

PH0011967

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUL 26	1973

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Ringgold-Carroll House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**John Marshall House; Bacon House**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1801 F Street, N.W.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Washington (Congressman Walter E. Fauntroy, District of Columbia)**

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
District of Columbia	11	District of Columbia	001

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Mrs. Robert Lowe Bacon**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1801 F Street, N.W.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Washington**

STATE:	CODE
District of Columbia	11

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Recorder of Deeds**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**6th & D Streets, N.W.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Washington**

STATE	CODE
District of Columbia	11

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Proposed District of Columbia Additions to the National Register of Historic Places recommended by the Joint Committee on Landmarks**

DATE OF SURVEY: **March 7, 1968**  Federal  State  County  Local

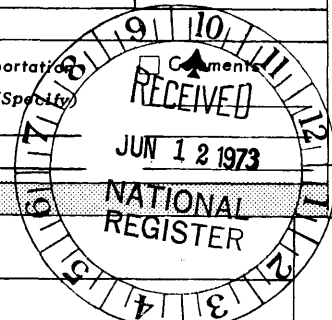
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**National Capital Planning Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1325 G Street, N.W.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Washington**

STATE:	CODE
District of Columbia	11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This Federal style brick townhouse is one of the last residential strongholds in a rapidly developing commercial area in Northwest Washington near both the White House and George Washington University. The house, which occupies the southeast corner of F and 18th Streets, N.W., reflects several periods of remodeling, but retains much of its original scale and dignity. It was built around 1824-5 by Tench Ringgold.

As is evident from an examination of the brickwork on the house, the structure was originally a gable roofed, two and a half story structure (with raised basement). A front portico including a door and balustrade which reputedly belong to the house are in storage at the National Trust property Otlands, in Loudoun County, Virginia. The pieces consist of carved columns, baluster turnings, dentil mouldings, rope carvings, etc. The porch is in semicircular and block form; the style of the carving is 18th century and parts of the carvings and turnings are of the 18th century. The Trust acquired the above pieces when the late Mrs. Louise Crowninshield's house in Marblehead, Massachusetts, was demolished. The pieces are alleged to have originally belonged to the Ringgold house and were at some unknown date acquired for the house in Marblehead. The Trust acquired them in 1964 at a time when it was thought that Mrs. Robert Lowe Bacon (present owner) would bequeath the house to the Trust. There is at present no known documentation to prove that these pieces actually did belong to the house, but there is the possibility that they were placed where the bay (which is obviously a later addition) is now located. It can also be postulated that the house was originally entered on the second floor since the main living areas are located on that floor. The other exterior additions on the main (F Street) facade include the above mentioned bay which was not only added later, but which went through a series of remodeling efforts. The cornice is also a later addition.

The house as it stands today is almost square (approximately 60 feet x 60 feet, including additions) in shape, three stories plus ground floor, with Flemish bond brick and graduated fenestration. The windows are 2/2-light double-hung with bull's eye lintels and louvered shutters. The F Street facade is three bays wide, and the 18th Street side is four bays wide with a one bay addition to the north. The windows on either side of the second floor bay have decorative iron-work balconies.

The house is entered on the ground floor of the F Street facade through a semicircular vestibule with brick piers. This vestibule supports the projecting brick semicircular bay which is terminated by a bracketed cornice and denticulated frieze. This same motif is found in the frieze and cornice on the roof. The mono-pitch roof contains three chimneys. In the twentieth century, decorative iron-work galleries and a staircase which leads to the walled garden to the west of the house were installed.

Although no original floor plans have been found, it is apparent that the interior of the house has been altered throughout its history. The present entrance is on the ground floor of the F Street facade with stairs ascending to the second or main floor. The position of the staircase indicates that it

(Continue on Form 10-300a)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **circa 1824-5**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian  | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated the Ringgold-Carroll House a Category II Landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. This Federal townhouse has been enlarged and changed through the years, but it still retains much of its original charm and character. The house was built circa 1824-1825 by Tench Ringgold, a Marshall of the District of Columbia. Throughout its history, the house has served as residence for and host to many men important in the political history of the United States. Chief Justice John Marshall and six other members of the Supreme Court boarded with Ringgold. The house was, in addition, owned by Governor Samuel Sprigg of Maryland, Chief Justice Melville Fuller, Alice Copely Thaw, and at present by Mrs. Robert Lowe Bacon, widow of the former representative from New York State.

The house at 1801 G Street, N.W. was built upon three lots which originally belonged to Tobias Lear, George Washington's private secretary. Lear bought the lots in 1815, probably for speculation, since he owned a house one block away on G Street. Lear committed suicide in 1816, and his widow and son sold the property to Tench Ringgold in 1825.

An agreement on file at the Recorder of Deeds indicates that Ringgold built the house around 1825. The agreement states that Ringgold borrowed \$6,000 from his daughter Sarah "to be applied to the building of the brick house and other buildings" on lots 1, 2, 15 in Square No. 142, (Liber 15, folio 153). Furthermore, assessment records indicate an improvement on the lot, for the first time, in 1825.

