



OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 1999

QUARTERLY

INSIDE

TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS CELEBRATE / PAGE **2**

PROCEEDINGS / PAGE **4**

OTHER COMMISSION ACTIONS / PAGE **8**

COMMISSION NOTES / PAGE **11**



TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS CELEBRATE GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK

GEOGRAPHY MATTERS! was the theme of the November 18th celebration hosted by the Washington Geographic Information Systems Consortium, the Federal Geographic Data Committee, and DC Link & Learn to mark National Geography Awareness Week. The all-day program explored new mapping technologies and showcased the work of Washington-area Young Geographers. Geography Awareness Week is designed to educate all Americans about the critical importance of geography in their lives and to inform them of the new technologies that are transforming the way we understand the world around us.

The NCPC-led Consortium is a public/private undertaking of federal, District of Columbia, and private sector partners working together to develop an integrated GIS network in the Nation's Capital. Volunteers from the Consortium and DC Link & Learn, a community-based technology training center in Southwest Washington, have been working with teams of students from local elementary and secondary schools to help them understand why geography matters and to develop computer mapping skills.

The results were remarkable. Under the watchful eye of their technology mentors, approximately 60 Young Geographers spent several weeks identifying mapping projects and, using GIS technology, produced computer mapping solutions. In confident and articulate presentations, the students demonstrated how they attacked complex mapping challenges. One District of Columbia team sponsored by Earthdata International mapped the track of an imagined Hurricane Tropicana and the resulting Great Flood of '99. The Heather Hills Elementary School in Bowie, Maryland fielded two Young Geographer teams—one sponsored by Baker Geo Research and the other by ESRI, Inc. One team, with members sporting global positioning

backpack units, mapped the areas immediately surrounding its school. The other group of students, many tired of long morning waits for the school bus, devised a more efficient routing system that would allow the buses to show up on time. The District's TechWorld Charter School, guided by volunteers from INDUS Corporation, tracked local crime incidents and conducted its own crime analysis. Also from the District, St. Thomas Moore students and their mentor from the

National Capital Planning Commission mapped and analyzed sites for possible new memorials in downtown Washington. They even got to choose who or what they would honor with a memorial—Olympian Florence Griffith-Joyner, the Oklahoma Bombing victims, the American Civil Rights Movement, and the Million Man March on the Mall.

In addition to the Young Geographers' presentations, the Geography Awareness Celebration featured a panel discussion of technology experts and senior city and federal government representatives examining the application of the new mapping and computer technologies to economic development issues. Of particular interest to the young people in the audience was the discussion of the marketplace rewards of technology training. One corporate executive directed the Young Geographers to his company's web page where they would find "more skilled technology

jobs than kids in this room." The students were all listening carefully to the message that the opportunities are unlimited for those who can enter the workforce technology-prepared. One of the classroom teachers who watched from the audience as her Young Geographers presented their maps said, "From a teacher's perspective this whole project was energizing and uplifting. The sooner the kids realize that what we teach them is applicable in the 'real world' the more meaningful and relevant school becomes for them. It is just a 'win-win' situation for everyone."



A YOUNG GEOGRAPHER PRESENTS
HIS PROJECT.

Photo by David Luria

A GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
USES COMPUTERS AND SOFTWARE TO
EXPLORE THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE
OF GEOGRAPHY—THAT LOCATION IS
IMPORTANT IN PEOPLE'S LIVES.

DISCOVERING THE WORLD THROUGH GIS—NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



IN PREPARATION FOR
GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS
WEEK, YOUNG GEOGRAPHERS
MET AT NCPC TO DISCUSS
THE USE OF GIS IN
PLANNING THE SITES
OF FUTURE MEMORIALS.

Photo by Mike Sherman

PROCEEDINGS

This issue of the Quarterly summarizes actions taken at the Commission meetings on October 7, November 4, and December 2, 1999. Additional information on individual projects may be obtained by contacting the National Capital Planning Commission, 801 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20576 or by calling (202) 482-7200.

