennis court, memorial park, statuary displays, and planting beds

Feature Identification Number: 186136

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 106; Circular plaza centered around San Martin statuary with asymmetrical walks

Feature Identification Number: 186137

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 720; 3-part landscape plan including Galvez statue

Feature Identification Number: 186138

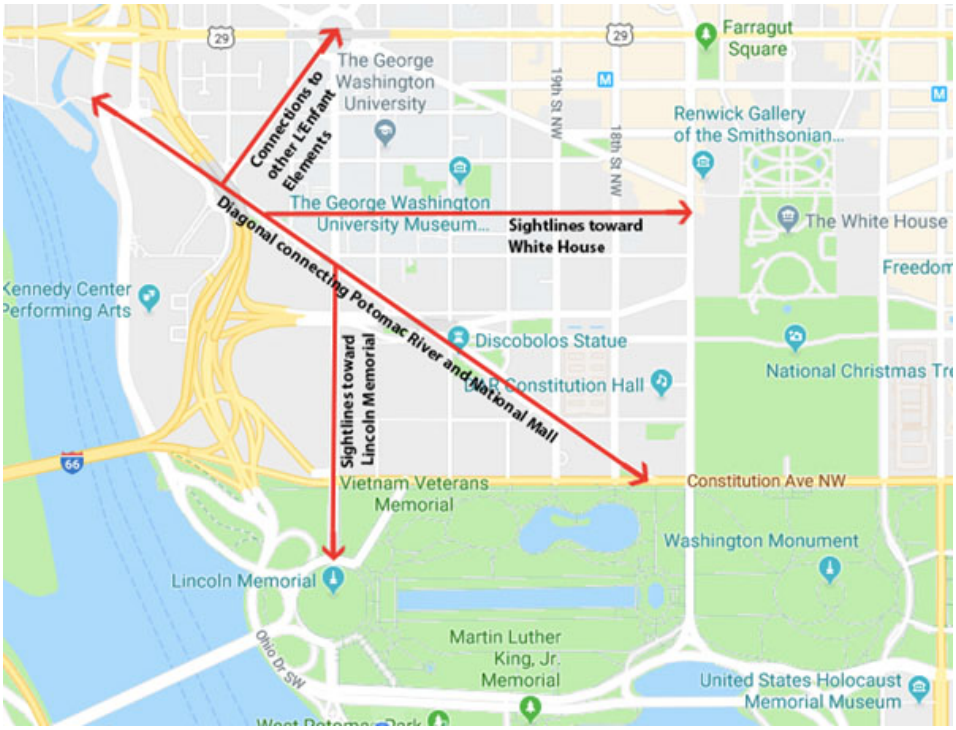
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 134; asymmetrical design including the Benito Juarez statue and associated rectangular plaza

Feature Identification Number: 186139

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Overall spatial organization along Virginia Avenue NW is centered around the street's diagonal, which connects the Potomac River and Georgetown with the National Mall, and sightlines and street connections to important national monuments such as the White House and the Lincoln Memorial.

Aerial of Reservation 383 (Bolivar) showing a asymmetrical spatial organization of individual reservations built during the third period of significance.

HISTORIC

Circulation is defined by the spaces, features and applied material finishes which constitute systems of movement in a landscape. Historic circulation along Virginia Avenue NW consisted of the street itself and its relationship to surrounding small park reservations, and the interior circulation patterns designed for individual small parks. L'Enfant designed the streetscape's overall circulation pattern during the first period of significance, at which time, the land for the avenue was also acquired. He specified that Washington's avenues—including Virginia Avenue NW—should be grand and tree lined, in the manor of European promenades. On the plan they were wide, oriented diagonally, NW to SE or NE to SW, and provided physical and visual connections to prominent sites. Virginia Avenue NW would serve as a gateway to the city, linking Georgetown with the Tiber Creek and the future site of the National Mall, via a 136 degree angled avenue. Virginia Avenue NW's surrounding small parks, located at intersections where the avenue met the surrounding street grid, emphasized the symbolic element of L'Enfant's design, which drew on both European and colonial traditions, transforming the practicality of the ubiquitous American grid through a more profound native understanding of the European Baroque style. These small open spaces provided opportunities for beautification, commemoration and relaxation, without detracting from the plan's precise, geometric circulation patterns.

The Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) established many of these circulation patterns during the second period of significance, during which time the avenue itself, and its surrounding parks were developed and improved. Beginning with the reservations in the northwest, the OPBG delineated the small parks from surrounding streets with curbs. Internal circulation was limited to perimeter sidewalks.

The overall circulation pattern along Virginia Avenue was partially affected by highway construction particularly the E Street Expressway, in the 1960s. To accommodate increased traffic, the avenue was widened from five to six lanes. Parts of the avenue, and several reservations, including 134 (Juarez) and 103, were tunneled under for the E Street Expressway and the Inner Loop freeway. The use of tunneling instead of a more dramatic redesign was an attempt by DC Planners to preserve the integrity of L'Enfant's Plan.

Detailed interior circulation within individual reservations was not designed until the third period of significance, when the NPS redeveloped many of the small parks in the modernist style. Circulation from this period mostly included the construction of interior walkways that provided access to newly built plazas and statuary. In keeping with the modern aesthetic, many of these walkways were laid out in asymmetric patterns, resulting in the creation of abstractly shaped or geometric lawn panels.

EXISTING

Overall, the circulation along Virginia Avenue is relatively unchanged since the third period of significance, when the northwest section of the avenue was redeveloped as part of larger highway project, and individual reservations were redesigned to include interior circulation. Despite changes to the small parks and the overall streetscape, L'Enfant's original vision for the landscape, as built by the OPBG, has been preserved in the avenue's strong diagonal focus and Virginia Avenue NW's relationship to the surrounding street grid. At individual reservations, including Reservations 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 106 (San Martin), 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park), 720 (Galvez) and 134 (Juarez), interior circulation designed during the third period of significance is intact. Detailed descriptions of circulation patterns at these reservations is included below.

Reservation 110 (Artigas): Perimeter concrete sidewalk (maintained and managed by city of DC) with interior semicircular plaza, centrally located along the southern side of the reservation, allowing pedestrians to walk around and view the statue of General Jose Artigas.

Reservation 383 (Bolivar): Perimeter concrete sidewalk (maintained and managed by city of DC) with triangular marble plaza located along the triangle park's southeastern point, providing access to a statue of Simon Bolivar. A marble walkway leads north from the plaza, along the eastern side of the park, with a thin strip extending west for a few of feet, where a seating area is located. The asymmetric pattern with interior circulation completely concentrated along the park's east side, is an example of the modernist landscape elements, designed and built during the third period of significance, that are still present along Virginia Avenue NW.

