

501-511 14th Street (The Locker Room)
Northeast corner of 14th Street and Pennsylvania
Avenue
Washington D.C.

HABS No. DC-356

HABS
DC,
WASH.
229-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

501-511 14th Street (The Locker Room)

Location: 501-511 14th Street NW (Northeast corner of 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue), Washington, D.C.

USGS Washington West Quadrangle Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 18.328800.4307020.

Present Owner: Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation.

Present Occupant and Use: Vacant; to be demolished 1979.

Significance: This steel frame building with limestone facades is a good example of small scale commercial architecture of the 1920's.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The building, designed by Julius Wenig and H. G. Mitchell, was constructed in 1927 (building permit #4041, November 10, 1927). The second story was altered for use as a restaurant the next year, at a cost of \$2,000. (Building permit 7642, 17 April 1928). The building served as headquarters for the re-election campaign of D.C. Mayor Walter Washington in 1976.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The L-shaped building measures 149' by 32'. It is two stories with a flat roof. The building has a steel frame. The west and south walls are clad in limestone, and the east and north walls are brick.

The building's few decorative elements give it a simplified Art Deco appearance. The west and south facades are treated as very simple planes punched with large horizontal rectangular window openings. A continuous frieze, with a slightly raised guilloche decoration, occurs at the roof line. Above this, block coursing is surmounted by stone coping. The corner entrance to the upper floors of the building occupies a narrow structural bay, in contrast to the more widely spaced column grid. Relief decoration includes a fringe under the lintel at the first floor windows and an acanthus belt course used as a sill for the second floor openings. With the exception of a narrow window above the entry, fenestration at the second story consists of Chicago-style windows with transom lights above each panel. All window frames and sash are wood. The first floor facade consists of openings between structural members. These are infilled with flush and projecting storefronts of varying design. One of these has a polished green marble base and delicately detailed classical entablature.

Due to the descending site, the first floor steps down toward the south to provide on-grade access to each store. Leased areas are rectangular in plan, extending from Fourteenth Street to the east building wall. Each store consists of an open sales area with a separate work area, usually enclosing stairs down to basement storage. The second floor contains office space. See next page for sketched floor plans.

Prepared by Wendy Hunter
PADC
October 1979

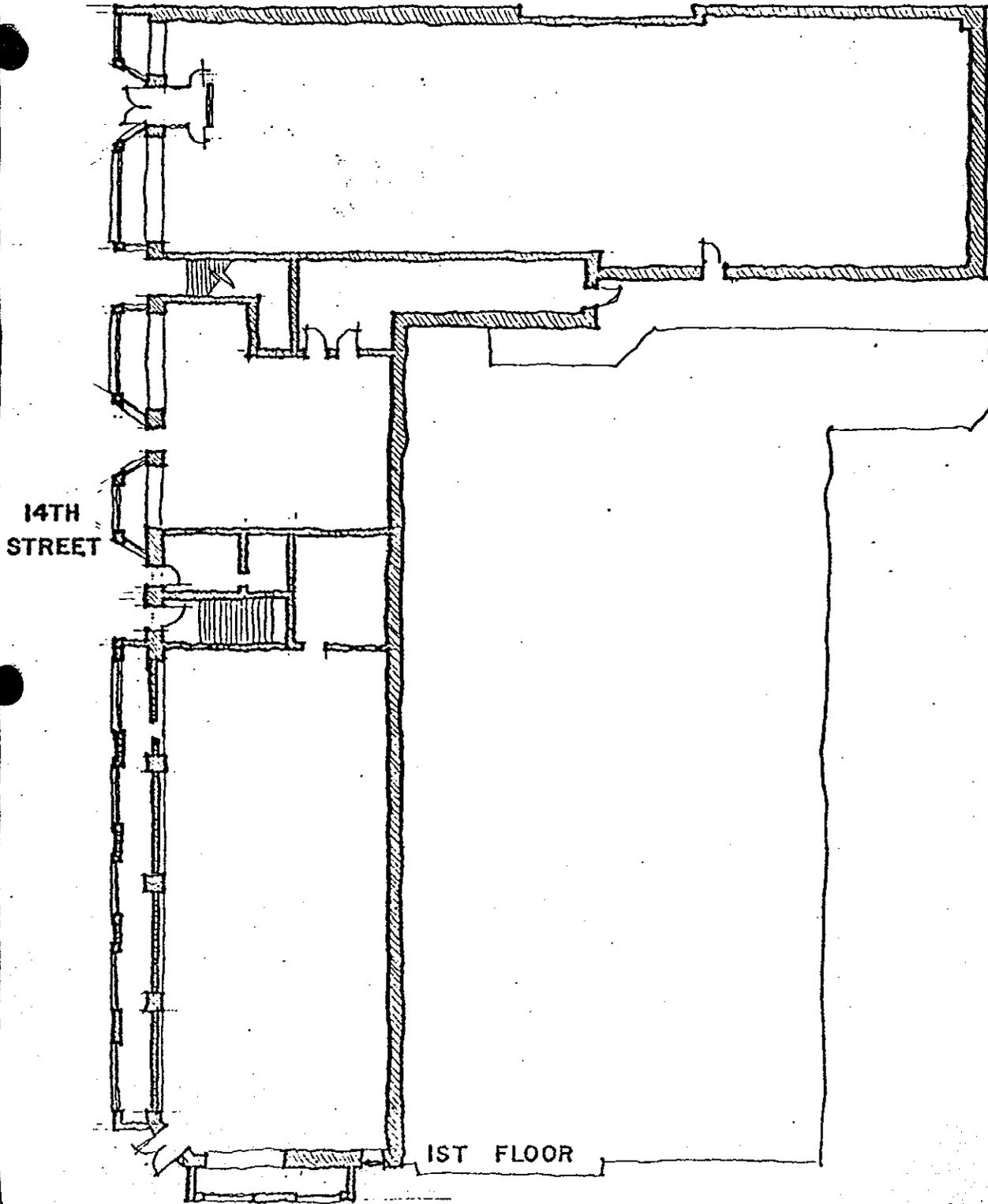
PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation (PADC) in compliance with Executive Order 11593 and a Memorandum of Agreement with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as a mitigative effort in the demolition of buildings in Square 254. John A. Burns, AIA, was the HABS project coordinator. The historical information was prepared by Wendy Hunter of PADC, and was reviewed by Emily J. Harris, an architectural historian in the HABS office in November, 1979. Photographs were taken by Jeffrey Wolf of PADC in October 1979.

Floor plans:

H-135
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209-

THE LOCKER ROOM
HABS No. DC-352



14TH STREET

1ST FLOOR

501-11 14TH STREET N.W. WASH. D. C.
(LOCKER ROOM)

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