THE CANAL ROAD PROJECT INCLUDES A NEW TURNING LANE FOR EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ENTERING GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY.
Courtesy Federal Highway Administration

An independent consultant engaged by the Commission to analyze the antenna proposal indicated that one rather than two towers might provide adequate cell phone coverage for the area of the park in question. However, after considering both opposing and supporting views, the Commission concluded that two towers were necessary to meet the overriding public safety concerns. In taking their action on the project, several Commissioners noted that the approval of the antennas was for a period not to exceed five years, at the end of which time new technologies might eliminate the need for such installations.

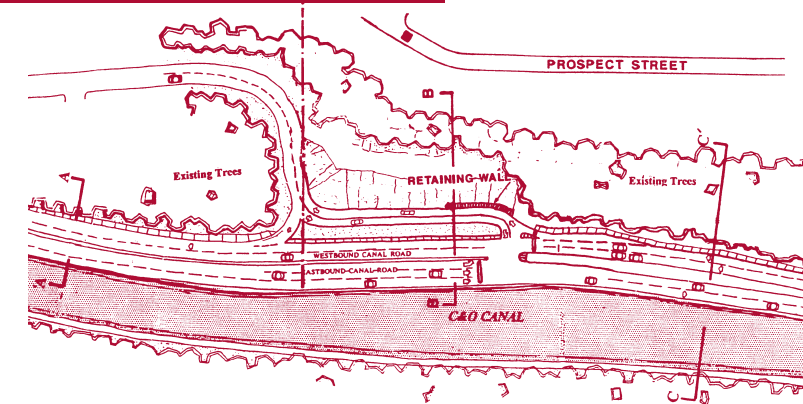
The Park Service has indicated that in its consideration of any future proposals to locate additional antenna poles in the park, it would grant applications only in those cases where it could ensure that the facilities would cause no derogation to the park's historic and natural resources.

CANAL ROAD ENTRANCE TO GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

*Washington, D.C.
December 2, 1999*

Proposals for an improved entrance to Georgetown University from Canal Road have been under consideration for the past two decades, at times generating both strong support and opposition from a variety of community interests. At its December meeting the Commission approved the preliminary plans that will provide improved access to the campus and reduce university-related traffic on Georgetown streets, particularly Prospect Street and 34th Street. Under the plan approved by the Commission:

- A portion of the existing median strip on Canal Road will be removed and a two-lane entry road will connect to the existing GU entry road.
- A dedicated 250-foot turning lane will be constructed eastbound on Canal Road for traffic entering the campus.



- A deceleration lane will be constructed on westbound Canal Road for traffic entering the university.
- A new traffic signal will allow left turns from the university onto eastbound Canal Road (except during the morning rush hour) and allow left turns from eastbound Canal Road into the university.
- An additional lane will be added on eastbound Canal Road at the Whitehurst Freeway intersection to ease traffic flow. Part of the retaining wall along eastbound Canal Road will be rebuilt to accommodate the new lane.

The Federal Highway Administration relied on simulation models to assess the proposal's effect on traffic. The assessment concluded that travel times for eastbound traffic would actually improve; since left turns will not be permitted out of the university during morning rush hours, eastbound traffic will not be required to stop. The additional turning lane at the intersection with the Whitehurst Freeway will improve eastbound traffic flow. However, because eastbound vehicles will be able to turn left into the university, the assessment does anticipate slightly increased travel times for westbound traffic during morning rush hours.

To accommodate the road improvements, approximately one-half acre of National Park Service land will be required. In exchange, the university will transfer to the Park Service land equal in value, as well as dedicate 2.5 acres of land as a scenic easement.

GEORGE MASON MEMORIAL

*Washington, D.C.
November 4, 1999*

The Commission approved the design concept for a memorial to George Mason submitted by the National Park Service on behalf of the Gunston Hall Board of Regents. George Mason was a Virginia patriot and political thinker whose writing and counsel played an important role in the founding of our country. Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights served as an inspiration of the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution. The location of the new memorial near the Jefferson Memorial and the 14th Street ("George Mason") Bridge occupies the site of a former formal garden, known as the Pansy Garden, in West Potomac Park that was constructed in 1905 and included four fountains. In 1947 three of the fountains were demolished to make way for the construction of the 14th Street Bridge. The new memorial will incorporate the one remaining fountain and its circular pool as critical design elements.