Reservation 106 (San Martin): Perimeter concrete sidewalk (maintained and managed by city of DC) with a circular Belgian block plaza located along the triangle park's southeastern point, providing circulation around a statue of Jose de San Martin. Similar to Reservation 383 (Bolivar), interior circulation is concentrated along the parks east side with two concrete walkways extending northwest and northeast from the back of the plaza. Both connect with the perimeter sidewalk, the northwest walkway connecting with a concrete walkway running approximately 180 feet through the center of the park before curving north, where it connects with linear concrete walkway that divides the reservation from a small park bordering the E Street Expressway. The walkway running northeast from the plaza runs approximately 30 feet before connecting to the eastern perimeter sidewalk. Slightly north, a 60 foot concrete path connects toward the long, central walkway near the northeast corner of the park. The current circulation pattern is original to the park's 1976 redevelopment.

Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex): Perimeter concrete sidewalk (maintained and managed by city of DC). Several concrete walkways are used to define separate spaces within the reservation. One surrounds the perimeter of the sunken tennis court, another runs around the perimeter of a large open, triangular-shaped lawn in the center of the park and a third connects the Robert Owen memorial fountain located along the eastern side of the Federal Reserve Annex, with perimeter sidewalks to the north and south. These circulation patterns are original to George Patton's 1976 design of the park.

Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park): Perimeter concrete sidewalk (maintained and managed by city of DC). With an interior triangular sidewalk also concrete, that mirrors the reservation's shape. The interior circulation surrounds the Discobolos statue and was installed as part of the park's 1956 redesign.

Reservation 720 (Galvez): Interior circulation is limited to a linear concrete path running through the center of the western segment of the reservation between E Street NW to the north and the E Street Expressway to the south. In the center of the walkway, a Belgian block path leads to the statue of Bernardo de Galvaz. The circulation pattern was part of the park's original construction, during the third period of significance.

Reservation 134 south (Juarez): Perimeter concrete sidewalk (maintained and managed by city of DC), with a wide concrete path located along the western half of the reservation, leading to a rectangular granite plaza where a statue of Benito Juarez stands. The interior circulation is original to the reservation's 1968 redesign. A concrete drive leading from the street south of the reservation provides occasional parking for utility vehicles who may need to access systems located underneath the reservation.

EVALUATION

Virginia Avenue NW's overall circulation system, designed during the first period of significance, and built during the second, remains intact and the landscape retains integrity to this period.

As with spatial organization, the design of the circulation patterns present at individual reservations generally dates to the third period of significance, when these parks were redesigned around modern plazas, newly installed statues and commemorative water features. As a result, the circulation of many individual reservations along Virginia Avenue NW, including Reservations 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 384 (Pan American Annex), 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), 106 (San Martin), 720 (Galvez) and 134 (Juarez), also retain integrity of circulation to the third period of significance.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Overall circulation, including sidewalks lining Virginia Avenue, designed during the first period of significance, but built during the second period of significance

Feature Identification Number: 186140

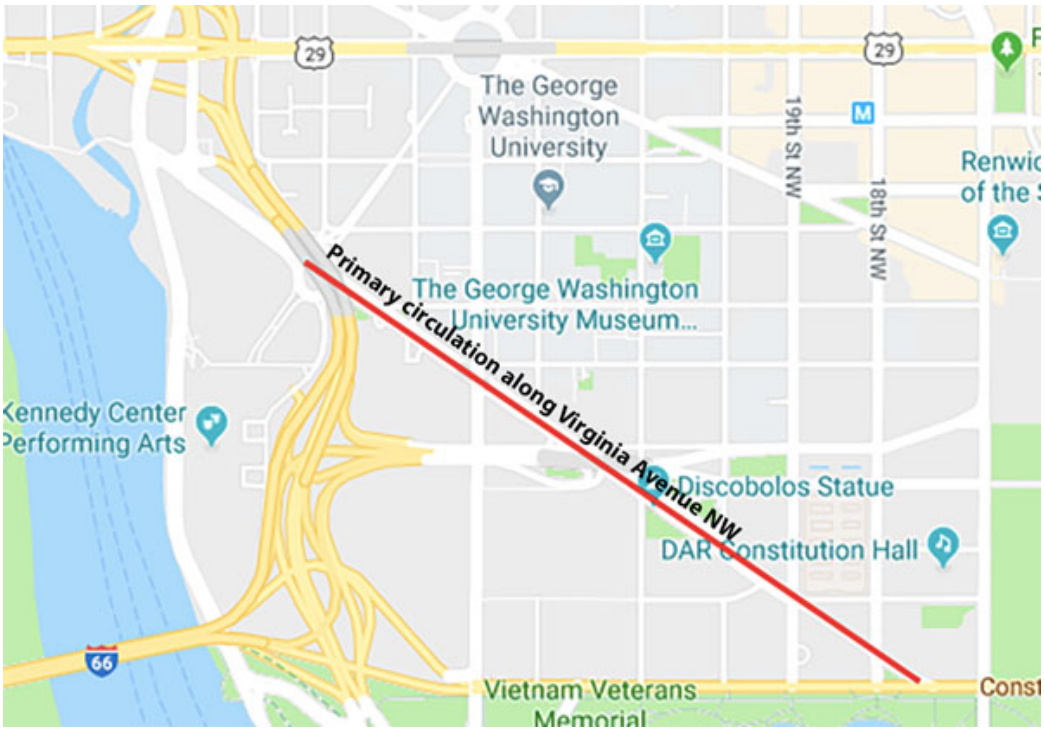
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Internal circulation systems of individual reservations that include modern plazas and asymmetrical walks that accommodate commemorative statuary and water features

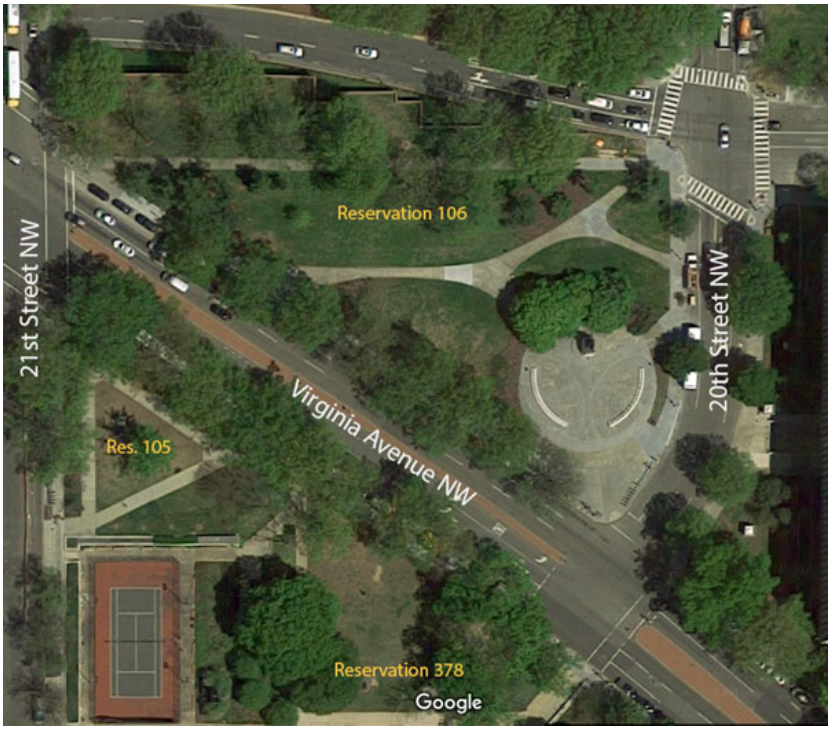
Feature Identification Number: 186141

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



The primary circulation pattern for the Virginia Avenue NW cultural landscape is the street itself, which runs NW to SE between 18th Street NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW.