Ringgold was for many years a Marshall of the District of Columbia. Real estate records show that he had extensive dealings in land during the establishment of the Federal City. At one time he operated a rope factory as well as a sugar refinery in the District. Mrs. Thornton's Diary mentions Ringgold several times in reference to horse trading.

During his term as District Marshall, Ringgold served as part of a three-man committee to oversee restoration of public buildings after the British sacked Washington in 1814.

A search through Congressional Directories reveals that Chief Justice John Marshall and several other members of the Supreme Court boarded with Tench Ringgold at 1801 F Street during the years 1832-33. A plaque on the house

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Most of the data for the historical section was prepared by Trinity Intern, Ms. Kristina Pickard.

Mr. Thomas Slade of the National Trust for Historic Preservation escorted the author to Oatlands to look at the portico which is stored there.

Miller, Hope Ridings. Great Houses of Washington, D.C. New York: Clarkson N. Potter, Inc., 1969.

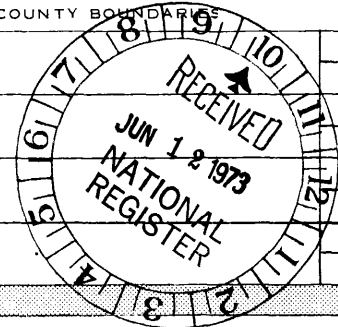
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 53' 51"	77° 02' 32"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **13,518 square feet**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Suzanne Ganschietz, Architectural Historian**

ORGANIZATION: **National Capital Planning Commission** DATE: **April 12, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1325 G Street, N.W.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **District of Columbia** CODE: **11**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: *Suzanne Ganschietz*

Title: Assistant to the Mayor for Housing Programs

Date: JUN 6 1973

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Robert W. Utley*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

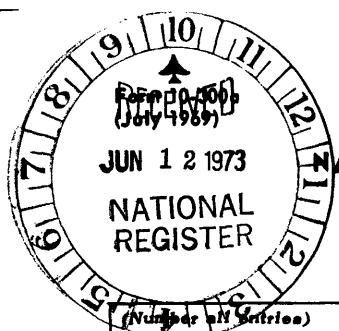
Date: 7/26/73

ATTEST: *[Signature]*  
Keeper of the National Register

Date: 7/24/73

12/30/2004/4307180

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUL 26 1973

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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(Continuation Sheet)

7. Description - Ringgold-Carroll House

has been altered. It is possible that the main entrance was at one time on the second floor, with exterior stairs leading to it. During the occupancy of Mrs. Thaw (Countess of Yarmouth, later Mrs. Geoffrey Whitney) the house was remodeled under the direction of J.H. deSibour. This remodeling included replastering and the installation of black marble mantles. The simplicity of the house, however, is unimpaired.

Mrs. Robert Lowe Bacon is at present seeking a use whereby the house will be retained for the future and used in a manner which will insure its residential quality.

8. Significance

commemorates Justice Marshall's residence there. The other members included William Johnson, Gabriel Duvall, Joseph Story, Smith Thompson, John McLean, and Henry Baldwin. Marshall was advised by Ringgold in 1833 that he could no longer accommodate him, and thus Marshall moved to the "Hill." In the same year, Ringgold defaulted on payment of the loan from his daughter, Mrs. John Thomas. The Thomases bought the house at auction, and sold it to Governor Samuel Sprigg of Maryland.

From 1835 to 1879 the house belonged to Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas Carroll; Mrs. Carroll was the former Sally Sprigg, daughter of Governor Sprigg. William Thomas Carroll, grandson of Charles Carroll of Duddington, served for many years (1827-1855) as Clerk of the Supreme Court. He was one of the founders of the Law Department at George Washington University.

After Mrs. Carroll's death in 1897, the house was purchased by Chief Justice Melville Fuller and his wife. Fuller was one of the founders of the Columbia Historical Society and a founder of the Free Library of the District of Columbia.

Following litigation by the heirs of Mrs. Fuller, the house was purchased by Alice Copely Thaw (the former Countess of Yarmouth and later, Mrs. Geoffrey Whitney). Shortly after acquiring the house in 1911, Alice Thaw consolidated lots 1, 2, 15 into lot 24 (Liber 44, Folio 186).

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lowe Bacon purchased the house in 1925. Bacon was a representative from New York State and one of the founders of the National Academy of Art. Mrs. Bacon resides in the house at present and hopes that an adaptive use can be found which will preserve the residential aspect of the house.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUL 26 1975

(Number all entries)

9. Bibliography

Congressional Directories.

National Archives Assessment Records.

Washingtoniana Collection, D.C. Public Library.

Columbia Historical Society Records.



77° 02' 32" W. LONG.