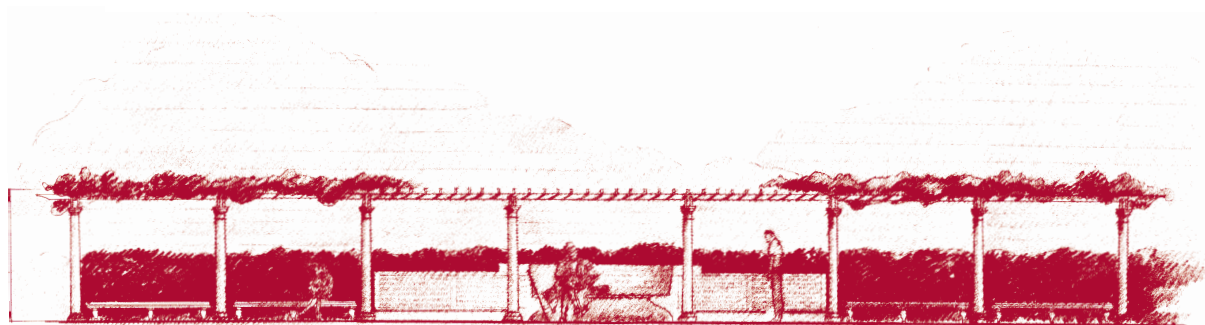
In addition to the fountain and pool, the site includes an existing garden that will be preserved. In the design concept, the principal memorial element will be a 9-foot-high, 72-foot-long semicircular trellis that will shelter a life-size sculpture of George Mason. New additions to the garden will include low curb walls inscribed with text, seating areas, supplemental plantings, and improvements to existing walkways. In its approval,

the Commission found that the proposed concept greatly enhances the original garden design of West Potomac Park, and the location near the Jefferson Memorial helps to emphasize the personal and intellectual connections between George Mason and Thomas Jefferson. This modest, quiet memorial will be respectful of the design history of the site and will provide a place for visitors to learn about George Mason's important contribution to American history.

ROCK CREEK PARK WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

*Washington, D.C.
November 4, 1999*

Following an exhaustive review that began in April 1999 of the National Park Service's request to locate two antenna poles in Rock Creek Park, the Commission approved the proposal at its November 1999 meeting. The Commission had twice before considered the project, which calls for the installation of a 100-foot cell phone antenna pole near the Fitzgerald Tennis Center and a 130-foot antenna pole in the park's maintenance yard south of Military Road. On both occasions, the Commission had requested further information including the impact of future antenna installations, safety needs in the park, and alternative siting and technology options.



THE DESIGN CONCEPT FOR THE GEORGE MASON MEMORIAL FEATURES A LIFE-SIZE SCULPTURE OF THE VIRGINIA PATRIOT SURROUNDED BY A SEMICIRCULAR GARDEN TRELLIS.
Courtesy Rhodside & Harwell, Inc.

In its approval, the Commission required that land transfers result in no net loss of Park Service parkland and that road construction that restricts traffic flow be done outside of peak travel times. The Commission also required the Federal Highway Administration, in coordination with the District's Office of Planning and the community, to evaluate and report to the Commission on the effectiveness of the project one year after its completion. The Commission further requested that the FHWA include in its final plan a landscape plan for the entire project area, and design plans for the new retaining wall and the repair of the retaining wall along Canal Road.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL

Washington, D.C.
December 2, 1999

At its December meeting the Commission approved the site for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial on the northwestern edge of the Tidal Basin between Independence Avenue and the FDR Memorial. On two previous occasions the Commission had considered and did not approve proposals for the memorial's location in the same general area of the Tidal Basin, but without specific parameters. The newly approved location is defined by the western edge of the existing walkway

along the Tidal Basin and is located just south of Independence Avenue. The four-acre site includes West Basin Drive, and, if they choose to, memorial sponsors will be able to relocate and redesign the road as an integral part of the overall memorial design.