The asymmetrical organization of the interior circulation of Reservation 106 (San Martin) is characteristic of the modernist landscapes designed for individual reservations during the third period of significance.

HISTORIC
Cluster arrangement is defined as the location and patterns of buildings, structures, and associated spaces in the landscape. L'Enfant designed small parks were organized in groups of clusters, relating to the overall spatial organization of streets, avenues, building locations and other open spaces. As part of his original design for Virginia Avenue NW, he clustered several small parks together along the avenue itself, to emphasize Virginia Avenue NW's important symbolic and ceremonial function, as a gateway to the capital, as well as to provide spaces for beautification, commemoration and passive recreation. Rectangular open spaces were also included as part of the original L'Enfant design. They were located between 20th and 21st Streets NW and 22nd and 24th Streets NW. Andrew Ellicott's 1792 modifications to the L'Enfant Plan eliminated the rectangular space between 22nd and 24th Street NW. Between 1901 and 1912 the OPBG developed the entire avenue cluster of small parks, reinterpreting L'Enfant's original plan to fit within the existing city street plan. Small park reservations located between 20th and 21st Street were initially developed as a bow-tie shaped cluster, rather than a rectangle. Subsequent redevelopment along Virginia Avenue NW resulted in the closing of a segment of New York Avenue NW and expansion of Reservation 106 (San Martin) in the 1960s, and the construction of a large garden behind the Federal Reserve Annex, at Reservation 378, in the 1970s. The result, was a large rectangular shaped cluster of park space between 20th and 21st, as first envisioned by L'Enfant in the 1790s.

During the third period of significance, an additional cluster arrangement was designed for the avenue, consisting of the thematic arrangement of statues devoted to Latin American liberators, installed at small parks between 1950 and 1976. These statues were located in specially designed plazas at Reservations 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 106 (San Martin), 720 (Galvez) and 134 (Juarez).

EXISTING
20th century development and redevelopment along the avenue resulted in the loss of several small park reservations initially built by the OPBG, in addition to the expansion or introduction of completely new reservations. Despite these changes, an overall landscape consisting of a cluster of small parks still exists along the avenue, as envisioned by L'Enfant. The original rectangular open spaces he envisioned between 20th and 21st Streets NW, not established until the 1970s, are also still intact. The thematic placement of statues dedicated to Latin American revolutionaries, introduced during the third period of significance, are one of Virginia Avenue NW's defining features. The landscape is sometimes referred to as the "Avenue of the Liberators."

EVALUATION
Though the specific cluster arrangement of small parks along Virginia Avenue NW has changed several times since the landscape's initial period of design and construction, the current cluster arrangement retains integrity to the first period of significance, when it was designed as an expression of the L'Enfant Plan's overall spatial organization, which established direct links and geometric connections between various elements, and the second period of significance, when it was built by the OPBG. The cluster arrangement introduced during the third period of significance—the dedication of several spaces along the avenue to Latin American Revolutionary figures—is also still intact, and the landscaped retains integrity to this period as well.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: The overall collection of reservations along the corridor

Feature Identification Number: 186142

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: The collections of spaces dedicated to Latin American Revolutionary figures dating to the third period of significance

Feature Identification Number: 186143

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

L'Enfant Plan (right) with original cluster arrangements highlighted with National Park Service A-Map (left) showing current cluster arrangement along Virginia Avenue, including some park reservations that are not NPS managed.

HISTORIC
Views and vistas are defined as the prospect afforded by a range of vision in the landscape, conferred by the composition of other landscape characteristics and associated features. Vistas from small parks towards government buildings and monuments were a defining characteristic of the L'Enfant Plan and an important aspect in its overall spatial organization. These vistas were designed to connect smaller spaces with sites of national importance, binding the city together through a constant reminder of shared American values. The main sightlines designed for Virginia Avenue NW were views southeast, toward the Tiber Creek and National Mall and northwest to Georgetown. Additional views included sightlines down the street grid between Virginia Avenue NW and the Executive Mansion, as well as between planned open spaces, including square No. 4 (now Reservation 134, (Juarez)) and other open space along Virginia Avenue, New Hampshire and New York Avenues NW. These views were designed by L'Enfant as a reflection of America itself. The squares, named for states, would be separate unto themselves, yet "most advantageously and reciprocally seen from each other," via streets and sightlines—much like the United States, joined together as one under the Constitution. Views between Virginia Avenue NW's smaller parks reinforced the feeling that every element was part of a larger system.

The construction the Virginia Avenue NW parks during the second period of significance established these planned views for the first time, and established additional ones, directed toward new monuments, like the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. Mid-twentieth century development partially obscured some of L'Enfant's originally designed views.

EXISTING
Virginia Avenue NW's defining view is of the Washington Monument, which is clearly visible from many, though not all, points along the avenue, including several small park reservations. A peripheral view of the Lincoln memorial, along 23rd Street NW, is also visible from the avenue itself. Glimpses of the National Mall can also be seen from the avenue and a number of small parks, via sightlines south along numbered streets. And reciprocal views between the parks themselves continue remain an important element of the landscape.

Views toward statuary, installed during the third period of significance, are a more recent addition. These views were designed so that statues might be seen and understood from a variety of perspectives—not just from within the park itself but from other surrounding spaces, primarily other small parks, office buildings and fast moving cars driving along Virginia Avenue NW. With the exception of the statue of General Artigas, at reservation 110 (Artigas), which faces south toward Constitution Avenue NW and the National Mall, all other statues were placed to face the Virginia Avenue NW. Where existing street trees might obstruct views, such as Reservation 383 (Bolivar) and 106 (San Martin), statues were located at corners, to enable clear sightlines. With the exception of the statue of General Galvez, at Reservation 720, statues are located fairly close to the Virginia Avenue NW streetscape, making them more easily viewed from passing vehicles or across the street.