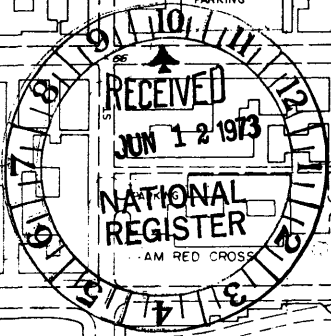
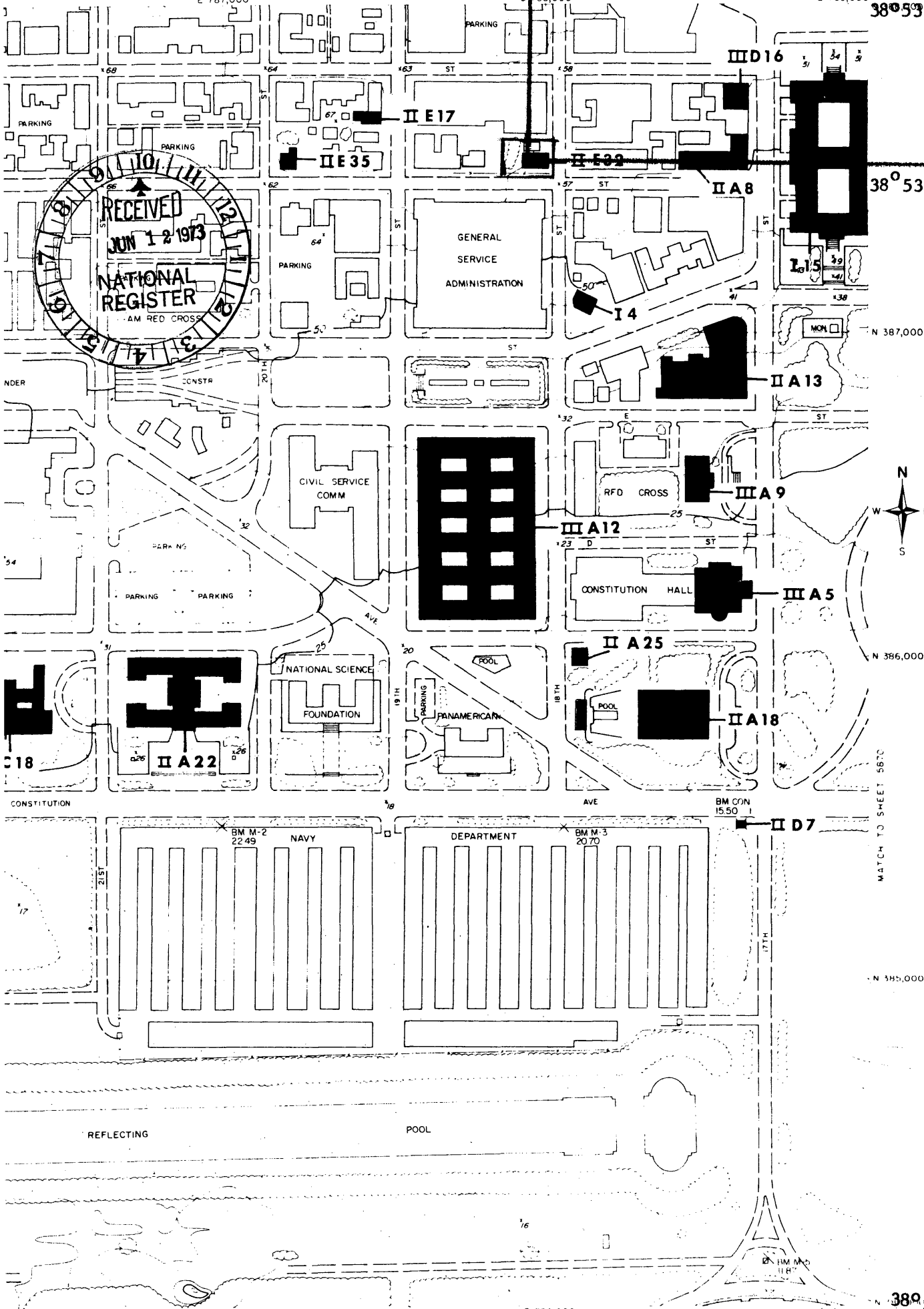
77° 02' 19" W. LONG.  
38° 53' 55" N. LAT.

MATCH TO SHEET 5771

E 787,000

E 788,000

E 789,000



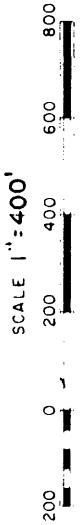
38° 53' 51" N. LAT.

N 387,000

N 386,000

N 385,000

38° 53' 16" N. LAT.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET

Notes: Corrections to this Map by Department of Engineering and Planning, Office of Engineering and Planning

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

Prepared By: ALSTER & ASSOCIATES, Inc. Engineers  
Washington, D.C. Using Stereophotogrammetric Methods  
Date: December, 1969; February, 1965

MATCH TO SHEET 5769

E 787,000

E 788,000

E 789,000

Sheet No.

5770