Among the design parameters developed by the Commission, the National Park Service, and the project sponsors are:

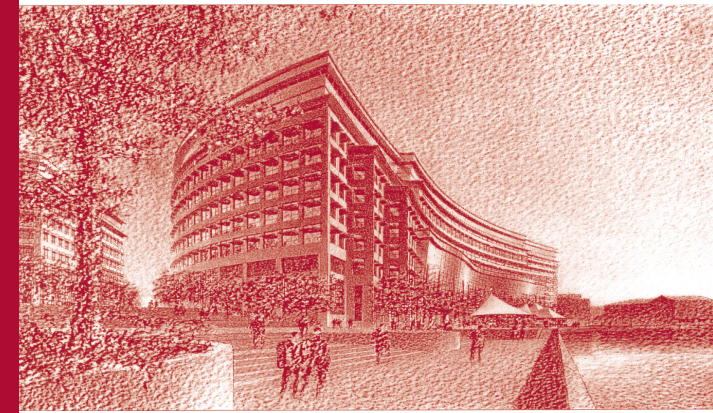
- All of the cherry trees along the Tidal Basin will be preserved with the possible exception of one to three trees that may be removed or repositioned if absolutely necessary to provide access to the memorial.
- No memorial element shall exceed a height of 20 feet.
- No museum, bookstore, or other rooms either above or below grade will be permitted.
- No parking will be permitted at the memorial, although three spaces for buses and six spaces for the handicapped will be provided along West Basin Drive or some other location specified by the Park Service.
- Built "hardscape" may not constitute more than one-third of the site; landscaped "softscape" may not constitute less than two-thirds of the site.

The Park Service has indicated that the adjacent polo field can be modified or reoriented to remain in its current location so that recreational and memorial activities can comfortably coexist in the same general area. In its approval, the Commission expressed confidence that the design parameters would limit the height impact of the memorial, protect views to the Tidal Basin from Independence Avenue, and preserve the Tidal Basin's revered cherry trees. With the site selection process now completed, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation will conduct an international design competition. Information about the competition is available from the Foundation's website, www.mlkmemorial.org.

SOUTHEAST WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT

Washington, D.C.
November 4, 1999

In supporting a zoning proposal for a major new office and retail development near the foot of South Capitol Street at the Anacostia River, the Commission affirmed its commitment to the rebirth of the Anacostia water-



THE PROPOSED GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT NEAR THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS BRIDGE INCLUDES A CASCADING STAIRCASE TO A WATERFRONT ESPLANADE.

Courtesy Davis Buckley Architects and Planners

front and the creation of a city gateway on the north side of the river. The current use of the site, an industrial quarry and gravel facility operated by Florida Rock, Inc., fails to take advantage of the scenic and mixed-use potential of this valuable waterfront property.

The proposal calls for two buildings totaling 1.5 million square feet to be located just east of the Frederick Douglass Bridge. Building heights will range from 109 feet for facades fronting on the river, to 130 for those adjacent to the Douglass Bridge. A landscaped cascading stairway that preserves the vista of Half Street to the water will separate the two buildings, which will be set back a minimum of 50 feet from the river. A pedestrian waterfront esplanade, which will include food and beverage pavilions and an area for special events, will extend along the full 850-foot length of the project's riverfront. In addition, 10,000 square feet of specialty retail and publicly accessible exhibition space will enliven the street level of the two buildings on Potomac Avenue.

The zoning proposal is for a "Planned Unit Development." In general, a PUD designation permits a developer to exceed the existing zoning density limitations and provides greater flexibility in planning and design. In exchange, the developer typically agrees to provide certain amenities sought by the community. In this case, the developer has added to the PUD proposal an "amenity site" located between South Capitol Street and the river. The amenity site will include a waterfront park; a maritime training center for youth-at-risk under the auspices of the Earth Conservation Corps; and even-

tually, when market conditions permit, 253,000 square feet of residential development. As currently planned, the public riverfront park at the South Capitol Street terminus could be adapted for future use as a memorial or monument site.

Noting the prominent, gateway location of the two-building office and retail complex next to Douglass Bridge, the Commission recommended that project designers adhere to the highest design standards and use best-quality building materials.

REHABILITATION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

800 F STREET, NW
Washington, D.C.
October 7, 1999

In 1999 the General Services Administration sold five historic buildings comprising the 800 block of F Street, NW to a private developer who agreed to comply with many preservation requirements, including the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Approval of the application of these preservation standards rests with the Commission and the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer, and in October the Commission approved the design concept for the rehabilitation of the buildings.



THE REHABILITATION OF THE COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS IN THE 800 BLOCK OF F STREET, NW WILL ILLUSTRATE A SIGNIFICANT ERA IN THE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF THE CITY.