EVALUATION
Overall, the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape to retains integrity to the first and second periods of significance, during which time L'Enfant designed views toward the Tiber River and the National Mall. The development of the city over the past 200 plus years resulted in loss of some of these original views, but also the construction of new monuments, and establishment of iconic new views, toward the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial. L'Enfant's system anticipated these future developments. As a result, these 19th and 20th century views and vistas are considered significant as part of his original plan.

At individual reservations, including Reservations 110 (Artigas), 383 (Bolivar), 384 (Pan American Annex), 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), 106 (San Martin), 720 (Galvez) and 134 (Juarez), new views toward statuary, fountains, pools and/or buildings were introduced as part of the 20th century redesign of these small parks. These views are still intact and as the reservations retain additional integrity to the third period of significance.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Axial view along Virginia Avenue, including the view to the Washington Monument

Feature Identification Number: 186144

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: View towards the White House

Feature Identification Number: 186145

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: View to other elements of the L'Enfant Plan

Feature Identification Number: 186146

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: View towards the Lincoln Monument

Feature Identification Number: 186147

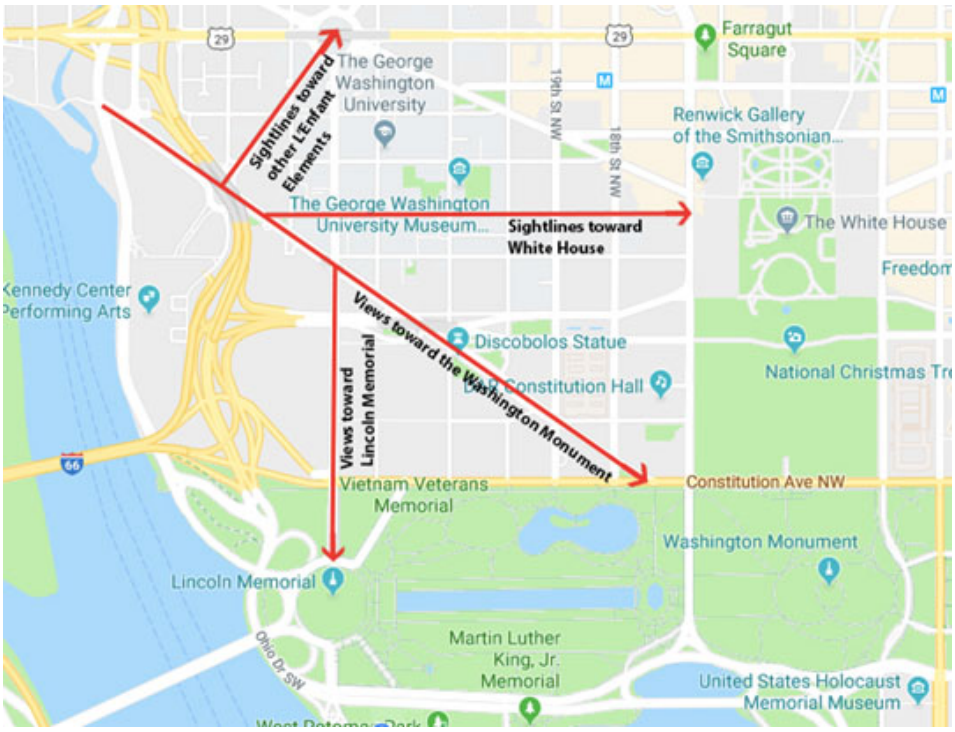
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: View of statuary at individual reservations introduced during the third period of significance

Feature Identification Number: 186148

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Map of Virginia Avenue NW identifying primary views and vistas.

HISTORIC
Vegetation was not included as part of L'Enfant's original design for open spaces in Washington. His only directive was that the city's wide avenues be lined with trees. The Board of Public Works planted the first street trees—single rows of poplars—a along Virginia Avenue NW in the 1870s.

As part of the delineation and development of small parks in the early 20th century, the OPBG planted turf grass, shade trees and flowers in small parks along Virginia Avenue NW. Research for this CLI did not uncover any specific planting plans for these reservations, and none of the current vegetation is believed to date to the second period of significance.

Extensive planting plans were designed for many of the small parks as the result of redevelopment during the third period of significance. NPS landscape architects installed a variety of trees, shrubs and flowering plants at various reservations during this period. In general, plant palates were relatively spare, in keeping with the modernist style of many of these parks were designed in. The exception being the landscape designed by Oehme, van Sweden for the Federal Reserve Building, which featured an expressive display of native grasses and perennials, and is among the earliest examples of the New American Garden style for which the firm would become internationally known.

Descriptions of historic vegetation known to be present at individual reservations is listed below

Reservation 110 (Artigas): The earliest photo of Reservation 110 (Artigas), taken circa 1912, shows simple landscaping. The park was planted with turf grass and several with small trees or shrubs are located along the park's perimeter (Detroit Publishing House Photo 1912). An OPBG survey photo from 1927 documents similar conditions. Turf grass and at least five young trees are visible. A

subsequent survey, conducted by the NPS in the mid-1930s lists 41 square feet of shrub beds and 9,028.24 square feet of lawn, as well as six trees of undocumented species. Locations for shrub beds and trees are not recorded (OPBG photos and survey on file with the NPS, National Capital Region). In 1950, architecture firm Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson (H2L2), redesigned Reservation 110 (Artigas), as part of the installation of the statue of General Jose Gervasio Artigas. NPS working drawings from the period show vegetation to be planted as part of the new park including two unspecified shrubs on either side of the statue, a lawn of turf grass behind the park's semicircular plaza, and a row of hedges bordering the 18th Street NW and Virginia Avenue NW sides of the park (Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson Plans, 1950).

Reservation 383 (Bolivar): A photo of the Department of the Interior, dating to the 1930s shows Reservation 383 (Bolivar) landscaped as a large lawn. No vegetation is present beyond turf grass (Department of Interior National Register Nomination 1986). In 1960, the NPS, working with Cesar Casielles, a Venezuelan architect, redesigned the entire reservation. Landscaping included the planting of seven linden trees (Tilia cordata) and holly (Ilex) groundcover along 18th Street NW. Abstract beds, planted with holly (Ilex) hedges surrounded Bolivar plaza, and dwarf-leaved Japanese holly hedges (Ilex 'Microphylla') were also planted at the western corner of the park (NPS Planting Plan 1966, on file with National Capital Region). A grass lawn bordered a large pool. As part of Lady Bird Johnson's Beautification program, the NPS filled the pool with a variety of water lilies (Nymphaea): six Gigantia alba (Nymphaea gigantea), five Mrs. George H. Pring (Nymphaea 'Mrs. George H. Pring'), five Isabelle Pring (Nymphaea 'Isabelle Pring'), three General Pershing (Nymphaea 'General Pershing'), three Persian Lilac (Nymphaea 'Persian Lilac') and three Pink Pearls (Nymphaea 'Pink Pearl') (NPS Planting Plan 1967, on file with National Capital Region). Three annual beds, also abstractly shaped, were located throughout the park: one southeast of the plaza, bordering the sidewalk along Virginia Avenue NW; a center bed, located between the plaza and the pool, and a "west end bed," tucked behind the hedges at the reservation's western point. These beds were all planted with seasonal displays, as part of the Beautification Program. The southeast bed could accommodate 484 plant and was landscaped with Bond Street tulips (Tulipa 'Bond Street') and mixed pansies (Viola) in the spring, Mission Giant marigolds (Tagetes 'Mission Giant') and Red Satin petunias (Petunias 'Red Satin') in the summer, and Toronto mums (Chrysanthemum 'Toronto') in the fall. The large central bed was planted with up to 1350 plants including mixed pansies (Viola) and Bond Street tulips (Tulipa 'Bond Street') in the spring, Comanche petunias (Petunias 'Comanche') and Golden Feather celosia (Celosia 'Golden Feather) in the summer, and Yellow Supreme cushion mums in the fall (Chrysanthemum 'Yellow Supreme'). The west end bed was planted with up to 261 plants including Bond Street tulips (Tulipa 'Bond Street') in the spring and Spun Gold marigolds in the summer (Tagetes 'Spun Gold') (NPS Planting Plan 1964, on file with National Capital Region).

