



D.C. History Minute

April 2008

In its heyday, 1461 S Street, NW, was the home of Georgia Douglas Johnson, a celebrated local Harlem Renaissance-era poet and author. Her home was known for its Saturday night soirees. These gatherings were known for their sparkling wit, penetrating prose, and scintillating stanzas. Such was the renown of these parties that lucky guests could rub shoulders or hoist glasses with A. Philip Randolph, Langston Hughes, Angelina Weld Grimke, or Alain Locke. Georgia Douglas Johnson also wrote plays, short stories and novels, many of them completed while she worked as a file clerk for the Civil Service and the Department of Labor. Many historians consider her the first African American female poet to have gained national attention since Francis Ellen Watkins Harper had done so in the 1860s.



1461 S Street, NW

This has been a moment in D.C.'s past brought to you by C.R. Gibbs and the Historical Society of Washington D.C.