Courtesy Shalom Baranes Associates

THE KING MEMORIAL WILL ENJOY A PREEMINENT LOCATION NEAR THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT AND THE JEFFERSON, LINCOLN, AND FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT MEMORIALS.

The buildings are located in an architecturally and historically significant area of Washington's Old Downtown in the immediate vicinity of the National Portrait Gallery, the General Post Office (the Tariff Commission Building), the former Riggs Banks building (now a Marriott Courtyard Hotel), and the Masonic Temple. The 800 block of F Street is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and its buildings, which were constructed in the decades following the Civil War, represent an era of richly flamboyant commercial architecture. Most buildings from this period in downtown Washington have been demolished; our understanding of this era of the city's history is enriched by the preservation of these buildings.

The five buildings slated for rehabilitation are:

The LeDroit Building, 800-810 F Street, is a preeminent example of the commercial Italianate style. Constructed in 1875, it is a Washington office building that predates the use of elevators.

812 F Street, also built in 1875, has a three-story brick façade and an ornate cornice.

The Adams Building, 814-816 F Street, was constructed in 1878 and originally designed for office and residential use.

818 F Street, built in 1881, has a cast iron façade and bracketed cornice.

The Warder Building (later called the Atlas Building), 527 9th Street, was constructed in 1892 and is a Romanesque Revival-style building containing a cage elevator.

The proposal calls for the demolition of the non-original rear wing of the Warder/Atlas Building and a small wing of the LeDroit Building. The project developer will construct a new building ranging from four to eight stories behind the historic structures and on the remainder of the site, which is currently vacant. The new construction is subject to setback and height requirements that protect the historic buildings and views of them. Together, the new building and the historic buildings will contain space for housing, shops, and offices.

OTHER COMMISSION ACTIONS

AQUASCO POST OFFICE, 21400 AQUASCO ROAD, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

The Commission approved the location and program for the post office. (10/7/99)

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND FIREARMS, AMENDALE AND VIRGINIA MANOR ROADS, BELTSVILLE, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

The Commission approved the preliminary and final site and building plans for the construction of a Forensic and Fire Research Laboratory on a 35-acre site in Beltsville that will help ATF in conducting fire research and education. (12/2/99)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUILDING, 2201 C STREET, NW AND PATRICK HENRY BUILDING, 601 D STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission approved, pending completion of the historic properties review, preliminary and final building plans for two 2-foot microwave dish antennas at these buildings for a period of ten years. (12/2/99)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 300 INDIANA AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission approved, pending completion of the historic properties review, final site and building plans for exterior renovation and site improvements to the art deco structure. (10/7/99)

E STREET, BETWEEN 15TH AND 17TH STREETS, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Except for the pedestrian-area paving materials and associated bollard line configuration between West Executive Drive and South Executive Drive, the Commission approved preliminary and final site development plans for improvements to E Street. These improvements, which are related to the restoration of westbound traffic on E Street, are designed to relieve some traffic congestion in the area. (12/2/99)

ENGLESIDE BRANCH POST OFFICE, 8588 RICHMOND HIGHWAY, FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA
Preliminary site and building plans for the post office were approved, but the Commission requested that USPS, in preparation of final site and building plans, review many aspects of the project to improve the functionality and appearance of the new post office. (10/7/99)

FEDERAL CAPITAL BUDGET PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001 IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
In a report to the Office of Management and Budget, the Commission reported on proposed FY2001 Capital Budget projects in the National Capital Region and recommended favorably on 55 proposed projects totaling nearly \$1 billion. (10/7/99)

INTERNATIONAL CENTER, CHANCERY OF NIGERIA, CONNECTICUT AVENUE AND VAN NESS STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE DESIGN CONCEPT OF THE PROPOSED NIGERIAN CHANCERY IS DRAWN FROM INDIGENOUS WEST AFRICAN BUILDING TYPES AND CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL OFFICE STYLES.

