National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2020



Maryland Avenue, NE corridor

National Capital Parks-East

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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 decision 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:

Landscape/Component Landscape Description
Maryland Avenue NE is a cultural landscape in northeast Washington, D.C. Located in the northeast quadrant, the segment of the avenue included in this cultural landscape inventory runs diagonally, southeast to northwest, for approximately 1.4 miles, between 2nd Street NE and 14th Street NE. The landscape is comprised of ten reservations, including Stanton Park, that are managed by the National Capital Area, National Capital Parks – East. Reservation numbers from southwest to northeast include: 205, 015, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, and 213. The reservations are all small parks, many of them triangle-shaped or quasi-triangular. They range in size from approximately 0.05 acres to 3.88 acres, with U.S. Reservation 213 (at the northeast end of the cultural landscape) as the smallest reservation on Maryland Avenue NE and Stanton Park (near the southwest end of the avenue) as the largest reservation in the cultural landscape.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW
Maryland Avenue NE was first laid out as part of Pierre L'Enfant's 1791 plan for the city of Washington, and included in Andrew Ellicott's modified plan in 1792. L'Enfant's original plan interposed an orthogonal grid of streets, oriented in the cardinal directions, with a series of grand radial avenues to connect prominent sites. As one such grand avenue, L'Enfant designed Maryland Avenue NE to begin at the United States Capitol and extend northeast, crossing a series of gridded streets. A series of triangular parcels were created by the juxtaposition of the two urban systems; it was these triangular "reservations" (together with other traffic circles and squares) that L'Enfant envisioned as ornamental green spaces for public use. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape comprises ten of these reservations from the L'Enfant Plan, as modified by Andrew Ellicott. In 1814, during the War of 1812, the British Army marched down Maryland Avenue after the Battle of Bladensburg, setting fire to the capital city as they marched. In subsequent decades, the avenue remained largely undeveloped, despite its proximity to the United States Capitol and central Washington, D.C. The small parks created as a result of the L'Enfant plan were not improved until the 1870s at the earliest, and Maryland Avenue NE was not paved until 1892. These improvement projects coincided with an effort by the Board of Public Works (BPW) to establish "parkings" along the city's wide streets and avenues, bordering roadways with long strips of lawn and planting trees in order to reduce paving costs. These "parking projects" motivated the OPBG to reassert its ownership over the reservations under its jurisdiction, and to gradually improve them as ornamental spaces adjacent to the new "parkings." Beginning in 1871, the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) redesigned the park at Massachusetts and Maryland Avenues, giving it the official name of Stanton Park and a statue of Revolutionary War General Nathaniel Greene was installed in 1874. The OPBG also delineated, landscaped, and enclosed the Maryland Avenue NE small parks during this period; these projects progressed incrementally until 1914. In 1915, a wide planted median was established along the centerline of the avenue between the small parks, further greening the experience of traveling through the cultural landscape. In 1933, two reservations were selected as sites for design improvement projects undertaken by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), as part of the New Deal's programs in Washington, D.C. Three decades later, several reservations saw replantings and improvements to hardscapes and infrastructure as part of the beautification projects spearheaded by First Lady Claudia "Lady Bird" Johnson. Concerned about the country's increased traffic congestion and deteriorating downtown areas, First Lady Johnson established the Beautification Program to restore beauty to blighted areas and improve the quality of life in urban neighborhoods. The program launched in Washington, D.C. and expanded nationwide. On Maryland Avenue NE, the program's interventions included the addition of play areas in Reservations 209 and 210, and the creation of new vegetation features in several reservations.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY
Maryland Avenue NE remains extant as one of the primary public avenues envisioned in the 1791 plan for Washington, D.C. prepared by Pierre L'Enfant. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is located within the boundaries of the National Register-listed L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia nomination. Listed in the National Register in 1997, the nationally significant structure is significant under Criteria A, B, and C. The period of significance identified in the nomination begins in 1790 and extends to 1942.

The southwest portion of the cultural landscape is also located within the boundaries of the Capitol Hill

Historic District, which was listed in 1976 (with a boundary increase in 2003); the district boundaries encompass U.S. Reservations 205, 015 (Stanton Park), 206, 207, 208, and 209. The 1976 nomination was listed with significance in the areas of Community Planning, Military, and Other-Local Neighborhood History, with significant periods that included 1700-1799, 1800-1899, and 1900-[1976]. The 2003 boundary increase nomination for the historic district was listed with significance based on Criteria A and C, and a period of significance of 1790-1945.

This CLI recommends that the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape's significance encompass the following five periods:
1. 1791-1792, with national significance under Criteria A, B, and C, based on the association with the L'Enfant Plan and Andrew Ellicott's modified plan;
2. 1814, with national significance under Criterion A, for its association with the events of the burning of Washington, D.C. during the War of 1812;
3. 1871-1915, with local significance under Criteria A and C, for the period of OPBG construction and improvement of the small parks;
4. 1933-1936, with local significance under Criterion A, based on the Works Progress Administration's improvement projects in at least two Maryland Avenue NE reservations during the New Deal; and
5. 1963-1969, with local significance under Criterion A, based on the mid-century redesign of Stanton Park and the beautification projects undertaken in several small parks as part of Lady Bird Johnson's landscape priorities in Washington, D.C.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION
This CLI finds that Maryland Avenue NE retains integrity based on the extant conditions that are consistent with its periods of significance (1791-1792; 1814; 1871-1915; 1933-1936; 1963-1969). Original landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain in place at Maryland Avenue NE, and the landscape displays all seven aspects that determine integrity, as defined by the National Register of Historic Places.

Site Plan

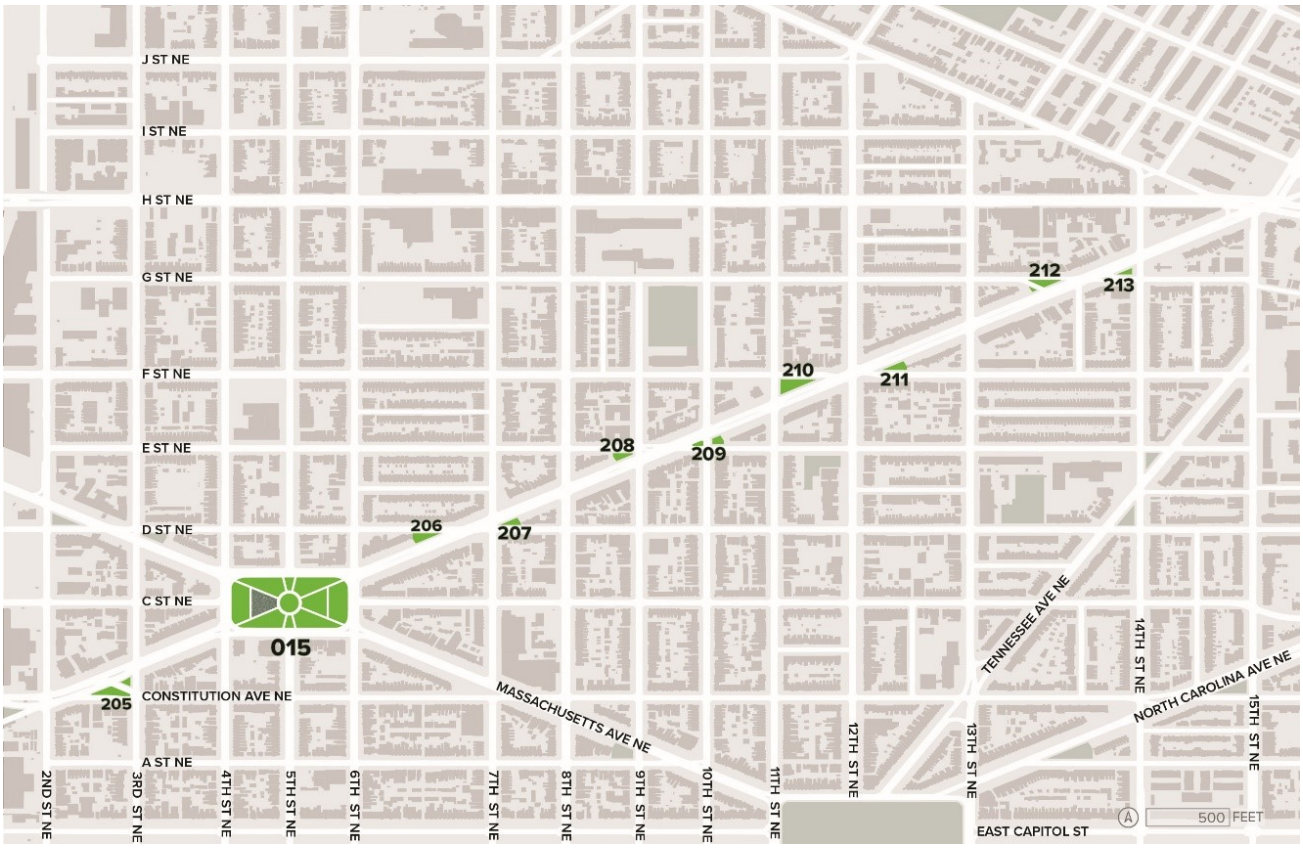


Figure 2: Project boundaries for Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape. Small parks included in this CLI are denoted in green and labeled with their reservation number.

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Maryland Avenue, NE corridor
Property Level:	Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	600250
Parent Landscape:	600250

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	National Capital Parks-East - Maryland Avenue, NE corridor - NACE
Park Organization Code:	3563
Park Administrative Unit:	National Capital Parks-East

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

This Cultural Landscape Inventory was written by Molly Lester, Research Associate, University of Pennsylvania, with research and writing assistance from Elizabeth Volchok (University of Pennsylvania) and research assistance from Brett Harris and Santiago Preciado (University of Pennsylvania). This Cultural Landscape Inventory also relies on substantial writing and research conducted by Shannon Garrison (University of Pennsylvania) related to other DC small parks, including the DC Small Parks Overview and the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape Inventory. 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, Cultural Resources Program Manager, National Capital Parks – East, National Park Service; Michael Commisso, Chief of Resource Management, National Capital Parks – East; Vince Vaise, Chief of Interpretation, National Capital Parks – East; Ann Honious, Deputy Superintendent, National Capital Parks – East; and Randall Mason, Associate Professor, Historic Preservation, University of Pennsylvania. The following individuals provided guidance on the ethnographic scope of work: Eola Dance, Chief of Resources Management, Colonial National Historical Park; Noel Lopez, Pathways Cultural Anthropologist and Edwin C. Bearss Fellow, National Capital Area, National Park Service; and Megan Northrup, Information Sharing Specialist for Natural and Cultural Resources, National Capital Area, National Park Service.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 09/10/2020

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Date of Concurrence Determination: 03/26/2021

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

The D.C. Historic Preservation Office (DC HPO) concurs with the findings of the Maryland Avenue NE Cultural Landscape Inventory. The DC HPO further concurs that the cultural landscape resources of Maryland Avenue NE, an enumerated, retain integrity to the site’s period of significance; 1791-1792; 1814; 1871-1915; 1933-1936; 1963-1969 and contribute to its historic character.

Geographic Information

Geographic Information & Location Map

State and County:

State: District of Columbia

County Washington County

Size (Acres) 4.86

Land Tract Number(s)

U.S. Reservation 205
U.S. Reservation 015 (Stanton Park)
U.S. Reservation 206
U.S. Reservation 207
U.S. Reservation 208
U.S. Reservation 209
U.S. Reservation 210
U.S. Reservation 211
U.S. Reservation 212
U.S. Reservation 213

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is located in northeast Washington, D.C. It comprises U.S. Reservations 205, 015 (Stanton Park), 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, and 213. The cultural landscape's extents are bound by 2nd Street NE on the west, Constitution Avenue NE on the south, 14th Street NE on the east, and H Street NE on the north.

Boundary Coordinates:

Source:

Type of Point: Point

Latitude: 38.895408

Longitude: -76.99502

Narrative:

Location Map:

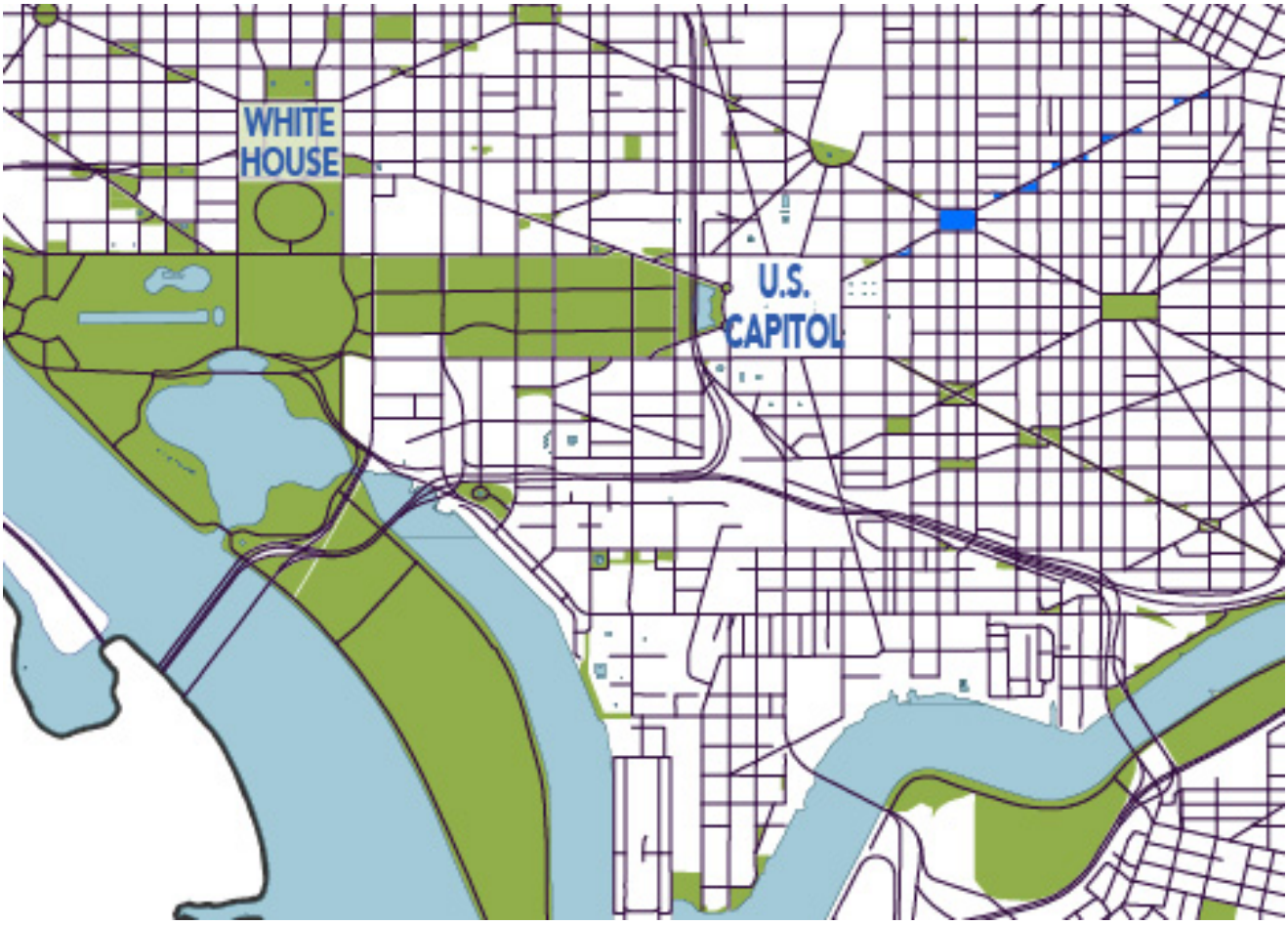


FIGURE 3: Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape, showing location in relation to White House and the United States Capitol. The Maryland Avenue NE small parks are noted in blue; other federal reservations are depicted as green.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/10/2020

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Maryland Avenue NE is currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource of both the L'Enfant Plan and the Capitol Hill Historic District. It was designed as one of the main ceremonial approaches to the United States Capitol, as part of Pierre L'Enfant's plan for Washington, D.C. Since the late 19th century, it has also served a variety of significant commemorative, recreational, and beautification functions within the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Washington, D.C.

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

Type of Agreement: None

Type of Context:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

No management agreements identified (2020).

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative: In 1933, responsibility for the federal reservations in Washington, D.C. was transferred from the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks back to the Department of the Interior, under the management of the National Park Service (NPS). This transfer included the ten reservations within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape. The National Park Service maintains this ownership and management responsibility today.

Located in managed wilderness?: No

Public Access:

Type of Interest: Unrestricted

Explanatory Narrative:

Stanton Park is open to the public with unrestricted access from sunrise to sunset. The other reservations are generally open with unrestricted access.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Land Narrative:

Adjacent lands outside the boundaries of the cultural landscape include the streets and sidewalks along Maryland Avenue NE, as well as the surrounding parks and green space that are not managed by the National Park Service. This land is part of the original L'Enfant right-of-way, and is 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 other public reservations along adjacent streets, including Massachusetts Avenue NE, Constitution Avenue NE, etc.

National Register Information

Documentation Status:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is located within the boundaries of the National Register-listed L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia nomination. Listed in the National Register in 1997, the nationally significant structure is significant under Criteria A, B, and C. The period of significance identified in the nomination begins in 1790 and extends to 1942. Prepared by Sara Amy Leach and Elizabeth Barthold, the nomination encompasses an estimated 3,565 acres within the District of Columbia, representing the L'Enfant Plan area with modifications made in accord with the McMillan Plan. The district's inventory of contributing resources specifically addresses Stanton Park/Stanton Square (Reservation 015) and Maryland Avenue, with reference to the avenue's eleven parklet reservations. (The inventory includes Reservation 202, which falls outside the boundaries of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape.) As contributing resources in the L'Enfant Plan, Maryland Avenue NE 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.

The southwest portion of the cultural landscape, including U.S. Reservations 205, 015 (Stanton Park), 206, 207, 208, and 209, is also located within the boundaries of the Capitol Hill Historic District (1976; boundary increase 2003). The 1976 National Register nomination was listed with significance in the areas of Community Planning, Military, and Other-Local Neighborhood History, with significant periods that included 1700-1799, 1800-1899, and 1900-[1976]. The 2003 boundary increase nomination for the historic district was listed with significance based on Criteria A and C, in the areas of Architecture, Commerce, Community Planning and Development, Entertainment and Recreation, and Transportation. The period of significance for the boundary increase nomination is 1790-1945.

Concurrence Narrative:

The D.C. Historic Preservation Office (DC HPO) concurs with the findings of the Maryland Avenue NE Cultural Landscape Inventory. The DC HPO further concurs that the cultural landscape resources of Maryland Avenue NE, an enumerated, retain integrity to the site's period of significance; 1791-1792; 1814; 1871-1915; 1933-1936; 1963-1969 and contribute to its historic character.

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

Statement of Significance:

The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is comprised of ten small park reservations located along Maryland Avenue NE between 2nd Street NE and 14th Street NE. From southwest to northeast, they include U.S. Reservations 205, 015 (Stanton Park), 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, and 213. These reservations are managed by the National Park Service, National Capital Parks – East.

Maryland Avenue NE was included in the National Register designation of the L'Enfant Plan in 1997, which was listed under Criteria A, B, and C, with a period of significance of 1790-1942. The southwest portion of the cultural landscape is also located within the boundaries of the Capitol Hill Historic District, which was listed in 1976 (with a boundary increase in 2003); the district boundaries encompass U.S. Reservations 205, 015 (Stanton Park), 206, 207, 208, and 209. The 1976 nomination was listed with significance in the areas of Community Planning, Military, and Other-Local Neighborhood History, with significant periods that included 1700-1799, 1800-1899, and 1900-[1976]. The 2003 boundary increase nomination for the historic district was listed with significance based on Criteria A and C, in the areas of Architecture, Commerce, Community Planning and Development, Entertainment and Recreation, and Transportation. The period of significance for

the boundary increase nomination was 1790-1945.

It is the finding of this CLI that the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape derives national significance as one of the designed thoroughfares in Pierre Charles L'Enfant's plan for the District of Columbia. The avenue itself, and several of the open spaces along it, were designed as part of L'Enfant's 1791 Plan of the City of Washington and included in Andrew Ellicott's 1792 modified map of L'Enfant's plan. As the capital city for the new United States of America, Washington, D.C. served as a model for American city planning and a symbol of government power. The L'Enfant Plan drew from Baroque design principles even as it established a new American ideal for city planning. Its juxtaposition of an orthogonal street grid with diagonal ceremonial avenues influenced the design of other American and international cities. Maryland Avenue NE was one of the wide axial avenues at the center of L'Enfant's plan, beginning at the United States Capitol and extending northeast toward the intersection with the road to Bladensburg, Maryland. The avenue and its associated public reservations represented the L'Enfant Plan's principles of siting and setting, linking key features of the District of Columbia and creating vistas that uphold the federal city's symbolic role as the capital of the United States of America.

The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape also derives national significance for its role in the War of 1812, based on thoroughfare's geographic links to the United States Capitol and Bladensburg, Maryland. The burning of Washington, D.C. in 1814 was made possible by Maryland Avenue NE's direct route in the city; the small parks on Maryland Avenue NE derive national significance under Criterion A for their association with, and role in, these events. In the aftermath of the Battle of Bladensburg, in which British forces defeated the American army, British troops marched along Maryland Avenue NE as their main circulation route toward the federal capital on August 24, 1814 (using the avenue as the thoroughfare that it was intended to be between the two towns). Along the way, as they marched down the avenue, British forces under the command of Major General Robert Ross burned down several buildings (primarily public buildings) in the District of Columbia—most notably, the White House and the United States Capitol (located immediately southwest of the cultural landscape). These events mark the only time since the American Revolution that a foreign power has captured and occupied the capital of the United States.

The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is also locally significant as one of the collections of "breathing spaces" developed for local residents by the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Though designed in 1791, the small parks on Maryland Avenue NE—and most of the other green spaces set aside in the L'Enfant Plan—did not see any formal construction until the 1870s. In 1871, Alexander Robey Shepard became the vice-chairman of the Board of Public Works and proposed a new civic improvement program that would include paving and grading miles of unimproved streets (including Maryland Avenue NE) to encourage development. In turn, the reserved green spaces along the avenue would provide respite in the densifying federal city, placing a priority on creating a network of passive recreation space for the city's residents. In the 1870s, Stanton Square was fenced off for initial improvements as a public park, and by 1877, a statue commemorating General Nathaniel Greene was installed at the center of the completed park. Over the next several decades, the OPBG delineated and landscaped the other small parks on the avenue as well. The small parks were so successful in their intentions and execution that in 1901, the McMillan Plan pointed to Maryland Avenue NE and other small parks downtown as the type of "small reservations" that should be replicated in other parts of the city as Washington, D.C. expanded. In 1915, a wide median was installed down the center of Maryland Avenue NE between Stanton Park and Florida Avenue, shifting the character and connections between the small parks.

The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is also locally significant as one of the few sites where the Works Progress Administration (WPA) undertook projects during the New Deal. Between 1933 and 1936, WPA laborers completed projects in Stanton Park (Reservation 015) and in Reservation 212, including vegetation removal and the possible redesign of Stanton Park. These projects demonstrated the value of improving small parks for the sake of urban improvement, green infrastructure, and economic recovery.

Finally, the small parks within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape are locally significant based on their association with Lady Bird Johnson's Beautification Program, which aimed to restore natural beauty and improve the character of the urban environment in blighted downtown areas around the country, beginning with the District of Columbia. As part of that program, and in keeping with Lady Bird Johnson's vision for the federal city's green spaces, the plantings in several reservations on Maryland Avenue NE were refined and improved.

CRITERION A
National: 1791-1792
Historic Context Theme: Shaping the Political Landscape

The L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington was listed in the National Register in 1997, with specific mention of Maryland Avenue NE as a contributing structure. As part of that nomination, small parks that retain integrity to this period, including those located along Maryland Avenue NE, 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. Having formed a friendship with George Washington during the American Revolution, Major Pierre Charles L'Enfant requested the honor of planning the new capital of the United States. He was a French artist and engineer, and his plan was influenced by the Baroque designs of several European cities, rational planning concepts, 18th century gardens, and the political system of the new United States. As the capital of a new nation, Washington, D.C. served as a model for American city planning and a symbol of government power. The plan consists of a regularly occurring grid with a series of avenues overlaid; the juxtaposition of these two systems created triangular parcels of land at intersections throughout the city. Avenues would connect the buildings and monuments to squares and circles. 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. Maryland Avenue NE was one of the wide axial avenues at the center of the plan, in keeping with the geography of its namesake state; originally, avenues named for northern states were located north of Maryland Avenue, while boulevards named for southern states were located south of the avenue. The L'Enfant Plan influenced the design of American cities such as Buffalo, New York, and Cincinnati (Ohio), as well as national capitals around the world such as Canberra, Australia, and New Delhi, India.

National: 1814
Historic Context Theme: Shaping the Political Landscape

Maryland Avenue NE served as an important transportation corridor into the city from Bladensburg, Maryland and Prince George's County, northeast of Washington, D.C. This connection became pivotal in the final year of the War of 1812. After defeating the American forces at the Battle of Bladensburg northeast of the city, the British Army under the command of General Robert Ross crossed over the Benning Road Bridge and invaded the District of Columbia via Maryland Avenue NE. Approximately 4,000 soldiers marched down the avenue en route to the federal buildings located at the southwest end of Maryland Avenue. Along the way, they set fire to multiple buildings under the command of British General Robert Ross. When they reached the intersection of Maryland Avenue, Constitution Avenue, and 2nd Street NE, they were attacked by someone shooting from a house (now known as the Sewall House) located at and 144 Constitution Avenue NE, adjacent to U.S. Reservation 205. They proceeded to burn the house (although the shooter apparently escaped) and went on to set fire to the United States Capitol and the White House. These events mark the only time since the American Revolution that a foreign power has captured and occupied the capital of the United States.

