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The Washington Post
STYLE

People

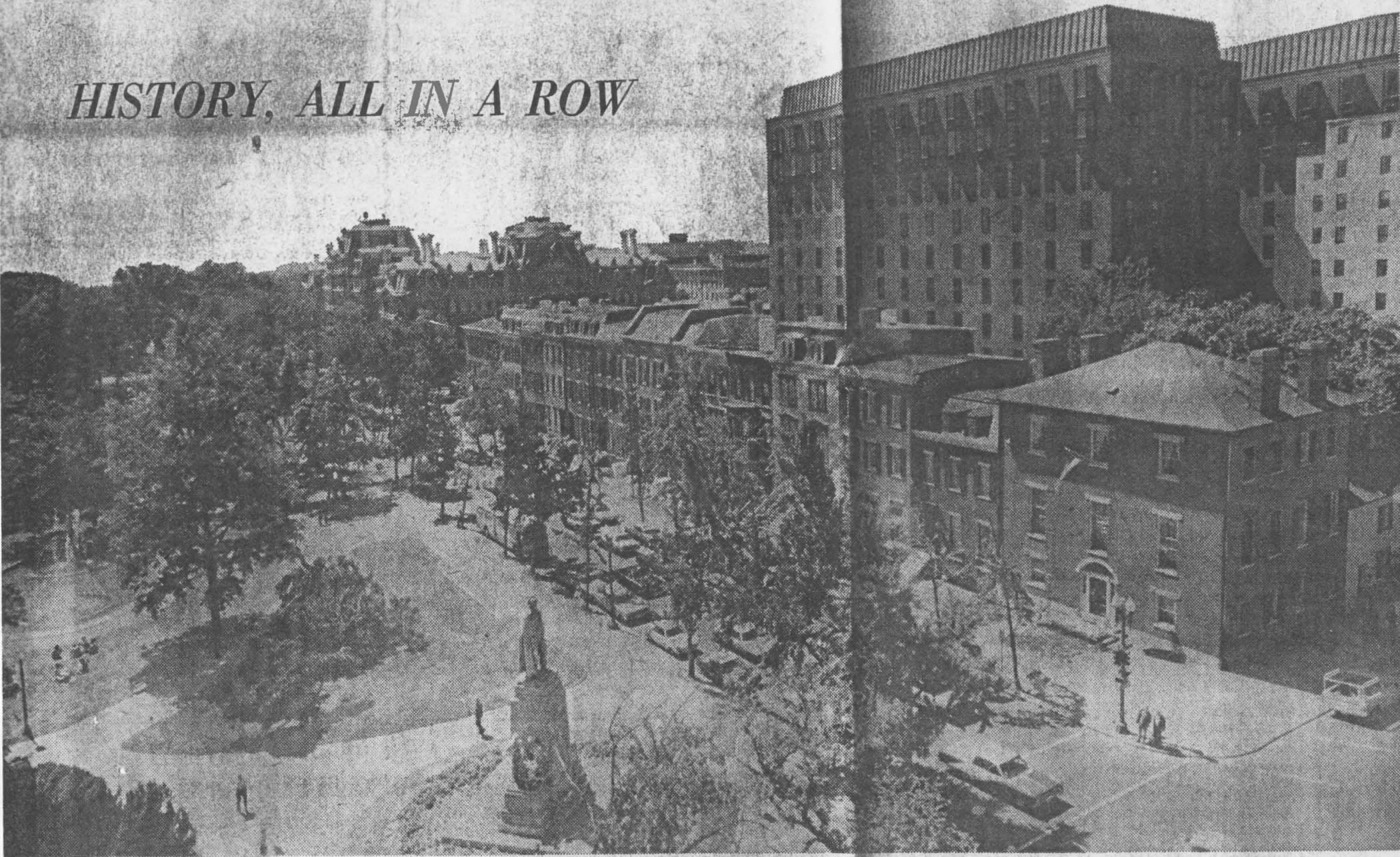
Fashion

Leisure

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1970

E1

HISTORY, ALL IN A ROW



"The plan came about

as a result of the indig-

nation of President John

F. Kennedy and his pres-

ervation-minded wife."

By Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post

19-century "residential replicas" face Lafayette Square with Federal Office Building No. 7 looming behind them.

Reconstructing the Past Along Jackson Place

By Nancy L. Ross

Taking 100 Years Off the Cityscape

Lafayette Square, also dubbed by history the President's Park and the Capital's Common, has undergone a face-lifting to restore its youth of 100 years ago.

a cost of \$1.7 million, the complex consists of the Dolley Madison house, now the Federal Judicial Center; a new building on the site of a home belonging to President Garfield's Sec-

Along Jackson Place

Reconstructing the Past

RENOVATION, From E1

Of the houses there, the most outstanding is No. 716, which has been designated

will be a sitting room with conference-dining room and Pullman kitchen at the rear. In the attic, two bedrooms, the smaller of which over-

torian residence, the labor headquarters having succumbed to the wrecker's ball.



