



778

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Westory Building  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 607 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  not for publication  
city or town Washington, D.C.  vicinity  
state District of Columbia code DC county \_\_\_\_\_ code 001 zip code 20005

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

DAVID MALONEY, DC SHPO 20 JULY 2012  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

DC HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

other (explain:)

for Edison H. Beall 9.10.12  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE/Office Building

COMMERCE/TRADE/Office Building

COMMERCE/TRADE/Specialty Store

COMMERCE/TRADE/Bank

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Beaux Arts Classicism

foundation: Concrete and Granite

walls: Brick and Terra Cotta

roof: Slag

other:

Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The Westory Building is a nine-story Beaux Arts office building constructed in 1907 and occupying a prominent intersection at the northeast corner of Fourteenth and F Streets in the historic financial and shopping district of Washington, D.C. The steel-frame structure is clad with smooth, light-colored buff brick walls and features ornately carved terra cotta detailing. The architect, Henry L.A. Jekel, employed the conventional Chicago School office building division of base, shaft and capital as an organizing principle and used it to emphasize the building's height and to apply highly decorative surface treatment. The base, which rises two stories, features giant Order Ionic columns of terra cotta with carved terra cotta banding, and provides a solid support for the five floors of brick-clad and undecorated offices above. The attic level, comprising the two top floors of the building, is highly decorative, with pairs of arched openings featuring carved *bas relief* decoration on and around them and a boldly projecting Classical cornice caps the building. Roaring lions' heads which divide the shaft of the building from the attic story draw the pedestrians' eyes upwards to the building's top.

The historic building extends seven bays long on its Fourteenth Street side and two bays wide on the F Street elevation, creating a rectangular footprint measuring approximately 28 feet by 85 feet. When constructed, the Westory soared above the buildings around it, garnering it the local designation as the city's "flat iron" building. Today, the building is sandwiched between recent additions on both elevations, and neighboring office buildings of similar and taller heights. Although this setting is substantially different from when the building was constructed, the unexposed elevations of the building were unfenestrated as shown on historic photos, clearly in anticipation of abutting, multi-story future development.

The interior of the building includes ground floor retail and offices above. The retail space is entered near the corner of the building on both the Fourteenth and F Street elevations. A large arched entry on the northern end of the Fourteenth Street elevation provides access to the elevator lobby and the office floors above. Both the ground floor retail and upper level office floors have been completely gutted and renovated, leaving no historic fabric intact on the interior.

### Narrative Description

#### Exterior

The Westory Building has two principal, exposed facades—the Fourteenth Street and F Street elevations. The F Street elevation is two bays wide and narrow, while the Fourteenth Street elevation extends seven bays long. The building is articulated similarly on both elevations, with neither one having hierarchy over the other.

On both of its elevations, the building is divided into three parts: base, shaft and cap. The base comprises the first two stories of the building and is articulated by giant Order columns spanning from the ground to the top of the second story. The columns, of terra cotta, are set upon concrete block bases and offer an alternating rhythm of square and circular-in-plan shafts. Both column types feature terra cotta banding, with incised amorphous carvings giving a rusticated effect, separated by undecorated bands, all of polished terra cotta. The columns feature Scamozzi Ionic capitals with carved volutes between egg and dart moldings over a bead and reed bed molding. The columns divide the facades into their vertical bays, comprised of show windows (replacements) on the ground floor, and square, three-part Chicago-style windows in the second.

These base-level columns support an entablature and projecting cornice dividing the base from the shaft of the building. Slightly raised roundels and rectangular panels decorate the frieze, while a row of small lions' heads acting as acroteria cap the projecting cornice above a soffit of modillions.

The brick shaft includes five floors of offices and is articulated by seven bays of paired windows on the Fourteenth Street elevation and two bays of paired, 1/1 windows on the F Street façade. The windows are punched into the brick wall surface and are set upon narrow sills with no trim or other detailing. Unlike the floors below it, the seventh and final floor of the shaft is decorated at the cornice line, dividing itself from and transitioning to the more heavily ornamented terra cotta attic-level above. This seventh-floor cornice is of terra cotta and features, most notably, the large roaring lions' heads in the walls between the windows. The heads are supported by wreath moldings and separated by wreath and swag

Westory Building

Name of Property

District of Columbia

County and State

moldings over the windows. The projecting cornice above features a torsaded molding with leaves, perhaps being those of tobacco.

The attic-level of the building includes the two top floors of highly ornate terra cotta cladding. Each bay within the attic level comprises pairs of rectangular window openings on the lower level and pairs of arched openings above. Double-story pilasters with carved capitals separate the bays, while the spandrels between them support raised, *bas relief* ornamentation including wreaths with garlands of fruit in the end bays. The window arches themselves are carved with layers acanthus leaf and bead and reel moldings. The cornice itself is highly ornate, with a dentil bed molding, mutules and rosettes in the soffit, and an ogee cornice with wreath moldings extending the full length with anthemion acroteria above.

The entrance for the office level of the building is located in the northernmost bay on the building's Fourteenth Street (west) facade. This entrance is arched with a large, single light and arched transom surmounting paired replacement doors. The arch features an oversized bracket in the place of a keystone and vegetal *bas relief* carvings in the extrados.

The ground floor retail entrance has been altered. Presently, two single doors in the southernmost bay on the Fourteenth Street facade and in the westernmost bay of the F Street facade provide access to the first floor space. Historically, based upon photographs, a principal entry to the retail area was located on the center of the Fourteenth Street facade, and another one in the eastern bay of the F Street facade.

The building has been enlarged in two major contemporary phases in the 1990s and 2000s. Ten-story additions on both the north and east elevations and with aligned floors about the historic Westory, yet still leave it architecturally distinct. A roof top addition adding a tenth floor to the historic building is set back from the facade and is not readily visible from the public street.

### Interior

The ground floor of the Westory is currently occupied by a bank and the upper floors are professional offices. Both the ground floor retail and upper level office floors have been completely gutted and renovated, leaving no historic fabric intact on the interior.

### **INTEGRITY:**

The Westory building retains integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship that strongly establish the integrity of association between the existing building and the rich history of commercial development in the neighborhood of 14<sup>th</sup> Street and F Street NW. The setting is much changed in that the low-scale, nineteenth century commercial buildings that characterized the blocks in 1908, no longer stand and have been replaced by later 20<sup>th</sup> and even 21<sup>st</sup> century buildings. Still, some nineteenth and early 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings still survive in the immediately area, however, providing a visual understanding of the city's historic downtown streetscape.

The building itself has undergone major renovations that, while leaving the exterior intact, have removed all historic aspects of the interior. The first renovation occurred in 1910 to accommodate the occupancy of the Calvert Company retail business. Subsequent renovations in the late 1940s, 1955, and 1967 removed the historic storefront and modernized the elevator lobby and the offices on upper levels. In 1991, the building was drastically enlarged by multi-story additions on the north and east, and by a one-story addition on top. Still, the historic building reads as a separate and distinct building and retains its historic qualities of design and artistry.

Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1907-1908

**Significant Dates**

1907; 1908

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Henry A. Jekel

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The Period of Significance for the Westory building extends from 1907 when construction began to 1908 when the building was completed.

Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Westory Building is an architecturally distinctive, Beaux Arts office building constructed in 1907-1908 at the corner of Fourteenth and F Streets, NW in the city's downtown business district. The nine-story building, erected as a speculative office building on the site of a former dwelling, was designed by architect Henry L. A. Jekel and built by Philadelphia builder Edwin Gilbert for an out-of-town investor, Colonel George A. Higbee, looking to speculate in the city's expanding real estate market. The Westory was constructed in the first years following the publication of the 1902 McMillan Plan. Although the McMillan Plan focused its vision on the city's monumental core, its publication inspired the city's business community to champion civic improvement in the business district and to work together to adequately reflect the "rising aspirations for a national capital." The imposing Beaux Arts Westory building, with its rusticated terra cotta base, its tall central shaft of brick, and its ornately decorated Classically detailed attic level which soared well above the surrounding building stock, was a showcase for new office building construction. Through its architecture, the Westory perfectly reflects the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century City Beautiful attitude.

The Westory Building is eligible for listing in the National Register under National Register Criterion C with Architecture and Community Planning and Development as the Areas of Significance. The nine-story, three-part Chicago-style office building provides an excellent example of an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century, steel-frame "skyscraper" as this part of downtown transitioned from a largely residential area to a strictly commercial one. The 1907-1908 building with its highly decorative terra cotta detailing is a premier illustration of Beaux Arts Classicism particularly as it applies to office building design during the City Beautiful Movement.

The Westory Building is eligible for listing at the local level of significance, that is, the Westory is a distinctive Beaux Arts building illustrative of the broader context of commercial building design and construction in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in Washington, D.C., especially as it was implemented in the years following the publication of the McMillan Plan.

The period of significance begins with the start of construction and 1907 and ends with the completion of the building in 1908.

---

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Architecture:** The Westory Building is significant in the area of Architecture as a premier example of a type and style of commercial office building from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in Washington, D.C. The building, derived from architect Jekel's substantial experience in working with and developing commercial office buildings, is a steel-frame structure clad with brick and terra cotta and divided into the standard three-part, Chicago School commercial block. While the steel frame structure allowed for windows to dominate the walls and provide natural light to the interior, the terra cotta cladding at the base and attic level provided a canvas for the architect to practice his artistry on the building. The building, heavily ornamented with elegant classical features and details, embodies the distinguishing characteristics of Beaux Arts Classicism and possess high artistic and aesthetic value.

**Community Planning and Development:** The Westory is significant in the Area of Community Planning and Development as it played an important role in the implementation of the McMillan Plan beyond the city's Monumental Core. In 1902, the McMillan Commission released its proposals to apply the ideals and principles of the City Beautiful movement to the design of Washington, DC. While the McMillan Commission's recommendations focused on the Mall and its public buildings, the city and its private developers recognized the need to commission and build buildings that would adequately reflect the rising aspirations for the national capital. Indeed, according to recent scholarship on the subject, professor Richard Longstreth has noted that "the business community, as champions of civic improvement, harbored the goal of making their city one of distinction."<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Richard Longstreth, "The Unusual Transformation of Downtown Washington in the Early Twentieth Century," *Washington History* 13, no. 2 (Fall): 50-71

Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

**Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**

Fourteenth and F Streets in the Nineteenth Century

In the mid-nineteenth century the northeast corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Street & F Street was the site of a refined and elegant three-story Greek Revival-style dwelling.<sup>ii</sup> Built around 1849 by Washington engraver William J. Stone as a wedding present for his son, Dr. Robert King Stone, the four-story "old red brick Colonial mansion" reflected the fashionable residential character of the neighborhood that persisted through the 1860s. Born 1822 in Washington, D.C., Robert King Stone received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1845 and proceeded to inspect major hospitals in London, Paris, and Vienna, before starting his own medical practice in 1847. Dr. Stone served as President Abraham Lincoln's family physician, attended the President after he was shot, and testified about Lincoln's medical condition during the subsequent trial. By the time of Stone's death from apoplexy on April 23, 1872, he had become one of the most prominent physicians in Washington, DC.<sup>iii</sup> His wife, Elizabeth J. Stone remained in residence at the house until her own death in 1892.<sup>iv</sup>

Beginning in the 1860s, residential properties in the local area began to be replaced by commercial development and in the 1880s, a financial and retail district began to grow in the area of G Street, New York Avenue, and 14<sup>th</sup> Street N.W., especially as minimal banking regulations in the District of Columbia attracted many new financial firms around the U.S. Treasury building. The first significant commercial development on the block occurred in 1887, when the nine-story Sun Building, designed by local architect A.B. Mullet, was built at 1317 F Street. By the 1890s, Square 253—bounded by 14<sup>th</sup> Street, F Street, G Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Street—included a diverse mix of detached and attached dwellings, office buildings, retail stores, and apartments. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, local developers constructed many large-scale office buildings in the area including the Home Life Building at the northeast corner of 15<sup>th</sup> and G Streets in 1901, the Bond Building at the southwest corner of 14<sup>th</sup> & New York Avenue in 1901, and the Colorado Building at 1434 G Street in 1903. The rising value of investment in the neighborhood is further reflected in the construction of the New Willard Hotel at 14<sup>th</sup> Street & Pennsylvania Avenue in 1901. Among the first fire resistant buildings in D.C., the Bond and Colorado buildings are also both examples of Beaux Arts commercial architecture in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. When built, the Colorado Building became the largest private office building in the city. The location of these buildings, as well as the selection of 14<sup>th</sup> Street and F Street for the construction of the Westory Building, followed from their proximity to both the financial district and the streetcar routes on 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, and New York Avenue.

Development of the Westory Building

In April 1906, the Stone estate received an alteration permit to install a show window evidently converting the dwelling from residential to commercial use.<sup>v</sup> It is unclear whether they had time to implement these plans before May 1906 when Wescott, & Story (after whom the Westory was named), working on behalf of Colonel George H. Higbee from Burlington, Iowa, purchased the property at 14<sup>th</sup> Street & F Street NW from the Stone estate.<sup>vi</sup>

A contemporary account on the transaction identified the sales price, \$190,000 or \$76 per square foot, as "the highest price ever paid for real estate in Washington." The account suggested further that George H. Higbee, who has no other known association with real estate or development in Washington, D.C., acted as a representative for "prominent Western

<sup>ii</sup> "Known As The Ridge – Ancient Designation of F Street – From the Old West Market to the Capitol – Those Who Had Residences – Business Men and Government Officials Included – Variety of Occupations," *The Washington Star*, May 5, 1906; GEORGE ROTHWELL BROWN, "EBBITT HOTEL, GONE, HAD ITS BEGINNING IN BOARDING HOUSE," *The Washington Post* (1877-1954), April 8, 1926

<sup>iii</sup> Harvey W. Crew, William Bensing Webb, and John Wooldridge, *Centennial History of the City of Washington, D. C.* (Pub. for H. W. Crew by the United brethren publishing house, 1892).

<sup>iv</sup> "THE LATE MRS. E. J. STONE.," *The Washington Post* (1877-1954), August 5, 1892.

<sup>v</sup> <http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=235311412&Fmt=7&clientId=57002&RQT=309&VName=HNP>; Crew, Webb, and Wooldridge, *Centennial History of the City of Washington, D. C.*, 606.

