Some History of 501 E St SE
Architect Calvin T.S. Brent (1854-1899)

- First African American trained as professional architect in Washington, DC.

- Most significant extant building is Third Baptist Church in Shaw, constructed in 1893.

- Of Brent’s work, three churches (Mount Jezreel, Third Baptist, and St. Luke's) and 17 houses or groups of houses are still standing today. Among the houses is one built for J.L. Rogers at 1737 S Street, NW.

- His father, born enslaved, had earned money to purchase his freedom and that of his betrothed.

- He began practicing in 1875 and is credited with more than 100 projects as architect or architect/builder in all four quadrants of the city.

Calvin Brent (1854-1899)
Source: Descendants of Brent

Reverend Temple S. Robinson (1845-1892)
- Born into slavery
- By 1870, Temple was living at 1319 12th St NW with his sister Victoria and her husband Edward, Temple's brother Patrick and a woman named Fanny Baker.
- Secured loan and attended Howard U, eventually the theology school
- Began at Mt. Jezreel in 1880, when they were meeting at the Old Meat House
- Led the efforts to construct the building on 5th and E, completed in 1883
- Was founding member of the Howard Theological School Alumni Association
- Married Miss Lucinda Minor in 1886 had (at least) 3 children together – Charles, Temple, and Peter

Mt. Jezreel Congregation
- First was Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, but most of congregation eventually lived far away
- Formed new church in building known as “old meat house” at L and 7th Streets SE called Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church
- Under Rev. Temple Robinson, built a new building at 5th and E in 1883
- Sold building in 1982
- Congregation first moved to NW DC, then to Silver Spring where they worship today

Temple S. Robinson Sr. (1845-1892)
Source: Library of Congress

https://www.loc.gov/resource/bellcm.04823/
Mt Jezreel Baptist Church, 1964
Progress for Christ Baptist Church, 1984-Present