The extraordinary, wacky, ground-breaking, rule-breaking, fabulous

Women of Mount Vernon
The attributes of True Womanhood, by which a woman judged herself and was judged by her husband, her neighbors, and her society could be divided into four cardinal virtues –

piety
purity
submissiveness
domesticity

Without them... all was ashes. With them she was promised happiness and power.

Barbara Welter, 1996
“Cult of True Womanhood”
The Cult of True Womanhood

*Let the men take care of politics, we will take care of our children*
The Cult of True Womanhood

...such reading will unsettle them for their true station and pursuits, and they will throw the world back again into confusion..."
It is not impossible that Lincoln kissed Mrs. Somers, but January 1, 1863 was a very busy day for Lincoln...

Lincoln did know James W. Somers, a lawyer from Urbana, Illinois, quite well, but we would have to have more information to be able to trace the story further.
The Original Mount Vernon Seminary Building
204 F Street
Grandma Eddy
October 26, 1890
Grandma Eddy’s 90th Birthday
**Office Hours.**

Mrs. Somers, or Mrs. Hensley, each school day, 10.00 to 11.00 A.M., and 1.30 to 2.30 P.M.

Cable Address—“Seminary, Washington.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Schedule</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rising Bell</td>
<td>7.00 A.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakfast Bell</td>
<td>7.30 A.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morning Walk</td>
<td>8.15-8.45 A.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Hours</td>
<td>9 A.M. to 2.30 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luncheon</td>
<td>12.40 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afternoon Walk</td>
<td>3.00 to 3.45 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Hour</td>
<td>4.15 to 5.45 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner</td>
<td>6.00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prayers</td>
<td>7.30 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening Study Hour</td>
<td>7.45 to 9.15 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Abend brot,”</td>
<td>9.15 P.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lights out</td>
<td>10.00 P.M.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elizabeth J Somers
Late 1880s
Approximately age 50
1100 M Street
in the “fashionable west end”
Mount Vernon Locations through the years.

“fashionable west end”

original home school
Fun on the roof of 1100 M Street
Basketball on the 1100 M Street court
Artifacts from the B.T.S secret society at Mount Vernon Seminary
Mrs. Somers and the Senior Banquet at the Willard Hotel
Mount Vernon Locations through the years.

Rolling hills and farms at the end of the trolley line.
I guess it was crowded at 1100 M Street
Adelia Gates Hensley as a young teacher at Mount Vernon Seminary
Nebraska Avenue Campus Aerial View
Nebraska Avenue Campus View from Inside the Courtyard
Portrait of Mrs. Somers in the Great Hall at the Nebraska Avenue campus
Our beloved Elizabeth Somers guarding Post Hall
Hensley Gate, dedicated in 1924, still stands today.
Wacky Mount Vernon Alumnae at the Golden Jubilee
Wacky Mount Vernon Alumnae at the Golden Jubilee
Why are these women dressed like Little Bo Peep?
Mary Stewart Carey, Class of 1877 and the first Mount Vernon boarding student, at the Golden Jubilee
What would a Golden Jubilee be without Heralds in white satin?
Chapel on the Nebraska campus, built to honor Elizabeth Somers
Olwen & George Lloyd
Nothing says “Merry Christmas” like a paper mache boar’s head
Nothing says "Merry Christmas" like a paper mache boar's head
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Mount Vernon Seminary and Garfinkel’s Department Store in Spring Valley
Nothing says "Merry Christmas" like a paper mache boar's head

Spring Valley Dormitories
Mount Vernon Students in a Military Drill Supervised by the Marine Corps
Mount Vernon Locations through the years.

You are here.
Nothing says "Merry Christmas" like a paper mache boar's head

The "Mud Turtles" of the Foxhall Campus
Mount Vernon in the 1950s taken from where Eckles Library is now
Marjorie Merriweather Post laying the cornerstone of Post Hall, “where gentlemen callers could be received by the girls.”
A Mount Vernon student and her gentleman caller. (Okay, they are actually at a dance, but aren’t they adorable)
Post Hall has a mantle so Mrs. Somers can sit above it.
Marjorie Merriweather Post – The definition of awesome!
Peter Pelham at his Inauguration
It’s Mary Poppins!
The times, they are a-changin
Hand Chapel received an AIA Honor Award
Aerial Photo of Pelham Hall taken in the 1970s
Thanks to the Eckles Staff for running over to Post to take this photo today!
DON'T SHUT THE DOOR
I WANT AN MVC DEGREE IN '93

CLASS OF 1989