Courtesy Shalom Baranes Associates

The Commission approved final site and building plans for the Nigerian chancery. The chancery's design has been drawn from both traditional Nigerian residential building types and the international contemporary office style. (10/7/99)

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM, 7TH STREET AND JEFFERSON DRIVE, SW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission deferred action on the preliminary site and building plans for a Central Chilled Water Plant at the Air and Space Museum until GSA studies the feasibility of supplying

Smithsonian museums on the south side of the Mall with chilled water from its own facilities. (12/2/99)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 700 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission approved the preliminary and final site and building plans for Phase I Renovations to the National Archives Building. Renovations include the construction of new office space and five emergency exits. (11/4/99)

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

The Commission approved the preliminary and final site and building plans for a PEPCO substation at the Bethesda Campus. (11/4/99)

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

The Commission approved master plan modifications for the Northwest quadrant of the Bethesda campus that will result in improved building arrangement, circulation, and landscaping. (11/4/99)

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, THEODORE ROOSEVELT BUILDING, 1900 E STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission approved preliminary and final site and building plans for the installation of a Security Barrier System at OPM with the understanding that the sidewalk at the 19th Street garage entrance be widened. Once GSA completes its study of security applications and aesthetics, the Security Barrier System at OPM should be appropriately modified. (10/7/99 and 12/2/99)

OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AND 17TH STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission approved the installation of a neutral-colored antenna on the building roof. (10/7/99)

OLNEY MAIN POST OFFICE, 18301 GEORGIA AVENUE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

The Commission approved the location and program for the post office and indicated that USPS should consider several issues—including stream buffering, stormwater mitigation, and landscape screening—in the preparation of preliminary site and building plans. (10/7/99)

PAINT BRANCH STREAM VALLEY PARK, UNIT NO. 2, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

The Commission approved the modification to the General Development Plan, which includes 15 outdoor and 12 indoor tennis courts, an administration building, and associated site amenities. (12/2/99)

PENTAGON BUILDING, 100 BOUNDARY CHANNEL DRIVE, ARLINGTON, VA

The Commission approved the preliminary and final site and building plans for the construction of a Remote Delivery Facility, adjacent to the main Pentagon Building. (10/7/99)

RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER, 1300 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. The Commission approved the concept for the installation of a Security Barrier System at the Ronald Reagan Building that consists of surface-mounted hydraulic barriers at garage entrances. This system is consistent with the Justice Department's request for enhanced security at all federal agencies. (10/7/99)

U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE AND U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER, 1300 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. The Commission approved preliminary and final site and building plans for the installation of exterior signage for U.S. Customs and USAID at the Ronald Reagan Building. The signs will be cast in bronze. (10/7/99)

U.S. NAVY MEMORIAL, 8TH STREET AND PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. Preliminary and final plans for the placement of four bronze bas-relief panels and preliminary and final design plans for one of the panels at the Navy Memorial were approved by the Commission. The Commission deferred action on additional panels and elements that were proposed for the seat walls of the memorial. (10/7/99)

1010 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. Unaware of any interest among federal or District agencies in acquiring the property, the Commission approved the sale of the District of Columbia excess property, which was formerly a Women's Detention Center. (11/4/99)

DELEGATED ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Commission, the Executive Director approved:

- Preliminary and final site and building plans for the Transgenic Animal Facility at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, Prince George's County, MD. (9/29/99)

- Preliminary and final site and building plans for the Lobby and Elevator Addition to the Fremont Building at the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, Montgomery County, MD. (9/29/99)

- Design concepts for the Perimeter Security Bollards at the Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Office Building, 10A, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. (9/29/99)

- Preliminary and final site development plans for the National Christmas Tree Perimeter Fence and Wayfinding Sign at President's Park, the Ellipse, E Street, between 15th and 17th Streets, NW, Washington, D.C. (10/29/99)

- Preliminary and final site and building plans for the renovation and addition to Buildings 501 and 511 and a Car/Truck Wash Building at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Forest Glen Annex, Montgomery County, MD. (10/29/99)

- Revised final building plans for Perimeter Security Improvements at the Suitland Federal Center in Prince George's County, MD. (10/29/99)

- A finding that the modification to a Consolidated Planned Unit Development at 828 Bellevue Street, SE, Walter Washington Estates, Washington, D.C., would not adversely affect federal interests. (10/29/99)

- A finding that map amendments to the Zoning Regulations for the Logan Circle/Thomas Circle Subarea would not affect federal interests. (10/29/99)

