

James Buchanan Wimer (- 9 Jul 1936)

Wimer. On Thursday, July 9, 1936, James B. Wimer, beloved husband of the late Marie M. Wimer. Funeral from his daughters residence, Miss Marie E. Wimer, 1922 Belmont road northwest on Saturday, July 11 at 10 a.m. Interment private.

The Evening Star, Thursday, July 9, 1936, p. A8

James B. Wimer Dies Here at 91



Attended Lincoln's Inauguration Ball -- Was Attached to Signal Service

James Buchanan Wimer, 91, who attended President Lincoln's inaugural ball, died today at the home of his daughter, Miss Marie E. Wimer, 1922 Belmont road.

Wilmer came to this city at 10 and finished his education here. Later he was attached to the Signal Service as a civilian employee and then became one of the principal developers of the Columbia Heights section.

For approximately 30 years he conducted a real estate office, retiring 20 years ago.

Wilmer prided himself on having attended Lincoln's inaugural ball, and told many stories of the Civil War.

He was a member and at one time a senior vestryman of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church.

His wife, Mrs. Mary Noel Wimer, died 15 years ago, and a daughter, Miss Martha E. Wimer, a teacher of French in the public schools here for 30 years, died last year.

Surviving are the daughter with whom he lived, who conducts a business on Connecticut avenue; another daughter, Mrs. James Rohrer of Rio Bamba, Ecuador, and a son, Albert Wilmer of Flint, Mich.

The Evening Star, July 10, 1936, p. A12

Last Rites Tomorrow For J.B. Wimer, 91

Former Signal Service Employe and Realty Operator to Rest in Congressional Cemetery

Funeral services for James Buchanan Wimer 91, who died yesterday at his home, 1922 Belmont road, will be held at his home at 10 a.m. tomorrow, with Dr. Herbert Scott Smith of St. Margaret's Church officiating. Private burial will follow in Congressional Cemetery.

Mr. Wimer moved to Washington at the age of 10 and completed his education here. For a while he was attached to the Signal Service as a civilian employe and then entered the real estate business, retiring about 20 years ago. He was one of the principal developers of the Columbia Heights section.

The Washington Post, July 10, 1936, p. X7

James Wimer Funeral Rites Set for Today Resident Here 80 Years Retired As Realtor Two Decades Ago

Funeral services for James Buchanan Wimer, 91, who died yesterday at his home, 1922 Belmont road, will be conducted at 10 a.m. tomorrow at the Belmont road address by Dr. Herbert Scott Smith, of St. Margaret's Church.

Mr. Wimer, who was born in Philadelphia and came here 80 years ago, had been closely identified with the real estate development of Washington, especially that of the northwest section. Twenty years ago he retired from business. At the time of his death he was making his home with a daughter, Miss Marie E. Wimer.

He attended President Lincoln's inaugural ball and was fond of telling stories of that period. The night the President was assassinated at Ford's Theater, Mr. Wimer was attending a performance at the old National Theater with Miss Mary Molan, of Philadelphia, who later became his bride. He frequently recalled how quietly and somberly the crowd left the National upon learning of the fate of President Lincoln.

For a number of years Mr. Wimer was a member of the board of directors of the National Metropolitan Bank. He was also a senior vestryman at St. Margaret's Church.

His wife died in 1916 and a daughter, Miss Martha E. Wimer, who taught French in the Washington public schools for 30 years, died last year.

Survivors are the daughter with whom he lived, an interior decorator with a business establishment on Connecticut avenue; another daughter, Mrs. James Rohrer, of Riobamba, Ecuador, and a son, Albert Wimer, of Flint, Mich.

The funeral service tomorrow will be followed by private burial in Congressional Cemetery.

A History of the City of Washington, Its Men and Institutions

James B. Wimer

The wonderful development and progress which Washington has experienced during the last quarter of a century, and which has made out of a city "without streets" one of the most beautiful cities in the world, is to a very large degree due to the energy and enterprise of its real estate brokers, who allow no opportunity to pass which might contribute to the beautifying and enlargement of the nation's capital. To accomplish this end, it was necessary that the men who bought, sold and exchanged real estate in the District of Columbia should not only have ample means at their disposal, but it required men of foresight, conservatism and close attention to business. Mr. James B. Wimer is one of the few in Washington who has been in the real estate business for about twenty years and has devoted his entire time and best efforts to the interest of his clients, and who by doing this with exceptional fidelity and conservatism is one of those who have added to the valuation of Washington's real estate. His commodious and well-equipped offices are at 1201 G street northwest, where he conducts a general real estate brokerage business, and combines with it, loans and insurance. Mr. Wimer was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on March 6, 1845. His father was James Wimer, who was closely identified with the early journalism of Washington, he being the editor and one of the proprietors of a small sheet, The American Telegraph, started March 25, 1851, which turned out to be the foundation of the present Evening Star.

Mr. Wimer received a business education at Gonzaga College and also took a course at the old Columbian College. In 1869 he entered the government service in which he held a number of responsible positions. In 1883 he left the government service and embarked in the real estate business, and shortly after that time took particular interest in that portion of Washington which is now called Washington Heights. He exercised every effort in the accomplishment of the extension of Connecticut avenue over Washington Heights, ensuring for that part of the city by his untiring energy and perseverance the beautiful section which it is today. Mr. Wimer is at this time, and has been since its

reorganization, a director of National Metropolitan Bank, a director of the District Title Insurance Company, and is a director of the National Union Fire Insurance Company. He is a member of the Board of Trade, the Real Estate Exchange, and a number of other organizations. Although taking an active part in everything that pertains to the welfare of the city and its inhabitants, Mr. Wimer has never solicited public honors. His entire time is devoted to his business and interests of his numerous clients. Mr. Wimer lives on Wyoming avenue, in a handsome residence, in the original Washington Heights subdivision. He is one of the founders and continuous workers in St. Margaret's Episcopal Church on Connecticut Avenue Heights, being the senior warden therein, from its beginning to the present time, and has exhibited a spirited interest in all that pertains to the good of our people and city.