Local: 1871-1915
Historic Context Theme: Expressing Cultural Values

Though designed in 1791, most L'Enfant parks were not constructed until the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when population growth resulted in the extension of services to previously undeveloped parts of the capital. In 1867, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers assumed control over the District of Columbia's public lands; management was specifically house within the Corps' Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG). Beginning in 1871, the OPBG announced plans to develop small parks throughout DC, including those along Maryland Avenue NE, as "breathing spaces" that offered simple landscaped areas for passive recreation, within an increasingly congested city. Funds were not immediately allocated for the projects, which resulted in delays. In 1874, however, the United States Congress finally appropriated $40,000 to erect a statue at the center of what was named Stanton Park to commemorate the Revolutionary War General Nathaniel Greene. The statue was placed in 1877, and the segments of Massachusetts Avenue and Maryland Avenue closest to the statue were closed to vehicle traffic, creating a landscaped green space that now spanned a full (uninterrupted) city block. By this time, the park was named for Edwin Stanton, Secretary of War under President Abraham Lincoln. (The newly named "Stanton Park" or "Stanton Place" joined Seward Square and Lincoln Park as small reservations that were all named in the 1870s for members of the Lincoln Administration.) In Stanton Park, the OPBG oversaw the creation of new planting schemes, the placement of walks, and the construction of lodge

facilities during this period. The nine other reservations on Maryland Avenue NE also saw improvements during these decades, as OPBG installed some combination of marker stones, curbing, and post-and-chain fencing in each of the small parks. The OPBG also implemented various grading and vegetation projects for all of the reservations, including seeding and sodding the parcels and planting many of them with new trees, shrubs, and flowering beds. These decades of improvements and interventions span the publication of the McMillan Plan in 1901, which established an ambitious comprehensive vision for the park system of Washington, D.C. Maryland Avenue NE's reservations were among the small parks highlighted in the McMillan Plan as the model for new green spaces to be created as the city expanded. The Maryland Avenue NE small parks 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 in the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape until 1914. The period of significance ends in 1915 based on the creation of a new median along the centerline of the avenue that year. This wide, planted strip further greened the avenue and changed the character of the cultural landscape, altering the spatial, visual, and physical connections between the Maryland Avenue NE small parks.

Local: 1933-1936
Historic Context Theme: Expressing Cultural Values

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was established in 1933 as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs during the Great Depression. (In 1939, the agency was later renamed the Works Projects Administration, using the same acronym.) The agency was created with the objective to hire millions of unemployed people to carry out public works projects, including the construction of public buildings and roads, restore and improve older parks, and build new parkways and playgrounds. In 1936, Frank Garside, acting superintendent of the National Capital Parks, received $1 million to upgrade the minor parks throughout the city through the WPA and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), according to the design principles laid out in the McMillan Plan. For the small parks on Maryland Avenue NE, WPA projects included the redesign of Stanton Park's pathway system as well as vegetation pruning and removal at Stanton Park and U.S. Reservation 212. These projects were complete on Maryland Avenue NE by 1936. They are among the few known WPA urban projects undertaken in Washington, D.C., although the agency remained active nationwide until its dissolution in 1943.

Local: 1963-1969
Historic Context Theme: Expressing Cultural Values

The National Park Service launched a major redesign of Stanton Park in 1963 as part of the agency's urban renewal initiatives. Those projects were further bolstered by the launch of First Lady Claudia "Lady Bird" Johnson's Beautification Program; several of the small parks along Maryland Avenue NE were among the public spaces that saw improvements under that program. Between 1965 and 1969, Lady Bird Johnson undertook a campaign to restore natural beauty to blighted downtown areas, beginning in the nation's capital. Her program had two primary objectives: improving the appearance of Washington, D.C.'s most heavily touristed areas, and addressing the deteriorating condition of parks and streetscapes throughout the city (Gould 1999: 67). Given their proximity to the federal core, and their scale and location within the Capitol Hill neighborhood, the Maryland Avenue NE small parks bridged these two beautification objectives. As part of the program, Stanton Park and U.S. Reservations 209, 210, 211, and 213 saw improvements, including the introduction of seasonal floral displays that were changed according to a predetermined plant list. U.S. Reservations 209 and 210 also received new play surfaces as part of the Beautification Program. In U.S. Reservation 209, these beautification projects resulted in new play equipment for neighborhood children, as intended; in U.S. Reservation 210, the scope originally planned on the installation of a small amphitheater. That design does not appear to have been executed, and the graded site was instead repurposed for new play equipment. Overall, the Maryland Avenue NE small parks are characteristic of the Beautification Program's objectives to "restore, develop and protect" the public landscapes of Washington, D.C.

CRITERION B
National: 1791-1792
Historic Context Themes: Shaping the Political Landscape; Expressing Cultural Values

Maryland Avenue NE is listed in the National Register as part of the 1997 nomination for the L'Enfant Plan, with national significance under Criterion B based on 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.

CRITERION C
National: 1791-1792
Historic Context Theme: Expressing Cultural Values

Under Criterion C, Maryland Avenue NE 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 adapted the plan the following year, retaining Maryland Avenue NE as one of the key radial avenues in the modified plan. The design, which remains largely in place, was an early American experiment in the use of Baroque urbanism, consisting of a rational grid with avenues overlaid. In keeping with Baroque planning, L'Enfant organized a hierarchy of public space throughout the city, with the main ceremonial areas centered between the President's House and Congress. Avenues radiated out from the seats of power as well as other landmarks in the city. Smaller circles and plazas, intended as sites of memorials, monuments, and fountains, were located at intersections throughout Washington, including one at the intersection of Maryland Avenue NE and Massachusetts Avenue. The L'Enfant Plan also resulted in a number of small triangular "parklets" where diagonal avenues met gridded streets. These parklets are also present along Maryland Avenue NE as part of the cultural landscape. 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, D.C. As such, the large open spaces, as well as the smaller triangle parks located along Maryland Avenue NE, contribute to the overall plan of the city.

State Register Information:

Identification Number:	N/A
Name:	Capitol Hill Historic District
Listed Date:	1/1/1973 12:00:00 AM

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**
Park	Current, Historic
Urban Park	Current, Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type Of Name
Maryland Avenue NE	Both Current And Historic
Stanton Park	Both Current And Historic
Stanton Square	Historic
Stanton Place	Historic
U.S. Reservation 184 [now 205]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 185 [now 206]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 186 [now 207]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 187 [now 208]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 188 [now 209]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 189 [now 210]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 190 [now 211]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 191 [now 212]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 192 [now 213]	Historic
U.S. Reservation 205	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 015	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 206	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 207	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 208	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 209	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 210	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 211	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 212	Both Current And Historic
U.S. Reservation 213	Both Current And Historic

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1608	Explored	Captain John Smith is the 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 (now known as the Anacostia River) and the area around Rock Creek.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1632	Land Transfer	Charles Calvert, 5th Lord Baltimore, grants the land that would become Washington, D.C. to Cecilius Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore, who named the land Charles County, Maryland.
CE 1634	Settled	Maryland is settled by Englishmen sent by Cecilius Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore.
CE 1696	Established	The land around Capitol Hill becomes part of Prince George's County in the colony of Maryland.
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 his team, to the federal government.
CE 1791	Planned	Pierre L'Enfant lays out the new federal city of the District of Columbia, sited between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. His plan interposes an orthogonal street grid with radial avenues to link important landmarks and establish grand ceremonial vistas. As designed by L'Enfant, Maryland Avenue NE links the United States Capitol with the road to Bladensburg, Maryland, establishing vistas from the federal core toward the northeast.
CE 1791	Purchased/Sold	On June 27, 1791, George Washington signs 15 deeds with 15 original proprietors of land, including the site of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape.
CE 1792	Planned	After L'Enfant is dismissed from his position, Andrew Ellicott is retained to reproduce a city plan based on L’Enfant’s original plan.
CE 1793	Built	The cornerstone of the United States Capitol Building is laid in 1793, immediately southwest of Maryland Avenue NE.
CE 1800	Moved	The federal government officially moves from Philadelphia to Washington.
CE 1801	Established	The 1801 Organic Act places the District of Columbia under the control of the U.S. Congress and organizes the unincorporated area north of the district into Washington County.
CE 1802	Land Transfer	Maryland's Montgomery County and Prince George's County transfer jurisdiction of Washington County, including the area around Maryland Avenue NE, to the new federal government.
CE 1803	Paved	The easternmost section of Maryland Avenue NE is graded and paved beginning in 1803. The paving was concentrated at the northeast end of the avenue, where the post road entered the city at 15th Street NE and Boundary Street (now Florida Avenue). This made Maryland Avenue NE one of the earliest streets in the district to receive any paving, although the paving did not yet affect the segments of road adjacent to the cultural landscape reservations.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1814	Altered	British troops invade Washington. Marching southwest down Maryland Avenue NE toward the United States Capitol, they set fire to a house adjacent to U.S. Reservation 205, as well as several neighboring buildings. The house is owned by Robert Sewell and rented by Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin. The troops proceed toward the federal buildings, where they burn the United States Capitol and the White House.
CE 1849	Land Transfer	The United States Congress creates the Department of the Interior, charging it with control over the nation's internal affairs. The department consolidates the role of the General Land Office, the Patent Office, the Indian Affairs Office, and the military pension office. The Department of the Interior was tasked with the care and management of all federal property, including public parks in the city of Washington.
CE 1856 - 1866	Altered	The original dome on the United States Capitol is removed in 1856 and replaced by 1866. This represents a new landmark at the southwest end of Maryland Avenue NE, visible from several of the avenue's small parks.
CE 1861 - 1865	Urbanized	The population of Washington, D.C. more than triples over the course of the Civil War, heightening demand for new construction and green space.
CE 1863	Built	Gas lamps are installed along Maryland Avenue NE between the Capitol Grounds and 6th Street NE.
CE 1867	Land Transfer	The Department of the Interior transfers its jurisdiction of public lands (including the Maryland Avenue NE reservations) to the new Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
CE 1871	Platted	Orville E. Babcock replaces Nathaniel Michler as head of the OPBG and launches the first survey to located the federally-owned spaces within the street rights-of-way. Babcock also revives a plan for the redesign of the square at Massachusetts and Maryland Avenues, referring to it as Stanton Place. This marks the first association of the square's name with Edwin Stanton, Secretary of War under President Abraham Lincoln. The park would later be known as Stanton Park.
CE 1872	Established	Reservation 205 is officially identified as a public reservation.
CE 1872	Planned	District officials develop a plan to pave Maryland Avenue NE with stone from Capitol to the city's limits at Boundary Street NE. However, the plans stall as debt and scandals plague the territorial government.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1874 - 1877	Altered	Congress appropriates $40,000 to erect a monumental statue of General Nathaniel Greene at the center of "Stanton Place." The statue is designed by Henry Kirke Brown and installed in 1877 as part of a full redesign of the park.
CE 1884	Established	Reservations 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, and 213 are officially identified as public reservations.
CE 1889 - 1892	Paved	The full extent of Maryland Avenue NE is paved with asphalt block.
CE 1894	Altered	Reservation 205 is graded, sodded, and partly planted with a flower bed. A water pipe is also installed, and the reservation is enclosed with a post-and-chain fence.
CE 1898	Altered	Concerned about encroachment from adjacent buildings, the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds places square blocks inscribed with the letters "U.S." at the corners of several public reservations along Maryland Avenue NE, including Reservations 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, and 213.
CE 1898	Altered	Reservation 207 is graded and sodded.
CE 1899	Altered	A flower bed measuring 20 feet in diameter is created in Reservation 207; it is planted with 65 shrubs, and a new water pipe is installed. In Reservation 211, 48 shrubs are planted.
CE 1900	Altered	Reservations 206, 208, 210, 211, 212, and 213 are graded, surfaced with soil, sodded, and seeded. New water pipes are installed in Reservations 208, 210, 211, 212, and 213.
CE 1901	Altered	In Reservation 209, the "high bank of clay and gravel much above the grade of the surrounding streets is cut down." In addition, the surface of the reservation is covered with soil, the borders are sodded, and the remainer is sown with grass seed. An OPBG marking stone is placed, a water pipe is constructed, and 34 shrubs are planted. In Reservation 211, "a portion of the flagged foot walk at the base of this reservation was taken up and relaid."
CE 1902	Altered	A portion of Reservation 208 is enclosed with a stake-and-wire fence.
CE 1903	Altered	Reservation 213 is enclosed with a post-and-chain fence.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1904	Altered	Four trees and 35 shrubs are planted in Reservation 206. Cement coping is installed around Reservation 207 with "3 corner posts at entrance to walks." New grass seed is also planted in Reservation, along with 6 shrubs. The existing stake-and-wire fence in Reservation 208 is replaced by an iron post-and-chain fence, and 46 shrubs are planted. In Reservation 210, new grass seed is planted and a circular flower bed is created (measuring 16 feet in diameter). Five trees and 87 shrubs are planted, and the existing water pipe is extended farther into the reservation. In Reservation 211, new grass seed is sown, 53 shrubs are planted, and a flower bed measuring 14 feet in diameter is planted with flowering plants. In Reservation 212, the existing wire fence around the reservation is removed and replaced with an iron post-and-chain fence that features 33 posts and 272 linear feet of chain. Two trees and 41 shrubs are also planted. In Reservation 213, a tree and 41 shrubs are planted.
CE 1905	Altered	A new water pipe is installed in Reservation 205 to replace the old pipe. In Reservation 211, the existing granite curb on the south side is moved back approximately 12 inches, and a cement pavement is laid by the District government on the sidewalk on that side.
CE 1906	Altered	In Reservation 211, portions of the granite coping on the west side are cut and reset due to the laying of new sidewalk on that side of the small park.
CE 1912	Altered	In Reservation 205, cement coping is constructed around the reservation.
CE 1914	Altered	Reservation 206 is seeded, and 8-inch cement coping is constructed around the reservation.
CE 1915	Altered	A wide median is constructed along the centerline of Maryland Avenue NE, extending from Stanton Park to the starburst intersection at 15th Street NE. The median is planted with shrubs and lit by street lamps.
CE 1927	Platted	The Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks surveys all of the reservations along Maryland Avenue NE.
CE 1933	Land Transfer	The Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks transfers jurisdiction of federal reservations back to the Department of the Interior, under the management of the National Park Service (NPS). This includes the Maryland Avenue NE small parks.

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1935 - 1936	Altered	The Works Progress Administration is established by the Roosevelt Administration on May 6, 1935, as part of the New Deal employment programs. In 1936, National Capital Parks (part of the National Park Service) secures funding to upgrade minor parks throughout the District of Columbia using laborers from the WPA and Civilian Conservation Corps. Projects on Maryland Avenue NE focused on Stanton Park and Reservation 212, and were undertaken in 1935 and 1936.
CE 1957	Altered	Reservation 205 is divided into two smaller triangles when a road is constructed to connect Constitution and Maryland Avenues.
CE 1962	Demolished	Sometime before 1963, the brick perimeter sidewalks in Stanton Park are removed.
CE 1963	Altered	In or around 1963, Maryland Avenue NE's median is narrowed in order to add a second lane of traffic in each direction.
CE 1963	Rehabilitated	In 1963, the National Park Service launches a major redesign of Stanton Park as part of NPS' urban renewal initiatives. The redesign includes the rearrangement of the central plaza around the Greene statue, the installation of new small-scale features, and the construction of a new play area west of the statue.
CE 1965 - 1969	Altered	Lady Bird Johnson, First Lady of the United States, launches her Beautification Program to promote beauty in blighted urban areas around the country. The small parks on Maryland Avenue NE were a target for several beautification projects, including the planting of new flowering beds and the construction of new play areas in Reservations 209 and 210.
CE 1970 - 2019	Altered	The National Park Service continues to make minor alterations to the vegetation plans and small-scale features for the small parks on Maryland Avenue NE, as some species of plants are removed or replaced in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. In Stanton Park, this includes the planting of cherry trees in 1978 based on plans that were developed in 1964. In Reservation 207, a new piece of artwork was installed at an unknown date. In Reservation 208, the benches were removed at an unknown date.
CE 1999 - 2003	Altered	In Reservation 210, the northwest corner of the park is being excavated for a new playground area within the former amphitheater footprint. The play area in the southwest corner is demolished by 2003 and replaced with lawn.

Physical History:

Colonial History and Settlement, 1608 to 1790

The first documented colonial exploration of the area associated with present-day Washington, D.C. occurred 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 Nacotchtanks, located directly south of present-day Washington. Between 1608 and 1790, Europeans replaced Native Americans as the main inhabitants of land that would eventually become Washington, D.C. 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 and colonist subsistence farmers began to plan for profit (Bushong 1990: 12, 16). Colonists established a number of tobacco plantations between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers.

The land that encompasses the present-day Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape was part of 500 acres that were patented in 1687 by Walter Houp. By 1700, Walter Houp had returned to England; the chain of title for the cultural landscape is unclear until 1764, when Jonathan Slater purchased the land. By the time the newly-formed federal government set out to create the District of Columbia in 1790, the site of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape was owned by four landholders: Daniel Carroll of Duddington, Jonathan Slater, George Walker, and Abraham Young. Motivated by the prestige of contributing to the new capital, they were eager to sell their property to the federal government (McNeil 1991: 47-8).

Summary
Between 1608 and 1790, European settlers replaced Native Americans as the main inhabitants of land that would eventually become the city of Washington, D.C. As European immigration increased, established Native American settlements were abandoned or taken by force. Forests were cleared as colonists established a number of tobacco plantations between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers (Bushong 1990: 12, 16). There were no bridges across the rivers at this time; travelers instead relied on ferries to cross the rivers near the cultural landscape.

By 1790, the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape was primarily agricultural in use, with associated vegetation including crops and forested areas. According to historic maps, there were a limited number of buildings and structures associated with the pre-District farms in this area. This included several frame houses located near the banks of the Eastern Branch (now the Anacostia River), on the estates owned by Abraham Young and George Walker. The map is representative of the conditions in this period, but building locations are not precise. Given their proximity to the Eastern Branch of the river, these structures were likely located south of the cultural landscape (Prigs 1790).



FIGURE 4: View of the City of Washington in 1792. This cadastral map is thought to have been created in the 1860s, showing named land tracts, selected buildings, and the sites of Carrollsburg, Hamburgh, and



FIGURE 5: Sketch of Washington in embro: viz, previous to its survey by Major L'Enfant, 1792. (Faehtz et. al 1792, Library of Congress)

The L'Enfant Plan: 1791 to 1792

This section draws on the context and history of the L'Enfant Plan in the Virginia Avenue SW Cultural Landscape Inventory, written by Shannon Garrison as part of this same University of Pennsylvania research team.

In 1790, the United States Congress passed the Residence Act, which authorized President George Washington to select the location for the permanent capital of the United States of America. On January 24, 1791, Washington announced that 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 his team, working under the direction of the D.C. 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 Benjamin Banneker, a self-taught astronomer of African descent, and one of the few free blacks living in the vicinity (Leach and Barthold 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. L'Enfant's final design encompassed approximately 6,111 acres, an area that was double the combined area of colonial Boston, New York, and Philadelphia. The area within the boundaries of

L’Enfant’s plan—which included the site of the Maryland Avenue NE small parks—was largely agricultural or undeveloped, giving the federal city’s founders the unique opportunity to create an entirely new capital city (Leach and Barthold 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 (Comeau 2000: 47).

Notations on L’Enfant’s original 1791 plan explain how he first chose the location for significant buildings and squares, including the sites for the President’s House 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 NW to SE and NE to SW—which L’Enfant specified should be grand and lined with trees, to emphasize reciprocal views (Miller 2002: 32-4). 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 and Barthold 1997: VIII.7-8). The entire plan encompassed the area between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, beginning at their convergence and extending north toward present-day Florida Avenue, which was originally named Boundary Street (Bedner 2006: 11-12).

Though the entire plan was designed to connect to and emphasize the importance of the area between the Capitol and the President’s House, 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 features 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 and Barthold 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 gridded streets. L’Enfant’s notes do not include formal plans for these smaller spaces, although many of them formed shapes like goose-feet and bow-ties that were common features in Baroque urban plans and were used to focus attention on secondary views and important sites (Fanning 2005: 19). See the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview for more on L’Enfant’s design principles.

On L’Enfant’s original plan, the thoroughfare of Maryland Avenue NE was platted at a 70-degree angle from the United States Capitol. The 1.4-mile road was designed to link the federal core with the Bladensburg Road to the northeast—a key trade route between the District of Columbia and Bladensburg, Maryland (Harts 1916: 2). At its southwest edge, where it intersected with the federal core, the building for Congress would be placed, visible along the avenue as a designed vista according to L’Enfant’s design intent. At 5th Street NE, the SW-NE avenue would intersect with

another major thoroughfare running NW-SE (Massachusetts Avenue NE today), creating an opportunity for a ceremonial circle (known as No. 5) where the two roads met.

President George 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 to obtain the land from the 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 and Barthold 1997: VIII. 8-9).

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 35 of the potential 10,000 potential lots sold. Under pressure from the D.C. 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 (which intersects Maryland Avenue NE at Reservation 015/Stanton Park, one of the small parks in this cultural landscape).

Between 1791 and 1795, the city plan was surveyed and laid out in sections by Andrew Ellicott (assisted by Isaac Briggs, George Fenwick, and his brother Benjamin) until their dismissal in October 1793. Benjamin Banneker also participated in the survey of the District of Columbia boundary between February and April 1791. He left the survey to return to his farm near Ellicott City, Maryland to continue his work associated with tracking the positions of various celestial bodies.

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 15 yellow-shaded reservations, thereby abandoning any comprehensive plan for the treatment of the city's open spaces. He did, however, retain his predecessor's directive to divide the avenue 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 and Barthold 1997: VIII.9-10).

In 1792, Ellicott and his team set to work implementing the final plan, focusing on the area between the President's House and the Capitol. 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 many intersections, cutting off some of their acute angles to form near-circular or rectangular openings (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.11). The result was the creation of additional open spaces, located within street rights-of-way. These sites, many of which do not appear as delineated areas on either the L'Enfant or Ellicott maps, would eventually form the basis of Washington, D.C.'s network of small parks.

Summary

The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape was specifically addressed in the L'Enfant Plan. By 1792, it was formally incorporated as part of the earliest designs for the District of Columbia, even if it wasn't actually platted and paved until later periods of significance. Located east of the Capitol area, which was the target of Ellicott's earliest interventions, the cultural landscape likely had views toward the activity in the federal core, including the establishment of the first federal buildings. As it awaited its own development, however, the cultural landscape likely retained its historic agricultural use to some degree. A map created by A. C. Harmon in 1931 represents the conditions of Washington, D.C. as of 1801-2 (see Figure 7). It indicates clusters of intact vegetation near (present-day) Reservations

208, 209, 210, and 211. The character of this vegetation (e.g. small crops, orchards, mature trees) is unspecified (Harmon 1931). There is no documentation of the cultural landscape's circulation features (within the small parks), buildings and structures, or small-scale features as of 1792.



FIGURE 6: Plan for the City Intended for the Permanent Seat of the Government of the United States, showing Maryland Avenue NE with open spaces highlighted. (L'Enfant 1791, Library of Congress)

Early Nineteenth Century: 1793 to 1811

In the early years of the District of Columbia's existence, development along Maryland Avenue NE lagged behind other areas in the city such as Georgetown. This was despite the presence of the United States Capitol at the western end of the avenue. The cornerstone was laid in 1793, and continued in fits and starts into the 18th century. As of August 1796, the commissioners focused the construction efforts on the north wing of the building, and in late 1800, the building was occupied by Congress, the Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, and the courts of the District of Columbia. The south wing of the building was completed in 1811 (Architect of the Capitol, n.d.). The building's central section and dome were significantly redesigned later in the 19th century, but the structure would nevertheless have been visible by this time from the low-lying surrounding area, including the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape.

Initially, very few members of Congress wanted to have a permanent residence in the city, choosing instead to live in boarding houses within walking distance of the Capitol. In a letter written in 1801, Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin offered a description of the area around the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape at the turn of the 19th century: "Around the Capitol are seven or eight boarding houses, one tailor, one shoemaker, one printer, a washing woman, a grocery shop, a pamphlets and stationery shop, a small dry-goods shop, and an oyster house. This makes the whole of the Federal City as connected with the Capitol" (James 1943: 252).

During this period, infrastructural development in the District of Columbia was slow to progress. The result was a capital city without paved streets, piped water, or sewer systems. Of the streets laid out in L'Enfant's plan and Ellicott's modified plan, only Pennsylvania Avenue NW, F Street NW, and the easternmost section of Maryland Avenue NE were graded and paved, beginning in 1803 (Bishop 2015: 23-4; Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.13-14). On Maryland Avenue NE, the paving was concentrated at the northeast end of the avenue, where the post road entered the city at 15th Street NE and Boundary Street (now Florida Avenue). This made Maryland Avenue NE one of the earliest streets in the district to receive any paving.

Summary
As of 1811, the cultural landscape likely retained many of the same conditions as the previous period, with views toward the growing U.S. Capitol. As development slowly progressed, the avenue was graded. The small park reservations were also likely graded during this time, as they were set aside as green space for passive recreational use. Photographs and maps produced later in the 19th century (see Figure 9) suggest that the small parks also likely served some agricultural uses during this period, hosting subsistence gardens and perhaps even grazing, until the area densified later in the 19th century. Vegetation comprised grass and mature trees (which were slowly cleared as development moved northeast along the avenue). The small park reservations do not appear to have hosted any buildings or structures during this period (by design), and there is no documentation of extant small-scale features as of 1811.

