



Newsletter

December 2024

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2024 Landmarks in Review



2024 IN REVIEW

Clockwise from top left: Old Korean Legation, Old Chinese Legation, Youth Pride, Inc., The University Club of Washington, DC, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, and House of Mercy.

In 2024, nine historic landmarks were added to the DC Inventory of Historic Sites. The DC Preservation League (DCPL) is proud to have nominated six of these new landmarks.

In April, the Old Chinese Legation in Washington Heights was designated by the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). This nomination was submitted by DCPL and co-sponsored by the property owner, The Chinese Embassy Condo. That same month, the Board approved a DCPL-sponsored nomination amendment of additional documentation for the On Leong Chinese Merchants Association in Chinatown, which was originally added to the DC Inventory in 1996. These two landmarks are associated with the forthcoming *Chinese Americans in Washington, DC: A Historic Context Study* and have since been listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

In May, House of Mercy in Mount Pleasant was designated by HPRB. This property, the current home of Rosemount Center, was nominated by DCPL and co-sponsored by the owner, House of Mercy. In June, Youth Pride, Inc., on 16th Street NW, which was nominated by DCPL and co-sponsored by Center for Community Change Action, the owner, was designated by HPRB. This landmark, added to the National Register in August, is associated with the *Historic Context Statement: The Black Power Movement in Washington, DC, 1966-1978*.

In July, the Old Korean Legation on Logan Circle was designated by HPRB. Nominated by DCPL and since added to the National Register, this landmark is associated with the forthcoming *Korean Americans in Washington, DC: A Historic Context Study*. In October, the Sofia Reyes de Veyra Residence in Woodley Park and the Pauline "Polly" Shackleton Residence in Georgetown, both nominated by DCPL and associated with the Historic Context Study, *The Women's Suffrage Movement in Washington, DC: 1848-1973*, were designated by HPRB.

In December, two new National Historic Landmarks were listed: The Furies Collective in Capitol Hill and Lucy Diggs Slowe and Mary Burrill House in Brookland - significant sites of LGBTQ history. These two historic landmarks, also listed in the DC Inventory and National Register, were first nominated by DCPL and the homeowners in 2015 and 2019, respectively.

Throughout the year, three other properties were officially added to the DC Inventory and National Register: The University Club of Washington, DC (January), Hubert H. Humphrey Building (July), and Federal Office Buildings 10A and 10B (October).

[Click Here for More Information](#)

DCPL's research and documentation activities are funded through donations to the Andrich Fund. In 1995, the Andrich Fund was established by family and friends in memory of Mark Collin Andrich (1952-1995), an architectural historian and longtime DCPL volunteer. For more than ten-years, Andrich volunteered his services, conducting historic site surveys and researching numerous buildings as part of DCPL's ongoing documentation of Washington's apartment buildings, banks, and office buildings. Monies contributed to the fund continue to assist DCPL and other community groups in documenting buildings and neighborhoods, and achieving their designation as historic landmarks and historic districts.

[Make a Year-End Gift to the Andrich Fund](#)

2024 Events Recap



DCPL members at a tour of Fort Stevens in November.

DCPL's educational programming was more popular than ever this year, with 1,000+ community members attending one or more of the 35+ programs DCPL hosted across all 8 wards. In addition, DCPL continued to host online events each month to ensure those more comfortable at home were benefitted as well. In 2025, DCPL will continue its framework of monthly themes for planning educational programming, and expand member-only events.

Preservation Initiatives Grant Program 2025 Application Now Open



The [Preservation Initiatives Grant Program's 2025 application](#) is now open through Friday, March 7, 2025. This grant program, administered by the DC Preservation League, provides matching grants to individuals and nonprofit organizations for preservation planning, research, outreach and education, and bricks and mortar projects related to historic and cultural sites. These grants are intended to help stimulate public discussion, introduce the public to preservation concepts and techniques, make technical expertise accessible, and encourage partnerships.

The program is supported by two separate funding sources and is focused on specific areas of the District: Brightwood Car Barn (Ward 4) and Virginia Avenue Tunnel (Area of Potential Effects in Southeast Washington).

Three online grants workshops are scheduled for early 2025: January 7th, February 6th, and February 18th. Please click below to register. If you have any questions, please contact Zachary Burt, DCPL's Community Outreach and Grants Manager, at zach@dcpreservation.org.

Preservation Initiatives Grant Program

2025 Grant Application

Grants Workshops Registration

New Digital Tour at DC Historic Sites Cultural Landscapes of DC



Langston Golf Course Driving Range entrance sign on Benning Road NE in 1989. Photo from the National Register Nomination Form.