Reservation 384 (Pan American Annex): No documentation of this reservation located during research for Virginia Avenue NW.

Reservation 108: A NPS survey from the 1930s documents landscaping at Reservation 108 was limited to 235 square feet of lawn. Research for this CLI did not locate any planting plans or other documentation of landscaping at this reservation.

Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex): Reservation 378 was first landscaped as part of the construction of the Federal Reserve Annex Building, completed in 1974. The original design was the work of George E. Patton, a prominent landscape architect working in the Modernist style. Patton's original drawings, on file with the National Park Service, National Capital Region, show a restrained plant palate consisting mainly of southern magnolias (Magnolia grandiflora), Glacier azaleas (Rhododendron 'Galcier'), Narcissus, and a variety of holly (Ilex) and ivy (Hedera), planted as ground cover. Regularly spaced rows of magnolias were planted in raised granite beds bordering the building's northern elevation: 32 in the western bed, which also served as an entry to the underground parking lot from 21st Street NW; 47 in the eastern bed, which partially bordered Virginia Avenue. Baltic English Ivy (Hedera helix 'Baltica') was used for ground cover in both beds. The azaleas were also planted en masse, in raised beds that bordered the annex's main entry, on C Street NW, and the eastern and western elevations. The azalea beds fronted a planting of roundleaf Japanese holly (Ilex crenata 'Rotundifolia'). Around the tennis court, located along 21rd Street NW, a row of 11 Washington hawthorns (Crataegus phaenopyrum 'Cordata') planted in a raised granite bed

bordered the west side, with Convex Japanese holly used for ground cover (Ilex crenata ‘Bullata’). The north side was bordered by winter jasmine (Jasmine nudiflorum), also planted in a raised bed, fronted by a ground cover of Gracilis English Ivy (Hedera helix ‘Gracilis’). Along the eastern border Patton planted a row of five scarlet oak, with Baltic English ivy as ground cover (Hedera helix ‘Baltica’). Five shademaster locusts (Gleditsia tracanthos inermis ‘Shademaster’) with Burford Chinese holly (Ilex cornuta ‘Burford’)ground cover were planted along the southern edge of a triangular shaped lawn bordering Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park). An extensive lawn was located in the middle of the reservation, partially bordering Virginia Avenue NW. 2,000 Narcissus bulbs (Narcissus jonquilla trevithian and Narcissus poeticus) were planted in beds located east of the Robert Latham Owen Fountain, at the points of a triangular shaped lawn. These beds also contained sweetbay magnolias (Magnolia virginiana), shademaster honey locust (Gleditsia triacanthos ‘Shademaster’) and Baltic English ivy. A copy of Patton’s original planting plan is included in Appendix C.

In 1976, a storm destroyed much of Patton’s original landscape. The Federal Reserve hired the firm of Wolfgang Oehme and James van Sweden to rehabilitate the space. Their final design, completed in 1977, is an early example of the style the firm is now most associated with—known as the New American Garden style.

Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park): Research for this CLI did not locate any planting plans for this reservation. Newspaper articles document that the park was redesigned in 1956, as part of the installation of the Discobolos statue. Historic aerials from the 1960s suggest that the landscaping was relatively simple, consisting of a triangular shaped lawn and several trees (Nationwide Environmental Tile Research 1963).

Reservation 106 (San Martin): Research for this CLI did not uncover any documentation of early 20th century (1901-1912) vegetation at reservation 106 (San Martin). Photos from the 1930s, which seem to show part of the reservation, suggest that it may have been landscaped as a large lawn; much like Reservation 383 (Bolivar) was during this period. The entire park was redeveloped in 1971 as part of the installation of a statue of General Jose De San Martin. Landscaping installed at the time included: a row of four Japanese maples (Acer palmatum), framing the plaza’s commemorative wall; several groupings of white pines (Pinus strobus) along the northwest border of the lawn that extends north and west of the statue’s surrounding plaza; and rows of pin oaks (Quercus palustris), located on either side of a walkway bordering the site’s northeast. Juniper hedges (Juniperus horizontalis) and red and white azaleas (Azalea ‘Delaware Valley White’ and Azalea ‘Hershey Red’) were planted in beds directly east and west of the circular stone plaza. Two other shrub beds were located in the park’s northeast corner, on either side of a curving concrete walkway, but existing documentation is unclear what these beds were originally planted with (Plaza de San Martin Phase 2 Planting 1975; Landscape Rehabilitation 1985, on file with NPS, National Capital Region). A copy of the 1975 planting plan is included as part of Appendix C.

Reservation 104: A 1930s survey describes landscaping as consisting of 934 square feet of lawn. No other vegetation or small-scale features were recorded. Historic aerials show the site was redeveloped as a parking lot between 1949 and 1964 (Nationwide Environmental Tile Research 1949, 1964). By the time it was restored, following construction of the E Street Expressway, the NPS managed only a tiny segment of the reservation, a 0.02-acre triangle located at the site’s eastern corner, which is too small for landscaping.

Reservation 103: OPBG survey photos from 1927 show a flat lawn surrounded by OPBG post and chain fencing, and additional fencing behind. The lot appears to be used and maintained by the owner of the adjacent house. In the 1930s, survey forms document 1215 square feet of lawn. No other vegetation or small-scale features were recorded.

Reservation 720 (Galvez): Construction of the E Street Expressway resulted in the establishment of this reservation in the 1960s. No planting plans documenting its initial landscape were located during research for this CLI, though historic aerials show it as planted with turf grass, with trees located in the eastern most section of the park, across the offramp from the reservations main plaza and lawn.