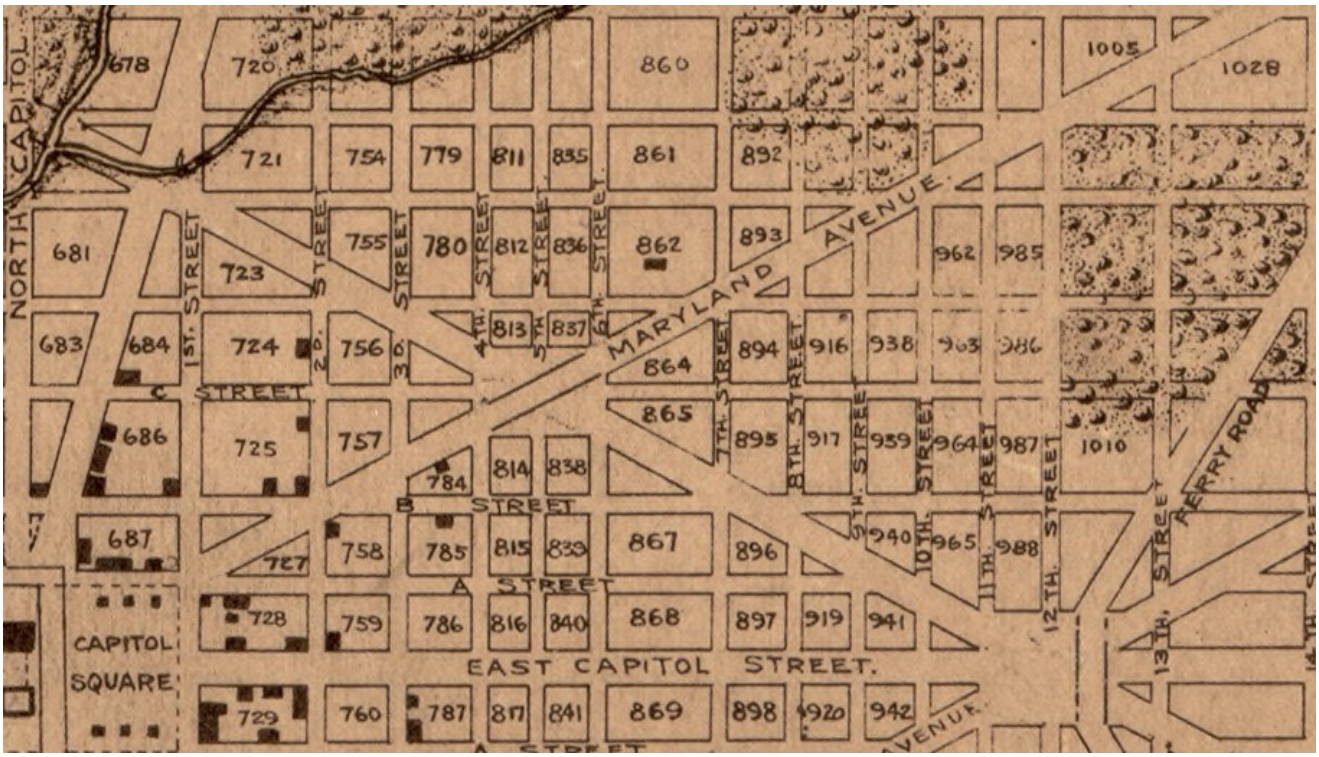


FIGURE 7: Excerpt from Historical map of the city of Washington, District of Columbia: view of the city & location of the houses in the year 1801-02: the beginning of Washington (Harmon 1931, Library of Congress)

War of 1812: 1812 to 1814

Even as the land along Maryland Avenue NE remained largely undeveloped, and the avenue remained unpaved, the road itself retained its usefulness as a trade route between the District of Columbia and the road to Bladensburg, Maryland. At Boundary Street (now Florida Avenue), the avenue forked into two major roads: Bladensburg Road was the northern route and served as the historic turnpike to Bladensburg and Baltimore; while the southern route provided access to Benning Bridge, built around 1800 to carry traffic over the Anacostia River into Maryland. It was here, in the final year of the War of 1812, that the British invaded the District of Columbia after defeating the American forces in the Battle of Bladensburg in August 1814.

Numbering 4,000 troops, the British Army exploited the thoroughfare of Maryland Avenue NE, marching from Bladensburg over the Benning Road Bridge into the city on August 25, 1814. As they marched down Maryland Avenue NE toward the federal core, they set fire to multiple buildings under the command of British General Robert Ross. At the intersection of Maryland Avenue, Constitution Avenue, and 2nd Street NE—adjacent to the present-day U.S. Reservation 205—they encountered resistance from a house occupied by Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin, as someone inside the building shot at the British troops. In retaliation, they burned the house along with its neighbors, then marched on toward the Capitol and the President's House—both of which they also burned (Pitch 2000: 99; Eberlein and Hubbard 1958; Barthold 1992: 2). This attack via Maryland Avenue marks the only time since the American Revolution that a foreign power has captured and occupied the capital of the United States.

Summary
The burning of Maryland Avenue NE and the U.S. Capitol had a pronounced effect on the conditions of the cultural landscape during this period. The events of the War of 1812 altered the views and vistas available from the small park reservations, clearing away some of the vegetation obstructions in and around the small parks, but also destroying the most prominent landmark visible from the cultural landscape, in the form of the U.S. Capitol. There are no surviving accounts of circulation beyond the thoroughfare of the avenue itself. There were no buildings and structures erected in the small parks during this period, and there were no documented small-scale features within the reservations at this time.

Mid Nineteenth Century: 1815 to 1870

Reconstruction of the capital city began in 1815 and continued until the 1830s, with most development clustered around the Navy Yard and the land immediately adjacent to the Capitol. Meanwhile, Maryland Avenue NE was likely still rural and in agricultural use, with a few scattered houses closer to the Capitol, based on A.C. Harmon's 1931 map of the City of Washington in 1801-1802 (Harmon 1931). The boarding house community slowly extended northeast along the avenue during the middle decades of the 19th century. By the end of the 1850s, development had reached 6th Street NE, with only a few clusters of houses between 10th and 13th Streets NE. According to Albert Boschke's Map of Washington City in 1857, approximately 22 structures faced Maryland Avenue NE by this time (Boschke 1857).

Without an extensive network of navigable roads, or even many buildings in the vicinity of Maryland Avenue, the green spaces designated in L'Enfant's plan remained undesigned and in use as passive rural land for much of the 19th century. The first documented effort to plant trees in the District dates to 1807, when Thomas Jefferson oversaw the installation of four rows of Lombardy poplars along Pennsylvania Avenue NW (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.14). The first city park, in the northernmost section of President's Park (now Lafayette Square, west of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape), was landscaped in the 1820s, in advance of a visit by the Marquis de Lafayette (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.14). There is no documentation of any similar efforts to plant trees and create parks in the small reservations along Maryland Avenue NE. Instead, the parcels along Maryland Avenue NE (including those envisioned as future assets for their surrounding neighborhood) were slow to develop and remained largely vacant for several decades. They were preserved as open public spaces, but remained undesigned and unbuilt.

In 1849, the United States Congress created the Department of the Interior (DOI). The Congressional act charged the new DOI with control over the nation's internal affairs, consolidating the role of the General Land Office, the Patent Office, the Indian Affairs Office, and the military pension office. The Department of the Interior was also tasked with the care and management of all federal property, including public parks in the city of Washington (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.16). This included the federal reservations on Maryland Avenue NE.

Also during this period, the United States Capitol underwent a significant renovation campaign in order to accommodate the growing numbers of senators and representatives from states newly admitted to the union. In 1851, President Millard Fillmore laid the cornerstone for the northeast corner of the House wing, and construction continued for the next 14 years, spanning the Civil War. The original dome was removed in 1856, and a new dome was completed in 1866, presenting a new landmark as a vista from the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape (Architect of the Capitol, n.d.).

The Civil War years (1861-1865) marked a period of extensive growth for Washington, D.C., as the wartime population multiplied and the city fortified itself against another attack like the events of 1814. At the start of the war, Washington was a small, relatively undeveloped town, with a population of just over 60,000. Few streets were paved, and an open sewer carried trash, creating poor sanitary conditions (Miller 2002: 88). Over the course of the war, the population of the city more than tripled, from 61,000 in 1860 to 200,000 in 1864, as troops, formerly enslaved persons, and other transplants took up residence in the city (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.21). This wartime population boom heightened the demand for new construction. Temporary buildings were constructed to serve as everything from housing to hospitals, and open spaces became campsites for troops and escaped slaves (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.51). Based on the development patterns depicted in later maps, these temporary structures appear to have been concentrated elsewhere in the city, without affecting Maryland Avenue NE. However, the war did result in the installation of new gas lamps along Maryland Avenue NE between the Capitol Grounds and 6th Street NE, offering illumination to the segment of the avenue that included Reservation 205 and 015 (Barthold 1992: 3).

After the war, Washington, D.C. was thrust into a new era of development as it confronted the aftermath of the conflict and its population boom, and the war's impact on the city's public space. In 1867, the Department of the Interior transferred its jurisdiction of public lands to the newly-formed Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which was based in the War Department (Fanning 2005: 3). Brigadier General Nathaniel Michler was appointed to lead OPBG. This administrative transfer included the small park reservations along Maryland Avenue NE, including the de facto public park in Reservation 015, and affected their management in the latter decades of the 19th century and the early decades of the 20th century (Quinn 2005: 17). For more on this era's administrative history, see the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview.

Under Michler's leadership, OBPG developed a preliminary plan for the improvement of the city's avenues. In the process, Michler recognized the significance of the parks and parklets created by L'Enfant's original plan and the potential of these green spaces to improve the "health, pleasure and recreation of [the city's] inhabitants (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.21). Based on Michler's vision and direction, OPBG priorities determined the design and use of the "many public places…consisting of circles, triangles, and squares…set apart as reservations for the benefit of citizens." Michler's report made specific mention of the square at Maryland and Massachusetts Avenues (although it was not yet named), urging that this "vacant square" be fenced in and improved. Despite these clear directives, however, Michler's plans remained unfunded until the 1870s (Quinn 2005: 17).

Summary

In the decades leading up to and including the Civil War, Maryland Avenue remained unpaved, and the small park reservations remained largely open and undeveloped. Without formal landscape features or regular maintenance practices, many of these small reservations around the District were used by adjacent landowners for gardens, refuse heaps, and even buildings, since no system had been devised to identify, manage, or protect this federal land (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.56). The Maryland Avenue NE small parks were likely used in the same way, although there is no documentation (in the 1857 Boschke map or otherwise) of encroaching buildings on these

reservations. A photograph of the avenue taken in 1863 shows a limited number of trees in the area, with the remaining land planted with grass, gardens, and shrubs (“Early Photographic View,” [s.n.]). Circulation features within the small parks were limited and almost certainly informal (without any paving). Limited fencing is also visible in that same 1863 photograph, although it is unclear whether the fencing affected the small parks in particular, or whether it was simply adjacent to these reservations. There are no other small-scale features visible in the small parks during this period.



FIGURE 8: Excerpt from Map of Washington City, District of Columbia, seat of the federal government: respectfully dedicated to the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of North America. (Boschke 1857, Library of Congress)



FIGURE 9: Early photographic view of Washington, D.C. from the Capitol, looking northeast circa 1863. An unpaved Maryland Avenue NE is visible at the center of the photograph, extending from foreground to background. This photograph has been altered to slightly colorize the approximate extents of Maryland Avenue NE in the image. ("Early Photographic View" n.d., Library of Congress)

Late Nineteenth Century Development and the McMillan Plan: 1871 to 1915

Construction throughout Washington, D.C. began to accelerate in the 1870s. New development flourished after Alexander "Boss" Robey Shepard became the vice-chairman of the Board of Public Works in 1871 and proposed a new civic improvement program to reshape the city's streets and public space. This marked the first substantial and funded effort to improve the District's streets and parks (unlike Michler's efforts a few years earlier). Under Shepard's direction, the Board of Public Works narrowed roadways and shifted sidewalks, assigning the extra land to the adjacent properties so that property owners would have to bear some of the maintenance costs (Billings 1960/1962: 153). This likely affected the boundaries of the small parks on Maryland Avenue NE, as the streets' widths were reduced and the parcels within the blocks were slightly enlarged.

The area east of the Capitol—encompassing Maryland Avenue NE—remained undeveloped for much of the 19th century. As such, it was ripe for new construction as the pace of building increased in the late 19th century. Contractors and builders began to construct small groups of row houses up and down and the avenue (and on the neighboring streets), attracting a new population of middle-class government workers in the growing federal capital (Ganschinietz 1976: 13).

In 1871, concurrent with Shepard's appointment to the Board of Public Works, Orville E. Babcock replaced Nathaniel Michler as head of the OBPG. Babcock quickly launched the first survey to locate the federally-owned spaces within the street rights-of-way, and published the resulting 8 sheets titled "Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia, showing the Public Reservations." As part of his early planning efforts, Babcock revisited Michler's design for the square at Maryland and Massachusetts Avenues, calling for the improvement of "Stanton Place…in order to keep up with the

rapid and magnificent improvements being made by the city" (Quinn 2005: 17). This marked the first association of the square's name with Edwin Stanton, Secretary of War under President Abraham Lincoln. (This commemorative renaming echoed efforts to rename two other spaces in tribute to Lincoln's administration as well: four years earlier, District officials renamed the square at Pennsylvania Avenue and North Carolina Avenue as Lincoln Park, and concurrent with the Stanton Place discussion, the square at Pennsylvania Avenue and North Carolina Avenue was renamed Seward Square, in honor of Lincoln's Secretary of State.) (Quinn 2005: 17-18).

In 1872, District officials developed a plan to pave Maryland Avenue NE with stone from the Capitol to the city's limits at Boundary Street NE (now Florida Avenue). However, these plans for the avenue stalled as debt and scandals plagued the territorial government. Instead, road paving and improvement efforts were concentrated elsewhere in the District during this time—in particular, the area northwest of the Capitol. Maryland Avenue NE retained a gravel surface until at least 1882 (Greene 1882).

In 1874, Congress appropriated $40,000 to erect a monumental statue of Revolutionary War general Nathaniel Greene at the center of "Stanton Place." This new feature aligned with L'Enfant's recommendation that this square (and other squares and circles in the city plan) feature monumental figures and obelisks. The statue was designed by Henry Kirke Brown and installed in 1877 at the center of the square (Quinn 2005: 18).

The design and installation of the Greene statue prompted a full landscape design that made "Stanton Place" into an official, formal public park. By 1876, Stanton Park was fenced off and subdivided into quadrants. Within three years, the park had been graded at street level. In a new design that was likely influenced by Andrew Jackson Downing's 1851 plan for the National Mall and Lafayette Square, the 1870s design for Stanton Park/Stanton Place featured the Greene statue, curvilinear paths, new flower beds and ornamental fountains, gas lamps, and iron post-and-chain fencing around the entire reservation (Wilson 1887: 2596). With these improvements, Stanton Park's use as a recreational attraction for the neighborhood was firmly established. (See the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory for more information about individual cultural landscape features.)

In contrast to Stanton Park, the smaller reservations on Maryland Avenue NE were largely left unimproved during this time. Reservation 205 was officially identified in 1872, but it was not improved until the 1880s, when it was graded, sodded, planted with an ornamental flower bed, and enclosed with post-and-chain fencing (Barthold 1992: 8). The fencing was later painted in 1890 (Bingham 1900: 5258). Reservations 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, and 213 were identified in 1884, but their improvements lagged until the early 20th century (Barthold 1992: 8-9).

An 1889 map indicates that the southwest portion of Maryland Avenue NE, from 2nd Street NE to 11th Street NE, was paved with asphalt block (Symons 1889). Improvements were proposed for the northeast segment of the avenue, between 11th Street NE and 15th Street NE, in 1889 and 1890. By 1892, the full extent of the avenue from 2nd Street NE to 15th Street NE was paved with asphalt block (Rossell and Lusk 1892).

As the avenue was paved and development increased in the 1890s, the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds grew concerned that the properties that abutted the small parks might encroach on the public reservations. Their concerns were apparently well-founded, as the 1900 Annual Report by the U.S. Army Chief of Engineers included Reservation 208 among the "reservations, which are the property of the United States, [and are] occupied, it is believed, in violation of the law" (Bingham 1900: 5264). Thus, in 1898 and 1900, the OPBG placed square blocks inscribed with the letters "U.S" at each corner. According to the OPBG annual reports from this period, stone blocks were installed in Reservations 206, 207, 208, 210, 212, and 213; a surviving block in Reservation 211 indicates that the blocks were installed in that small park as well (Bingham 1898: 3731).

By 1900, Reservations 205, 206, 208, 210, 211, 212, and 213 were graded and either seeded or surfaced with soil. (This was in addition to the landscape design and construction at Stanton Park by this time.) A water pipe was also introduced to Reservations 208, 210, 211, 212, and 213 (Bingham 1900: 5258-59). Other than these interventions and general maintenance, the small parks remained

undesigned and existed as grassy parcels.

A number of reform movements swept the country in the 19th and early 20th centuries, a period often referred to as the Progressive Era. These movements focused on alleviating a host of societal ills, many of which were associated with urban life. In 1900, officials noted the centennial anniversary of the movement of the capital to Washington, D.C., and acknowledged that the District needed a plan to guide the federal city into the 20th century. Thus, on February 21, 1900, a joint Congressional committee held its first meeting, with Senator James McMillan of Michigan as chairman and McMillan's secretary, Charles Moore, as committee secretary (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.32). The committee was comprised of renowned designers, including architect Daniel Burnham; landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.; architect Charles F. McKim; and sculptor Augustus St. Gaudens. The report that 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 outlying parks as portions of a single, well-considered system" (Leach and Barthold 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. As a prime example for the City Beautiful movement in the early 20th century, the plan aspired to promote public welfare, civic virtue, social harmony, economic growth, and an improved quality of life through park planning and naturalistic design. The final plan, published in 1902, included a social component, but it 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 expand it beyond the original city boundaries via a modern system of parks and parkways. Specifically, the Commission called for extending Washington's ceremonial core by consolidating city railways and alleviating at-grade crossings, clearing slums, designing a coordinated municipal office complete, preserving space for parks and parkways in the rapidly developing suburbs, and establishing a comprehensive recreation, park, and parkway system throughout the city. (For more on the McMillan Plan, see the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview.)

As public reservations that dated back to L'Enfant's original plan for the District of Columbia, the Maryland Avenue NE small parks were not the direct focus of the McMillan Plan's designs. Rather, it is more appropriate to describe them as the McMillan Plan's model for how new parks could be carved out as the city expanded into new suburbs. The McMillan Plan devoted an entire section to the "treatment of the minor reservations," arguing that the city should be intentional about incorporating small parks into the expanding neighborhoods of the city. According to the McMillan Plan, the District of Columbia should ensure that the outlying areas of the District should include their own so-called minor reservations, "distributed with the same wise foresight as was shown by the founders of the city, and with equal liberality" (Moore 1902: 79). The Maryland Avenue NE small parks were among the minor reservations within the original city boundaries that the McMillan Plan should be replicated elsewhere. Despite the fact that they were generally unimproved in the years leading up to the publication of the plan, the Maryland Avenue NE small parks were part of the McMillan Plan's paradigm for green infrastructure and public parkland in the District of Columbia.

The Maryland Avenue NE small parks did receive some improvements in the years immediately after the publication of the McMillan Plan, as Congress and District officials used the plan to set new standards for the character and design of public reservations.

In 1900, Congress expressed its desire that public parks in the District of Columbia be as open as possible, with finished edges that would avoid unsightly sloppiness. Thus, officials in this era favored simple stone curbing to preserve a "near border line between park and sidewalk." This curbing was occasionally combined with low fencing, although District officials avoided using taller fences (Bingham 1900: 5241). Coupled with the "U.S." stone blocks that OPBG installed around this same time, the curbing offered a distinctive way to demarcate these public reservations as small parks within an urban context. Within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape , stone curbing was installed at Reservations 205, 206, 207, and 211.

Other improvements made to these small parks in the early years of the 20th century include:
- Reservation 208 was enclosed with a cast-iron post-and-chain fence and planted with trees in

1904;
- Reservation 209 was graded and planted with grass and shrubs in 1901;
- Reservation 210 was improved (with unidentified projects) some time after 1900;
- Reservation 212 was enclosed with a post-and-chain fence in 1904;
- Reservation 213 was enclosed with a post-and-chain fence in 1903 (Barthold 1992: 9).

Stanton Park also saw various improvements during this period. In 1902, 35 “unsightly trees and 127 unsightly shrubs” were removed from the park, as were the old lanterns on four lampposts. Meanwhile, two new shrubs and 20 new trees were planted, gravel walks were repaired, new gas lamps replaced the former lanterns, the watchman’s lodge was repaired, and the post-and-chain fencing was painted (Quinn 2005: 21). For more information on Stanton Park alterations, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.

In 1915, a wide median was constructed along the centerline of Maryland Avenue NE, extending from Stanton Park to the starburst intersection at 15th Street NE (National Photo Company [n.d.]). (Thus, the median linked all of the small parks in the cultural landscape, with the exception of Reservation 205.) Planted with shrubs and lit by street lamps, this median represented a new addition to the avenue’s green infrastructure. As such, the wide median altered the circulation patterns of the avenue and changed the spatial relationship and character of the avenue’s small parks.

Summary
The period between 1871 and 1915 marked one of the most substantial periods of development for the Maryland Avenue NE small parks. Within that period, Stanton Park (Reservation 015) was laid out as a formal public park for the first time, and the other reservations on the avenue were refined as public green space for a densifying avenue. For more on the condition of Stanton Park by the end of this period of significance, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.

By 1915, the cohesive connections of the Maryland Avenue NE small parks were in place, as the avenue was paved with asphalt block and linked by the median that extended between Stanton Park and 15th Street NE. By the end of this period of significance, the conditions of the small parks were as follows:
Reservation 205
Officially identified as a public reservation in 1872, this triangular small park was graded, sodded, and partly planted (with unspecified plantings) as of 1894, with a flower bed in the center supplied by a water pipe. It was enclosed with a post-and-chain fence that same year (Wilson 1894: 3310). In 1905, a new water pipe was installed to replace the old pipe (Bromwell 1905: 2644). In 1912, cement coping was constructed around the reservation (Cosby 1912: 3493). The park may have been marked by OPBG blocks inscribed with “U.S.”

Reservation 206
This triangular small park was officially identified as a public reservation in 1884, and in 1898, it was officially marked with OPBG blocks inscribed with “U.S.” (Bingham 1898: 3731) As of 1900, it was graded and surfaced with soil (Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1904, four trees and 35 shrubs were planted; their species were not named in the OPBG annual reports (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). In 1914, the small park was seeded, and 8-inch cement coping was constructed around the reservation (Harts 1916: 2).

Reservation 207
Officially identified as a public reservation in 1884, the triangular Reservation 207 was graded and sodded in 1898. That same year, OPBG blocks inscribed with “U.S.” were placed at the corners of the reservation (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1899, a flower bed that measured 20 feet in diameter was created and planted with 65 shrubs (of unspecified species), with water supply from a new pipe (Bingham 1899: 3835). In 1900, the reservation was graded and surfaced with soil (Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1904, cement coping was installed around the reservation with “3 corner posts at entrance to walks.” New grass seed was planted along with 6 shrubs; the species of the shrubs were not named in the OPBG’s annual reports (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936).

Reservation 208

Reservation 208 was officially identified as a public reservation in 1884 (Barthold 1992: 7); it occupied a triangular footprint. In 1898, OPBG placed stone blocks at the reservation denoted with "U.S." (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1900, the reservation was graded, surfaced with soil, and planted with grass seed and sod; a water pipe was constructed within the small park to irrigate the seed (Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1902, a part of the reservation was enclosed with a "stake-and-wire fence"; this fence appears to have been replaced in 1904, when an iron post-and-chain fence was constructed. Also in 1904, 46 shrubs were planted (Bingham 1902: 2737; Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). The annual report did not specify the type or species of shrubs planted.

Reservation 209
Reservation 209 was officially named as a public reservation in 1884 (Barthold 1992: 8). In 1901, the quasi-triangular small park's "high bank of clay and gravel much above the grade of the surrounding streets" was cut down, although it remained elevated above the street level. The surface of the reservation was covered with soil, the borders were sodded, and the remainder was sown with grass seed. An OPBG marking stone was placed and a water pipe was constructed. That same year, 34 shrubs were planted; their species were unnamed in OPBG's annual reports (Bingham 1901: 3710).

Reservation 210
This triangular small park was officially identified in 1884 (Barthold 1992: 9). The OPBG placed a marker stone inscribed with "U.S." in the reservation in 1898 (Bingham 1898: 3731). It was graded, seeded, and surfaced with soil in 1900, and a water pipe was installed (Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1904, the small park was planted with new grass seed and a circular flower bed (measuring 16 feet in diameter) was created. Five trees and 87 shrubs (of unknown unspecies) were planted, and the water pipe was extended farther into the reservation (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936).

Reservation 211
Occupying a triangular footprint, Reservation 211 was officially identified as a public reservation in 1884 (Barthold 1992: 9). In 1899, 48 shrubs were planted; by 1900, the small park was graded and sodded, and a water pipe was introduced (Bingham 1899: 3835; Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1901, "a portion of the flagged foot walk at the base of this reservation was taken up and relaid"; it is unclear what was considered "the base of this reservation," but current conditions suggest that this walk was located at the east end of the reservation (Bingham 1901: 3710). In 1904, new grass seed was sown, 53 new shrubs (of unknown species) were planted, and a flower bed measuring 14 feet in diameter was planted with flowering plants of unspecified species (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). In 1905, the existing granite curb on the south (F Street NE) side "was moved back about 12 inches and a cement pavement laid by the District government on the sidewalk on that side. A border of sod was laid around the edges of the reservation" (Bromwell 1905: 2648). One year later, in 1906, "portions of the granite coping on the west side were cut and reset" due to the laying of new sidewalk on that side of the small park (Bromwell 1906: 2138).

Reservation 212
This triangular small park was officially identified in 1884 (Barthold 1992: 9). In 1898, the OPBG placed blocks inscribed with "U.S." at the reservation (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1900, the small park was graded, surfaced with soil, seeded, and bordered with sod, and a water pipe was installed (Bingham 1900: 5259). In 1904, the existing wire fence around the reservation (installed at an unknown date) was removed and replaced with an iron post-and-chain fence that featured 33 posts and 272 linear feet of chain. Also in 1904, two trees and 41 shrubs were planted; their species were unnamed in the OPBG's annual reports (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936).

Reservation 213
Reservation 213 was officially identified in 1884 (Barthold 1992: 9); it was triangular in shape. In 1898, the OPBG placed stone blocks at the reservation inscribed with "U.S." (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1900, the park was graded, surfaced with soil, and sodded, and a water pipe was installed (Bingham 1900: 5259). In 1903, the reservation was enclosed with an iron post-and-chain fence (Symons and Bingham 1903: 2548). One year later, a tree and 41 shrubs were planted (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936).