<sup>vi</sup> Square 253, Lot 29, No. 603, April 2, 1906, DC Permit #2520

<sup>vii</sup> See biographical summary of George H. Higbee at the end of the building history.

Westory Building

Name of Property

District of Columbia

County and State

and Boston interests" in his purchase.<sup>vii</sup> In November 1906, George H. Higbee and Frances N. Higbee placed a deed on record in order to secure a loan of \$200,000 from the Fidelity and Trust Company of Pennsylvania. At the time Higbee secured the trust, contemporary "experts in real estate" considered the site "one of the most valuable pieces of property in the District of Columbia."<sup>viii</sup> George H. Higbee and Edwin Gilbert, the builder for the Westory, received a building permit for the project on December 27, 1906 and anticipated completing construction by September 1, 1907.

An account published during the course of construction described the Westory as an "office building de luxe." The same account continued to note, "From beginning to end the most modern methods of construction will be followed, and the finish and decorations will be the best."<sup>ix</sup> Although relatively unknown, Jekel still attracted attention as an out-of-town architect. *The Washington Times* speculated, "Mr. Jekel has no specimens of his work in this city, and it is expected that he will make a special effort to give the Capital an office building of the finest and most up-to-date design."<sup>x</sup> Plans called for the first floor to remain an undivided space with a 16' ceiling, the second floor to be divided into three large offices with 16' ceilings, and the remaining seven floors to be laid out in seven spaces with 12' ceilings. The building permit suggested that the ground floor could be leased as a dry goods store, which would also use the cellar accessed by an exterior stair.

As the end of construction neared the *Washington Post* glowingly described the building as "Washington's rival of the Flatiron Building of New York."<sup>xi</sup> Several accounts particularly celebrated the elegant appearance of the materials and the contrast to the historic character of the corner, "The columns of white terra cotta with great doors and plate-glass show windows, both on Fourteenth and F streets, and the towering white structure above, make a decided change at this old corner, where for so many years stood the red brick residence of Dr. Stone. It makes now a fitting complement to the tall building of the new Willard now diagonally across the street."

By late 1907, Wescott & Story reported receiving "ten to twenty" lease applications daily and the building was one of several eagerly anticipated new developments in the area. A November 1907 account noted, "The effect of this building upon values of realty in the neighborhood cannot be questioned. The demand for store and office space in this vicinity seems steady and strong, and is further illustrated by the approaching completion of the additional story on the American National Bank building."<sup>xii</sup> Within the month several tenants began moving into the building and construction was certified fully complete in March 1908.

### Design context for the Westory Building

The significance of the Westory Building is that of a unique building that reflects the broader context of commercial building design and construction in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and the role of Beaux Arts architecture following publication of the McMillan Plan. Early in his career, Henry L.A. Jekel had the opportunity to work with both the George A. Fuller Company and Thompson-Starrett & Company—two of the foremost modern commercial building construction firms in the United States during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. These firms followed a model of integrating general contracting, civil engineering and design that likely encouraged Jekel's transition from engineering to architecture and informed his later partnership with builder Edwin Gilbert. In addition, both firms illustrate the application of Daniel Burnham's vision for Beaux Arts design and the broader City Beautiful movement to large-scale commercial building.

George A. Fuller pioneered the form of steel-frame construction used in the Westory Building, employing the technology for the construction of the Tacoma Building in Chicago, the New York Times Building, and the Flatiron Building in New

vii "\$200,000 OFFICE BUILDING TO BE ERECTED AT ONCE," *The Washington Post*, May 25, 1906.

viii "BIG TRUST DEED RECORDED.," *The Washington Post*, November 20, 1906

ix "Article 1 – No Title," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, November 4, 1906,

<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=251835742&Fmt=7&clientId=41139&RQT=309&VName=HNP>.

x "Office Building to Cost \$400,000," *The Washington Times. (Washington [D.C.]) 1902-1939*, June 3, 1906, sec. Metropolitan Section

xi "FLATIRON'S RIVAL HERE," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, August 11, 1907,

<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=252094632&Fmt=7&clientId=41139&RQT=309&VName=HNP>.

xii "Two Office Buildings and Residence Nearly Finished; Westory and Union Trust Have Tenants In Their Rooms," *The Washington Times. (Washington [D.C.]) 1902-1939*, November 3, 1907, sec. Sports - Real Estate,

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026749/1907-11-03/ed-1/seq-19/>



Westory Building

Name of Property

District of Columbia

County and State

York City. Fuller established his business in 1882 and developed the model of a general contractor essential for the development of large projects. Between 1900 and 1914, the George A. Fuller Construction Company built over 600 structures. In Washington, DC, these included the Mills Building in 1902, the Munsey Building in 1905, the Hibbs Building in 1906 and the Evans Building in 1908.<sup>xiii</sup>

Thompson-Starrett & Company, founded in 1900 by Theodore Starrett and Henry S. Thompson, was based on methods that Theodore Starrett had learned directly from George A. Fuller in the 1890s. The firm specialized in large-scale industrial, commercial, hotel, and skyscraper construction. Theodore and his brother Paul Starrett both began their careers in 1887 in the office of architect Daniel H. Burnham. One of the most notable of the firm's projects is Union Station in Washington, DC designed by D.H. Burnham & Co. and built 1903-1908.

Jekel's experience with integrating Beaux Arts design of Daniel Burnham and the standards of commercial building was clearly demonstrated in the design of the 17-story Pennsylvania Building at the NW corner of 15<sup>th</sup> Street & S. Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Although significantly larger than the Westory the two buildings are remarkably similar, sharing the typical tripartite elevations, light brick façade, and a nearly identical pattern of ornamentation at the cornice.

The Westory Building may also be compared to the demolished six-story Mills Building, built by the George A. Fuller Construction Company of Washington and designed by the Baltimore architectural firm Parker and Thomas, at the southwest corner of 17<sup>th</sup> Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The Mills Building similarly reflected a synthesis of Chicago commercial architecture and a Daniel Burnham influenced Beaux Arts style. In addition, like Colonel George Higbee, the owner of the Westory Building, General Anson Mills, the owner of the Mills building, was a Civil War veteran and a wealthy industrialist investing in Washington, DC real estate.

The radical transformation of the District of Columbia that eventually followed the development of the McMillan Plan began with Daniel Burnham and McKim, Mead, and White's "White City" at the Columbian Exposition of 1893. The exposition inspired architects and civic leaders throughout the nation and when the Senate McMillan Commission was established in 1901 to evaluate the development of the city and improve the capital many of the same architects were involved. The experts selected by James McMillan to study the problem included Daniel Burnham and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. who added Charles McKim and sculptor Augustus St. Gaudens.<sup>xiv</sup> In 1902, the McMillan Commission released its proposals to apply the ideals and principles of the City Beautiful movement to the design of Washington, DC.