Reservation 101: Survey forms from the 1930s document a small triangle reservation at the end of a developed block. No lawn, vegetation or small-scale features were recorded.

Reservation 99: OPBG survey photos from 1927 show a flat lawn planted with turf grass with shrubs and two trees visible along the 24th Street NW side. An undated survey form from the NPS land files, probably dating to the 1930s, suggests the trees may have been small leaved lindens (Tilia cordata). The same survey form documents vegetation including a 4,876 foot lawn, 612 square feet of shrub beds, of unidentified species 183 feet of privet hedges (Lingustrum regeliarum), planted along the G Street and 24th Street NW and three Linden (Tilia cordata) trees, located at reservation's endpoints.

Reservation 98: OPBG survey photos from 1927 show a flat lawn planted with turf grass. The 1930s survey forms document 10,153 square feet of lawn and 250 feet of privet hedges (Lingustrum regeliarum), planted along G Street and 25th Street NW.

Reservation 134 (Juarez): OPBG survey photos from 1927 show a flat lawn planted with turf grass. 3-4 trees are visible along the reservation's eastern side and shrubs can be seen at the park's southeast and northeast points. No plant types are identifiable. 1930s survey forms document landscaping including 10,004.5 square feet of lawn, 671 square feet of shrub beds, 198 square feet of flower beds and eight trees. The location and species of vegetation is not included. The reservation was split down the middle in the 1960s, the result of tunneling under Virginia Avenue. The southern half of the park was redeveloped in 1968, as part of the installation of a statue of Benito Juarez. Landscaping included as part of the park's redesign was simple and consisted of five crabapple trees (Malus 'Katherine') located south east of the Juarez statues plaza on which the Juarez statue was erected. The trees were planted on a sloping lawn that surrounded the plaza to the south, east and west. The plaza itself was surrounded by a border of Japanese Holly (Ilex crenata 'Convexa'). A copy of the 1969 planting plan is included as part of Appendix C.

EXISTING
Vegetation dating to the third period of significance is still present at many of the Virginia Avenue NW small parks. A detailed description of vegetation present at individual reservations is included below. For specific locations of vegetation, see the GIS mapping.

Reservation 110 (Artigas): Turf grass; two yew shrubs (Taxus) located on either side of the Artigas statue; two American elm trees (Ulmus americana) on either side of the granite bench. Trees and shrubs date to the third period of significance.

Reservation 383 (Bolivar): Reservation retains many aspects of landscape designed during the third period of significance. The overall planting plan is in keeping with the historic landscaping described in detail above. A large lawn of turf grass still surrounds the memorial pool; a row of four linden trees (Tilia americana), located along eastern side of Bolivar plaza and planted during the third period of significance, are still intact; yew (Taxus) shrubs replaced the original holly hedges throughout the reservation, flower beds surrounding plaza were not planted at time of documentation, but the location of these elements is original. The yews were removed in October 2018.

Reservation 384 (Pan American Annex): A number of mature deciduous and non-deciduous trees dating to an unknown period, surround the Pan American/OAS Annex. The trees were most likely planted in the 1940s or early 50s, after construction of the building itself was completed. Species include: red oaks (Quercus rubra); white oaks (Quercus alba) pin oaks (Quercus palustris); Unidentified type of elm (Ulmus); several unidentified nondeciduous trees; and crepe myrtle (Lagerstroemia).

Reservation 108: Reservation is planted with turf grass and yews along C Street SW side. One magnolia tree (Magnolia).

Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex): A number of landscape material from Oehme, van Sweden's 1976 planting plan are believed to be present, including mass plantings of native grasses and perennials like sedum and black-eye susans Additional vegetation present on site and dating to the third period of significance includes: Pagoda trees (Styphnolobium japonicum); several varieties

of magnolia trees (Magnolia); American beech trees (Fagus grandiflora); unidentified varieties of pine (Pinus); boxwoods (Buxus); Holly (Ilex) and rose beds (Rosa). Some of the magnolia trees may date to the third period of significance when the landscape was first designed by George Patton.

Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park): Surrounded by perimeter beds planted young American beech trees (Fagus grandiflora), holly (Ilex) hardy palm plants (Arecaceae) and decorative grasses. A tulip poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera) is located in the center of the reservation near the Discobolos statue.

Reservation 106 (San Martin): Three Japanese maples (Acer palmatum); groupings of white pines (Pinus strobus) and rows of pin oaks (Quercus palustris) all dating to the third period of significance. Juniper hedges (Juniperus horizontalis) are located in original beds dating to the 1976 redesign of the park. Additional vegetation includes turf grass lawns and annual beds that were not planted during survey work.

Reservation 104: No vegetation present.

Reservation 103: No vegetation present.

Reservation 720 (Galvez): Extensive lawn planted with turf grass, two biomorphic shaped shrub beds planted with yews and one large bed planted with lilies. A large willow oak (Quercus phellos) is located directly west of the Bernardo de Galvez statue. Nine more willow oaks are located in the eastern half of the reservations, across the freeway offramp. These trees all date to the third period of significance when the park was first developed. Aerial photos suggest the shrub beds are also original though it is not known whether the shrubs themselves are the same variety planted in the 1960s. Other vegetation present on site includes one large maple tree (Acer) one unidentified tree and an area of un-landscaped growth bordering the offramp and E Street Expressway to the south and west.

Reservation 101: Currently maintained by hotel located on adjacent property. Planted with decorative grass, holly, boxwoods and hydrangeas.

Reservation 99: Turf grass lawn and one willow oak (Quercus phellos).

Reservation 98: Three young crabapples (Malus)

Reservation 134 north: Planted with turf grass. Biomorphic shaped flower bed for seasonal annual plantings. 10 crabapples (Malus).

Reservation 134 south (Juarez): Reservation is planted with turf grass. Biomorphic shaped beds planted with boxwoods and annuals. Eleven crabapples (Malus) are located within reservation, five of which are located in the original location specified for crabapple plantings during the third period of significance. These trees are not thought to be original but have been replaced in kind. Six unidentified trees frame the Benito Juarez statue, these were not included in original landscape drawings and were planted at some point after the third period of significance.