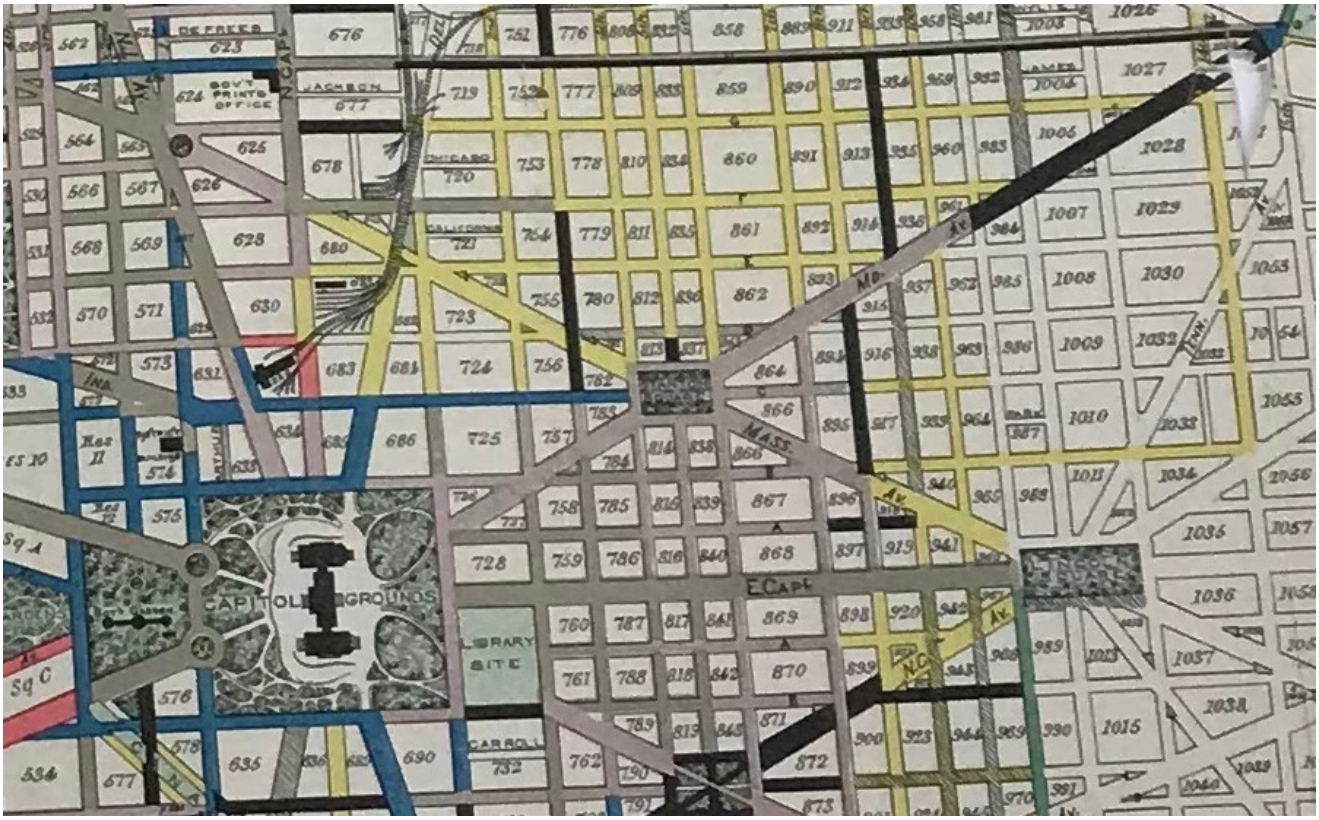


FIGURE 10: Excerpt from Map of the City of Washington Showing the Varieties of Street Pavements Laid and under Contract on January 1st, 1889: To Accompany the Annual Report of Cap't. T.W. Symons, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A. (George Washington University Special Collections)

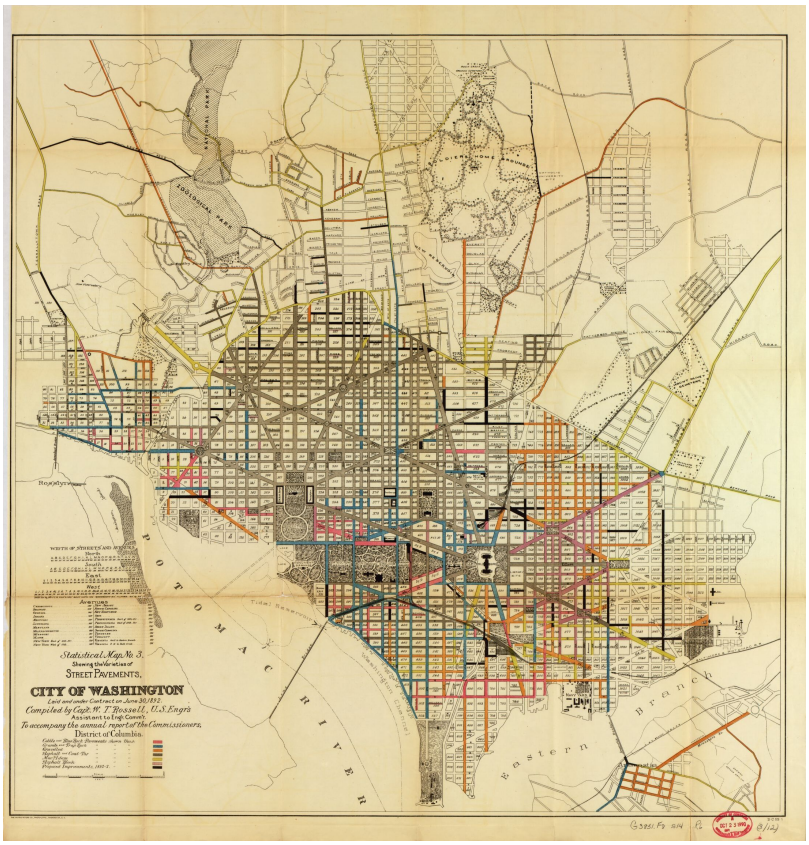


FIGURE 11: 1892, City of Washington Statistical Map No. 3 showing the different varieties of Street Pavements. (Rossell and Lusk 1892, Library of Congress)

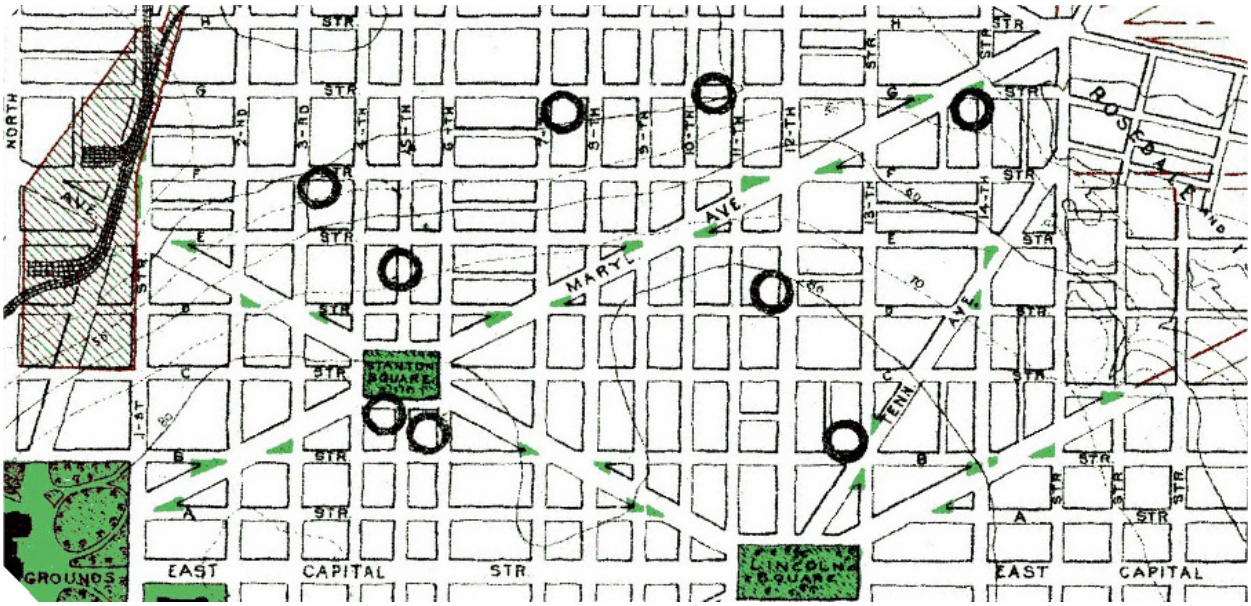


FIGURE 12: Excerpt from Map of the District of Columbia Showing Public Reservations and Possessions and the Permanent System of Highways, 1901 (Moore 1902). Note: black circles on the map denote District of Columbia-owned property, mostly public schools.



FIGURE 13: Maryland Avenue NE at 12th and F Streets, looking southwest towards Capitol, taken between [1915] and 1932 (National Photo Company n.d., Library of Congress)

Early Twentieth Century: 1916 to 1932

The early 20th century saw several administrative shifts in the federal agencies responsible for the design and maintenance of the District of Columbia's public reservations, including the small parks on Maryland Avenue NE. In 1916, OPBG landscape architect George Burnap wrote a book titled Parks, Their Design, Equipment and Use, which echoed many of the tenets of the McMillan Plan. Burnap recommended a series of new treatments for the city's small parks. These included replacing the curvilinear, meandering routes and "fussy" fenced-off landscaping of the Victorian garden design movement with Beaux-Arts formal and symmetrical paths. For the first time, small parks were described as "beginning to have an individuality all their own" (Burnap 1916: 9-13). This approach shaped subsequent redesigns of Stanton Park between 1928 and 1933, but appears to have had little impact on the smaller reservations along Maryland Avenue NE, as they remained relatively consistent during these years. For more on the Stanton Park alterations, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.

The District of Columbia's population exploded during World War I, as the size of the federal government grew and demand for housing increased during the war years. With a heightened sense of the importance of public parkland for all District residents, the District struggled to keep up with the demand for green space in the city. This included the area around Maryland Avenue NE. By 1925, the road to Bladensburg, Maryland was completely paved, beginning at the intersection of 15th Street NE and H Street NE and extending northeast ("Completion of Road to Bladensburg Soon," The Washington Post, August 18, 1925). These improvements created new development opportunities in the neighborhoods north and east of Maryland Avenue NE.

Congress responded to these administrative pressures by creating the National Capital Park Commission (NCPC) on June 6, 1924. Comprised of the Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers, Office in Charge of the OPBG, the Engineer Commissioner of the District of Columbia, the Director of the National Park Service (which was created in 1916), and the Chairmen of the Congressional Committees on the District of Columbia, the NCPC and its successor, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission (NCPPC, created in 1926), were authorized to acquire new parkland in the region (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.36; Gutheim 2006: 178). Parkland acquired by the NCPC and NCPPC was incorporated into the District's park system as new reservations and managed by the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds. The OPBG was reorganized in 1926 and merged with the Office of the Superintendent of the State, War, and Navy Building to form the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks (OPBPP) (quoted from the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview).

Summary
To manage the rapidly growing number of reservations added to the system each year, the OPBPP undertook a program of surveying and photographing each reservation. This series of photographs included a survey in 1927 of the Maryland Avenue NE reservations. They offer evidence of the landscape conditions and extant features of the cultural landscape in the years leading up to the Great Depression and the New Deal.

Reservation 205
As of 1927, the small park was delineated with quarter-round curbing that separated the reservation from the sidewalk. The reservation was graded at the curb level, slightly above the sidewalk grade. It is unclear whether there were trees at the eastern edge of the reservation, or whether they are located outside the boundaries of the small park. There are no other landscape features visible in the survey photograph; it existed as of 1927 as a grassy parcel.

Reservation 015 (Stanton Park)
For information about Stanton Park in these years, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.
Reservation 206
As of 1927, Reservation 206 featured quarter-round curbing at the perimeter of the reservation, separating the grassy area from the surrounding brick sidewalk. The reservation was graded at the curb level, above the sidewalk. There were no other features within the small park at the time of the survey.

Reservation 207
The reservation was demarcated by quarter-round curbing as of the 1927 survey, and the small park was graded at the curb level. Vegetation features include shrubs along the northern edge of the reservation, at the D Street NE sidewalk. No other landscape features are visible in the survey photograph.

Reservation 208
Unlike several of the other small parks in the cultural landscape, Reservation 208 did not feature curbing as of the 1927 survey. Instead, the perimeter of the reservation was delineated with post-and-chain fencing, and the reservation was graded at sidewalk level. The survey photograph suggests that a limited number of shrubs were growing within the small park as of 1927; their precise number and species cannot be determined from the photograph. Reservation 208 was otherwise a grassy parcel.

Reservation 209
The view of Reservation 209 is obscured in the survey photography by an automobile. Nevertheless, the visible portions of the reservation include a significant slope from the center of the site down toward Maryland Avenue and E Streets NE. Several shrub plantings were growing within the small park at the time of the 1927 survey; the number and type of shrubs is unclear. In addition, a large tree was growing along 10th Street NE; it may have been located within the boundaries of the reservation. The small park was otherwise planted with grassy cover.

Reservation 210
As of 1927, Reservation 210 was defined by quarter-round curbing, with the rest of the grassy lot graded at the curb level above the sidewalk. The small park was separated from the neighboring building by several shrubs; it is unclear whether these plantings were located within or adjacent to the small park.

Reservation 211
As of 1927, Reservation 211 was demarcated by quarter-round curbing, with the rest of the grassy lot graded at the curb level above the sidewalk. The small park was separated from the neighboring building by several shrubs; it is unclear whether these plantings were located within or adjacent to the small park.

Reservation 212
Like Reservation 208, Reservation 212 featured post-and-chain fencing rather than quarter-round curbing as of 1927. The reservation was graded at sidewalk level. Several small trees were growing within the small park at this time, although their species cannot be determined from the survey photograph. The reservation was otherwise grassy.

Reservation 213
As of 1927, the small park was enclosed with post-and-chain fencing, without any curbing. It was graded at sidewalk level. Reservation 213 featured at least one tree, and was otherwise planted with grass.



FIGURE 14: Reservation 205, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 205, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)



FIGURE 15: Reservation 206, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 206, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)

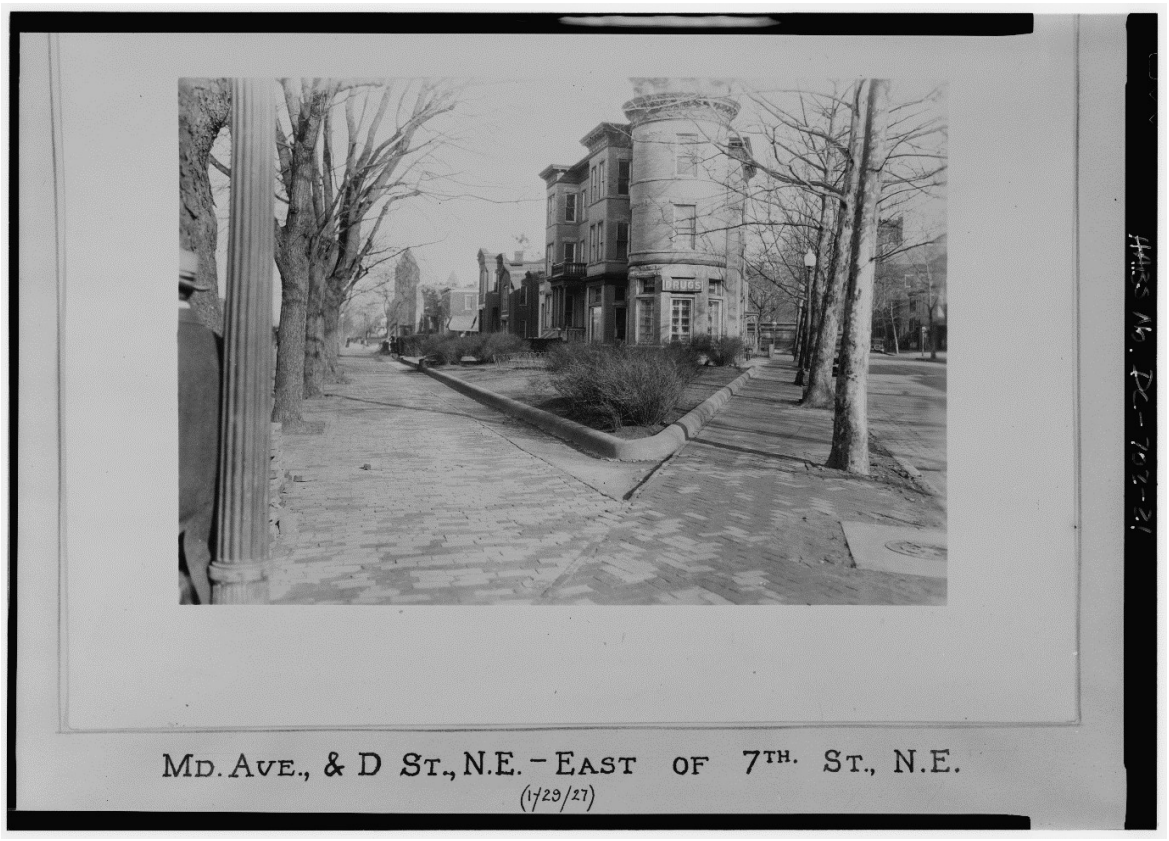


FIGURE 16: Reservation 207, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 207, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)



FIGURE 17: Reservation 208, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 208, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)



FIGURE 18: Reservation 209, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 209, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)



FIGURE 19: Reservation 210, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 210, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)



FIGURE 20: Reservation 211, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 211, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)



FIGURE 21: Reservation 212, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 212, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)



FIGURE 22: Reservation 213, as seen in 1927 survey conducted by the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. (Reservation 213, Reservation Files, National Capital Area)

National Park Service, New Deal, and the Works Progress Administration: 1933 to 1936

In 1933, responsibility for federal reservations was transferred from the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks back to the Department of the Interior, under the management of the National Park Service (NPS). At the time of its founding in 1916, most National Park service units were located in western states, where they had been carved out of federal lands for preservation and protection from development. The 1933 transfer of 56 national monuments and military sites, from the Forest Service and War Department to NPS, expanded the National Park Service's role as steward and manager of a more diverse set of public lands. National Capital Parks, a unit of the National Park Service, was established in 1934 as the direct legal successor to the office of the original three Federal Commissioners, first established by George Washington. As such, National Capital Parks occupied an unusual place with respect to the National Park Service. Many of its functions were entirely different from other field units in the park system in that the office supervised a system of parks, rather than large individual parklands of the type associated with western parks (Heine 1953; quoted from Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview).

The transfer of federal reservations to the National Park Service came during a period of growth and crisis caused by yet another national emergency—the Great Depression. Population growth during the Depression again strained the city's resources, but it also resulted in great infrastructural improvements by way of relief work for the unemployed (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.37; quoted from the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview). Among the New Deal programs launched by the Roosevelt Administration, the Works Progress Administration was established on May 6, 1935. (It was known as the WPA, an acronym that also applied to its successor agency created in 1939, the Works Projects Administration.) The agency was created to employ millions of people for public

works projects, including the construction of public buildings and roads. Nationwide, the agency was also responsible for street widening projects, the restoration of older parks, the construction of new parkways and playgrounds, and the erection of new comfort stations in the parks (The Living New Deal n.d.).

While the National Mall was a natural target for this kind of public works project, the smaller parks and reservations had been somewhat neglected. Thus, in 1936, the acting superintendent of the National Capital Parks, Frank Garside, secured $1 million to upgrade the minor parks throughout the District of Columbia through the WPA and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), another New Deal program. Most of the documented New Deal projects in the District of Columbia were undertaken by the CCC; Maryland Avenue NE appears to be one of the few examples of a project led by the WPA in Washington, D.C. (The WPA was very busy elsewhere in the country.) Nevertheless, the actual projects in the Maryland Avenue NE small parks were of limited scope and scale. Primarily, the WPA's projects seem to have focused on Stanton Park and Reservation 212. For more information about the WPA's Stanton Park projects, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory. In Reservation 212, photographs taken in 1935 before the WPA's improvement project and in 1936 during the project suggest that the WPA was responsible for regrading the parcel and installing new rounded curbing around the perimeter (Reservation 212, Reservation Files, National Capital Area, National Park Service). (This curbing is no longer in place at the small park.) The WPA may have also been responsible for resurfacing the streets immediately adjacent to Reservation 212; further research is needed (District of Columbia Works Progress Administration 1936: 3).

Summary
By 1936, most of the small parks were likely consistent with their appearance in 1932. The exceptions include Stanton Park and Reservation 212, which received alterations undertaken by the WPA during this period of significance.

In Stanton Park, the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks oversaw a redesign based on plans developed in 1928 by OPBPP landscape architect Irving Payne. The design reconfigured the sidewalk system with straight axial paths rather than the 19th-century curvilinear walkways. The old stone fountains were removed at this time, and lower beds were placed in the areas north and south of the Nathaniel Greene statue. The work was complete by 1933. For more on the landscape conditions of Stanton Park during this period, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.

By the end of the fourth period of significance (1933-1936), Reservation 212 featured curbing instead of the post-and-chain fencing that existed previously. It was graded at the curb level on its southern edge (at Maryland Avenue NE), with a small slope downward toward its northern edge (at G Street NE). The reservation featured one tree (species unknown) and a singular shrub. The small park was otherwise an undesigned grassy lot.



FIGURE 23: 1935, Reservation 212, Maryland Avenue and G Street, NE. (Reservation 212, Reservation Files, National Capital Area, National Park Service)



FIGURE 24: 1936, Reservation 212 alternate view, Maryland Avenue and G Street, NE. (Reservation 212, Reservation Files, National Capital Area, National Park Service)

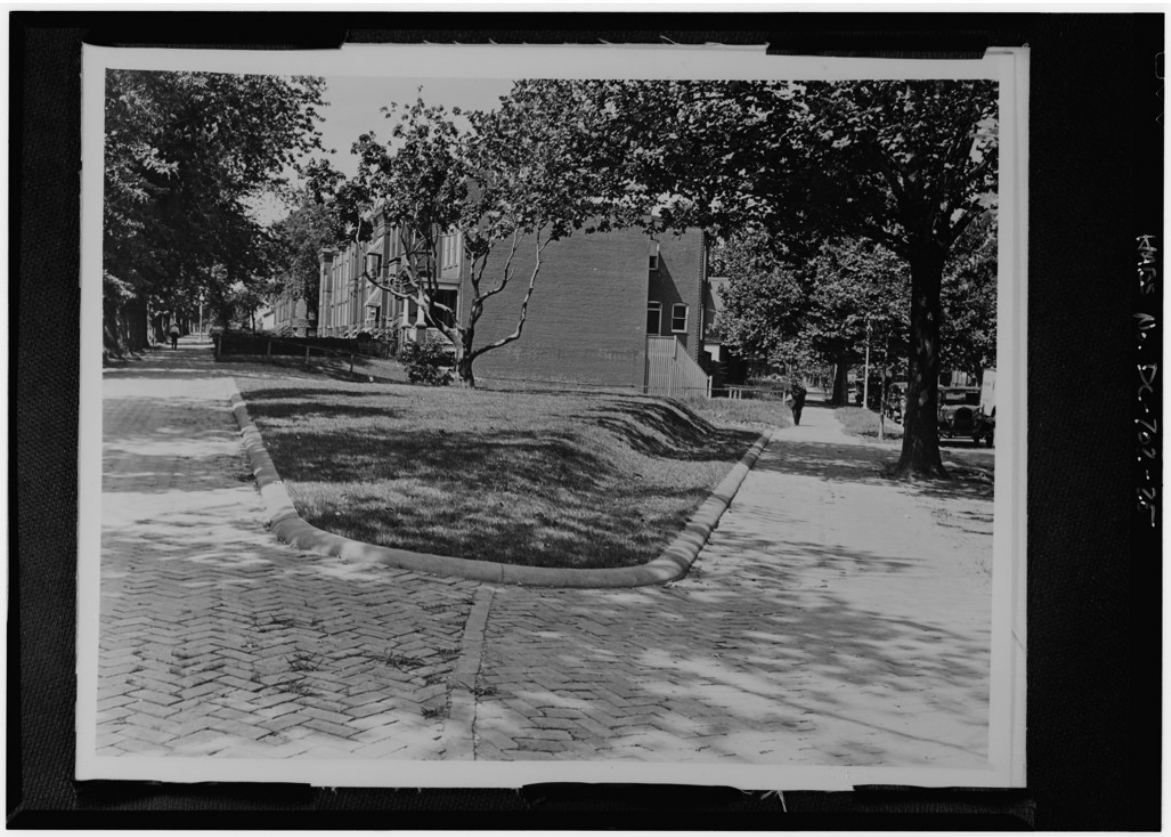


FIGURE 25: 1936, Reservation 212, Maryland Avenue and G Street, NE. (Reservation 212, Reservation Files, National Capital Area, National Park Service)

Mid Twentieth Century: 1937 to 1962

As the popularity of the automobile exploded in the mid-20th century, the city expanded. This had the effect of reshaping many of the downtown avenues into major crosstown thoroughfares between the city core and the suburbs. Between 1925 and 1940, the number of people driving to work more than doubled (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.38). To accommodate this surge in commuting traffic, many of the District's thoroughfares were widened to include additional lanes. In 1958, jurisdiction of the Maryland Avenue NE medians was transferred to the District of Columbia (Barthold 1992: 6).

Because the historic L'Enfant reservations are within the legal right-of-ways, these traffic interventions often affected (if not downright threatened) the city's small parks. However, the Maryland Avenue NE small parks appear to have fared better than some other small parks in the District. Alterations based on street projects were minimal during this period.

This period did mark a change in the spatial relationships between the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape and two reservations that were historically aligned with the avenue and located at its southwest ends. In 1939, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission developed a Study for Development for the National Mall (National Capital Park and Planning Commission 1939). In the drawings for that plan, Reservations 203 and 204 were clearly subsumed within the footprint of the National Mall, essentially severing their role as small parks within the Maryland Avenue NE collection of reservations. This marked the first substantial alteration of the cluster arrangement since the publication of the L'Enfant Plan. It did not affect the other ten reservations in the collection, as they remained in place and retained their spatial connections along the avenue.

Summary
Alterations to the small parks were limited during this period, as most of the cultural landscape's features and conditions remained consistent with the fourth period of significance (1933-1936). Alterations during these years included:
● In 1957, the triangular Reservation 205 was divided into two smaller triangles when a road was constructed to connect Constitution and Maryland Avenues.
● Sometime before 1963, the brick perimeter sidewalks in Stanton Park were removed (Quinn 2005: 23).
● At some point before 1949, concrete pads and benches were added to Reservation 208, extending along a north-south line through the reservation. These benches were not in place at the time of the 1927 survey but are visible in a 1949 aerial photograph; it is unclear when they were installed in relation to the fourth period of significance (1933-1936) (Reservation 208, Reservation Files, National Capital Area; United States Geological Survey 1949).
● At some point between 1957 and 1963, the triangular Reservation 212 was divided into two smaller triangles when a road was constructed to connect Maryland Avenue NE and G Street NE (United States Geological Survey 1957; United States Geological Survey 1963).

