

VIEWING 1998 ARCHIVED ROW MAPS

- ***I want to find out where my property ends and public space begins:*** Public space is the street Right-of-Way (ROW) between private property lines along a street and includes the roadways, alleys, sidewalks and usually all or part of the front and side yards between sidewalks and buildings. To view the Archived ROW Maps, go to <http://www.dc.gov/DC/OCTO/Maps+and+Apps/Online+Mapping/Atlas+All-in-One> and then click on “[Atlas All-in-One](#)” to use the map, or to learn more about using the Atlas All-in-One map service, click on the “[DC Atlas All-in-One User Guide](#)” option.
- ***How do I start?*** Manually zoom into the immediate area on the map where your property is located or use the “location search” box to zoom into the immediate vicinity of an address or street intersection. Notice that the building footprint, road, sidewalk, alley and parking lot layers are already visible.
- ***What’s the next step?*** Prior to viewing the 1998 Archived ROW Maps, it’s best to turn off several features first. Under “Display Options” (listed on right), expand the “Transportation” overlay (click on “plus” box) and then turn off (un-check) the layers for “Alleys and Parking,” “Roads,” and “Sidewalks” – then click on the “Refresh Map” button at the upper right.
- ***How do I view the ROW map?*** Still under “Display Options,” expand the “Aerial Photography and Scanned Maps” overlay and turn on (check) the layer for the “1998 Archived ROW Maps.” (*Always zoom into an area no larger than 6 city blocks prior to turning on the ROW Maps layer*)
- ***Why didn’t anything change when I turned on the ROW maps layer?*** Unfortunately, a number of map sections have been lost and the map for your area is no longer available. The locations of property lines may still be viewed by expanding the “Property and Land” overlay and turning on the “Record Lots” and “Tax Lots” layers. Also turn the “Alleys and Parking,” “Roads,” and “Sidewalks” layers back on and “Refresh Map.” Except for certain DC parks, the area shown outside the private property lot lines is public space (ROW).
- ***How do I interpret what the lines and dimensions on the ROW map mean?***
 - The roadway curb lines are shown in black. The width dimension for the roadway and the over-all ROW are often shown together in the roadway area. A 30 to 34 foot roadway width with a 90 foot ROW width is common for many residential areas.
 - Please note that zooming in closer may be required to read the dimensions and panning up or down a street may be necessary to find a dimension.
 - The red lines (if shown) are the sidewalks. Generally, the dimension shown is for a combination of the tree space and sidewalk areas, but often both a tree space and a sidewalk are shown and dimensioned. Tree spaces are commonly 4 to 6 feet wide and for most residential areas, 6 foot wide sidewalks are standard.
 - The solid black line shown behind the sidewalk line is the property line. The property line may be partially obscured by the “Buildings” foot print layer if this layer has not been turned off.
 - The area between the sidewalk and the property line is referred to as “Public Parking” as in “park land”. This is not private property, but is a part of the street ROW that is cared for and maintained as park land by the abutting property owner. The amount of “Public Parking” varies from zero feet to as much as 45 feet.
 - There may also be a dashed line behind the property line on private property. This is a “Building Restriction Line” and the area between this line and the property line is private property regulated as public space. If needed, public sidewalks or utility mains may be located in this area.
- ***How accurate are the maps?*** These maps are for historic reference only. The maps are still accurate for most areas of the District. In situations where the roadway configuration has changed or the ROW width varies, only a surveyor can determine the exact locations of the property lines.
- ***What if I need additional information?*** Please call Public Space Management at (202) 442-4670.