- Preliminary and final site and building plans for the restoration of Lafayette Park facades in the 700 block of Jackson Place, NW, Washington, D.C. (11/24/99)

OTHER COMMENTS AND FINDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION:

- The Executive Director commented favorably on the preliminary and final building plans for a stormwater pump station at the Washington Navy Yard, Anacostia Annex, Washington, D.C. (10/29/99)

- The Executive Director made a Finding of No Significant Impact on the Central Chilled Water Plant, National Air and Space Museum, 7th Street and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. (11/12/99)

COMMISSION NOTES

William R. Lawson has been named NCPC's Assistant Executive Director for Programs. Mr. Lawson, a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, has had a distinguished career with the General Services

Administration where he served as Assistant Regional Administrator of the Public Buildings Service and, most recently, as Deputy Regional Administrator for the Northeast and Caribbean Region.

Commission Executive Director **Reginald Griffith** has accepted an assignment with the U.S. Agency for International Development and beginning in January will be detailed to South Africa as Senior Policy Advisor on Urban Planning Development in Johannesburg. During Mr. Griffith's absence, Mr. Lawson will serve as the agency's Acting Executive Director. NCPC veteran and its former Deputy Executive Director, **Robert Gresham**, will return to the Commission staff on a part-time basis to advise Mr. Lawson and the Commission during this period.

The Commission welcomes two other new staff members. **Melanie Wilson**, who heads the Office of Long-Range Planning, previously served as Deputy Director of Planning for the City of Baltimore. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and holds a Masters Degree in Planning from the University of Virginia. Attorney-Advisor **Lise Wineland** comes to the Commission staff from the Prince George's County Office of Law where she most recently served as Principal Associate County Attorney. Ms. Wineland is a graduate of the University of Texas and received a J.D. Degree from the University of Baltimore.



CHAIRMAN GANTT, MAYOR WILLIAMS, AND OTHER FEDERAL AND CITY OFFICIALS BREAK GROUND FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS ON M STREET, SE.

Photo by David Hamilton

On November 3 Commission Chairman **Harvey Gantt** joined other federal and city officials in a groundbreaking ceremony for a new streetscape for M Street, SE. The improvements include street reconstruction, landscaping, new lighting, and sidewalk and curb repairs. Revitalization of the South Capitol/M Street community is an important "First Initiative" project in the implementation of the Commission's framework plan, *Extending the Legacy: Planning America's Capital for the 21st Century*. The street improvements mark the first implementation step of the vision plan and will help spark the rebirth of M Street as a lively and important commercial artery.

Following a year-long exhibition period at Washington Dulles Airport, the Commission's exhibit of its Legacy Plan was placed on long-term loan with the University of the District of Columbia.

On display in a campus public area at 4200 Connecticut Avenue, NW, the exhibit opened with a reception hosted by UDC's President, Julius F. Nimmons, Jr. for students, faculty, and members of the community.



PRESIDENT NIMMONS HOSTED AN OPENING RECEPTION FOR THE LEGACY EXHIBIT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Courtesy University of the District of Columbia

NCPC QUARTERLY

Fall Quarter 1999

October 7, November 4, December 2

The National Capital Planning Commission is the federal government's planning agency in the District of Columbia and surrounding counties in Maryland and Virginia. The Commission provides overall planning guidance for federal land and buildings in the region. It also reviews the design of federal construction projects, oversees long-range planning for future development, and monitors capital investment by federal agencies.

National Capital Planning Commission

801 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20576

Telephone: (202) 482-7200

Fax: (202) 482-7272

Web Site: www.ncpc.gov

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Harvey B. Gantt, Chairman

Robert A. Gaines

Margaret G. Vanderhye

Arrington L. Dixon

Patricia Elwood

The Honorable William S. Cohen
Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Bruce Babbitt
Secretary of the Interior

The Honorable David J. Barram
Administrator of General Services

The Honorable Fred Thompson
Chairman, Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Dan Burton
Chairman, House Committee on
Government Reform

The Honorable Anthony A. Williams
Mayor of the District of Columbia

The Honorable Linda W. Cropp
Chairman, Council of the
District of Columbia

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Reginald W. Griffith

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

801 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW

WASHINGTON, DC 20576

Bulk Rate
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
National Capital
Planning
Commission
Permit No. G-196