Beautification in the Twentieth Century: 1963 to 1969

The mid-20th century marked a period of profound change for much of Washington, D.C., with ramifications for the Maryland Avenue NE small parks. Cities across the United States experienced dramatic shifts in demographic and development patterns after World War II. A postwar baby boom and the Second Great Migration of African Americans from the South resulted in substantial population growth. Within a few decades, however, white middle-class residents began to leave Washington, D.C. (and other urban centers) en masse, lured by the promises of suburban life and federal programs that allowed them to buy homes in these rapidly proliferating (and segregated) new communities. The city was left scrambling to redevelop and revitalize deteriorating neighborhoods within the city center. For more on this period of white flight and urban "blight," see the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview.

In 1963, the National Park Service launched a major redesign of Stanton Park as part of NPS' urban renewal initiatives, which were bolstered in 1965 by Lady Bird Johnson's Beautification Program. As part of the redesign, NPS rearranged the central plaza around the Nathaniel Greene statue, widening

the walkway and inserting six planting beds with trees. Each planting bed featured a single Japanese pagoda tree (Sophora japonica), which provided valuable shade for park users. Seasonal flower displays were expanded around the inner edge of the circle, and the rectangular beds from the 1933 plan were reshaped into trapezoidal beds. The National Park Service planted English ivy (Hedra helix) in the central circle, around the Nathaniel Greene statue. In addition, new benches were installed around the central plaza, and a play area was established in the western quadrant of the park, with a barberry hedge (Berberis julianae) around the perimeter of the playground. The park lodge, as well as the north and south segments of the park's oval walk, were removed (Quinn 2005: 23). For more on the Stanton Park redesign during this period, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.

In or around 1963, Maryland Avenue NE's median was narrowed in order to add a second lane of traffic in each direction (United States Geological Survey 1963). This amplified the road's use as a major thoroughfare for cars and a commuting corridor between the downtown core and the outlying suburbs to the north and east. (As they had been since the design of L'Enfant's original plan, the avenue's connections to Maryland remained as significant as ever.) It also had effects for the pedestrian experience along the avenue—and between the small parks—as well.

This type of road construction project, happening all over the District in the mid-20th century, was part of the motivation for Lady Bird Johnson's Beautification Movement, which she launched in 1965 in her role as First Lady of the United States. Concerned that major new development, increased traffic congestion, fragmenting neighborhoods, and deteriorating downtown areas were marring the nation's most scenic streets and byways and affecting the natural environment, Lady Bird Johnson undertook a campaign to restore beauty to blighted areas as a means to improve the urban condition. Launching in the nation's capital as a model for other cities, Lady Bird Johnson's Beautification Program lasted from 1965 to 1969. It was a two-part project, focused on improving the appearance of the District's most heavily visited areas, while simultaneously addressing the deteriorating condition of parks, building entrances, and streetscapes throughout the city (Gould 1999: 67). A quote from the First Lady sums up the overall approach to improvements undertaken as part of the program: "where flowers bloom, so does hope." For more on the Beautification Program overall, see the Small Parks Cultural Landscape Overview.

Located so close to the National Mall, Maryland Avenue NE was a natural target for the Beautification Program's projects in Washington, D.C. The program paid for many new plantings along the avenue, as part of its overarching goal to make Washington, D.C. a "City of Flowers." These plantings overhauled any pre-existing floral areas (Various planting lists, Darwina Neal Beautification Files, National Park Service – National Capital Area). Flowers were changed seasonally according to predetermined planting lists, with bulbs planted in the spring, flowering plants in the summer, and chrysanthemums in the autumn.

The Beautification Program's projects also included the construction of new playground equipment in various locations around the District to increase "the enjoyment of the people who live in the neighborhood" ("Foreword," n.d., Darwina Neal Beautification Files, National Park Service – National Capital Area). On Maryland Avenue NE, Reservations 209 and 210 received new play equipment during this period, supplementing the playground at Stanton Park ("Parks Containing Play Equipment," July 22, 1968, Darwina Neal Beautification Files, National Park Service – National Capital Area).

Summary
There were no recorded beautification projects for Reservations 206, 207, 208, 211, or 212. These triangular small parks remained consistent with their mid-century conditions, and did not undergo any significant alterations during this period of significance.

Reservations 209, 210, and 213 were the primary targets of significant alterations during this period of significance:

Reservation 209
The quasi-triangular Reservation 209 was to be "a neighborhood park incorporating all the features

necessary to make it attractive, enjoyable, and useful." With this objective, the old privet hedge was removed and planting beds were excavated. The park was also re-graded and surfaced with steel edging, gravel, and an asphalt play area. The play equipment was installed by 1968, along with two benches and a tulip-type trash basket ("Foreword," n.d., Darwina Neal Beautification Files, National Park Service – National Capital Area). New plantings during this period included Polyantha rose (Rosa multiflora) and nandina (Nandina domestica), added in 1965-1966.

Reservation 210
The plans for the triangular Reservation 210 responded to the site's topography by incorporating a small amphitheater set into the small park's slope on the western portion of the reservation, with a level surface in the northwest corner. According to the beautification plans, this amphitheater play area would be a place where neighborhood children could put on little plays, "run up and down the steps made of old railroad ties, and use up their excess energy in all sorts of ways" ("Foreword," n.d., Darwina Neal Beautification Files, National Park Service – National Capital Area). The designs were organized around this amphitheater area in the northwest corner of the site, with a second circular area in the southwest corner (at the top of the slope, above the amphitheater) that could be used for rest or play. This second area was surfaced with white concrete and accessed by black concrete walks, and featured three backless benches. Plans were drawn up for the small park in 1965, and by 1966, excavation and grading for the amphitheater was complete. A new three-foot chain-link fence was installed around the proposed amphitheater area.

As part of the beautification projects, large curving planting beds were added to frame the amphitheater and the paved area in the southwest corner. New plantings included:
1965-1966: Tamarix juniper (Juniperus sabina); Polyantha Rose (Rosa multiflora); Laburnum (unnamed species); snapdragon (unnamed species); tulip (unnamed species); chrysanthemum (yellow cush.; unnamed species); Mrs. John Scheepers Single Late Cottage Tulip (Tulipa 'Mrs John Scheepers')
1966: Snapdragon (yellow sprite) and snapdragon (floral carpet yellow) (Antirrhinum majus); yellow supreme mum (cushion)
1967: Couleur cardinal – Single early tulip (Tulipa 'Couleur Cardinal'); Salvia – Red Pillar (Salvia 'Red Pillar'); Marigold – spun gold (Tagetes erecta 'Spun Gold')
1968: Petunia – Pink Magic (Petunia 'Pink Magic')
1969: Oriental Splendour – Greigii Hybrid Tulip (Tulipa 'Oriental Splendour'); Gudoshnik – Darwin Hybrid Tulip (Tulipa 'Gudoshnik')

Reservation 213
At Reservation 213, alterations to the triangular small park during this period included the placement of three benches (running north-south) and new trash baskets. New planting beds were added, featuring the following plant material:
1965-1966: Bigblue Liriope (Liriope muscari 'Big Blue'); Common Periwinkle (Vinca minor); Winter Jasmine (Jasminum nudiflorum); Kousa Dogwood (Cornus kousa); Hopa Crab (Malus 'Hopa'); tulip – La Tulip Noire (Tulipa 'La Tulipe Noire'); tulip – Black Parrot (Tulipa 'Black Parrot'); Capri Petunia (Petunia 'Capri'); Petite Marigold (Tagetes patula); Purple Pirate mum (Chrysanthemum 'Purple Pirate'); The Bishop, Darwin Tulip (Tulipa 'The Bishop'); Black Parrot (Tulipa 'Black Parrot')
1966: Capri Petunia (Petunia 'Capri'); Petite Gold Marigold (Tagetes patula); Purple Waters Mum (Chrysanthemum 'Purple Waters')
1967: Red Emperor – Fosteriana Tulip (Tulipa 'Red Emperor'); Smiling Queen – Single Late Cottage Tulip (Tulipa 'Smiling Queen'); Geranium – Salmon F-1 Hybrid (Pan Am Seed) (unknown species); Heliotrope – Royal Fragrance (Heliotropium arborescens 'Royal Fragrance')
1968: Petunia – Pink Magic (Petunia 'Pink Magic); Dusty Miller (unknown species)
1969: Gudoshnik – Darwin Hybrid Tulip (Tulipa 'Gudoshnik'); Queen of Sheba – Lily-flowered Tulip (Tulipa 'Queen of Sheba')

Late Twentieth Century and Current: 1969 to Present

There have been limited alterations to the Maryland Avenue NE small parks since the completion of the Beautification Movement projects. Most changes appear to have affected the parks' vegetation

and small-scale features.

In 1978, new cherry trees were planted in Stanton Park based on the redesign plan that was approved in 1964 (Quinn 2005: 23). Also in 1978, a memo in the National Park Service's reservation files addresses the Beautification Program and includes Reservation 205 in its list of "major parks reconstructed/rehabilitated during Mrs. Johnson's Beautification Program." However, neither that memo nor other relevant records indicate what scope of work affected Reservation 205 during this period (Reservation 205, Darwina Neal Beautification Files, National Capital Area).

Reservations 205, 015 (Stanton Park), 206, 207, 208, and 209 were included within the boundaries of the Capitol Hill Historic District when it was designated locally in 1973 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The district boundaries were expanded in 2003 and 2015, although these boundary increases did not encompass any additional Maryland Avenue NE small parks.

The Historic American Buildings Survey documented Maryland Avenue NE's small parks in 1992. (All of the reservations were described, but only Reservations 207, 209, and 212 were individually photographed. Those photographs are included below.) Their photographs and data pages indicate that the landscape conditions by this time were as follows:

Reservation 205
The small park was divided into two smaller triangles, as it had been since 1957. The east portion featured one large shade tree and a flower bed. The west portion was bound by a brick sidewalk along Maryland Avenue and featured a shade tree and a long flower bed. The description of existing conditions for this reservation does not mention the quarter-round curbing that was visible in the 1927 photograph, suggesting that it was removed at an unknown date in the 20th century.

Reservation 206
As of 1992, the reservation retained its quarter-round perimeter coping. Within the small park, an s-shaped gravel path traversed the reservation, and three metal-frame and wood-slat benches faced southeast toward the avenue. The reservation featured one ornamental cherry tree (Prunus x yedoenis) and two hollies (Ilex opaca).

Reservation 207
The park retained its quarter-round coping and featured corner posts, brick perimeter walks, and a cracked concrete path along the east side of the reservation. It included two shade trees, although their species were not named.

Reservation 208
The reservation featured four metal-frame wood-slat benches facing east onto a concrete paver path along the west side of the park. As of 1999, low shrubs were planted between the benches and the tall evergreen hedge that belonged to the abutting property.

Reservation 209
The small park featured four types of playground equipment within a central round paved area that was level with E Street. Circulation features included the wood/asphalt steps from 10th Street NE and Maryland Avenue NE. A low evergreen hedge (species unnamed) surrounded the park, and a chain-link fence existed along the east property line. As of 1992, a "U.S." marker remained in the northeast corner of the reservation.

Reservation 210
The park featured two different play areas, consistent with the mid-century amphitheater design: a sunken play area in the northwest corner, with a wood-post retaining wall and playground equipment. The park also featured a sunken paved area in the southwest corner, with three concrete and wood backless benches. The rest of the park was sodded, and three "U.S." stones marked the corners.

Reservation 211
The small park was sodded and surrounded by quarter-round coping, with a "badly cracked sandstone walk [running] along the east property line." A "U.S." block remained in the northeast

corner. Several shrubs of unnamed species were planted on the east side of the park. “A large angled stone” marked the most acute angle of the reservation.

Reservation 212
By this time, the small park was divided into two parts by a street, with the western portion incorporated into the private property of the neighboring property. The east triangular section was sodded, and several large trees were planted throughout. A perimeter sidewalk was located on the southeast side, and a Millet lamppost was in place on the north side of the small park. The historic post-and-chain fencing had apparently been removed by this time.

Reservation 213
The small park was divided into two sections by this time, with the west section entirely paved with concrete. The east section featured several yucca plants. No additional features were specified, indicating that the historic post-and-chain fence (visible in the 1927 photograph) had been removed by this time.

In 1999, the National Capital Parks – East (NACE) conducted a survey of several of the Maryland Avenue NE reservations (Reservation Files, National Capital Area, National Park Service). (The survey did not include Reservations 205, 206, 211, or 213 for some reason.) The 1999 survey did not include any photographs, but existing conditions described at the time of the survey included:
Reservation 207
An abstract metal sculpture was in place in this small park by 1999. It is unclear who was responsible for creating this artwork, or when it was installed. The reservation was otherwise as grassy site.

Reservation 208
As of 1999, this small park featured four “Battery benches” and a trash can within a square concrete shell.

Reservation 209
The small park featured a “SlideWinder” play structure produced by Landscape Structures, Inc. The site also included two benches and two trash cans made from recycled plastic “lumber,” also by Landscape Structures, Inc.

Reservation 210
At the time of that survey, the northwest corner of Reservation 210 was being excavated for a playground area. The second play area in the southwest corner apparently remained in place at this time, although within a few years, a demolition plan was drawn up for the southwest play area (National Park Service-National Capital Area 2003). A new playground was installed in the northwest corner of Reservation 210 in the early 2000s; it adopted the same irregular footprint as the former amphitheater. The reservation also included three benches on the play area and two trash cans (plastic buckets within square concrete shells).

Reservation 212
The reservation had a plastic trash can and a simple cast-iron fence with square posts.

Summary
As of 2019, the landscape conditions for each reservation are described below. For more information about the contemporary conditions of Stanton Park, see that park’s Cultural Landscape Inventory.
Reservation 205
The reservation remains divided into two smaller triangles: an east portion and a west portion. Overall, the reservation retains its historic views along Maryland Avenue NE and Constitution Avenue NE, and toward the United States Capitol, which is clearly visible above the surrounding trees. The east portion of the site is bound by a sidewalk along Maryland Avenue NE, but there are no other circulation features on this half of the reservation. The west portion of the small park is bound by sidewalks on all three sides. The flower beds that were present as of the 1992 HABS survey are no longer extant. The west portion features a large magnolia tree (Magnolia grandiflora) and several newer plantings, including a hackberry tree (Celtis occidentalis) and several young white oak trees (Quercus alba). This portion is otherwise grassy. The east portion of the small park features a mature

red oak tree (Quercus ruba) and is otherwise grassy. Small-scale features for the reservation include regulatory signage for both the National Park Service and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT); a non-historic streetlight; a traffic signal at 3rd Street NE; a fire hydrant; a DDOT construction sign; and temporary construction signage. All of these small-scale features are located on the eastern portion of the small park.

Reservation 206
The reservation is organized as one triangular parcel, with vegetation features as the only internal elements that determine the spatial organization of the reservation. This small park is graded at its curb, above the sidewalk grade. This small park retains its historic views of Maryland Avenue NE, Stanton Park, and Reservation 207 (as its complement in the bow-tie arrangement of the intersection). The gravel path that was extant as of the 1992 HABS survey is no longer in place, as there are no internal circulation features. The cherry tree (Prunus x yedoenis) and hollies remain in place (Ilex opaca). The reservation retains its historic quarter-round curbing. There are no small-scale features on the site; the benches that were present at the time of the 1992 HABS survey have been removed since that time.

Reservation 207
Reservation 207 is organized as one triangular parcel, with few internal features to dictate its spatial organization. It is graded at the curb level, slightly above the sidewalk. It retains its historic views of Maryland Avenue NE, Stanton Park, and Reservation 206 (its pair in the bow-tie arrangement). Its only internal circulation feature is the concrete walkway at the east side of the reservation. Vegetation features include a maple tree (Acer rubrum); the lot is otherwise grassy. (There are no shrubs, as there were when the 1927 photograph was taken.) The historic quarter-round curbing remains in place, although the posts that were present in 1992 are no longer extant. Other small-scale features include the abstract metal artwork (installed at an unknown date prior to the 1992 HABS survey), and one regulatory sign for the National Park Service.

Reservation 208
Reservation 208 is organized as one triangular parcel, and is graded at the sidewalk level. (There is no historic curbing at this reservation.) It retains its historic views to Reservation 209 (its pair in the bow-tie cluster arrangement). There are two trees on site (although one appears to be dead or dying); the healthier tree appears to be a dogwood (Cornus florida). The four benches that were noted in the 1999 survey have since been removed, although their concrete pads remain in place, running north-south through the site. As of 2019, there are no seating features in this small park. Other small-scale features include one trash can and regulatory signage.

Reservation 209
The reservation is organized around the play structure at its center. It is graded at the E Street NE sidewalk level, with a slope down toward Maryland Avenue NE on the southern side of the site. The park's historic views to Maryland Avenue NE and Reservation 208 are intact. The small park retains its play structure (present at the time of the 1999 survey and designed by Landscape Structures, Inc.), which is located within a circular play area surfaced with synthetic material. The play area is accessed on the east and south sides by rail-tie steps, and is accessible at sidewalk grade on the north side of the reservation. Vegetation features include a crepe myrtle tree (Lagerstroemia indica) at the corner of 10th Street NE and E Street NE, as well as several pyracantha bushes (Pyracantha coccinea) on the east side of the site. The reservation features regulatory National Park Service signage, two benches, two trash cans, rail-tie retaining walls, and a chain-link fence along the east perimeter of the site. The "U.S." block that was present at the time of the 1992 survey does not appear to be in place as of 2019.

Reservation 210
The small park's spatial organization is mostly consistent with its condition during the final period of significance, although the circular area in the southwest corner of the site was removed in 2003, along with its access walkways. As of 2019, Reservation 210 is arranged around the sunken play area in the northwest corner of the site, which occupies the same footprint as the amphitheater that was installed as a Beautification Program project. The second play area that was present in the southwest corner of the site at the time of the 1992 survey has been removed and replaced with

grass, which also covers the eastern portion of the triangular site. The large planting beds that framed the amphitheater by the end of the final period of significance have been removed. (It is unclear if this was part of the 2003 demolition project, or took place at a different time.) Based on this spatial organization, the site is graded with a downward slope from Maryland Avenue NE toward F Street NE, with a level playing area in the northwest corner of the site. The reservation retains its historic views along Maryland Avenue NE and its view of Reservation 211, as its complement in the bow-tie arrangement that characterizes several of the avenue's small parks. Circulation features include the synthetic play area in the southwest corner of the site. The small park features a play structure in the northwest corner. The park's vegetation includes two tulip poplar trees (Liriodendron tulipifera) and one additional sapling of unknown species. Small-scale features include: two metal tables and four metal chairs; four benches; two types of fence (chain-link and ornamental metal); National Park Service regulatory signage; a seesaw within the play area; and one block inscribed with "U.S." at the southwest corner of the site. (The 1992 HABS survey referred to three surviving blocks; it appears that two have been removed since that time.)

Reservation 211
This small park is organized as one triangular parcel with few internal features. It is graded at the curb level, slightly above the sidewalk. It retains its historic views toward Reservation 210 and along Maryland Avenue NE. The walkway remains in place at the east side of the reservation, although it appears to be made of slate pavers as of 2019. Vegetation features include a maple tree (Acer rubrum), a chestnut tree (Castanea dentata), and several shrubs, including crabapple plantings (Malus angustifolia). Small-scale features include the historic quarter-round curbing (with the large angled stone noted in the 1992 HABS survey), the "U.S." block in the northeast corner, National Park Service regulatory signage, and a manhole cover on the east side of the reservation.

Reservation 212
The small park has been bifurcated by an access road for G Street NE, although the western portion of the reservation has been co-opted into the neighboring property. As a result, the small park now is organized functionally as one singular triangular portion. Within that eastern portion, the spatial organization is somewhat incoherent, as several trees have been planted with no clear planting plan. The park is graded at sidewalk level. The small park retains its historic views along Maryland Avenue NE and toward the starburst intersection at Benning Road, as well its historic view of Reservation 213. Extant small-scale features include: a trash can; National Park Service regulatory signage; and the Millet streetlamp noted in the 1992 HABS survey (which was likely installed during the third period of significance). The cast-iron fence that was present during a separate 1999 survey is no longer in place.

Reservation 213
Reservation 213 is organized as one triangular parcel, with sidewalks separating it on all sidewalks from the surrounding streets. The small park has little internal organization, as its vegetation features are limited and most of its small-scale features are temporary. It is graded at the sidewalk, with no curbing around the reservation. The site retains its vistas along Maryland Avenue NE, as well as its views toward Reservation 212 and the starburst intersection at Benning Road. Vegetation features include two oak trees (unknown species) that appear to be dead as of 2019. The reservation's small-scale features are almost entirely temporary; they include a port-potty, a construction sign (with job postings), a dispenser of pet cleanup bags, and a utility box.



FIGURE 26: Landscape conditions at Reservation 207 as of 1992, as photographed for the Historic American Buildings Survey. (Barthold 1992)



FIGURE 27: Landscape conditions at Reservation 209 as of 1992, as photographed for the Historic American Buildings Survey. (Barthold 1992)



FIGURE 28: Landscape conditions at Reservation 212 as of 1992, as photographed for the Historic American Buildings Survey. (Barthold 1992)



FIGURE 29: Existing conditions at Reservation 205, 2019 (Photo by the author)



FIGURE 30: Existing conditions at Reservation 206, 2019 (Photo by the author)



FIGURE 31: Existing conditions at Reservation 207, 2019 (Photo by the author)



FIGURE 32: Existing conditions at Reservation 208, 2019 (Photo by the author)



FIGURE 33: Existing conditions at Reservation 209, 2019 (Photo by the author)



FIGURE 34: Existing conditions at Reservation 210, 2019 (Photo by the author)



FIGURE 35: Existing conditions at Reservation 211, 2019 (Photo by the author)



FIGURE 36: Existing conditions at Reservation 212, 2019 (Photo by the author0



FIGURE 37: Existing conditions at Reservation 213, 2019 (Photo by the author)

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

This section provides an evaluation of the physical integrity of the Maryland Avenue NE Cultural Landscape characteristics and features present during the periods of significance with the existing conditions. The U.S. reservations encompassed by this cultural landscape and evaluated in this CLI are: U.S. Reservation 205; U.S. Reservation 015 (Stanton Park); U.S. Reservation 206; U.S. Reservation 207; U.S. Reservation 208; U.S. Reservation 209; U.S. Reservation 210; U.S. Reservation 211; U.S. Reservation 212; and U.S. Reservation 213. NOTE: Although Stanton Park is generally addressed within the Analysis and Evaluation narrative, it is treated as one singular structure for the purpose of this Cultural Landscape Inventory, per the directions of the Cultural Landscape Inventory Coordinator. 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 are comprised 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 origination date of several features identified in the topography, small-scale features and circulation sections.

Landscape characteristics identified for Maryland Avenue NE are: land use; topography; cluster arrangement; spatial organization; circulation; views and vistas; vegetation; buildings and structures; and small-scale 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.

Integrity
Summaries of landscape characteristics identified for Maryland Avenue NE are listed below.

Land Use
Land use refers to the principal activities conducted upon the landscape and how these uses organized, shaped, and formed the land. Historically, the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape was likely used for agricultural cultivation; this continued into the 19th century, until the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPBG) reasserted its control and management of these public reservations. The publication of the L'Enfant Plan in 1791 set aside these small parks to serve as public green space for passive recreation, a land use that has continued to the present day. In the 1870s, Reservation 015 within the cultural landscape took on an additional commemorative use based on its renaming as Stanton Park in association with Secretary of War Edwin Stanton. This commemorative use was bolstered by the installation in 1874 of a statue to commemorate Revolutionary War General Nathaniel Greene. During the final period of significance (1963-1966), the cultural landscape's recreational use expanded to include active recreation, as play areas were constructed in Stanton Park, Reservation 209, and Reservation 210. With the exception of its former agricultural use, the cultural landscape retains its historic use as public green space for both passive and active recreational use. The current uses of these small parks are consistent with their use during the final period of significance, and Maryland Avenue NE therefore retains integrity with respect to land use.

Topography
Topography refers to the three-dimensional configuration of the landscape surface, characterized by features such as slope, articulation, orientation, and elevation. Historically, the Maryland Avenue NE small parks responded to the general topography of the District of Columbia near the Anacostia River, with a descending slope from the southwest end of the avenue toward the northeast end of the avenue. The small parks also have their own internal topographies, resulting from improvements that graded the reservations beginning in the late 19th century. Maryland Avenue NE retains its overall descending slope, consistent with its historic condition since the first period of significance (1791-1792). With the exception of Reservation 205, where the significance of the topography is undetermined, the topography of the other small park reservations is consistent with conditions during at least one of the periods of significance. Most of these reservations were graded during the third period of significance (1871-1915) and have not been significantly altered since these historic conditions. As such, the cultural landscape's topography retains integrity.

Cluster Arrangement
Cluster arrangement refers to the location and patterns of buildings, structures, and associated spaces in the landscape. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape exists as a cluster arrangement of small reservations created by the L'Enfant Plan in 1791-1792. Historically, the avenue included twelve small parks, extending from 1st Street NE to 14th Street NE. These reservations were the result of L'Enfant's design for the federal city, which interposed an orthogonal grid with grand radial avenues; this combination of urban street plans created interstitial spaces (primarily triangular in shape) at intersections throughout the city, including along Maryland Avenue NE. In the early 20th century, the two western-most parks were absorbed into the National Mall, so that the cultural landscape now encompasses ten reservations between 2nd Street NE and 14th Street NE. This configuration remained consistent through the fourth and fifth periods of significance, and reflects the landscape conditions today. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape retains integrity of spatial organization.

Spatial Organization
A cultural landscape'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. For the Maryland Avenue NE small parks, spatial organization refers to the historic internal composition of each reservation's landscape features and their relationship to the surrounding sidewalks and streets. The spatial organization of the small parks within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is consistent with the landscape conditions at the end of the last period of significance (1963-1969). The cultural landscape therefore retains integrity of spatial organization.

Circulation
Circulation is defined by the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. Circulation features are limited in the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape based on the small scale of the reservations (with the exception of Stanton Park). The existing conditions at the Maryland Avenue NE small parks are generally consistent with the circulation features in place by the end of the final period of significance (1963-1969). The most significant alterations to circulation features are at Reservation 210, where one paved area and its access walkways has been removed since the beautification era. However, the loss of these features does not detract from the integrity of the cultural landscape's overall circulation. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape therefore retains integrity with respect to circulation.