What do Langston Golf Course, Kalorama Park and Archaeological Site, and Gallaudet College

Historic District all have in common? They can all be considered cultural landscapes within Washington, DC.

This tour will show that many historic sites - including historic landmarks and historic districts - within the District can be classified as cultural landscapes. The definition of a cultural landscape is broad and has been interpreted differently by preservationists. The [National Park Service \(NPS\) defines a cultural landscape](#) as a geographic area that has been shaped by human activity and that reflects cultural values and the historical development of a society. These landscapes do not necessarily have to incorporate natural environments, but oftentimes do. They can be spaces where nature and culture interact, such as a human-made structure that influences or alters the landscape, which one would see in a designed landscape, like a park or garden.

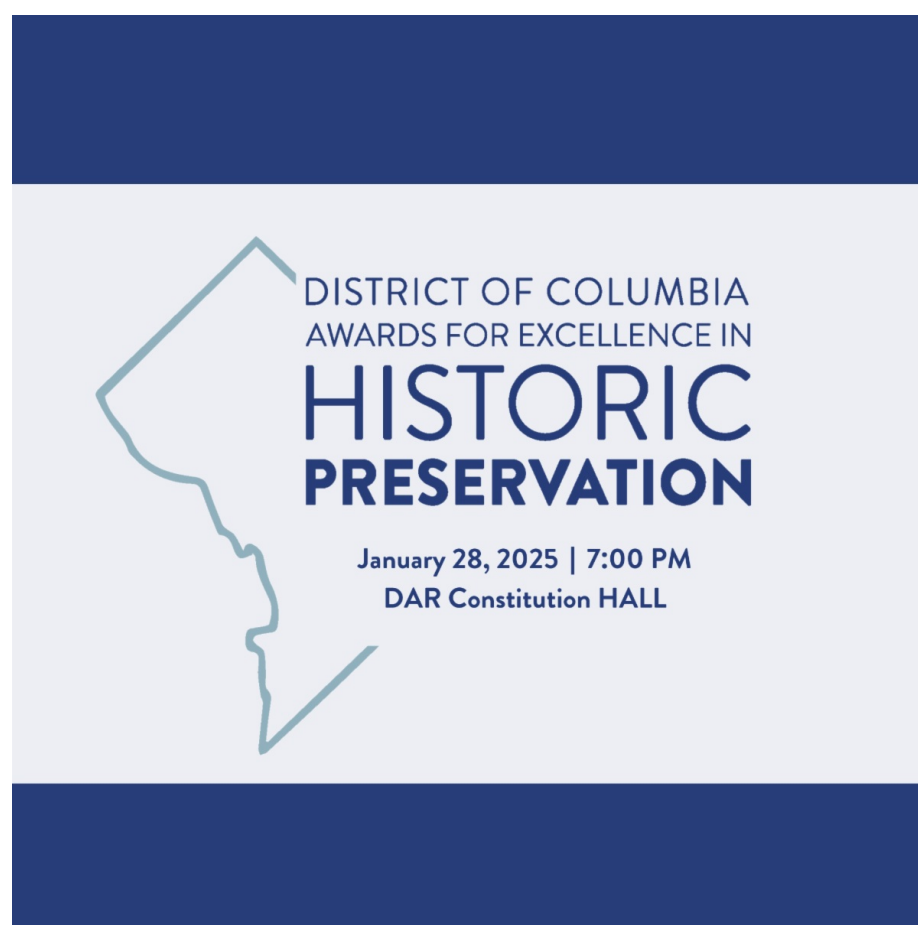
In [National Register Bulletin 18, How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes](#), NPS lists various types of designed landscapes. They include: small residential grounds, estate grounds, botanical gardens, zoological gardens and parks, church yards and cemeteries, monuments and memorial grounds, plazas and squares, campus and institutional grounds, city planning, planned communities, commercial and industrial grounds, battlefield parks, outdoor recreation spaces, parkways and trails, fountains, and more.

While this tour covers many cultural landscapes within Washington, DC, it does not include every historic site that may meet the above definition. Rather, this tour provides Washingtonians with a glimpse of the cultural landscapes they pass on a daily basis and invites them to think about the built environment and historic sites in a new way. It stands as a reminder that DC is full of spaces where humans and nature interact, and that evidence of history and culture is visible in many landscape features. As you go out and explore the city, is there a cultural landscape type or landscape characteristic that you think is missing from the above definition; is there a historic site you would add to this tour?

[Click Here for the Digital Tour](#)

DC Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation

New Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025



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