SWAMPED . . . Ear was getting all set to tell you about this smasheroo party that the Committee for an Effective Congress was planning for tonight at the old Grant house in Georgetown. The place has a Georgian facade and a New Orleansy gingerbread back, and the committee was going to do a (pardon the expression) "Bring Us Together" number with two doormen in Union and Confederate uniforms, and creole things to eat. It was going to be the big event to mark the renaissance of the liberal chic, who have all been home smirking for so long. Well, Earwigs, the thing got rained out. But don't toss out your velvet jumpsuit. It's rescheduled for Monday, if everybody's powder gets dry.

EXCUSE ME MRS. DEAN, WOULD

The Ear

YOU BE SO KIND AS TO PASS THE SUGAR? . . . Introducing an excerpt from Maureen Dean's book in Redbook this month, John Dean admits that he often consults his wife in the writing of his own memoirs. For example, he asked her: "Should I include material that would correct the false image of the puritanical ways and the supposed sex-

lessness of the Nixon White House? Answered Maureen: "Yes, if it's done in a way that doesn't hurt the wives, who were innocent and have been hurt enough." If he writes like he talks, those memoirs ought to make pretty snappy reading.

IT'S BETTER THAN WATER 'CUZ IT

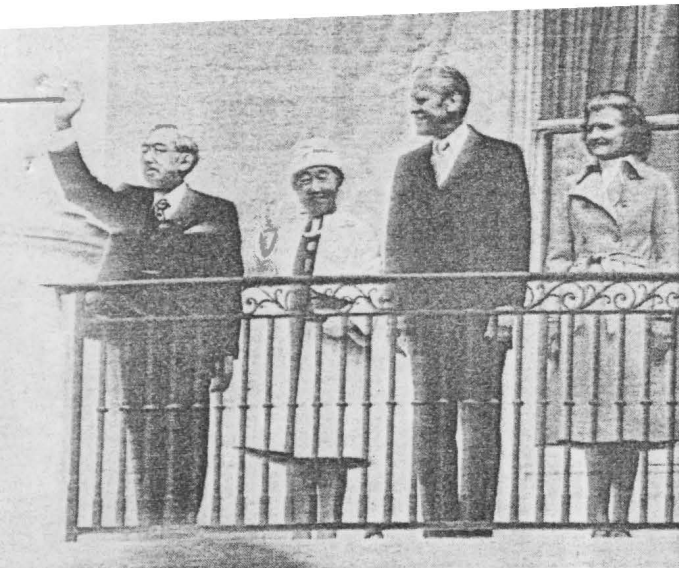
FLOATS . . . Helen Delich Bentley, who resigned as Maritime Commissioner recently, is going to work for the Burmah Oil Company. With an H. She says she'll be making a lot of money.

THE BLAIR HOUSE BLAHS . . . Ear hears there's a gale brewing among the gorgeous ones over Blair House, our mini-palace here for visiting heads of state. The issue: the redecorating done by Jessica Catto, wife of Acting Chief of Protocol Henry. Usually, Earwigs, there are long, windy sessions with the Fine Arts Commission before anyone twitches so much as a switchplate at B.H. But Jessie just dove in and did over settees, wallpaper, the works. The Fine Arts folks are reported livid. Particularly because everyone says it's never looked better.

Jackson Blue Blair House

PHOTO REPORT

HIROHITO FOLLOWS A WELL-WORN PATH TO THE BLAIR HOUSE



USN&WR

After White House visit, on to Blair House.

THERE is one historic house on the busiest avenue in Washington which is a treasure trove owned by the U.S.

royal party, whether or not the Emperor would like to entertain, who should conduct the ritualized "tea ceremony"

The house and its contents were sold in 1942 to the U.S. Government for about \$150,000. Since then, it has been

Blair House
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WH involvement
How?

May 21, 1975

Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sheila:

As I mentioned to you, Kohler Company is donating equipment for three bathrooms at Blair House. Plans for the project were designed by House Beautiful and the magazine is coordinating donations of other materials to complete renovation of the baths -- King's Bath, Room 26, and Margaret's Bath.

The project is similar (though minute in comparison) to the House & Garden cooperative project with individuals and companies that accomplished other renovations at Blair House. The only mention the donors will receive in House Beautiful's story on the new bathrooms are small credit lines and the emphasis will be on the design.

At this point, the designs have been shown to Mrs. Henry Catto, Mrs. Mary Schneck of Blair House, and Mr. Daniel Spaulding of the General Services Administration, who indicated their approval. After viewing at Kohler Company in Wisconsin, the design boards are being returned to me and I plan to show them to Mrs. Wilroy at Blair House next week (she was ill when we had the first viewing).

The renovation has been set for some time this summer depending to a great extent on the schedule for Blair House. The magazine is looking toward an article in a February or March 1976 issue.

I will have the plans in my office if any one else would like to see them. The scheme is in conservative, excellent taste. Wish I could talk them all into re-decorating my bath.

Very best,

Kathy
Katherine M. Christie
Vice President



KMC:ivs

P.S. It was fun seeing you two even for a few minutes. Hope things aren't all work. That would have been one good day to play.

June 5, 1975

Dear Kathy:

I received your letter of May 21 and am fascinated by what you are doing at the Blair House. I must confess, though, that I am not certain what the White House involvement would be. Please let me know how we can be helpful.

I am glad to hear you are feeling better.

Cordially,

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld
Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Ms. Katherine M. Christie
Vice President
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