Views and Vistas
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. The cultural landscape's views and vistas are subject to the conditions of its topography, surrounding vegetation, and the buildings and structures in its vicinity. Until the 19th century, Maryland Avenue NE likely had limited views due to its relatively low elevation (compared with the areas of the District of Columbia closer to Rock Creek, for example) and its documented vegetation. At its northeast terminus, it did enjoy a view toward the intersection between Maryland Avenue NE and Benning Road—a significant connection between thoroughfares and trading centers. By the mid-19th century, the southwest reservations in the cultural landscape (in particular, Reservation 205) enjoyed views toward the new United States Capitol dome. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape retains views consistent with the last period of significance, including the historic views between the small parks along the avenue, which reinforce the spatial relationship of the reservations within the cultural landscape. Today, views from the SW to NE contribute to the cultural landscape and as a result, Maryland Avenue NE retains integrity of views and vistas.

Vegetation
Vegetation features are characterized by the deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers and herbaceous plants, and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. In general, the planting plans for the individual reservations within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape changed several times between the different periods of significance. This includes transitions from grass to planting beds, and then alterations that revert to grass. Vegetation was not included as part of L'Enfant's original design for open spaces in Washington, D.C., and the landscape likely retained light agricultural use in the 18th and early 19th centuries. During the second period of significance (1814), the cultural landscape's vegetation was almost certainly affected by the burning of Washington, D.C., precipitated by the march of British troops down Maryland Avenue NE. As part of the delineation and development of small parks in the early 20th century, the OPBG planted turf grass, shade trees, shrubs, and flowers in the reservations along Maryland Avenue NE. Research for this CLI did not uncover any specific planting plans or plant species lists for these reservations during this period. The reservation files do include planting lists created for several of the small parks during the Beautification era, although there were no accompanying drawings to indicate placement of the plantings. The extant vegetation patterns for the small parks are largely consistent with the conditions at the end of the final period of significance. Maryland Avenue NE therefore retains integrity with respect to vegetation.

Buildings and Structures
Building features refer to the elements primarily built for sheltering any form of human activities; structures refer to the functional elements constructed for other purposes than sheltering human activity. Although Stanton Park is considered a structure for the purposes of this cultural landscape inventory, and very much contributes to the significance of the avenue's small parks, the primary structures in the other reservations are non-historic and do not contribute to the significance of Maryland Avenue NE. For this reason, the cultural landscape does not retain

significance with respect to buildings and structures.

Small Scale Features
Small-scale features are the elements that provide detail and diversity, combined with function and aesthetics to a landscape. The small-scale features within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape include a complicated combination of historic and non-historic features. There are many non-contributing features that postdate all of the periods of significance. However, the quarter-round curbing and “U.S.” blocks that survive at several of the reservations are among the most distinctive features of this type of small parks, and significantly enhance the integrity of the cultural landscape’s small-scale features overall. The presence of the non-contributing features does not detract from the significant influence of the contributing features. Maryland Avenue NE therefore retains integrity of small-scale features.

THE SEVEN ASPECTS OF INTEGRITY
Location
The location aspect of integrity involves the place where the landscape was constructed. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape has maintained the same position since its original layout in 1791-92 as part of the L’Enfant Plan. Thus, the landscape retains integrity of location.

Design
Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a cultural landscape or historic property. For the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape, the most significant aspects of design relate to the first period of significance, when Pierre L’Enfant laid out the avenue’s reservations as part of his plan for the District of Columbia, and the third period of significance, when the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds redesigned all of the small parks with new features as urban parks. Many of these OPBG features remain intact in the cultural landscape, and Pierre L’Enfant’s plan remains visible in the current landscape conditions of the avenue’s small parks. Maryland Avenue NE retains integrity with respect to design.

Setting
Setting is the physical environment of a cultural landscape or historic property. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is located in the North East quadrant of the city, and has enjoyed this setting in downtown Washington, D.C. since the original creation of the L’Enfant Plan. As part of this setting, the cultural landscape retains historic views toward the United States Capitol and the Capitol Hill neighborhood. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is also significant as a major thoroughfare between the federal core and the road to Bladensburg, Maryland; this setting has contributed to the cultural landscape’s significance through several periods of significance. The setting of the cultural landscape therefore retains integrity.

Materials
Materials are the physical elements of a particular period, including construction materials, paving, plants and other landscape features. For the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape, the material palette historically included the OPBG-era curbing material and marker stones, as well as the hardscaping and vegetative material introduced in later periods of significance by the Works Progress Administration and the Beautification Program. These materials are generally consistent and extant on the site today. Thus, the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape retains integrity of materials.

Workmanship
Workmanship includes the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular period. At Maryland Avenue NE, the aspect of workmanship is most evident in the artisanship of the OPBG-era features (including the historic curbing and OPBG markers) and the alterations made as part of the Beautification Program (including the landscape maintenance practices in Reservations 209 and 210). The techniques that crafted and cared for these features are consistent with the current conditions at the site. As a result, the cultural landscape retains integrity of workmanship.

Feeling
Feeling is a property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period. As the essential cluster arrangement and park uses remain extant in the cultural landscape, Maryland Avenue NE retains its historic feeling from several of its periods of significance. The cultural landscape continues to express its aesthetic and experience as a collection of small parks linked by a single avenue in an urban context, consistent

with its historic condition. It therefore retains integrity with respect to feeling.

Association
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape's historic associations relate to its significance as part of the L'Enfant Plan, and its role as a network of public green space under federal management (including the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds and the National Park Service). Maryland Avenue NE's small parks continue to be legible as features in the L'Enfant Plan. They also continue to be associated with this historic use and management, consistent with its periods of significance. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape therefore retains integrity of association.

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

HISTORIC
Little is known about the cultural landscape's land use before the 18th century. However, under English settlement in the 17th and 18th centuries, the area was generally characterized by tobacco plantations and agricultural use. By the time the District of Columbia was established in 1791, the land that encompasses the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape was owned by four landholders: Daniel Carroll of Duddington, Jonathan Slater, George Walker, and Abraham Young. These property owners likely cultivated the landscape for agricultural use, with associated vegetation including crops and forested areas.

The cultural landscape's small parks were set aside during the first period of significance (1791-1792) with the creation of the 1791 L'Enfant Plan, which specified these reservations (and others) as open space for the benefit of city residents. Pierre L'Enfant did not develop formal plans for these smaller spaces, leaving them as undesigned green parcels within the urban grid and avenues, available for passive recreation. The L'Enfant Plan did call out the opportunities to install monumental fountains, obelisks, and statues at key intersections, allowing for monumental uses within the urban plan.

In the absence of formal interventions or designs, these small reservations likely retained some informal agricultural use by local residents through the first and second periods of significance (1791-1792; 1814), in addition to their use for passive recreation. Based on the conditions of similar reservations and later documentation, neighbors likely continued to use the small parks for (unsanctioned) light agricultural use despite their federal ownership, cultivating subsistence gardens and perhaps allowing their animals to graze on this land. Thus, by the end of the second period of significance, the cultural landscape retained both its agricultural and recreational uses.

The area around the Maryland Avenue NE small parks remained relatively undeveloped into the 19th century, in the decades between the second and third periods of significance. The small parks likely retained two uses, functioning as both light agricultural land and as green space available for passive recreation. The small parks' use as green infrastructure became increasingly vital as the area around the Maryland Avenue NE reservations densified and open space became less common.

In 1871, a new commemorative use was introduced to Reservation 015, as it was renamed Stanton Place and later, Stanton Park. Designs for the improvement of the square marked the first association of the square's name with Edwin Stanton, Secretary of War under President Abraham Lincoln. In 1874, this commemorative use was further reinforced by the installation of a statue of Revolutionary War General Nathaniel Greene at the center of the square. The park was improved during the 1870s with additional features as an open space and public park for local residents.

The avenue's other small parks on Maryland Avenue NE were also improved by the OPBG in the 1880s, 1890s, and 1900s, introducing new ornamental features such as curbing and post-and-chain fences to reinforce the passive recreational use of these spaces as federal reservations. These projects also served to end any light agricultural use of the small parks, as the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds re-asserted its ownership and management of the reservations (wresting any use or control from neighboring residents). By the end of the third period of significance (1871-1915),

the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape had both a passive recreational use and a commemorative use.

These uses remained generally consistent through the fourth (1933-1936) and final (1963-1969) periods of significance, as the National Park Service undertook various improvement projects to bolster the parks' recreational and commemorative features. During the fifth and final period of significance (1963-1969), play areas were constructed in Stanton Park and in Reservations 209 and 210 as part of the Beautification Program's neighborhood improvement activities. These alterations introduced an active recreational use (with features for play and exertion), in addition to the small parks' existing passive recreational use.

EXISTING CONDITION
The use and purpose of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape has not changed since the last period of significance, when the landscapes held recreational and commemorative uses. The reservations on Maryland Avenue NE remain in use as passive recreational space within an urban context, with active recreational use in select small parks within the cultural landscape. Stanton Park (Reservation 015) includes a playground in its western quadrant, and Reservations 209 and 210 also include playgrounds; these reservations comprise the only active recreational space among the Maryland Avenue reservations. The remaining quadrants of Stanton Park, and the remaining Maryland Avenue NE reservations, comprise passive recreational space.

Stanton Park also retains its historic commemorative use, based on extant features that honor both former Secretary of War Edwin Stanton and Revolutionary War General Nathaniel Greene. It retains its honorific name commemorating Edwin Stanton, who served as part of President Abraham Lincoln's Administration, and the statue of Nathaniel Greene remains in place at its center.

EVALUATION
The cultural landscape's recreational and commemorative uses have not changed since the final period of significance. As a result, the site retains integrity of land use.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Passive recreational use as small pocket parks (Reservations 205, 015, 206, 207, 208, 211, 212, and 213)

CLI Feature ID: 188938

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Active recreational use with play areas (Reservations 015, 209, and 210)

CLI Feature ID: 188939

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Commemorative use of Stanton Park (Reservation 015) based on statue of General Nathaniel Greene

CLI Feature ID: 188940

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Commemorative use of Stanton Park (Reservation 015) based on association with former Secretary of War Edwin Stanton

CLI Feature ID: 188941

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic: Topography

HISTORIC
Overall, the topography of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape has remained relatively consistent through history, responding to the general topography of the District of Columbia as it slopes down toward the Potomac River to the west and Anacostia River to the east. During the first period of significance (1791-1792), Pierre L'Enfant's plan for the new federal city respected the natural contours of the land, in the manner of picturesque English garden design. Notations on L'Enfant's original 1791 plan explain how he first chose the location for significant buildings and squares, including the sites for the President's House 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). Given that Maryland Avenue NE southwest end terminated at the proposed site for the United States Congress building, its topography responded and deferred to this principle of the L'Enfant Plan. Its southwest terminus was thus at a lower elevation than the United States Congress building. Progressing up the avenue, the individual reservations responded to the natural contours of the landscape. These conditions were consistent through the 19th century, as development was slow to reach the area east of the Capitol

and did little to manipulate the landscape until the third period of significance (1871-1915). During that period, the avenue was paved and most of the individual small parks were first graded.

The OPBG's projects during the third period of significance altered the internal topographies of the small parks in relation to their surrounding sidewalks and streets. From that period on, the documented alterations to the reservations' topographies were as follows:

Reservation 205
The small park was graded in 1894. Coping was constructed around the reservation in 1912, at which point the small park was graded at the curb level, above the surrounding sidewalks. This condition likely remained consistent until 1957, when a road construction project bifurcated the reservation and altered the landscape conditions. These alterations may have included the removal of the curbing and the regrading of the reservation at the sidewalk. These landscape conditions remained consistent into the 21st century.

Reservation 206
This reservation was graded in 1900. In 1914, 8-inch coping was installed around the reservation and the small park was graded at the curb level, rather than the sidewalk grade. This topography remained consistent into the 21st century.

Reservation 207
The small park was graded in 1898 and re-graded in 1900. In 1904, curbing was installed around the reservation and the small park was graded at the curb level. This condition remained consistent into the 21st century.

Reservation 208
The reservation was graded in 1900. There are no records of any curbing at this reservation, so the reservation has likely been graded at the sidewalk level since its initial improvement during the third period of significance. Its topographical conditions remained consistent into the 21st century.

Reservation 209
Historically, this reservation had a steeper slope than most of the other reservations, descending from its northern edge (E Street NE) towards its southern edge (Maryland Avenue NE). This slope was apparently even steeper prior to the third period of significance, because in 1901, Reservation 209's "high bank of clay and gravel much above the grade of the surrounding streets" was cut down, although it remained elevated above street level. These conditions are still visible in a 1927 photograph of the small park.

During the fifth period of significance, a new play area was installed at the center of the reservation. The small park retained its overall descending slope through these alterations, although the construction of the play area necessitated the regrading of the central portion into a level surface. These conditions were present by 1969, and remained consistent into the 21st century.

Reservation 210
The reservation was graded in 1900, although it retained a natural contour from its southern edge (Maryland Avenue NE) down toward its northern edge (F Street NE). There was no documented installation of curbing, so it was likely consistently graded at the sidewalk level, with a sloping topography that linked the sidewalks that bordered the reservation.

During the fifth period of significance, a new amphitheater was installed in this small park and a second play area was installed in the southwest corner of the site. Although that project involved grading, the project primarily responded to the site's topography rather than further altering it. The amphitheater was located in the northwest corner of the site, acknowledging the lowest elevation on the site. Stairs on the western portion of the site descended into the amphitheater from upper play area and the southern sidewalks around the park, echoing the natural contours of the landscape. These were the conditions of the cultural landscape by the end of the final period of significance, and remained relatively consistent into the 21st century. In 2003, the upper play area (in the southwest corner of the site) was demolished, but the overall slope of the small park remained intact.

Reservation 211
The small park was graded in 1900. By the end of the third period of significance (1871-1915), the reservation featured a curbed perimeter, and the small park was graded at the curb level above the sidewalk. These conditions remained consistent through the fourth and fifth periods of significance and into the 21st century.

Reservation 212
The small park was graded in 1900. It did not feature any curbing, so the reservation was graded at the sidewalk level. These topographical conditions remained intact until the fourth period of significance (1933-1936). By 1936, Reservation 212 featured curbing and was graded at that level, above the sidewalk. Laborers from the Works Progress Administration further altered the site's topography to incorporate a small slope downward from its northern edge (at Maryland Avenue NE) toward its northern edge (at G Street NE). These conditions likely remained consistent for several decades. At some point between 1957 and 1963, the reservation was divided into two smaller triangles when a road was constructed between the two streets. This change was likely also responsible for the regrading of the reservation at one elevation, at sidewalk grade.

Reservation 213
The reservation was graded at the sidewalk level in 1900. These conditions remained consistent into the 21st century.

EXISTING
The current topography of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is consistent with the conditions at the end of the fifth period of significance, with minimal alterations to the reservations' grading or elevation. Overall, the avenue retains its historic topography in response to the natural contours of the landscape between the United States Capitol and the western banks of the Anacostia River. At its southwest terminus, its topography defers to the monumental United States Capitol, as Pierre L'Enfant intended during the first period of significance. Despite this deference, the southwest end of the avenue also marks the highest point of the cultural landscape; traveling northeast, the 1.4-mile avenue ultimately descends nearly 40 feet as it approaches the Anacostia River. Among the ten small parks within the cultural landscape, Reservation 205 is located at the highest elevation (88 feet above sea level) and Reservation 213 is located at the lowest elevation (approximately 51 feet above sea level). These overall conditions have been consistent since the third period of significance, when the avenue was paved and most of the individual reservations were graded.

● Reservation 205 remains consistent with the conditions during the final period of significance. It is graded at sidewalk level at an elevation of approximately 88 feet above sea level.
● Reservation 206 remains consistent with the topography of the small park during the second, third, fourth, and fifth periods of significance. It is graded at the curb level, above the sidewalk, at an elevation of approximately 78 feet above sea level.
● Reservation 207 retains its historic topography, graded at the curb level. It sits at an elevation of approximately 76 above sea level.
● Reservation 208 remains graded at the sidewalk level, as it has likely been since the third period of significance. It is located at an elevation of approximately 73 feet above sea level.
● Reservation 209 retains the topography that existed by the end of the fifth period of significance, with a slope from its northern edge toward its southern edge. The play area remains level at the center of the site. At its highest point in the southeast corner, the small park is located at an elevation of approximately 73 feet above sea level.
● Reservation 210 retains the sloping contour that was in place by the end of the final period of significance, with the same level playing area in the northwest corner of the small park. The upper play area is no longer extant, although the southwest corner of the site remains somewhat level where that surface once was. At its highest point in the southwest corner, the reservation is located at an elevation of approximately 71 feet above sea level.
● Reservation 211 retains its historic topography at the curb level, above the sidewalk. It has an elevation of approximately 69 feet above sea level.
● Reservation 212 is graded at the sidewalk level, consistent with the conditions during the final period of significance. It is located approximately 52 feet above sea level.
● Reservation 213 is graded at the sidewalk level, as it was during the third, fourth, and fifth periods

of significance. It has an elevation of approximately 51 feet above sea level.

EVALUATION
The topography of the Maryland Avenue NE small parks has not changed since the most recent period of significance. The cultural landscape therefore retains integrity of topography.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: General descending slope from Reservation 205 at southwest down to Reservation 213 at northeast terminus of cultural landscape

CLI Feature ID: 188942

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 205 graded at sidewalk, with level topography within the site

CLI Feature ID: 188943

Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature Name: Reservation 206 graded at curb, above sidewalk

CLI Feature ID: 188944

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 207 graded at curb, above sidewalk

CLI Feature ID: 188945

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 208 graded at sidewalk, with slight descending slope from center of site toward Maryland Avenue NE and E Street NE

CLI Feature ID: 188946

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 209 graded at sidewalk on E Street, with descending slope from E Street NE toward Maryland Avenue NE

CLI Feature ID: 188947

Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature Name: Reservation 210 graded with descending slope from Maryland Avenue NE toward F Street NE, with level playing area on western half of site

CLI Feature ID: 188948

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 211 graded at curb, above sidewalk

CLI Feature ID: 188949

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 212 graded at sidewalk, with slight descending slope from Maryland Avenue NE toward G Street NE

CLI Feature ID: 188950

Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature Name: Reservation 213 graded at sidewalk, with level topography within the site

CLI Feature ID: 188951

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 38: The topography within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape varies between reservations graded at the sidewalk (top) and reservations graded at the curb level (middle). Reservation 209 (bottom) has a steeper slope than most of the other reservations; it features a level playing area at the center of the site before sloping down toward Maryland Avenue NE. (Photographs by the CLI author)

Landscape Characteristic: Cluster Arrangement

HISTORIC
The cluster arrangement of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape has remained relatively consistent throughout history, although historically, it did include two additional reservations at the southwest end of the avenue. The cultural landscape's cluster arrangement dates to the first period of significance, when Pierre L'Enfant developed a plan for the new District of Columbia that interposed an orthogonal grid and grand radial avenues. While the diagonals would provide sweeping vistas toward monuments and significant buildings, the intersection of the streets and avenues would create opportunities for ornamental green spaces (Leach and Barthold 1997: VIII.7-8). The intersections also created a network of smaller spaces where the diagonal and gridded streets met.

L'Enfant's notes do not include formal plans for these smaller spaces, although many of them formed shapes like goose-feet and bow-ties that were common features in Baroque urban plans and were used to focus attention on secondary views and important sites (Fanning 2005: 19). This was true of the Maryland Avenue NE small parks. On L'Enfant's original plan, and in Andrew Ellicott's 1792 modifications, the thoroughfare of Maryland Avenue NE was platted at a 70-degree angle from the United States Capitol. At its southwest edge, where it intersected with the federal core, the building for Congress would be placed. Along the avenue, an array of small triangular reservations extended from southwest to northeast. In the first and second periods of significance (1791-1792; 1814), the avenue's collection spanned twelve reservations between 1st Street NE and 14th Street NE; they included the ten reservations within the extant cultural landscape, as well as two additional small parks (Reservations 203 and 204) west of 2nd Street NE.

This configuration remained consistent into the 20th century, including for the duration of the third and fourth periods of significance (1871-1915; 1933-1936). In 1939, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission developed a Study for Development for the National Mall (National Capital Park and Planning Commission 1939). In the drawings for that plan, Reservations 203 and 204 were clearly subsumed within the footprint of the National Mall, essentially severing their role as small parks within the Maryland Avenue NE collection of reservations. This marked the first substantial alteration of the cluster arrangement since the publication of the L'Enfant Plan. It did not affect the other ten reservations in the cultural landscape, as they remained in place and retained their spatial connections along the avenue.

Thus, by the mid-20th century, and through the most recent period of significance (1963-1969), the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape included ten small parks, including Reservations 205, 015 (Stanton Park), 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, and 213. The bow-tie relationships remained in place between Reservations 206-207, 208-209, 210-211, and 212-213.

EXISTING
The cluster arrangement of the cultural landscape is consistent with the most recent period of significance (1963-1969). The collection of ten small park reservations remains intact, extending from 2nd Street NE to 14th Street NE on both the north and south sides of Maryland Avenue NE. As part of this cluster arrangement, several of the small parks retain their cluster arrangement in bow-tie pairings at the same intersection; this includes Reservations 206 and 207, Reservations 208 and 209, Reservations 210 and 211, and Reservations 212 and 213.

EVALUATION
The small parks that comprise the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape retain the significant features that define the historic spatial relationships between the reservations, consistent with the periods of significance. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape retains integrity of cluster arrangement.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Collection of small parks between 2nd Street NE and 14th Street NE, located on north and south sides of Maryland Avenue NE

CLI Feature ID: 188952

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Bow-tie pairings of Reservations 206-207, 208-209, 210-211, and 212-213, with geographic and visual links between paired reservations

CLI Feature ID: 188953

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

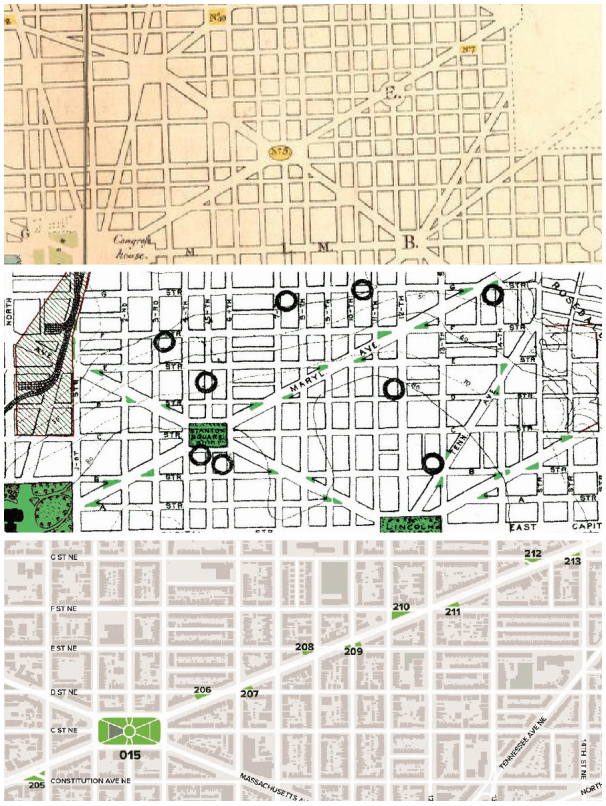


FIGURE 39: The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape has been arranged as a collection of small public reservations since the creation of the L'Enfant Plan (top). In 1901, the McMillan Plan (middle) reiterated the arrangement of these triangular reservations on both the north and south sides of Maryland Avenue NE. This arrangement remains intact today (bottom). (L'Enfant 1791; Moore 1902; graphic by the author)

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

HISTORIC
The spatial organization of the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape has changed little since these reservations were set aside in the L'Enfant Plan during the first period of significance (1791-1792). For most of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries, the small parks remained intact as generally triangular parcels with unified internal compositions. The third period of significance (1871-1915) established the most pronounced version of their spatial organization as small parks. By the end of that period, most of the reservations were defined by their demarcated edging material (comprised of curbing and/or fencing); the significance of these organizing features was all the more pronounced by the OPBG's placement of inscribed blocks at the corners of the reservation. Within the small parks, the reservations' internal composition was typically organized only around individual plantings or beds.

The chronology of the reservations' spatial organization is as follows:

Reservation 205
By the end of the third period of significance, the triangular park was defined by its perimeter fence and the flower bed at its center. This condition remained generally consistent until 1957, when the reservation was bifurcated by a new access road between Constitution Avenue NE and Maryland Avenue NE. That interruption reorganized the reservation as two smaller triangular parcels, separated by a street. The perimeter fence and flower bed were removed at an unknown date, although it is likely that they were part of the 1957 project.

Reservation 206
By 1914, the reservation was demarcated by a curb, which enclosed a triangular parcel planted with an assortment of trees and shrubs. (There weren't any documented planting beds to unify these plantings.) This spatial organization remained consistent through the final period of significance and into the 21st century, although the placement of individual plantings may have shifted.

Reservation 207
By 1904, the triangular small park was delineated by curbing, with a pathway along its eastern edge separating the reservation from the neighboring property. Within the site, the small park historically was organized around a flower bed measuring 20 feet in diameter. The flower bed was later removed at an unknown date. At some point between 1992 and 1999, a sculptural metal artwork was installed near the Maryland Avenue NE sidewalk.

Reservation 208
As of 1904, the reservation was defined by a perimeter fence, which enclosed a triangular parcel planted with grass and 46 shrubs in an unspecified layout. By 1927, the perimeter fence remained in place, but the number of shrubs appears to have been significantly reduced. This resulted in more open lawn throughout the site, altering the spatial organization of the reservation.

Reservation 209
Historically, Reservation 209 was demarcated by its perimeter sidewalks and by its internal topography (which included a steep slope), rather than any fixed features such as curbing or fencing. During the third period of significance (1871-1915), 34 shrubs were planted in an unknown arrangement within the site.

In the fifth period of significance (1963-1969), a new play area was installed at the center of this reservation, reorganizing this small park around that feature.

Reservation 210
Unlike most of the other small parks within the cultural landscape, Reservation 210 did not receive any perimeter features during the third period of significance, such as curbing or fencing. As of 1904, the triangular park was organized around a circular flower bed measuring 16 feet in diameter.

During the most recent period of significance (1963-1969), the western half of the reservation was reorganized to include an amphitheater in the northwest corner and a circular play area in the southwest corner of the site. The remainder of the small park was defined by large curvilinear

planting beds and open lawn.