While the McMillan Commission's recommendations focused on the Mall public buildings, professor and scholar Richard Longstreth has argued that private developers recognized a "shared imperative to commission work that would adequately reflect the expansive mood and rising aspirations for a national capital." Longstreth continued to note that, "the business community, as champions of civic improvement, harbored the goal of making their city one of distinction."<sup>xv</sup> Although not a project by a local owner or architect, the importance of the project to broader themes of civic pride and the City Beautiful is clear from press accounts that celebrated the unprecedented value of the initial sale, the unique character of the design, and even the local importance is further emphasized by the decision to recognize local real estate developers, rather than the owner or the architect, in the naming of the building.

### Early tenants in the Westory Building

Early tenants at the Westory Building reflected the professional character of the neighborhood, beginning with a basement bar and restaurant or *rathskeller*, the Thos F. Keane Chop House and Buffet described as "A Resort for Gentlemen" in a 1908 advertisement. Throughout the 1910s and 1920s, the Westory provided offices for a range of professionals, financial firms, and small businesses providing services to other professionals in the local area. For example in 1915, tenants included five dentists, six lawyers, the Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut, the Correspondents Office for the New York Tribune, a hairdresser, and the Capitol Sight Seeing Company. One of these

<sup>xiii</sup> Design Forum., *DC downtown office building survey phase II: historic context statement* (Washington D.C.: The Forum, 1992).

<sup>xiv</sup> Ibid

<sup>xv</sup> Longstreth. "The Unusual Transformation of Downtown Washington in the Early Twentieth Century."

Westory Building

Name of Property

District of Columbia

County and State

dentists, Charles H. Beach, remained in the building for an exceptionally long period from 1915 through 1948. The Washington Bureau of the New York Tribune only temporarily occupied the Westory building while their new building was under construction across the street. Over the next 20 years, tenants included tailors, chiropractors, manufacturing agents, industrial firms, an office of Christian Scientists, and the Electric Railway Commission. Notably, financial firms are not a significant presence in the building although tenants did occasionally include insurance firms or auxiliary offices for financial firms in the area. This diverse mix of professionals and small service businesses is largely comparable to tenants found in the Bond Building during the same period.

One of the most significant early tenants was the local Washington, D.C. office of the American Union Against Militarism. A group of pacifist activists in New York City established the organization in 1915 as the "Anti-militarism Committee." In 1916, the organization became the "Anti-preparedness Committee" and established Washington offices in the Munsey Building on Pennsylvania Avenue. This pacifist advocacy organization then maintained offices in Room 203 of the Westory Building from 1918 through their dissolution in 1922. The Civil Liberties Bureau of the American Union Against Militarism, established in 1917 to provide legal support to conscientious objectors, split from the organization in October 1917 to become the National Civil Liberties Bureau and, in 1920, the American Civil Liberties Union or ACLU.<sup>xvi</sup>

#### Retail tenants in the Westory Building

The first retail tenant, Bryan & Co., a haberdashery and clothing store, secured a lease to the first floor and moved its store from the corner of 15<sup>th</sup> Street & F Street to the Westory. After store founder, G.B. Bryan died in 1896, store manager Robert J. Hunter, an "expert window-dresser" expanded the store in the Westory building.<sup>xvii</sup> The store failed in 1909 and, with creditors calling for receivership, Hunter closed out the stock and attempted to re-establish the store on 15<sup>th</sup> between New York Avenue and G Street.<sup>xviii</sup>

In 1910, a local businessman Calvert S. Rosenthal leased the ground floor of the Westory building and proposed a \$20,000 renovation with plans to open an exclusive men's store under the name of the Calvert Company.<sup>xix</sup> Calvert Rosenthal had worked for Park, Bridget & Co. for the previous fifteen years, leaving a position as general manager to start his new business. His professed intent was to stock, "not only the usual articles of men's apparel found in haberdasheries, but to include a stock of high-grade clothing." Architect J.N. McCauley and builder John F. Newman applied for a permit on February 4, 1910 to remove the glazed terracotta column that defined the corner of the building and work continued to expand the window frontage 100 feet, reducing the width of supporting columns to 18 inches, and extending the ground floor windows 5 feet outwards from the existing structure.<sup>xx</sup> When announced, the renovation was expected to be complete by April 1, 1910.<sup>xxi</sup> The contractors for this renovation also included "The Sheet-Metal Shop" owned by J.C. Brandstedt who later advertised their experience with a "contract for remodeling of Westory Building."<sup>xxii</sup>

Calvert Rosenthal's father, Samuel Rosenthal belonged to Baltimore's Jewish community and worked as a member of the firm Strouse & Bros., a wholesale clothing dealer in Baltimore, Maryland, as well as serving as a Director of the Drivers and Mechanics National Bank at the northwest corner of Fayette Street & Eutaw Street. Established in 1868, Strouse & Bros. maintained Baltimore offices at Lombard Street & Paca Street, 212 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and a branch office at 733 to 735 Broadway, New York.<sup>xxiii</sup> The Calvert Company in the Westory Building joined a growing number of high-end retail businesses in the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor following the movement of financial businesses into the neighborhood. The earliest major retailer in the neighborhood was Woodward & Lothrop moving to the Carlisle Building on F Street between 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street. The Palais Royale Department Store followed in 1892 building a new six-story store at 11<sup>th</sup> Street & G Street and the Hecht Company joined them in 1896 building their Washington headquarters at 7<sup>th</sup> Street near F Street.

<sup>xvi</sup> Samuel Walker, *In Defense of American Liberties, Second Edition: A History of the ACLU*, 2nd ed. (Southern Illinois University Press, 1999).

<sup>xvii</sup> "Death of G. B. Bryan," *The Washington Post* (1877-1954), July 12, 1896.

<sup>xviii</sup> "ASKS RECEIVER FOR FIRM," *The Washington Post* (1877-1954), April 17, 1908; "R. J. HUNTER ENDS LIFE," *The Washington Post* (1877-1954), July 5, 1913.

<sup>xix</sup> "NEW STORE FOR MEN. Ground Floor of Westory Building Is Being Remodeled.," *Evening Star*, February 18, 1910.

<sup>xx</sup> Building Permit February 4, 1910 #4346, February 24, 1910 #4616.

<sup>xxi</sup> "REAL ESTATE NOTES," *The Washington Post* (1877-1954), February 19, 1910.

<sup>xxii</sup> "THE SHEET-METAL SHOP," *The Washington Post*, June 12, 1912

<sup>xxiii</sup> "BALTIMORE BANKER WEDS HIS SECRETARY," *The New York Times*, October 1, 1915. "ARRIVAL OF BUYERS," *The New York Times*, May 15, 1918.

Westory Building

Name of Property

District of Columbia

County and State

In 1905, Julius Garfinckle first established his business on the 1200 block of F Street.<sup>xxxiv</sup> Accounts from the 1920s, reflected on an "F Street promenade" where, "beginning at 14<sup>th</sup> Street, the F-Streeters can find anything their hearts desire."<sup>xxxv</sup>

Calvert Rosenthal served as a founding member of the Retail Merchants' Association when it separated from the Chamber of Commerce in 1912.<sup>xxxvi</sup> At the first anniversary of his opening, Rosenthal reflected on a "successful year's business" and "the popularity that the shop enjoys on all sides."<sup>xxxvii</sup> In July 1911, the store displayed a Manhattan shirt frozen in a solid block of ice with the announcement, "Manhattans are the 'coolest' shirts in town."<sup>xxxviii</sup> In September 1912, the store featured trophies for the Washington Post's first annual motor vehicle parade in their windows.<sup>xxxix</sup> By the end of the year, however, Calvert S. Rosenthal had abruptly "severed" his connection with the Calvert Company and moved his own business activities to New York City.<sup>xxx</sup>

Even following the failure of the Calvert Company, the neighborhood remained a retail center as Lansburgh's Department Store relocated to 8<sup>th</sup> Street & D Street to a new six-story building in 1916 and Garfinckel's Department Store opened on the NW corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Street & F Street facing the Westory Building. The Regal Shoe Company occupied the ground floor of the Westory from 1948 through the 1980s and Wormser Hat Store, Inc. shared the space from the mid-1950s through the 1980s.