EVALUATION
A comparison of planting plans dating to the third period of significance and existing conditions at individual small parks confirms that many elements of landscape designs installed during the mid-century period of redevelopment, including plant material and planting plans, are intact. Thus the Virginia Avenue NW landscape retains integrity to the third period of significance.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Reservation 110- Two yew shrubs and two American elms on either side of the bench

Feature Identification Number: 186149

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 383- Character of existing planting plan that reflects the historic proposal including the lawn, row of linden trees, and placement of the yew hedge

Feature Identification Number: 186150

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 384- Mature trees dating to the 1940s or 1950s

Feature Identification Number: 186151

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 378- Extant Oehme, van Sweden 1976 planting plan including mass planting of native grasses and wildflowers and ornamental trees

Feature Identification Number: 186152

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 106- Three Japanese maples, group of white pines, and rows of pin oaks dating to the third period of significance

Feature Identification Number: 186153

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 720- Willow oaks dating from the third period of significance

Feature Identification Number: 186154

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 134- Biomorphic shaped beds lined with shrubs and crabapples

Feature Identification Number: 186155

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 108- Defining yew hedge border around a lawn with a magnolia

Feature Identification Number: 186156

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 105- Perimeter planting beds, with American beech, holly, and hard palm plants with a tulip poplar near the statuary

Feature Identification Number: 186157

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 99- Turf grass lawn and one willow oak

Feature Identification Number: 186158

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 98- 3 young crabapples

Feature Identification Number: 186159

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Mass plantings of grasses at Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex).

HISTORIC
Small scale features are the elements that provide detail and diversity, combined with function and aesthetics to a landscape. No small-scale features were designed as part of the L'Enfant Plan, though his notes include the suggestion that small parks throughout the city be used for the installation of statuary and other commemorative features. During the OPBG era, the parks along Virginia Avenue NW were treated simply, and small-scale features limited to post and chain fencing, curbing and water pipe installations. It was only during the third period of significance when a variety of small-scale features were introduced to the landscape. These included statuary as well as specially designed street furniture such as seating, lamp posts and trashcans, many reflecting the modernist style. The majority of these small-scale features are still extant and described in detail below.

Reservation 110 (Artigas): Documented small-scale features installed by the OPBG during the second period of significance include post and chain iron fencing. Between 1912 and 1929, quarter-round curbing replaced the fencing and a traffic sign was installed. A redesign of the park in 1950 resulted in the introduction of new small-scale features, most notably the statue of General Jose Gervaso Artigas. Additional small-scale features designed for the space included incised granite curbing surrounding the semicircular Artigas plaza and a granite bench facing the Artigas statue.

Reservation 383 (Bolivar): No documentation of small scale features dating to the second period of significance were discovered during research for this CLI. The 1958 redesign of the reservation resulted in the introduction of statuary and several specially designed small-scale features at Reservation 383 (Bolivar). The redesign was centered around the installation of the Felix de Weldon designed statue of Simon Bolivar. Additional small-scale features that were designed for the

surrounding small park included rows of modern y-shaped marble seating along C Street NE.

Reservation 384 (Pan American Annex): No documentation of small scale features dating to any periods of significance were discovered during research for this CLI.

Reservation 108: No documentation of small scale features dating to any periods of significance were discovered during research for this CLI. A gas station was located on this site in the late 1920s.

Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex): No documentation of small scale features dating to any periods of significance were discovered during research for this CLI. For much of the mid-20th century, the entire reservation was taken up by a Temporary Building No. 4, built during WWI and not demolished until the 1960s. In the 1970s, construction of the Federal Reserve Annex resulted in the design of large garden located along Virginia Avenue NW. In 1976, modernist landscape architect George Patton designed a number of small-scale features for this space including modern style lamp-posts and large granite raised beds. A tennis court was also built as part of Patton's plan. In addition, several utility and security buildings were built throughout the site, many related to the underground parking lot, beneath the garden. In 1977 the firm of Oehme, van Sweden made several updates to the landscape design adding benches around the central lawn, which was afterward dedicated as a space for a rotating sculpture display.

Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park): The first documentation of small scale features installed at Reservation 105 dates to the 1956 redesign of the park, when the Discobolos statue was erected within the reservation. The statue was placed on a white marble capital excavated from ancient ruins in the city of Rome. Metal fencing and a plaque with a dedication to Edward Kelly was also installed at this time.

Reservation 106 (San Martin): No documentation of small scale features dating to the second period of significance were discovered during research for this CLI. During the third period of significance, Reservation 106 (San Martin) was redesigned around the installation of the statue of Jose de San Martin, which was moved from Judiciary Square. The surrounding plaza featured long lunette-shaped concrete benches, specially designed for the plaza and characteristic of the modernist style. Streamlined modern trashcans currently located within the plaza were probably installed during this period as well and may have been specially designed for the site.

Reservation 104: No documentation of small scale features dating to any periods of significance were discovered during research for this CLI.

Reservation 103: During the second period of significance, the OPBG installed post and chain fencing, and a photo from 1927 shows metal fencing erected behind OPBG posts.

Reservation 720 (Galvez): Reservation 720 was created in the 1960s. In 1976, a statue of Bernardo de Galvez was installed in the park. No other small scale features seem to have been designed of installed during this period.

Reservation 101: No documentation of small scale features dating to any periods of significance were discovered during research for this CLI.

Reservation 99: As part of improvements made by the OPBG in 1899 a water pipe was installed at an unspecified location, and an iron post and chain fence erected around the reservation.

Reservation 98: OPBG enclosed reservation with post and chain fencing during second period of significance.

Reservation 134 (Juarez): During the second period of significance, the OPBG enclosed the reservation with ornamental iron post and chain fencing and replaced a granite block apron along 25th Street NW with 43 linear feet of 6-inch curbing. During the third period of significance, the NPS redesigned the southern half of Reservation 134 and installed a statue of Benito Juarez in a specially built plaza. Additional small-scale features dating to this period include spotlights placed to illuminate

the new statue and several grates and vents related to freeway utilities as the reservation sits on top of a freeway tunnel.

EXISTING
Small-scale features found along Virginia Avenue NW include: six statues, installed in six small park reservations during the third period of significance, a temporary sculpture installed at reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex), and a number of lampposts, benches, built in seating, trashcans and curbing, designed as part of redevelopment or redesigns of reservations dating to the same 1950 to 1977 period. Many of these features were specifically designed as part of larger plazas and exhibit characteristics of modern landscape design, such as the use of simplified, geometric forms and lack of ornamentation. The statues depict a number of “liberators,” who helped secure independence throughout South and North America. These include Simon Bolivar, Benito Juarez, General Jose de San Martin, General Don Bernardo de Galvez and General Jose Gervasio Artigas. With the exception of the San Martin statue, which dates to 1924, all of the statues were cast between 1950 and 1976. Several are copies of originals located in South America. A sixth statue, a 1956 copy of an ancient Greek Discus Thrower by Myron, is located in Reservation 106 (San Martin) and was a gift from Italy. A detailed list of small-scale features present at individual reservations is below. For locations of these features, refer to GIS mapping.

Reservation 110 (Artigas): Quarter round curbing, installed during the 1910s or 1920s, the statue of General Jose Gervaso Artigas, incised granite curbing Artigas plaza and granite bench facing the Artigas statue, all dating to the third period of significance are still present. Additional small-scale features include one NPS-style wooden trash can.