Reservation 211
As of 1906, the small park was enclosed by coping (some or all of which was granite). Internal organizing features included a foot walk “at the base of this reservation” (likely the eastern edge of the reservation) and a flower bed measuring 14 feet in diameter. These conditions remained generally consistent through the final period of significance. The flower bed was removed at an unknown date, leaving a small park organized as one unified plot of lawn.

Reservation 212
As of 1904, a fence encircled the reservation, enclosing a triangular parcel that was grassy other than two trees and 41 shrubs. There were no documented planting beds to unify these plantings. These conditions remained consistent until the fourth period of significance (1933-1936). By the end of that period, the reservation was demarcated by curbing rather than fencing, and it featured one tree and one shrub—a substantial reduction in plantings. As a result of these alterations, the small park was primarily organized as a lawn by the end of this period of significance.

At some point between 1957 and 1963, the triangular reservation was bifurcated into two smaller triangles by the construction of a new road between Maryland Avenue NE and G Street NE. The western portion of the reservation has since been absorbed into the neighboring property, enclosed by fencing and vegetation.

Reservation 213
As of 1903, the reservation was delineated by a fence. Its internal organization was arranged around a tree and 41 shrubs, although there were no documented planting beds linking these plantings. This condition likely remained relatively consistent until the fifth period of significance (1963-1969), although the placement of individual plantings may have shifted.

During the final period of significance, the park was altered to include three benches (running north-south) and new planting beds. These features were removed at some point in the late 20th century, after the final period of significance.

EXISTING
The individual reservations’ spatial organization is generally consistent with the conditions in place by the end of the final period of significance:
● Reservation 205 remains divided into two smaller triangles: an east portion and a west portion.
● Reservation 206 is organized as one triangular parcel, with vegetation features as the only internal elements that determine the spatial organization of the reservation.
● Reservation 207 is organized as one triangular parcel, with few internal features to dictate its spatial organization. The path along its eastern edge and the metal sculpture near the Maryland Avenue NE sidewalk serve as the only elements that dictate the site’s spatial organization.
● Reservation 208 is organized as one triangular parcel.
● Reservation 209 is organized around the play structure at its center.
● Reservation 210’s spatial organization is mostly consistent with its condition during the final period of significance, although the circular area in the southwest corner of the site was removed in 2003, along with its access walkways. As of 2019, Reservation 210 is arranged around the sunken play area in the northwest corner of the site, which occupies the same footprint as the amphitheater that was installed as a Beautification Program project. The second play area that was present in the southwest corner of the site at the time of the 1992 survey has been removed and replaced with grass, which also covers the eastern portion of the triangular site. The large planting beds that framed the amphitheater by the end of the final period of significance have been removed. (It is unclear if this was part of the 2003 demolition project, or took place at a different time.)
● Reservation 211 is organized as one triangular parcel with few internal features.
● Reservation 212 has been bifurcated by an access road for G Street NE, although the western portion of the reservation has been co-opted into the neighboring property. As a result, the small park now is organized functionally as one singular triangular portion. Within that eastern portion, the spatial organization is somewhat incoherent, as several trees have been planted with no clear planting plan.

● Reservation 213 is organized as one triangular parcel, with sidewalks separating it on all sidewalks from the surrounding streets. The small park has little internal organization, as its vegetation features are limited and most of its small-scale features are temporary.

EVALUATION
The spatial organization of the small parks within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape is consistent with the landscape conditions at the end of the last period of significance (1963-1969). The cultural landscape therefore retains integrity of spatial organization.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Proximity/accessibility of small parks to surrounding public streets and roads

CLI Feature ID: 188954

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Organization of reservations located along the Maryland Avenue NE corridor

CLI Feature ID: 188955

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 205 bifurcation by Constitution Avenue NE

CLI Feature ID: 188956

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 206 unified composition as grassy lot with limited vegetation

CLI Feature ID: 188957

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 207 unified composition as grassy lot with limited vegetation

CLI Feature ID: 188958

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 208 unified composition as grassy lot with limited vegetation

CLI Feature ID: 188959

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 209 unified composition, organized around play area at center

CLI Feature ID: 188960

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 dual composition, organized with play area in northwest corner and open grassy areas in remainder of site

CLI Feature ID: 188961

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 211 unified composition as grassy lot with limited vegetation

CLI Feature ID: 188962

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 212 bifurcation by G Street NE access road, with primary emphasis on eastern portion

CLI Feature ID: 188963

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 213 unified composition as grassy lot with limited vegetation

CLI Feature ID: 188964

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 40: Reservation 205 represents one of the few alterations to the cultural landscape's spatial organization. As these aerial photographs from 1951 (top) and 1957 (bottom) indicate, the reservation was bifurcated in 1957 by a new access road, altering the composition and arrangement of the reservation's features. (United States Geological Survey 1951/1957)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

HISTORIC
Until the end of the 19th century, circulation features within the small parks were limited and almost certainly informal (without any paving). (This excludes Stanton Park's internal circulation features; for more on those features, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.)

The only formal circulation feature noted in the cultural landscape before the mid-20th century was a walkway in Reservation 211. In 1901, "a portion of the flagged foot walk at the base of this reservation was taken up and relaid"; it is unclear what was considered "the base of this reservation," but current conditions suggest that this walk was located at the east end of the reservation.

Most of the formal circulation features within the cultural landscape's small parks were documented in the final period of significance (1963-1969). As part of the Beautification Program's interventions in Reservations 209 and 210, new circulation features were introduced. By 1969, Reservation 209's circulation features included access stairs from 10th Street NE and Maryland Avenue NE. Reservation 210 featured two concrete-slab play areas, in the southwest and northwest corners of the site. The southwest play area was surfaced with white concrete. These play areas were accessed by black concrete paths from 11th Street NE and Maryland Avenue NE, and asphalt-surfaced stairs led down into the amphitheater. (The stairs featured rail-tie treads, which are inventoried here as small-scale features.)

Documentation of other circulation features in the cultural landscape is limited. In 1992, a HABS survey of the cultural landscape noted the presence of a concrete walkway at the eastern edge of Reservation 207; it was installed at an unknown date. That same survey identified a walkway at the eastern edge of Reservation 211 (likely in the same location as the 1901 path). The HABS documentation referred to the path as "badly cracked sandstone." It was later replaced with slate pavers, perhaps due to the condition of the walkway at the time of that survey.

EXISTING
The cultural landscape's circulation features are limited and have changed little since the final period of significance (1963-1969).

- Reservation 205 is bound by sidewalks on all three sides, but there are no circulation features within the reservation.
- Reservation 206 has no internal circulation features.
- Reservation 207's only internal circulation feature is the concrete walkway at the east side of the reservation.
- Reservation 208 has no internal circulation features.
- Reservation 209 features a circular play area surfaced with synthetic material, which is accessed on the east and south sides of the small park by rail-tie steps. The change in material for the play area marks the only alteration of this reservation's circulation features since the last period of significance.
- Reservation 210's extant circulation features include the synthetic play area in the northwest corner of the site. The additional paved area that was historically located in the southwest corner of the site has been removed, along with the walkways that accessed this paved area from the surrounding sidewalks. This, along with the change in material for the northwest play area, comprise the primary alterations to the circulation pattern of this reservation.
- Reservation 211 features a slate paver walkway at the east side of the reservation, running north-south.
- Reservation 212 has no internal circulation features.
- Reservation 213 has no internal circulation features.

EVALUATION
The existing conditions at the Maryland Avenue NE small parks are generally consistent with the circulation features in place by the end of the final period of significance. The most significant alterations to circulation features are at Reservation 210, where one paved area and its access walkways has been removed since the beautification era. However, the loss of these features does not detract from the integrity of the cultural landscape's overall circulation. The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape therefore retains integrity with respect to circulation.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Reservation 207 concrete walkway at eastern edge of reservation

CLI Feature ID: 188965

Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature Name: Reservation 209 stairs from Maryland Avenue NE to play area

CLI Feature ID: 188966

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 209 synthetic play surface

CLI Feature ID: 188967

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 synthetic play surface

CLI Feature ID: 188968

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 211 slate pavers at eastern edge of reservation

CLI Feature ID: 188969

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 41: There are limited circulation features within the cultural landscape. Extant features include the rail-tie steps and the play surface at Reservation 209 (top) and the play surface/access to the surrounding sidewalks at Reservation 210 (bottom). (Photographs by the CLI author)



FIGURE 42: There are two formal walkways within the cultural landscape (other than Stanton Park). They include the concrete walkway in Reservation 207 (left) and the slate walkway in Reservation 211 (right). (Photographs by the CLI author)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

HISTORIC
The cultural landscape's views and vistas are subject to the conditions of its topography, surrounding vegetation, and the buildings and structures in its vicinity. Until the 19th century, Maryland Avenue NE likely had limited views due to its relatively low elevation (compared with the areas of the District of Columbia closer to Rock Creek, for example) and its documented vegetation. At its northeast terminus, it did enjoy a view toward the intersection between Maryland Avenue NE and Benning Road—a significant connection between thoroughfares and trading centers.

Nevertheless, Pierre L'Enfant's plan for Washington, D.C. established new views for the cultural landscape. According to L'Enfant's design principles, the layout of the city's radial avenues would create grand ceremonial vistas along the avenues and toward significant city landmarks. The cornerstone for the United States Capitol was laid in 1793, and as development in the federal core increased, the cultural landscape would likely have enjoyed views toward these landmarks as they rose above the surrounding trees.

During the second period of significance (1814), the burning of Washington, D.C. undoubtedly altered the vistas available on Maryland Avenue NE. The British troops marched down Benning Road, approaching the intersection with Maryland Avenue NE that was visible from the cultural landscape. From there, they march down Maryland Avenue NE and burned several buildings along the avenue; in doing so, they likely burned the surrounding vegetation as well, clearing some of the obstructed views from the cultural landscape. These alterations were offset, however, by the burning of the United States Capitol during that same period.

Over the course of the 19th century, development on Maryland Avenue NE slowly progressed, clearing trees and resulting in new structures to frame the views along the avenue. This new construction may have limited the vistas between some of the small parks, but they retained the visual connections to their adjacent reservations. In 1866, the new Capitol dome was completed, representing a new landmark that was visible from the cultural landscape, above any surrounding vegetation.

These views and vistas remained consistent through the third, fourth, and fifth periods of significance. The alterations to the cultural landscape during the late 19th and early 20th centuries did not significantly alter the views and vistas available from Maryland Avenue NE. The cultural landscape retained its views toward significant features at its southwest and northeast termini, as well as the internal views between reservations. These internal vistas were most evident at the bow-tie intersections, where paired and proximate reservations enjoyed views toward each other that reinforced the spatial connections between Maryland Avenue NE's small parks.

EXISTING
Because the parks within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape are so small (with the exception of Stanton Park), the views and vistas from individual reservations are characterized by their vantage of external landmarks and features, including complementary small parks within this cultural landscape. The cultural landscape's extant views and vistas can be understood on a reservation-by-reservation basis:

- Reservation 205 retains its historic views along Maryland Avenue NE and Constitution Avenue NE, and toward the United States Capitol, which is clearly visible to the southwest above the surrounding trees.
- Reservation 206 retains its historic views of Maryland Avenue NE, Stanton Park, and Reservation 207 (as its complement in the bow-tie arrangement of the intersection).
- Reservation 207 retains its historic views of Maryland Avenue NE, Stanton Park, and Reservation 206 (its pair in the bow-tie arrangement).
- Reservation 208 retains its historic views to Reservation 209 (its pair in the bow-tie cluster arrangement).
- Reservation 209's historic views to Maryland Avenue NE and Reservation 208 are intact.

● Reservation 210 retains its historic views along Maryland Avenue NE and its view of Reservation 211, as its complement in the bow-tie arrangement that characterizes several of the avenue's small parks.
● Reservation 211 retains its historic views toward Reservation 210 and along Maryland Avenue NE.
● Reservation 212 retains its historic views along Maryland Avenue NE and toward the starburst intersection at Benning Road, as well its historic view of Reservation 213.
● Reservation 213 retains its vistas along Maryland Avenue NE, as well as its views toward Reservation 212 and the starburst intersection at Benning Road.

EVALUATION
The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape retains views consistent with the last period of significance, including the historic views between the small parks along the avenue, which reinforce the spatial relationship of the reservations within the cultural landscape. As a result, Maryland Avenue NE retains integrity of views and vistas.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: General views from small parks along Maryland Avenue NE, to southwest and northeast

CLI Feature ID: 188970

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View from Reservation 205 to United States Capitol

CLI Feature ID: 188971

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View from Reservation 205 along Constitution Avenue SE

CLI Feature ID: 188972

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View from Reservation 206 to Stanton Park

CLI Feature ID: 188973

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View between Reservation 206 and Reservation 207, as paired small parks that share an intersection

CLI Feature ID: 188974

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View between Reservation 208 and Reservation 209, as paired small parks that share an intersection

CLI Feature ID: 188975

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View between Reservation 210 and Reservation 211, as paired small parks that share an intersection

CLI Feature ID: 188976

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View between Reservation 212 and Reservation 213, as paired small parks that share an intersection

CLI Feature ID: 188977

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View from Reservation 212 to significant starburst intersection where Maryland Avenue NE and Benning Road connect

CLI Feature ID: 188978

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: View from Reservation 213 to significant starburst intersection where Maryland Avenue NE and Benning Road connect

CLI Feature ID: 188979

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 43: Reservation 205 retains its historic view toward the United States Capitol building, visible above the trees in the background. (Photograph by the CLI author)



FIGURE 44: The cultural landscape retains its historic views between bow-tie reservations, including these views between Reservations 206 and 207. (Photographs by the CLI author)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

HISTORIC
In the centuries before it was converted into a collection of small parks, the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape was historically characterized by its agricultural use—a reflection of its vegetation patterns in historic accounts and maps. During the first period of significance (1791-1792), Pierre L'Enfant established a vision for these reservations' public use as open green space (with unspecified vegetation). In all likelihood, however, they almost certainly remained a combination of grassy lawn and subsistence gardens into the 19th century, as neighboring residents cultivated vegetation in these undeveloped parcels of land. For example, a map created by A.C. Harmon in 1931 represents the conditions of Washington, D.C. as of 1801-1802 (see Figure 7). It indicates clusters of vegetation near (present-day) Reservations 208, 209, 210, and 211. The character of this vegetation (e.g. small crops, orchards, mature trees) is unspecified during this period.

The War of 1812—and in particular, the events of the second period of significance (1814)—would have had a pronounced effect on the vegetation of the cultural landscape during this period. As the British troops marched down Maryland Avenue NE and burned several buildings en route to the United States Capitol, the conflagration almost certainly also had the effect of clearing the vegetation along the way.

Photographs and maps produced later in the 19th century corroborate this hypothesis about the cultural landscape's vegetation during the decades between the second and third periods of significance. A photograph taken in 1863 shows a limited number of trees in the area, with the remaining land planted with grass, gardens, and shrubs.

The third period of significance (1871-1915) established OPBG-sanctioned vegetation for the first time. It resulted in plantings (of unnamed species) in several of the reservations, with the remaining space seeded and sodded for grass. From this point forward, the chronology of vegetation alterations for each reservation was as follows:

Reservation 205
As of 1894, the reservation was sodded and partly planted with unspecified plantings in a flower bed (Wilson 1894: 3310). In 1927, a survey photograph indicates several trees at the eastern edge of the reservation, but it is unclear whether they were located outside the boundaries of the small park. It was otherwise grassy lawn at this time; there are no visible flower beds in this photograph.

There are no documented alterations to the vegetation in the later periods of significance, although individual plantings were unquestionably added to and removed from the reservation at various points in the 20th century.

Reservation 206
In 1904, four trees and 35 shrubs were planted; their species were not named in the OPBG annual reports (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). In 1914, the small park was seeded (Harts 1916: 2). At the time the 1927 survey photograph was taken, the reservation was primarily open lawn; it does not appear to host the quantity of trees and shrubs that were planted in 1904. There are no subsequent documented alterations for this reservation's vegetation features; the landscape conditions likely remained generally consistent into the 21st century.

Reservation 207
Reservation 207 was sodded in 1898. In 1899, a flower bed was created and planted with 65 shrubs (unnamed species). In 1900, the reservation was graded and surfaced with soil (Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1904, new grass seed was planted along with 6 shrubs of unknown species (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). A 1927 photograph of the reservation suggests that the flower bed was removed by this time, or that the flower plantings were replaced by the shrubs.

These conditions likely remained consistent for much of the 20th century (although individual plantings may have changed), as there are no records of subsequent alterations to the reservation's vegetation.

Reservation 208
In 1900, the reservation was surfaced with soil and planted with grass seed and sod. In 1904, 46 shrubs were planted; their species were not noted in OPBG reports (Bingham 1900: 5258; Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). As of 1927, this reservation still featured several shrubs, but certainly fewer than 46 shrubs. The small park was otherwise a grassy parcel. These landscape conditions remained generally consistent through the later periods of significance.

Reservation 209
In 1901, the surface of the reservation was covered with soil, the borders were sodded, and the remainder was sown with grass seed. That same year, 34 shrubs were planted; their species were not named (Bingham 1901: 3710). As of 1927, several shrub plantings were growing within the small park; the number and type of shrubs is unclear. In addition, a large tree was growing along 10th Street NE; it may have been located within the boundaries of the reservation. The small park was otherwise planted with grassy cover at this time.

During the fifth period of significance (1963-1969), this reservation was the subject of various beautification projects that altered the small park's vegetation. In particular, the existing privet hedge was removed and new planting beds were excavated. New plantings during this period included Polyantha rose (Rosa multiflora) and nandina (Nandina domestica), which were added in 1965-1966. (Their locations within the reservation were not noted in the planting plans.)

Reservation 210
This small park was graded, seeded, and surfaced with soil in 1900 (Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1904, the small park was planted with new grass seed and a circular flower bed. Five trees and 87 shrubs (of unknown species) were planted (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). As of 1927, the small park was almost entirely grassy lawn. Several shrubs separated it from the neighboring building, but it is unclear from the survey photograph whether these plantings were located within or adjacent to the small park.

As part of Lady Bird Johnson's Beautification Program, this reservation was altered to include several new flower beds and plantings. Large curving planting beds were added to frame the new amphitheater and the paved area in the southwest corner. New plantings included:
1965-1966: Tamarix juniper (Juniperus sabina); Polyantha Rose (Rosa multiflora); Laburnum (unnamed species); snapdragon (unnamed species); tulip (unnamed species); chrysanthemum (yellow cush.; unnamed species); Mrs. John Scheepers Single Late Cottage Tulip (Tulipa 'Mrs John Scheepers')
1966: Snapdragon (yellow sprite) and snapdragon (floral carpet yellow) (Antirrhinum majus); yellow supreme mum (cushion)
1967: Couleur cardinal – Single early tulip (Tulipa 'Couleur Cardinal'); Salvia – Red Pillar (Salvia 'Red Pillar'); Marigold – spun gold (Tagetes erecta 'Spun Gold')
1968: Petunia – Pink Magic (Petunia 'Pink Magic')
1969: Oriental Splendour – Greigii Hybrid Tulip (Tulipa 'Oriental Splendour'); Gudoshnik – Darwin Hybrid Tulip (Tulipa 'Gudoshnik')
The planting beds were later removed at an unknown date, although their removal may have coincided with the demolition of the upper play area in 2003. The site's other vegetation patterns, including the combination of shade trees and open lawn, remained consistent into the 21st century.

Reservation 211
In 1899, 48 shrubs were planted (their species was unspecified in OPBG annual reports). By 1900, the small park was graded and sodded (Bingham 1899: 3835; Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1904, new grass seed was sown, 53 new shrubs were planted, and a flower bed measuring 14 feet in diameter was planted with flowering plants (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). There was no mention of the species of shrubs or flowering plants installed as part of these projects. As of 1927, the reservation featured grassy lawn. The survey photograph indicates several shrubs at the east end of the reservation, but it is unclear whether these plantings were located within or just outside the boundaries of the small park. These conditions likely remained consistent for most of the 20th century.

Reservation 212
In 1900, the small park was surfaced with soil, seeded, and bordered with sod (Bingham 1900: 5259). In 1904, two trees and 41 shrubs were planted; their species were not named (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). As of 1927, the small park was open lawn, with several small trees located inside the boundaries of the reservation. Their species is unknown.

During the third period of significance (1936-1966), the WPA oversaw various projects in this small park. By 1936, the reservation featured one tree (species unknown) and a singular shrub. The small park was otherwise an undesigned grassy lot.

In the late 20th century or early 21st century, several new tree plantings were added to this reservation; there are no recorded dates for these alterations.

Reservation 213
In 1900, the park was surfaced with soil and sodded (Bingham 1900: 5259). In 1904, a tree and 41 shrubs (species unknown) were planted (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). As of 1927, the small park featured at least one tree (of unknown species) and was otherwise planted with grass.

During the fifth period of significance (1963-1969), the Beautification Program undertook various alterations to this small park's vegetation. New planting beds were added, featuring the following plant material:
1965-1966: Bigblue Liriope (Liriope muscari 'Big Blue'); Common Periwinkle (Vinca minor); Winter Jasmine (Jasminum nudiflorum); Kousa Dogwood (Cornus kousa); Hopa Crab (Malus 'Hopa'); tulip – La Tulip Noire (Tulipa 'La Tulipe Noire'); tulip – Black Parrot (Tulipa 'Black Parrot'); Capri Petunia (Petunia 'Capri'); Petite Marigold (Tagetes patula); Purple Pirate mum (Chrysanthemum 'Purple Pirate'); The Bishop, Darwin Tulip (Tulipa 'The Bishop'); Black Parrot (Tulipa 'Black Parrot')
1966: Capri Petunia (Petunia 'Capri'); Petite Gold Marigold (Tagetes patula); Purple Waters Mum (Chrysanthemum 'Purple Waters')
1967: Red Emperor – Fosteriana Tulip (Tulipa 'Red Emperor'); Smiling Queen – Single Late Cottage Tulip (Tulipa 'Smiling Queen'); Geranium – Salmon F-1 Hybrid (Pan Am Seed) (unknown species); Heliotrope – Royal Fragrance (Heliotropium arborescens 'Royal Fragrance')
1968: Petunia – Pink Magic (Petunia 'Pink Magic); Dusty Miller (unknown species)
1969: Gudoshnik – Darwin Hybrid Tulip (Tulipa 'Gudoshnik'); Queen of Sheba – Lily-flowered Tulip (Tulipa 'Queen of Sheba')
The flower beds were later removed at an unknown date. The shade trees remained in place.

EXISTING
The existing vegetation patterns at the Maryland Avenue NE small parks are generally consistent with the most recent period of significance (1963-1969), although in limited cases, planting beds have been removed or individual plantings have been added to specific reservations. Other than the plantings mentioned below, all of the Maryland Avenue NE feature grass as ground cover.
● Reservation 205: The west portion features a large magnolia tree (Magnolia grandiflora) and several newer plantings, including a hackberry tree (Celtis occidentalis) and several young white oak trees (Quercus alba). It is otherwise grassy. The east portion of the small park features a mature red oak tree (Quercus ruba) and is otherwise grassy.
● Reservation 206 features a cherry tree (Prunus x yedoenis) and hollies (Ilex opaca).
● Reservation 207's vegetation features include a maple tree (Acer rubrum); the lot is otherwise grassy. (There are no shrubs, as there were during various periods of significance.)
● Reservation 208 has two trees (although one appears to be dead or dying); the healthier tree appears to be a dogwood (Cornus florida).
● Reservation 209 features a crepe myrtle tree (Lagerstroemia indica) at the corner of 10th Street NE and E Street NE, as well as several pyracantha bushes (Pyracantha coccinea) on the east side of the site.
● Reservation 210's vegetation includes two tulip trees (Liriodendron tulipifera) and one additional sapling of unknown species.
● Reservation 211 features a maple tree (Acer rubrum), a chestnut tree (Castanea dentata), and several shrubs, including crabapple plantings (Malus angustifolia).

● Reservation 212 has several trees that have been planted with no clear planting plan. They include three large hollies (Ilex opaca), a blue spruce (Picea pungens), a white oak (Quercus alba), and a magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora).
● Reservation 213 includes two oak trees (unknown species) that appear to be dead as of 2019.

EVALUATION
In general, the planting plans for the individual reservations within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape changed several times between the different periods of significance. This includes transitions from grass to planting beds, and then alterations that revert to grass.

The extant vegetation patterns for the small parks are largely consistent with the conditions at the end of the final period of significance. The primary exception is Reservation 210, where several large planting beds that were installed during the Beautification Program but have since been removed. However, in light of the many changes between the periods of significance, these alterations at Reservation 210 do not detract from the cultural landscape's overall integrity of vegetation. Maryland Avenue NE therefore retains integrity with respect to vegetation.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Grassy lawns in all Maryland Avenue NE small parks

CLI Feature ID: 188980

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 205 planting plan with combination of shade trees and open lawn

CLI Feature ID: 188981

Feature Contribution: Contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Feature Name: Reservation 206 planting plan with combination of shade trees, shrubs, and open lawn

CLI Feature ID: 188982

Feature Contribution: Contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Feature Name: Reservation 207 planting plan with combination of shade trees and open lawn

CLI Feature ID: 188983

Feature Contribution: Contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Feature Name: Reservation 208 planting plan with combination of shade trees and open lawn

CLI Feature ID: 188984

Feature Contribution: Contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Feature Name: Reservation 209 planting plan with tree at southwest corner and shrubs throughout the site

CLI Feature ID: 188985

Feature Contribution: Contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Feature Name: Reservation 210 planting plan with combination of shade trees and open lawn

CLI Feature ID: 188986

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Feature Name: Reservation 211 planting plan with combination of shade trees, shrubs, and open lawn

CLI Feature ID: 188987

Feature Contribution: Contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Feature Name: Reservation 212 planting plan with variety of shade trees and open lawn

CLI Feature ID: 188988

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Feature Name: Reservation 213 planting plan with combination of shade trees and open lawn

CLI Feature ID: 188989

Feature Contribution: Contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1596802

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 45: Early photographic view of Washington, D.C. from the Capitol, looking northeast circa 1863. An unpaved Maryland Avenue NE is visible at the center of the photograph, extending from foreground to background. ("Early Photographic View" n.d., Library of Congress)





FIGURE 46: The vegetation patterns for the reservations have shifted several times since the creation of the Maryland Avenue NE small parks. However, the planting plans continue to be characterized by a combination of grassy lawns, shrubs, and shade trees, as seen here in 1927 and 2019 at Reservation 210. (Reservation 210 Reservation Files, National Capital Area, National Park Service; photograph by the CLI author)



FIGURE 47: Reservation 211 retains its historic vegetation pattern, as characterized by the combination of grassy lawn and shade trees. (Reservation 211 Reservation Files, National Capital Area, National Park Service; photograph by the CLI author)

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

HISTORIC
No known buildings or structures existed in the Maryland Avenue NE small parks before the final period of significance (1963-1969). (Because Stanton Park is itself considered a structure for the purposes of this Cultural Landscape Inventory, this history excludes the park's own internal buildings and structures. For more on those features, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.) Historic maps indicate that other buildings were constructed in the area around the cultural landscape, as the area developed over the course of the 19th and 20th centuries. However, these developments did not affect the individual reservations within the cultural landscape.