#### Renovations and later tenants in the Westory Building

After the failure of the Calvert Company, the space was occupied in 1915 by Crane, Parris & Co. a banking partnership established in 1883 by Augustus Crane Jr. and Albion Keith Parris Sr. In December 1916, Crane, Parris & Co. moved to 728 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW and a new brokerage firm, Crane, Gilpin & Co. established by J. Blake Gilpin and Benjamin Crane opened in the same space on January 2, 1917. The firm did not last the year however as the partnership dissolved in October 1917.<sup>xxxi</sup>

Liggett's Drug Store, part of a national chain of 300 stores owned by the United Drug Company of Boston, Massachusetts, occupied the ground level in 1919. Liggett's Drug Store purchased the Westory Building in May 1926 through the real estate office of Theodore M. Judd.<sup>xxxii</sup> The number of tenants sharply increased during the mid to late 1920s as the property values and prestige of the broader financial district grew. The increase in tenants may have followed from advertising such as notices in 1924 and 1925, offering "Outside Daylight Rooms" to interested businesses.<sup>xxxiii</sup> Occupancy dropped off significantly in 1931 and 1933 with the advent of the Great Depression.

The Westory Building sold again on July 17, 1948 to A.E. Lichtman, A.L. Cohen, and Arthur J. Sundlan, the officers of the Westory Corporation, for \$750,000 in a transaction negotiated by the Legum & Gerber Real Estate Company. Abe E. Lichtman is notable as a major investor and developer of African-American movie and vaudeville houses in Washington, DC and throughout the east coast. He sold his theater business in 1944 and continued to remain involved in local real estate until his death in 1965. The new owners announced their plans for a "renovation program to make the building one of the most modern in the city" and the Regal Shoe Company took over the corner previously occupied by the drug store.<sup>xxxiv</sup> The building underwent significant renovations in 1955 and 1965, including a renovation of the elevator lobby and the modernization of the elevators.

<sup>xxxiv</sup> "Garfinckel's Department Store" (National Register of Historic Places, 1995).

<sup>xxxv</sup> William Hogan, "Washington's Merchant Prince," *Regardies's*, October 1981

<sup>xxxvi</sup> "MERCHANTS ISSUE BOOKLET," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, January 25, 1911. "Retail Men Organize," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, September 19, 1912.

<sup>xxxvii</sup> "A YEAR OLD TODAY," *The Washington Post*, March 16, 1911.

<sup>xxxviii</sup> "An Ingenious Display.," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, July 30, 1911.

<sup>xxxix</sup> "THOUSANDS ENJOY BIG MOTOR PARADE," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, September 3, 1912.

<sup>xxx</sup> "Great Exhibit at New York Show.," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, December 29, 1912.

<sup>xxxi</sup> "DISTRICT BROKER ANSWERS CHARGES," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, October 25, 1917.

<sup>xxxii</sup> "LIGGETT'S BUY WESTORY BUILDING," *The Washington Post*, May 30, 1926; "United Drug Company," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, July 8, 1926.

<sup>xxxiii</sup> "Display Ad 1 - No Title," *The Washington Post (1877-1954)*, August 10, 1925.

<sup>xxxiv</sup> "Building At 14th and F St. Sold Yesterday for \$750,000," *The Washington Post*, July 18, 1948; "Correction," *The Washington Post*, July 19, 1948.

Westory Building

Name of Property

District of Columbia

County and State

Tenants during the 1950s included the National Bank of Washington, the Three D Live Image Co., Beauty Bazaar, construction companies, real estate firms, two dental laboratories, four separate patent attorney offices, and several other legal offices. The past president of the National Association of Women Lawyers, Maurine Howard Abernathy maintained an office in the building. The numerous legal offices led some to refer to the building as Westory Chambers.

One of the more unusual and significant tenants in the post-WWII period, was Willis M. Gault a unique musician, educator, and craftsman. Willis Gault, born near Salisbury, Maryland on June 10, 1908, retired from his career with the Treasury Department and opened Gault School of Violin Making in room 601 of the Westory Building in 1951. Gault began teaching groups of students three nights a week but, with limited space and tools, he soon switched to a more individual approach continuing until his shop was evicted by the owner in 1978. A 1962 newspaper account described the shop as "jammed from floor to roof with violins, viols, violas and cellos in various stages of construction or repair."<sup>xxxv</sup> When he opened his shop, Gault was the only craftsman in the United States producing the 15<sup>th</sup>-century Viola d'Amore. He also established the Ancient Instrument Society and helped to encourage renewed interest in 15<sup>th</sup>-century musical instruments before his death in Greenbelt, Maryland on March 13, 1991.<sup>xxxvi</sup>

The 1991 addition facing 14<sup>th</sup> Street originally began as a proposed addition to the National Bank of Washington at 14th Street & G Street NW. The National Bank declared bankruptcy before the project started construction, forcing the revision of the proposal to a speculative commercial development. The first phase of development took place in 1991 with the construction of an addition on F Street and a one-story addition to the historic structure designed by Shalom Baranes Associates and Oehrlein & Associates Architects as an abstraction of the historic structure. The 2003 addition faced F Street as a further abstraction of the 1991 addition.<sup>xxxvii</sup> The property is currently managed by Cassidy & Pinkard Colliers and owned by Deka-Immobilien Investment. The current ground floor tenant is TD Bank and the upper floor tenants include several legal firms, advocacy organizations, and government offices.

#### Biographical summary of Henry L.A. Jekel

January 13, 1876 to Frederick Jekel & Louisa S. Yingert in Buffalo, New York, Henry Lewis Adrien Jekel initially trained as a civil engineer.<sup>xxxviii</sup> He worked with Thompson-Starrett & Company, based in New York and Chicago, and the George A. Fuller Company, based in Chicago, before opening his own office. From 1902 to 1905, Jekel operated the H. L. A. Jekel Co. with William F. Forsyth as vice-President and an office at the 711 Mutual Life Building. The firm's projects include the Forsyth Residence in Glenside, Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Office Building built by Thompson-Starrett & Company at 15<sup>th</sup> Street & Chestnut Street, Philadelphia in 1902-1903.<sup>xxxix</sup> The 17-story Pennsylvania Building employs an ornate cornice and a three part vertical block design remarkably similar to the design of the Westory Building. Jekel evidently then moved from Philadelphia to Boston, as multiple 1906 press accounts of the project identify Jekel as a Boston architect, but soon moved again home to Buffalo by 1910.<sup>xl</sup>