Reservation 383 (Bolivar): Small scale features dating to the third period of significance that are still present at Reservation 383 (Bolivar) include the equestrian statue of Simon Bolivar and the y-shaped marble seating along C Street NE. Additional small scale features installed after the period of significance include three NPS tulip trash cans, post and chain fencing along part of Virginia Avenue NW.

Reservation 384 (Pan American Annex): Small-scale features include a modern metal sculpture, located on the reservation’s eastern lawn, installed at an unknown date. Additional small-scale features include pipe and chain fencing, located along Virginia Avenue NW and 19th Street NW.

Reservation 108: One lamppost, located near southeast corner of the park.

Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex): Many of George Patton’s specially designed small-scale features, installed during the third period of significance, are still present at Reservation 378. These include the modern style lamp-posts and large granite beds located throughout the garden. The sunken tennis court is also intact as are the security and utility buildings, and vents and grates related to the underground parking structure. Benches still surround the central lawn and have been added to other areas around the park. There are not original but recent composite wood replacements. In summer 2018, the sculpture on display on the central lawn was of a number of baseball players. Two exposed aggregate concrete water fountains and built in lighting around the tennis court may date to the third period of significance but more research is needed to confirm this. Metal trashcans with decorative grating are located throughout the park.

Reservation 105 (Edward J. Kelly Park): The Discobolos statue and ancient Roman capital, as well as the iron fencing and dedication plaque dating to the third period of significance, are still present at the site. Additional small-scale features include seven composite wood benches, located around the triangular walkway and decorative metal trashcans throughout the park.

Reservation 106 (San Martin): Small scale features dating to the third period of significance that are still present at Reservation 106 (San Martin) include the statue of Jose de San Martin, the modernist concrete seating designed for the plaza, and modern style, bullet-shaped trashcans believed to date to the third period of significance. Additional small-scale features, added since the third period include NPS-style wooden trashcans.

Reservation 104: No small-scale features present.

Reservation 103: No small-scale features present.

Reservation 720 (Galvez): The only small scale feature dating to the third period of significance is the statue of Bernardo de Galvez and utility grates related to the E Street Expressway, part of which is located underneath the reservation. Additional small scale features present including two wooden NPS trash cans.

Reservation 101: No small-scale features present.

Reservation 99: No small-scale features present.

Reservation 98: No small-scale features present.

Reservation 134 north: No small-scale features present.

Reservation 134 south (Juarez): The statue of Benito Juarez, installed during the third period of significance is still intact. Surrounding spot lighting may also date to the period when the plaza was redesigned. Utility grates located on the reservations south slope also date to this period.

EVALUATION
The statues along Virginia Avenue NW, installed during the third period of significance, and many other small-scale features, which were specifically designed for individual small parks during this time, are still intact. As a result, the landscape retains integrity to the third period of significance.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: General Jose de San Martin Statue

Feature Identification Number: 186160

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

LCS Structure Number: 6451

Feature: Simon Bolivar Statue

Feature Identification Number: 186161

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: General Jose Gervaso Artigas Statue

Feature Identification Number: 186162

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Benito Juarez Statue

Feature Identification Number: 186163

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: General Don Bernando de Galvez Statue

Feature Identification Number: 186164

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

LCS Structure Number: 11933

Feature: Discobolos Statue

Feature Identification Number: 186165

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

LCS Structure Number: 7305

Feature: Lampposts, benches, built in seating, trashcans, and curbing, designed as part of the redevelopment or redesigns of reservations during the third period of significance including Reservations 378, 106, 383, and 110.

Feature Identification Number: 186166

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Remnant quarter round curbing from the OPBG, specifically at Reservation 110

Feature Identification Number: 186167

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Post- chain fencing found throughout the cultural landscape

Feature Identification Number: 186168

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 378- Sunken tennis courts

Feature Identification Number: 186169

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Reservation 105- iron fence dating from the third period of significance

Feature Identification Number: 186170

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Landscape furnishings that postdate the third period of significance, including NPS style wood trashcans and composite wooden benches

Feature Identification Number: 186171

Type of Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature: Modern metal sculpture at Reservation 384

Feature Identification Number: 186172

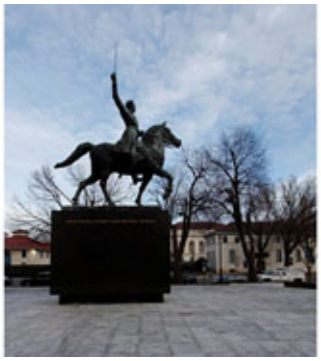
Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Reservation 134- Spot lighting

Feature Identification Number: 186173

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Three of the six statues of Latin American revolutionaries: (left) Jose de San Martin, located at Reservation 106 (San Martin); (center) Simon Bolivar located at Reservation 383 (Bolivar) and (right) Jose Gervaso Artigas located at Reservation 110 (Artigas).

Examples of some of the modernist small-scale features specially designed for the Virginia Avenue NW small parks: (left) George Patton's lampposts at Federal Reserve Annex; and seating designed for San Martin plaza (center) and Bolivar park (right).

HISTORIC
Two large decorative fountains, dating to the third period of significance are located at Reservations 383 (Bolivar) and 378 (Federal Reserve Annex) along Virginia Avenue NW. These fountains were designed as part of the redevelopment of the southeast half of the avenue, as an enclave of government offices. The 1959 redesign of Reservation 383 (Bolivar), as Simon Bolivar Plaza, included the construction of an asymmetrical blue tile pool. Six jets spouting water high into the air represented the six countries liberated by Bolivar. In 1974, construction of a new Federal Reserve annex building on Reservation 378 included the design of a circular memorial fountain dedicated to Robert Latham Owen, co-sponsor of the Federal Reserve Act. Landscape architect George E. Patton designed the modernist fountain as a complement to the new building.

EXISTING
Both water features are extent, and little changed since their initial period of construction. The National Park Service completed a restoration of the pool and fountain located within Reservation 383 (Bolivar) in 2018. As of the summer of 2018, the Robert Latham Owen fountain was empty and inaccessible due to construction work. Future versions of this CLI will be responsible for documenting the existing condition of this feature.

EVALUATION
Both of these fountains are still present and retain integrity to the third period of significance.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Robert Owen designed fountain at Reservation 378

Feature Identification Number: 186174

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Bolivar pool at Reservation 383

Feature Identification Number: 186175

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Robert Latham Owen Fountain at Reservation 378 (Federal Reserve Annex, left) and Bolivar pool at Reservation 383 (Bolivar, right).

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 11/13/2018

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

A Condition Assessment of Good indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Stabilization Measures:

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Description: Future development, whether to surrounding adjacent lands or other properties located on or around the avenue, has potential to impact the Virginia Avenue NW streetscape as well as individual reservations. No specific impending development threatens the landscape at the time of this reports writing, but the nature of the landscape is such that development/redevelopment of surrounding land always a possibility and something that park managers should monitor.

Stabilization Costs

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