

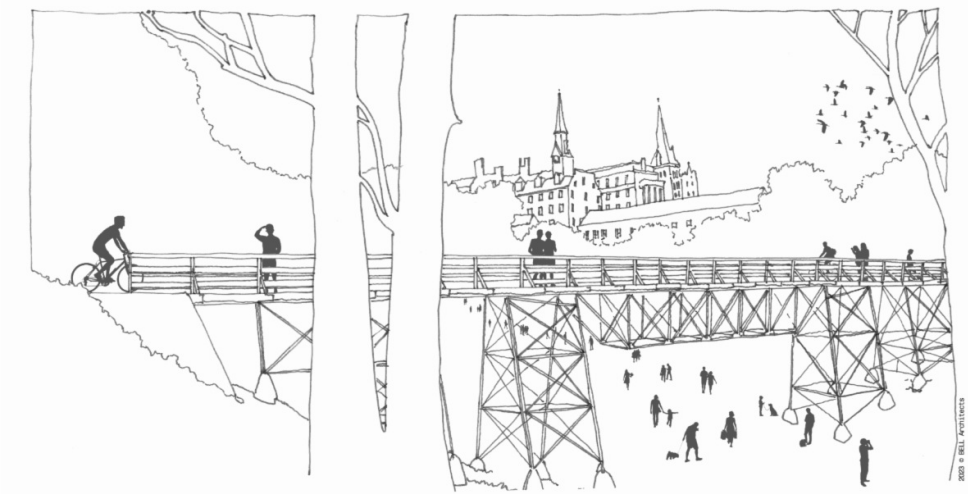


Newsletter

September 2023

Support Free Educational Programming, Donate Today!

Sign the Petition to Save the Foundry Branch Trolley Trestle



Drawing of the trestle's potential as a pedestrian and bicycle path. BELL Architects, PC.

Join the DC Preservation League, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions 2E and 3D, Georgetown University students, neighborhood residents, and others in asking Mayor Bowser and the DC Council to take ownership of the historic trolley trestle from WMATA and to fund its rehabilitation into a safe walking and biking alternative to the dangerous conditions on Canal Road. This action will also prevent the demolition of one of Washington, DC's Most Endangered Places.

Transferred to WMATA in a court settlement in the 1990s, the only extant trolley trestle in the District is in a severe state of decay due to a lack of maintenance by the transit agency. Despite studies on utilizing the trestle as a pedestrian and bicycle connection between Foxhall Road and Georgetown, WMATA is seeking to demolish the historic structure. DCPL is fighting the city's decision to approve the raze permit but has exhausted all legal options.

[Click Here to Sign the Petition](#)

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Request for Proposals: The History of Latino Communities in Washington, DC



The DC Preservation League recently announced it is administering a grant from the National Park Service to develop The History of Latino Communities in Washington, DC: A Context Study.

DCPL is now seeking proposals from qualified consultants interested in completing the research and documentation necessary to produce this historic context study that identifies important historical themes related to the Latino communities in Washington, DC.

In addition, this project will produce two new nominations to the DC Inventory of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places, as well as augment existing documentation for the Mount Pleasant Historic District with important Latino history.

Please read the [Request for Proposals](#) and contact kelli@dcpreservation.org with any questions. The deadline to submit a proposal is September 25, 2023.

[Click Here for More Information and the RFP](#)

Consultant Team for Black Women's Suffrage Historic Context Statement Selected



Dr. Portia Hopkins and Dr. Synatra Smith.

Last year, the DC Preservation League announced receipt of a grant from the National Park Service to create an Historic Context Statement focused on Black Women's Suffrage in the District of Columbia. DCPL issued a request for proposals and is pleased to announce the team it has selected to fulfill the research and documentation required for the project—Dr. Portia Hopkins and Dr. Synatra Smith.

Dr. Portia Hopkins is a highly accomplished scholar with a doctorate in American Studies from the University of Maryland, College Park. Currently serving as the University Historian at Rice University in Houston, Texas, Portia actively engages in outreach efforts to empower African American activist groups in Houston with data curation knowledge. She is the Co-Founder of the Black Houston(s) Symposium, a free conference that brings community members and scholars together to explore themes related to the history, culture and experiences of Houston's Black communities. She is dedicated to developing best practices documents for curating data while actively participating in the thriving communities of data curation, digital humanities, and African American studies at Rice and throughout Houston. She is excited to join the research team as the Co-PI for the DC Black Women's Suffrage Movement project.

Dr. Synatra Smith was born in Washington, DC and raised in Maryland (but now lives in the Philadelphia region). She is a Black eXPeRience researcher who uses her background in cultural anthropology to explore extended reality (XR) and other digital tools to enhance special collections featuring Black art, history, and culture with the specific intention of documenting workflows that can be shared with students, cultural heritage workers, and scholars interested in building digital projects without relying on a large budget or team. In her CLIR/DLF postdoctoral fellowship in data curation for African American Studies at the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA) and the Temple University Libraries Loretta C. Duckworth Scholars Studio (Scholars Studio), she has been researching Black artists in the collections of the PMA, the Temple University Libraries Charles L. Blockson Afro-American Collection, and other local organizations to enhance their digital visibility through linked open data.

Sign Up Today: Crab Feast 9

Saturday, October 14th | 12:00 - 3:00 pm



Join the DC Preservation League and the [Capital Pride Alliance](#) for their annual Crab Feast at the historic Washington Canoe Club, one of DC's most picturesque locations on the banks of the beautiful Potomac River.

This event takes place entirely outdoors, with canoes and paddle boards available for adventures on the water. Space is limited, so sign up today!

[Reserve Your Spot](#)

Historic Department Stores of Downtown DC: Walking Tour

Saturday, September 30th | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
In-Person, Meets at 314 7th Street NW



The historic Woodward & Lothrop building as seen from G and 11th streets NW. Photo courtesy of Fontana Micucci.

Nowadays, it is surprising when a common product isn’t available on the store shelf. This “one-stop shop” model that is common today in stores across America is a relatively new development for retail stores. Historically, many retail stores had similar developments, yet one subcategory of retail stores rose above others to push shopping’s boundaries: department stores. From phrases like “the customer is always right” to favorable return policies and the wide-scale adoption of escalators, department stores have changed how we shop, and department stores in DC tell a unique story about the city’s relationship with its shoppers. On Saturday, September 30th at 11:00 AM, join tour guide Fontana Micucci and DCPL staff members to learn about the unique history of shopping and the architecture of department stores in Downtown DC. This tour will last approximately one hour and will traverse around 1.0 mile of city sidewalks.

This program is free and open to the public. Please register online to participate.

[Register Here](#)

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October

14

2023 Crab Feast

November

14

DC Preservation Awards

NEW DATE!

February

29

DCPL Fundraiser

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