In 1908, shortly after the construction of the Westory Building, Jekel worked with Bertrum Goodhue on the Panama-California Exhibition in San Francisco. Then in 1911, Jekel travelled to Riverside, California to work with architect Myron Hunt on the tower for the First Congregational Church at 3504 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, California. Jekel and his wife, Amanda Jekel born July 4, 1880, remained in Buffalo, New York until at least 1918, but by 1923 Jekel had designed and constructed a residence for himself and his wife in Riverside, California where he continued to complete over 40 homes and 15 office buildings, primarily in a Mission or Spanish style.<sup>xli</sup> In addition to the tower of the First Congregational

<sup>xxxv</sup> By Meryle Secret, "Viola-Maker Is Tuning Up For Waterford Tour Days," *The Washington Post, Times Herald* (1959-1973), September 30, 1962, <http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=179301702&Fmt=7&clientId=57002&RQT=309&VName=HNP>

<sup>xxxvi</sup> Claudia Levy Washington Post Staff Writer, "Willis Gault, Violin Maker, Teacher, Dies," *The Washington Post* (1974-Current file), March 15, 1991, <http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=1059369312&Fmt=7&clientId=57002&RQT=309&VName=HNP>

<sup>xxxvii</sup> Gerard Martin Moeller, Christopher Weeks, and American Institute of Architects, *AIA guide to the architecture of Washington, D.C.*, 2006.

<sup>xxxviii</sup> Henry L.A. Jekel is also known as Henry L.A. Jeckel or H.L.A. Jekel.

<sup>xxxix</sup> Sandra L. Tatman and The Athenaeum of Philadelphia, "H. L. A. Jekel Co. (fl. 1902 - 1904)," *Philadelphia Architects and Buildings*, [http://www.philadelphiabuildings.org/pab/app/ar\\_display.cfm/49411](http://www.philadelphiabuildings.org/pab/app/ar_display.cfm/49411)

<sup>xl</sup> "New Office Building To Be Called Westory," *The Washington times. (Washington [D.C.]) 1902-1939*, November 4, 1906, sec. Metropolitan Section; "Higbee's Building Unique in Design," *The Washington times. (Washington [D.C.]) 1902-1939*, November 4, 1906, sec. Metropolitan Section

<sup>xli</sup> Sandra L. Tatman and Roger W. Moss, *Biographical dictionary of Philadelphia architects, 1700-1930* (G.K. Hall, 1985).

Westory Building

Name of Property

District of Columbia

County and State

Church of Riverside, his major work in Riverside includes the Riverside Mausoleum, the landmark Benedict Castle and the Hammer-Wallihan House. Jekel resided at 5063 Magnolia Avenue until his death in Riverside on May 26, 1960. Amanda Jekel died on August 7, 1970.

#### Biographical summary of Edwin Gilbert

Born to Edwin Gilbert and Ellen Caroline Gilbert in Catasauqua, Pennsylvania, Edwin Gilbert began his career as an architect, rather than a builder, in an apprenticeship with Addison Hutton from 1892 to 1896 at an office at 400 Chestnut Street. Gilbert joined the T-Square Club in 1893 then established his own firm with offices in the Crozer Building at 1420 Chestnut Street. Edwin Gilbert and William L. Reid, formed the partnership of Gilbert and Reid and operated from 1900 to 1903. Following this partnership, Gilbert initiated his own successful contracting firm with offices in the Land Title Building in 1905 and 1906 and then the Weightman Building from 1907 to 1909.<sup>xlii</sup> Their work included services as a general contractor for the Hotel Blenheim and the Marlborough Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey. After 1907, Edwin Gilbert & Co. was later responsible for a major repair and renovation to the Treasury Building.<sup>xliii</sup> Shortly after their selection as the contractor for the Treasury Department renovation, however, the company went into receivership.

#### Biographical summary of George H. Higbee

Born 1836 in Cincinnati, Ohio, George H. Higbee was raised in Trenton, New Jersey and graduated from Princeton in 1854. After beginning his career as a civil engineer with a railroad company in New Jersey, Higbee moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa where he worked as a surveyor and farmer before returning to New Jersey to continue work with the railroad. With the start of the US Civil War, Higbee began service on May 14, 1861 and continued with the military until his honorable discharge on December 17, 1870. He returned to Burlington, Iowa in June 1870. In Burlington, Higbee purchased the Murray Iron Works and became a successful industrialist, banker, and prominent citizen.<sup>xliv</sup>

Higbee's decision to purchase property for commercial development in the District of Columbia reflects the similar decision of many other Civil War veterans, such as General Mills who constructed the Mills Building in 1902. It appears likely that his selection of Henry L.A. Jekel and Edwin Gilbert as the architect and builder for the Westory Building follows from his long residence in the Philadelphia area and his the likely possibility that he was familiar with their work or their clients. Further evidence of his association with Philadelphia is the exclusive option offered to Thomas Keane, a Philadelphia businessman, who opened the Chop House *rathskeller* in the basement of the Westory Building. The Westory Building is the only property associated with George H. Higbee in the District.

#### Biographical summaries of Wescott & Story

George H. Westcott, born in Philadelphia in 1872, moved to Washington, DC as a child to live with his uncle, Judge Charles Drake, Chief Justice of the US Court of Claims. Westcott trained as a lawyer but began work in real estate in 1895, beginning a partnership with John P. Story that continued for ten years before he established his own firm, Horace H. Westcott & Co. at 816 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW in 1908. Westcott remained active in local civic and social affairs throughout his life until his death in 1941.<sup>xlv</sup>

Born in 1873, John P. Story, Jr. was the son of John Story, a brigadier general and Chief of Artillery in the US Army. John Story Jr. graduated from MIT and began work in real estate in Washington, DC in the late 1890s. Story and Company maintained an office at 812 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW. John P. Story Jr. died on April 1, 1966 at his residence.<sup>xlvi</sup>

<sup>xlii</sup> Sandra L. Tatman and Roger W. Moss, *Biographical dictionary of Philadelphia architects, 1700-1930* (G.K. Hall, 1985), 304.

<sup>xliii</sup> International Association of Bridge, Structural, and Ornamental Iron Workers, *The Bridgemen's Magazine* (The Association, 1907).

<sup>xliv</sup> Augustine M. Antrobus, *History of Des Moines County, Iowa* (The S. J. Clarke publishing company, 1915).

<sup>xlv</sup> "H. H. Westcott To Be Buried In Maine," *The Washington Post*, June 2, 1941.

<sup>xlvi</sup> "Obituary 6 – No Title," *The Washington Post, Times Herald* (1959-1973), April 3, 1966.

<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=199143492&Fmt=7&clientId=57002&RQT=309&VName=HNP>.

Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

- "Arrival of Buyers," *The New York Times*, May 15, 1918.
- "Baltimore Banker Weds His Secretary," *The New York Times*, October 1, 1915.
- "Building at 14<sup>th</sup> and F St. Sold Yesterday for \$750,000," *The Washington Post*, July 18, 1948.
- City Directories, District of Columbia.
- "Flatiron's Rival Here," *The Washington Post*, August 11, 1907.
- "H.H. Westcott to be Buried in Maine," *The Washington Post*, June 2, 1941.
- Hubbell, J.H., *Hubbell's Legal Directory for Lawyers and Businessmen*, J. H. Hubbell & Co., 1920.
- "H.H. Westcott to be Buried in Maine," *The Washington Post*, June 2, 1941.
- "An Ingenious Display," *The Washington Post*, July 30, 1911.
- "Known as the Ridge—Ancient Designation of F Street—From the Old West Market to the Capitol—Those Who Had Residences—Businessmen and Government Officials Included," *The Washington Star*, May 5, 1906.
- "Liggett's Buy Westory Building," *The Washington Post*, May 30, 1926.
- Longstreth, Richard. "The Unusual Transformation of Downtown Washington in the Early Twentieth Century," *Washington History*, Vol. 13, no. 2, (Fall/Winter 2001/2002), pp. 50-71.
- "Merchants Issue Booklet," *The Washington Post*, January 25, 1911.
- Moeller, Gerard Martin and Weeks, Christopher. *AIA Guide to the Architecture of Washington, D.C.*, 2006.
- "New Store for Men: The Ground Floor of Westory Building is Being Remodelled," *Evening Star*, February 18, 1910.
- "Permit for the Westory," *The Washington Post*, December 27, 1906.
- "Real Estate Notes," *The Washington Post*, February 19, 1910.
- "Retail Men Organize," *The Washington Post*, September 19, 1912.
- "A Year Old Today," *The Washington Post*, March 16, 1911.
- Tatman, Sandra L. and Roger W. Moss, *Biographical Dictionary of Philadelphia Architects, 1700-1930*, G.K. Hall, 1985.
- "Thousands Enjoy Big Motor Parade," *The Washington Post*, September 3, 1912.
- "\$200,000 Office Building to be Erected at Once," *The Washington Post*, May 25, 1906.
- "United Drug Company," *The Washington Post*, July 8, 1926.
- "Westory Building is Sold," *The Evening Star*, July 17, 1948.
- "Westory Building to be Erected at Fourteenth and F Streets," *The Washington Post*, November 4, 1906.

Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 24,959 square feet  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18</u>	<u>323816</u>	<u>4307362</u>	3	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Westory building occupies lot 66 in Square 253. Lot 66 is the consolidation of several historic lots, including the original lot 29 upon which the 1907-1908 Westory building was constructed and adjacent lots. The consolidated lot includes the historic building and its additions from the 1990s and 2003.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic lot, Lot 29, no longer exists as a legal lot. The legal lot upon which the Westory building sits is the larger Lot 66 and includes additions that are connected, on the interior, to the historic Westory building.

Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

---

### 11. Form Prepared By

---

name/title Eli Pousson and Kim Williams  
organization District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office date September 2009  
street & number 1100 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SW telephone 202 442-8800  
city or town Washington, D.C. state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 20024  
e-mail Kim.williams@dc.gov

---

### Additional Documentation

---

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

---

### Photographs:

---

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: The Westory  
City or Vicinity: Washington, D.C.  
County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Photographer: Kim Williams and Nick Efron  
Date Photographed: July 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

General view of building from the southwest looking northeast showing the south and west elevations  
1 of 7

South elevation looking north  
2 of 7  
Attic level looking northeast  
3 of 7

Attic level southwest corner  
4 of 7

Cornice Detail  
5 of 7

Detail of Decorative Lions' Heads  
6 of 7

Detail of Column Capital



Westory Building  
Name of Property

District of Columbia  
County and State

7 of 7

**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Deka USA Westory c/o King and Spalding LLP  
street & number 1185 Avenue of the Americas telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town New York NY zip code 10036-  
state 2601

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

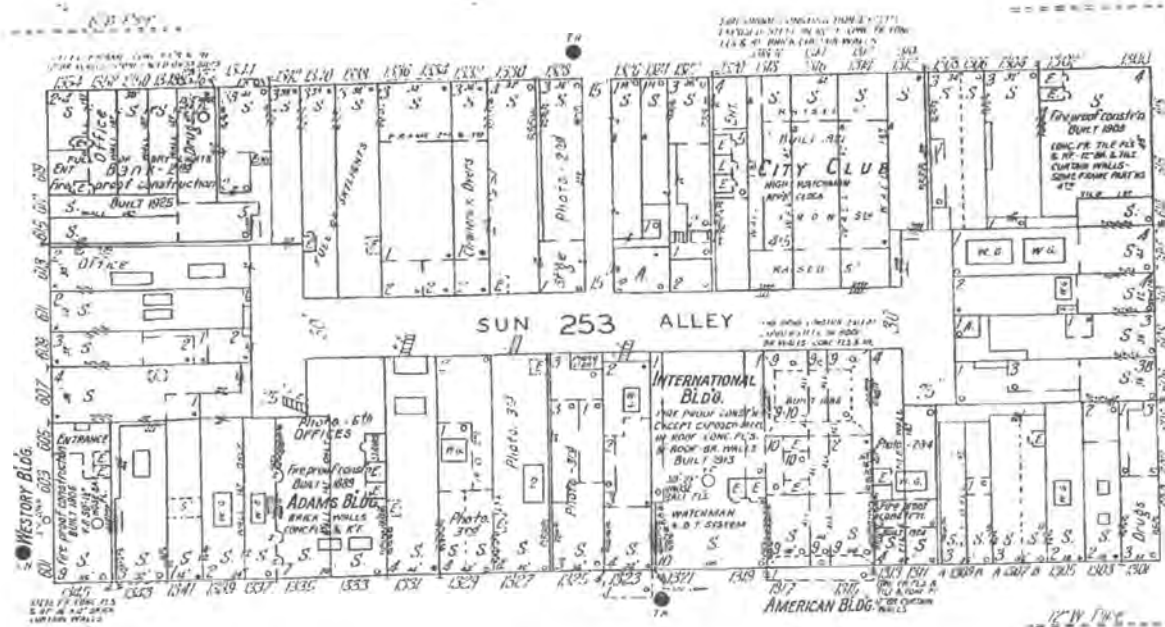
The Westory
Name of Property
District of Columbia
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Maps and Photos

Page 1



Map showing site of the Westory at 607 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
D.C. Property Quest



Map Showing Westory Building at corner of 14<sup>th</sup> and F Streets  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1928

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

The Westory
Name of Property
District of Columbia
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Maps and Photos

Page 2

WESTORY BUILDING, TO BE ERECTED  
AT FOURTEENTH AND F STREETS



Henry E. A. Juhl, Architect.

