



# D.C. History Minute

December 2008



## 909 M Street, NW

From 1878 until 1888, 909 M Street, NW was the home of Blanche Kelso Bruce, the first African American to serve a full term in the United States Senate. Bruce is also best known for being the first African American to have his name on United States currency when he served as Register of the Treasury in the 1880s.

Although Bruce had many national interests and concerns, he was deeply involved with his adopted city.

### **Blanche Kelso Bruce**

He served as Recorder of Deeds, joined the Board of Trustees for the city

schools, and the Board of Howard University. Bruce also owned land in Prince George's County, Maryland. His only child, Roscoe Conkling Bruce, was born in the District and attended the famous M Street High School. Blanche Bruce died in 1898 and was buried at Woodlawn Cemetery on Benning Road.

*This D.C. History Minute is brought to you by C.R. Gibbs and the Historical Society of Washington D.C.*



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