

814 L Street, SE (also known as 821  
Virginia Avenue, SE)  
Square: 929  
Razed: 2006  
Building permit #: none - predates  
building permit requirements  
Date of construction: c. 1869-1870

Architect: unknown  
Owner: John T. Howe  
Church)  
Builder: John T. Howe  
Original use: dwelling

This one-story detached frame house that stood at 814 L Street, SE (the white building on the right in the photograph). The building had a parapet in front, and an irregular floor plan, a vernacular building but not a shotgun house. The house was built and occupied by John T. Howe, a policeman. *Washington Directory* (1870). The Navy Yard was established in 1799 in a thinly-settled agricultural area which soon attracted hundreds of workers and merchants who needed housing. Many of the new residents constructed frame buildings, similar to 814 L Street, SE. Few of these buildings remain.

See Jeff Davis, "Just a shack, or another Capital Loss?" *Hill Rag* July 2006.  
Image courtesy of CHRIS Collection