Play equipment structures were installed in Reservation 209 by 1968 as part of the Beautification Program projects for the cultural landscape. An amphitheater structure was installed in Reservation 210 as part of that same program; it was in place by the end of the most recent period of significance (1963-1969).

Both of these structures were later replaced with similar elements. Reservation 209 featured a new play structure by 1999. A new play structure was also installed at Reservation 210 at an unknown date, although its construction may have coincided with the demolition in 2003 of the play area in the southwest corner of the site.

There have been no other alterations to buildings and structures in the cultural landscape.

EXISTING
This cultural landscape inventory for the Maryland Avenue NE small parks considers Stanton Park to be a single structure within the avenue. For more information about the buildings and structures of that park, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory.

Other extant buildings and structures within the cultural landscape include the play structures at Reservations 209 and 210. Reservation 209's play structure was designed by Landscape Structures, Inc. and includes a slide, climbing ramp, and monkey bars. Reservation 210 features a play structure with climbing stairs and ramps, several play platforms, and a slide. Although the structure at Reservation 210 replaces a play area in the same location during the most recent period of significance (1963-1969), both structures are non-historic.

EVALUATION
Although Stanton Park is considered a structure for the purposes of this cultural landscape inventory, and very much contributes to the significance of the avenue's small parks, the primary structures in the other reservations are non-historic and do not contribute to the significance of Maryland Avenue NE. For this reason, the cultural landscape does not retain significance with respect to buildings and structures.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Stanton Park

CLI Feature ID: 188990

Feature Contribution: Contributing

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 20783

Feature Name: Reservation 209 play equipment

CLI Feature ID: 188991

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 play equipment

CLI Feature ID: 188992

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 48: The play structures at Reservation 209 (top) and Reservation 210 (bottom) are among the few existing structures within the cultural landscape. (Photographs by the CLI author)



FIGURE 49: Stanton Park is classified as a structure within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape for the purposes of this Cultural Landscape Inventory. For more on the park's own features, see the Stanton Park Cultural Landscape Inventory (Quinn 2005). (Photograph by the CLI author)

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

HISTORIC
Little is known about the cultural landscape's small-scale features until the late 19th century. An 1863 photograph indicates that limited fencing was in place at various points along Maryland Avenue NE, but it is unclear whether the fencing affected the small parks in particular, or whether it was simply adjacent to the reservations.

The first documented small-scale features within the cultural landscape were installed during the third period of significance (1871-1915), which marked one of the most substantial periods of development for the cultural landscape.

The historic chronology of each reservation's small-scale features was as follows:
Reservation 205
As of 1894, the small park was enclosed with a post-and-chain fence (Wilson 1894: 3310). In 1905, a new water pipe was installed to replace the old pipe (Bromwell 1905: 2644). In 1912, cement coping was constructed around the reservation (Cosby 1912: 3493). The park may have been marked by OPBG blocks inscribed with "U.S."

The curbing was still in place as of 1927. It was later removed at an unknown date, although its demolition may have coincided with the bifurcation of the reservation in 1957 to create an access road between Constitution Avenue NE and Maryland Avenue NE.

Reservation 206
In 1898, the small park was officially marked with OPBG blocks inscribed with "U.S." (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1914, 8-inch quarter-round cement coping was constructed as curbing around the reservation (Harts 1916: 2). There are no subsequent documented small-scale features in this small park.

Reservation 207
In 1898, OPBG blocks inscribed with "U.S." were placed at the corners of the reservation (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1899, a new water supply pipe was placed (Bingham 1899: 3835). In 1904, cement coping was installed around the reservation with "3 corner posts at entrance to walks" (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936). There are no other documented small-scale features in this small park for most of the 20th century. At some point before 1992, an abstract metal artwork was installed in the reservation, facing Maryland Avenue NE.

Reservation 208
In 1898, OPBG placed stone blocks at the reservation denoted with "U.S." (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1900, a water pipe was constructed within the small park to irrigate the grass seed (Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1902, a part of the reservation was enclosed with a "stake-and-wire fence"; this fence appears to have been replaced in 1904, when an iron post-and-chain fence was constructed (Bingham 1902: 2737; Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936).

The post-and-chain fence was still in place as of 1927. At some point before 1949, concrete pads and benches were added to the small park, extending on a north-south line through the reservation. It is unclear when they were installed in relation to the fourth period of significance (1933-1936).

Reservation 209
In 1901, an OPBG marking stone was placed and a water pipe was constructed (Bingham 1901: 3710). The small-scale features likely remained consistent until the fifth period of significance (1963-1969), when the reservation saw several alterations as part of the Beautification Program. For those projects, a new play area was installed at the center of the small park, defined by steel edging. Two benches and a tulip-type trash basket were also installed during this period.

The steel edging was later removed at an unknown date.

Reservation 210
The OPBG placed a marker stone inscribed with “U.S.” in the reservation in 1898 (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1900, a water pipe was installed (Bingham 1900: 5258). In 1904, the water pipe was extended farther into the reservation (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936).

The curbing was still in place as of 1927, although it was apparently removed before or during the fifth period of significance (1963-1969). During those years, beautification projects resulted in new small-scale features in the small park, including three backless benches and a new three-foot chain-link fence around the amphitheater area.

In 2003, the play area in the southwest corner of the site was demolished, resulting in the removal of the three backless benches. Other small-scale features have been installed in recent years and may have coincided with that 2003 project. They include a standard malleable bench in the southwest corner of the small park, as well as various features associated with the sunken play area in the northwest corner of the site.

Reservation 211
By 1900, a water pipe was introduced (Bingham 1899: 3835; Bingham 1900: 5258). Curbing evidently existed before 1905, because that year, the existing granite curb on the south (F Street NE) side “was moved back about 12 inches and a cement pavement laid by the District government on the sidewalk on that side” (Bromwell 1905: 2644). One year later, in 1906, “portions of the granite coping on the west side were cut and reset” due to the laying of new sidewalk on that side of the small park (Bromwell 1906: 2138). There were no subsequent small-scale features documented for this reservation.

Reservation 212
In 1898, the OPBG placed blocks inscribed with “U.S.” at the reservation (Bingham 1898: 3731). In 1900, a water pipe was installed (Bingham 1900: 5259). In 1904, the existing wire fence around the reservation (installed at an unknown date) was removed and replaced with an iron post-and-chain fence that featured 33 posts and 272 linear feet of chain (Symons and Bingham 1904: 3936).

The post-and-chain fence was still in place as of 1927. By the end of the fourth period of significance (1933-1936), the reservation featured curbing instead of the post-and-chain fence. This alteration was likely made by the Works Progress Administration, which led improvement projects at this small park during this period.

Reservation 213
In 1898, the OPBG placed stone blocks at the reservation inscribed with “U.S.” In 1900, the park was graded, surfaced with soil, and sodded, and a water pipe was installed (Bingham 1900: 5259). In 1903, the reservation was enclosed with an iron post-and-chain fence (Symons and Bingham 1903: 2548).

The post-and-chain fence was still in place as of 1927. It was later removed at an unknown date, although its demolition may have coincided with the fifth period of significance (1963-1969). As part of the Beautification Program during those years, alterations to the small park’s small-scale features included the installation of three benches (running north-south) and new trash baskets.

EXISTING
The Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape includes a range of small-scale features, including both contributing and non-contributing elements.
● Reservation 205’s small-scale features include regulatory signage for both the National Park Service and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT); a non-historic streetlight; a traffic signal at 3rd Street NE; a fire hydrant; a DDOT construction sign; and temporary construction signage. All of these small-scale features are located on the eastern portion of the small park. Among the small-scale features that were documented historically, it is unclear whether the historic water pipe is still in place underground. There are no extant OPBG blocks.
● Reservation 206 has no extant small-scale features.
● Reservation 207’s historic quarter-round curbing remains in place. Other small-scale features

include the abstract metal artwork (installed at an unknown date prior to the 1992 HABS survey), and one regulatory sign for the National Park Service.
● Reservation 208 includes concrete pads (which formerly hosted benches), running north-south through the site. As of 2019, there are no seating features in this small park. Other small-scale features include one trash can and regulatory signage.
● Reservation 209 features regulatory National Park Service signage, two benches, two trash cans, rail-tie retaining walls, and a chain-link fence along the east perimeter of the site. The “U.S.” block that was present at the time of the 1992 survey does not appear to be in place as of 2019. The steel edging that was installed as part of the Beautification Program projects is no longer extant.
● Reservation 210’s small-scale features include: two metal tables and four metal chairs; four benches; two types of fence (chain-link and ornamental metal); National Park Service regulatory signage; a seesaw within the play area; and one block inscribed with “U.S.” at the southwest corner of the site. (The 1992 HABS survey referred to three surviving blocks; it appears that two have been removed since that time.)
● Reservation 211 retains its historic quarter-round curbing (with the large angled stone noted in the 1992 HABS survey) and the “U.S.” block in the northeast corner. Other small-scale features include National Park Service regulatory signage and a manhole cover on the east side of the reservation.
● Reservation 212’s extant small-scale features include: a trash can; National Park Service regulatory signage; and the Millet streetlamp noted in the 1992 HABS survey (which was likely installed during the third period of significance). The cast-iron fence that was present during the 1999 survey is no longer in place.
● Reservation 213’s small-scale features are almost entirely temporary; they include a port-potty, a construction sign (with job postings), a dispenser of pet cleanup bags, and a utility box.

EVALUATION
The small-scale features within the Maryland Avenue NE cultural landscape include a complicated combination of historic and non-historic features. There are many non-contributing features that postdate all of the periods of significance. However, the quarter-round curbing and “U.S.” blocks that survive at several of the reservations are among the most distinctive features of this type of small parks, and significantly enhance the integrity of the cultural landscape’s small-scale features overall. The presence of the non-contributing features does not detract from the significant influence of the contributing features. Maryland Avenue NE therefore retains integrity of small-scale features.

Character-defining Features:

Feature Name: Reservation 205 regulatory signage (National Park Service and District Department of Transportation)

CLI Feature ID: 188993

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 205 streetlight

CLI Feature ID: 188994

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 205 traffic light in southeast corner

CLI Feature ID: 188995

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 205 fire hydrant

CLI Feature ID: 188996

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 205 construction signage (District Department of Transportation)

CLI Feature ID: 188997

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 206 quarter-round curbing

CLI Feature ID: 188998

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 207 quarter-round curbing

CLI Feature ID: 188999

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 207 metal artwork

CLI Feature ID: 189000

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 207 regulatory signage (National Park Service)

CLI Feature ID: 189001

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 208 concrete pads (from four former benches)

CLI Feature ID: 189002

Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature Name: Reservation 208 trash can

CLI Feature ID: 189003

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 208 regulatory signage (National Park Service)

CLI Feature ID: 189004

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 209 wood benches (count: 2)

CLI Feature ID: 189005

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1632612

Feature Name: Reservation 209 trash cans (count: 2)

CLI Feature ID: 189006

Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature Name: Reservation 209 regulatory signage (National Park Service)

CLI Feature ID: 189007

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 209 rail-tie retaining walls

CLI Feature ID: 189008

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 209 rail-tie steps

CLI Feature ID: 189009

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 209 chain-link fence

CLI Feature ID: 189010

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 metal tables (count: 2) and metal chairs (count: 4)

CLI Feature ID: 189011

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 benches (count: 4)

CLI Feature ID: 189012

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 1632612

Feature Name: Reservation 210 fencing (chain-link and ornamental metal)

CLI Feature ID: 189013

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 block inscribed with "U.S." (southwest corner)

CLI Feature ID: 189014

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 standard malleable benches (count: 4)

CLI Feature ID: 189015

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 regulatory signage (National Park Service)

CLI Feature ID: 189016

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 trash cans (count: 3; two types)

CLI Feature ID: 189017

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 210 wood-post retaining wall

CLI Feature ID: 189018

Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature Name: Reservation 210 seesaw

CLI Feature ID: 189019

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 211 quarter-round curbing

CLI Feature ID: 189020

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 211 block inscribed with "U.S." (northeast corner)

CLI Feature ID: 189021

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 211 regulatory signage (National Park Service)

CLI Feature ID: 189022

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 211 manhole cover

CLI Feature ID: 189023

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 212 Millet lamppost

CLI Feature ID: 189024

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 212 trash can

CLI Feature ID: 189025

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 212 regulatory signage (National Park Service)

CLI Feature ID: 189026

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 213 utility box

CLI Feature ID: 189027

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 213 portable toilet

CLI Feature ID: 189028

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 213 temporary signage

CLI Feature ID: 189029

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Feature Name: Reservation 213 pet cleanup bags

CLI Feature ID: 189030

Feature Contribution: Non contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 50: The cultural landscape retains several significant small-scale features, including intact curbing from the OPBG era (left and center-left), "U.S." marker stones installed by OPBG (center-right), and rail-tie steps installed as part of the Beautification Program's projects (right). (Photographs by the CLI author)



FIGURE 51: Non-contributing small-scale features in the cultural landscape include an abstract metal sculpture in Reservation 207 (left), concrete pads that formerly hosted benches in Reservation 208 (center), and NPS regulatory signage in several reservations (right). (Photographs by the CLI author)

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 09/10/2026

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/10/2020

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:
During FY 2019, the cultural landscape received a Condition Assessment of "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.

Stabilization Measures:

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: None

Impact Description: The reservations within the cultural landscape abut neighboring residential and commercial properties. Although several of the reservations feature regulatory signage that indicates NPS ownership, there is a risk that neighboring properties could gradually incorporate NPS land within their informal or formal boundaries. This has been an issue at various points in the history of the cultural landscape, and could have an impact on the cultural landscape in the future.

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

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Year of Publication:	
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Year of Publication:	1900
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Year of Publication:	1902
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Bishop, Karina
Citation Title:	National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory: Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Year of Publication:	2015
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Boschke, Albert and Julius Bien
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Citation Publisher:	A. Boschke, Washington, D.C.

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Year of Publication:	1905
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Bromwell, Chas. S.
Citation Title:	Annual Report Upon the Improvement and Care of Public Buildings and Grounds, and Care and Maintenance of the Washington Monument, in the District of Columbia: Appendix EEE of the Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers for 1906
Year of Publication:	1906
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Burnap, George
Citation Title:	Parks: Their Design, Equipment and Use
Year of Publication:	1916
Citation Publisher:	J.B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, PA
Citation Author:	Bushong, William
Citation Title:	Historic Resource Study: Rock Creek Park, District of Columbia
Year of Publication:	1990
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	Comeau, Eggers
Citation Title:	The Plan of the City of Washington National Historic Landmark Nomination Draft
Year of Publication:	2000
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Cosby, Spencer
Citation Title:	Report Upon the Improvement and Care of Public Buildings and Grounds, and Upon the Care and Maintenance of the Washington Monument and of the Highway Bridge Across the Potomac River, District of Columbia, and Upon the Erection of Monuments, Memorials...
Year of Publication:	1912
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	District of Columbia Engineer Department
Citation Title:	Map of the City of Washington Showing the Varieties of Street Pavements Laid and Under Contract on January 1, 1894: to Accompany the Annual Report of the Engineer Department, D.C. for the Year Ending June 30, 1894
Year of Publication:	1894
Citation Publisher:	District of Columbia Engineer Department, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	District of Columbia Works Progress Administration
Citation Title:	Many Miles of New Highways
Year of Publication:	1936
Citation Publisher:	District of Columbia Works Progress Administration, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Eberlein, Harold Donaldson and Cortlandt Van Dyke Hubbard
Citation Title:	Historic Houses of Georgetown and Washington City
Year of Publication:	1958
Citation Publisher:	The Dietz Press Inc., Richmond, Virginia

Citation Author:	Ellicott, Andrew
Citation Title:	Plan of the City of Washington
Year of Publication:	1792
Citation Publisher:	Thackara & Vallance, Philadelphia, PA
Citation Author:	Faehtz, E.F.M., F.W. Pratt, Joseph M. Toner, S.R. Seiberg, and U.S. Capitol Centennial Committee
Citation Title:	Sketch of Washington in embryo: viz., previous to its survey by Major L'Enfant
Year of Publication:	1792
Citation Publisher:	Capitol Centennial Committee, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Fanning, Kay
Citation Title:	National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory: McPherson Square, National Capital Parks-Central
Year of Publication:	2005
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Ganschinietz, Suzanne
Citation Title:	Capitol Hill Historic District
Year of Publication:	1976
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Gould, Lewis
Citation Title:	Lady Bird Johnson: Our Environmental First Lady
Year of Publication:	1999
Citation Publisher:	Kansas University Press, Lawrence, KS
Citation Author:	Greene, F. V.
Citation Title:	City of Washington Statistical Map No. 3 showing the different varieties of Street Pavements
Year of Publication:	1882
Citation Publisher:	[s.l.]

Citation Author:	Gutheim, Frederick and Antoinette J. Lee
Citation Title:	Worthy of the Nation: Washington, DC, from L'Enfant to the National Capital Planning Commission
Year of Publication:	2006
Citation Publisher:	Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD
Citation Author:	Harmon, A. C.
Citation Title:	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
Year of Publication:	1931
Citation Publisher:	[s.l.]
Citation Author:	Harts, William W.
Citation Title:	Report Upon the Improvement and Care of Public Buildings and Grounds, and Upon the Care and Maintenance of the Washington Monument and of the Highway Bridge Across the Potomac River, District of Columbia, and Upon the Erection of Monuments, Memorials...
Year of Publication:	1914
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Harts, William W.
Citation Title:	The Development of the Park System of Washington
Year of Publication:	1916
Citation Publisher:	Second Pan American Scientific Congress, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Heine, Cornelius W.
Citation Title:	A History of National Capital Parks
Year of Publication:	1953
Citation Publisher:	National Capital Parks, National Park Service, Washington, DC

Citation Author:	James, Henry
Citation Title:	The Life of Albert Gallatin
Year of Publication:	1943
Citation Publisher:	Smith, New York, NY
Citation Author:	Leach, Sara Amy, and Elizabeth Barthold
Citation Title:	L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia
Year of Publication:	1997
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	L'Enfant, Pierre Charles
Citation Title:	Plan of the city intended for the permanent seat of the government of the United States
Year of Publication:	1791
Citation Publisher:	United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	L'Enfant, Pierre Charles
Citation Title:	Plan of the City of Washington
Year of Publication:	1791
Citation Publisher:	[s.l.]
Citation Author:	The Living New Deal
Citation Title:	Works Progress Administration (WPA) (1935)
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	University of California Berkeley Department of Geography, Berkeley, CA
Citation Author:	McNeil, Priscilla
Citation Title:	Rock Creek Hundred: Land Conveyed for the Federal City
Year of Publication:	1991
Citation Publisher:	Historical Society of Washington, D.C., Washington, DC

Citation Author:	Miller, Iris
Citation Title:	Washington in Maps: 1606-2000
Year of Publication:	2002
Citation Publisher:	Rizzoli, New York, NY
Citation Author:	Moore, Charles, ed.
Citation Title:	The Improvement of the Park System of the District of Columbia
Year of Publication:	1902
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Capital Office
Citation Title:	Planting Plan: Maryland Avenue, 11th and F Streets, N.E., Reservation 210
Year of Publication:	1965
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Citation Title:	Study for Development for the National Mall
Year of Publication:	1939
Citation Publisher:	National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Capital Parks
Citation Title:	National Capital Parks, Washington
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Reservation 205, Reservation Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Reservation 015, Reservation Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Reservation 206, Reservation Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

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Citation Title:	Reservation 207, Reservation Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

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Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

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Year of Publication:	
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Citation Title:	Reservation 210, Reservation Files
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Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

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Citation Title:	Reservation 213, Reservation Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Reservation 205, Darwina Neal Beautification Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Reservation 015, Darwina Neal Beautification Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

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Citation Title:	Reservation 206, Darwina Neal Beautification Files
Year of Publication:	
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Year of Publication:	
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Citation Title:	Reservation 209, Darwina Neal Beautification Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Reservation 210, Darwina Neal Beautification Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Reservation 211, Darwina Neal Beautification Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

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Citation Title:	Reservation 212, Darwina Neal Beautification Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Reservation 213, Darwina Neal Beautification Files
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Park Service
Citation Title:	National Capital Parks, Washington D.C.
Year of Publication:	1941
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Park Service
Citation Title:	Reservation 205, Lands Division file
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Park Service
Citation Title:	Reservation 015, Lands Division file
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Park Service
Citation Title:	Reservation 206, Lands Division file
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
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Citation Author:	National Park Service
Citation Title:	Reservation 213, Lands Division file
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	National Park Service-National Capital Area
Citation Title:	Demolition Plan, Rehabilitation of Playground and Landscape, U.S. Reservation 210 @ Maryland Avenue, 11th and F Streets, N.E.
Year of Publication:	2003
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	National Photo Company
Citation Title:	Maryland Ave., N.E., at 12th & F Sts., looking S.W. towards Capitol
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	National Photo Company, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Overbeck, Ruth Ann and Nancy Metzger
Citation Title:	Capitol Hill
Year of Publication:	2010
Citation Publisher:	The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD
Citation Author:	Pitch, Anthony S.
Citation Title:	Burning of Washington: The British Invasion of 1814
Year of Publication:	2000
Citation Publisher:	Blue Jacket Books, Annapolis, MD
Citation Author:	Priggs, John Frederick Augustus
Citation Title:	A map of the Eastern branch of Potomack river, St. James Creek, Goose Creek…
Year of Publication:	1790
Citation Publisher:	[s.l.]
Citation Author:	Quinn, Richard
Citation Title:	National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory: Stanton Park, National Capital Parks-East - Capitol Hill Parks
Year of Publication:	2005
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	Richards, Mark David
Citation Title:	The Debates over the Retrocession of the District of Columbia, 1801-2004
Year of Publication:	2004
Citation Publisher:	Washington History, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Rossell, W.T. and J.L. Lusk
Citation Title:	Maps accompanying the report of the operations of the Engineer Department of the District of Columbia: for the fiscal year ended 1891
Year of Publication:	1892
Citation Publisher:	District of Columbia Engineer Department, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Smith, Kathryn Schneider Smith
Citation Title:	Washington at Home: An Illustrated History of Neighborhoods in the Nation's Capital
Year of Publication:	2010
Citation Publisher:	The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD
Citation Author:	Symons, T.W.
Citation Title:	Annual Report of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia for the year ending 1889
Year of Publication:	1889
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Symons, Thomas W. and Theo A. Bingham
Citation Title:	Annual Report Upon the Improvement and Care of Public Buildings and Grounds, and Care and Maintenance of the Washington Monument, in the District of Columbia: Appendix EEE of the Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers for 1903
Year of Publication:	1903
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	Symons, Thomas W. and Theo A. Bingham
Citation Title:	Annual Report Upon the Improvement and Care of Public Buildings and Grounds, and Care and Maintenance of the Washington Monument, in the District of Columbia: Appendix DDD of the Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers for 1904
Year of Publication:	1904
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	United States Geological Survey
Citation Title:	Satellite Photography of Washington, DC
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	Google Earth/DigitalGlobe, Mountain View, CA
Citation Author:	United States Geological Survey
Citation Title:	Satellite Photography of Washington, DC
Year of Publication:	
Citation Publisher:	NETR Online/Nationwide Environmental Title Research LLC; www.historicaerials.com
Citation Author:	Wilson, John M.
Citation Title:	Annual Report Upon the Improvement and Care of Public Buildings and Grounds in the District of Columbia: Appendix WW of the Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers for 1887
Year of Publication:	1887
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Wilson, John M.
Citation Title:	Annual Report Upon the Improvement and Care of Public Buildings and Grounds, and Care and Maintenance of the Washington Monument, in the District of Columbia: Appendix CCC of the Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers for 1894
Year of Publication:	1894
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Citation Author:	Wilson, John M.
Citation Title:	Map of the City of Washington Showing the Varieties of Street Pavements Laid and under Contract on January 1, 1894: to Accompany the Annual Report of the Engineer Department, D.C., for the Year Ending June 30, 1894
Year of Publication:	1894
Citation Publisher:	United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Citation Author:	Board of Public Works
Citation Title:	Exhibit Chart of Improved Streets and Avenues
Year of Publication:	1872
Citation Publisher:	Board of Public Works, Washington, D.C.

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Interior Region 1- National Capital Area
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

IN REPLY REFER TO
1.B. (NCA-NACE)

Memorandum

To: Regional Landscape Architect, National Capital Area

From: Superintendent, National Capital Parks-East

Subject: Statement of Concurrence, Maryland Avenue Cultural Landscapes Inventory

I, Tara Morrison, Superintendent of National Capital Parks-East, concur with the findings of the Maryland Avenue, N.E. Cultural Landscapes Inventory, 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 Maryland Avenue, N.E. is hereby approved and accepted:



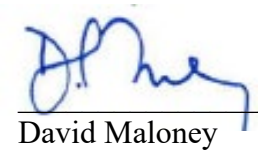
_____ 9/10/2020_____

Superintendent, National Capital Parks-East Date

Statement of Concurrence
Maryland Avenue NE Cultural Landscape Inventory

The preparation of this CLI for Maryland Avenue NE 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 Maryland Avenue NE Cultural Landscape Inventory. The DC HPO further concurs that the cultural landscape resources of the Maryland Avenue NE, as enumerated, retain integrity to the site's period of significance; 1791-1792; 1814; 1871-1915; 1933-1936; 1963-1969 and contribute to its historic character.



David Maloney
District of Columbia Historic Preservation Officer

3/26/2021
Date

Please email signed PDF copy to Julie McGilvray, Regional Historical Landscape Architect, at julie_mcgilvray@nps.gov