Rendering of the Westory from *The Washington Post*, November 4, 1906, p. R6.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

The Westory
Name of Property District of Columbia
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Maps and Photos

Page 3



Photograph of the Westory  
Historic American Buildings Survey, DC-329  
George Eisenman, photographer, 1967

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Westory Building

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, District of Columbia

DATE RECEIVED: 7/27/12                      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/24/12  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/10/12                      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/12/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000778

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    9.10.12 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



0309352 2142309352\_005\_0005

Westory Building

July 2012

EMBASSY CAMERA DC Plan 07/18/12

General View looking NE

1 of 7





1926000 Westory4\_007

EMBASSY CAMERA 07/20/12

Westory Building  
July 2012

View looking north showing south elevation

2 of 7



0309352 2142309352\_004\_0004

EMBASSY CAMERA DC Plan 07/18/12

Westing Building

July 2012

Attic level looking NE

3 of 7



0309353 Westory 1\_012

EMBASSY CAMERA DC Plan 07/18/12

Westory Building  
Attic level looking NE; SW corner  
4 of 7



0309352 2142309352\_002\_0002

Westory Building  
Cornice detail

5 of 7

EMBASSY CAMERA DC Plan 07/18/12





0309352 2142309352\_003\_0003

Westory Building EMBASSY CAMERA DC Plan 07/18/12

July 2012

Detail of lions' heads

6 of 7



0309352 2142309352\_001\_0001

Westory Building

EMBASSY CAMERA DC Plan 07/18/12

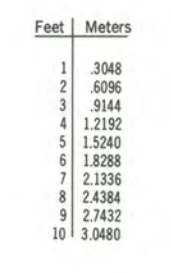
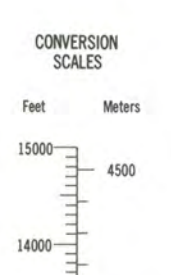
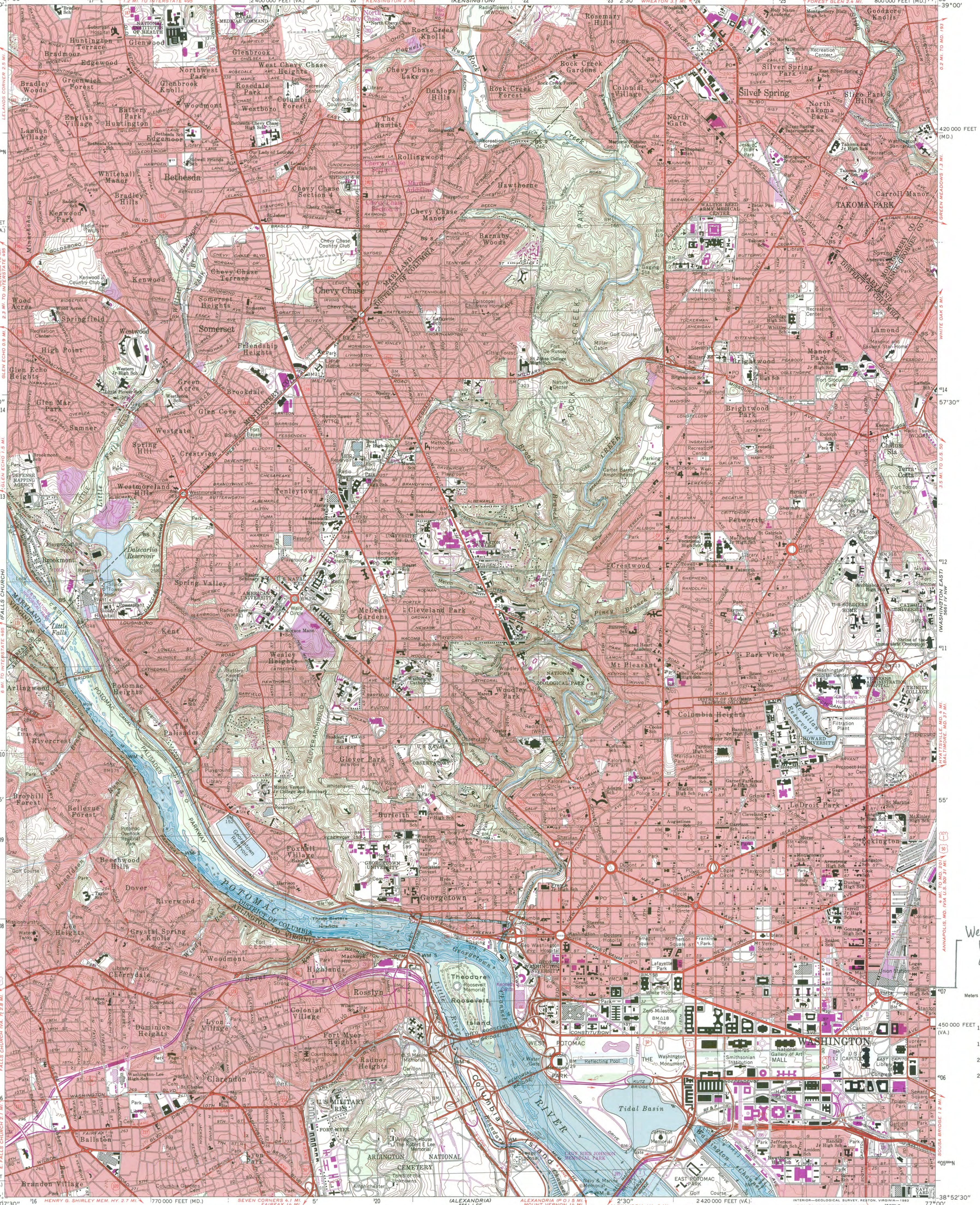
Detail of Column Capital

7 of 7

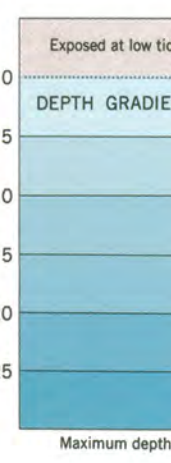
Westory Building  
Washington, DC

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WASHINGTON WEST QUADRANGLE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-MARYLAND-VIRGINIA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES  
(TOPOGRAPHIC-BATHYMETRIC)



Westory Building  
18 323816 E  
43 07362 N



Map edited, and published by the Geological Survey and the National Ocean Service  
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, NPS, and WSSC  
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1955. Field checked 1966. Revised 1965.  
Bathymetry compiled by the National Ocean Service from tide-coordinated hydrographic surveys. This information is not intended for navigational purposes.  
Mean low water (dotted) line and mean high water (heavy solid) line compiled by NOS from tide-coordinated aerial photographs. Apparent shoreline (outer edge of vegetation) shown by light solid line.  
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Maryland coordinate system, and Virginia coordinate system, north zone.  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18.  
1927 North American Datum.  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 8 meters south and 26 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks.  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown.  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.  
Revisions shown in purple and woodblock compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1981 and other sources. This information not field checked.  
Map edited 1983.  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas.

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE  
HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY INDEX

Survey Number	Survey Date	Survey Scale	Line Spacing (Naut. Miles)
H-9478	1977	1:5,000	.01-.08
H-9488	1976	1:5,000	.01-.05

SCALE 1:24,000  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
BATHYMETRIC CONTOUR INTERVAL 1 METER WITH SUPPLEMENTARY 0.5 METER CONTOURS-DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER  
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE  
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 0.4 METER

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -  
Interstate Route (Red circle) U.S. Route (Red square) State Route (Red triangle)

WASHINGTON WEST, D. C.-MD.-VA.  
38077-H1-TB-024  
1985  
PHOTOREVISED 1983  
BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982  
DMA 5561 1 NE-SERIES V833

BASE MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
BATHYMETRIC SURVEY DATA COMPLIES WITH INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO) SPECIAL PUBLICATION 44 ACCURACY STANDARDS AND/OR STANDARDS USED AT THE DATE OF THE SURVEY  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852  
AND VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

