

the adjacent Montrose Park extension of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. A large wooded area between the terminus of Whitehaven Parkway and the end of Montrose Park at present prevents the realization of this plan, although this grove itself is generally used by Georgetown citizens as a park also.

To the west, the Glover-Archbold Park sends out a spur (undeveloped in 1936) at Fulton Street to connect with the Fort Drive, a section of which extends from the neighborhood of American University southward to Conduit Road, and follows this road westward to Weaver Place. Here it is contiguous to Palisades Park between the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal bed and the Potomac River.

Palisades Park is still largely undeveloped but soon it will add an important western terminus of the system of Georgetown parks reached through Glover-Archbold Park. At present it is an abundantly wooded, low-lying tract extending from a point approximately opposite Nebraska Avenue and the Fort Drive, a mile and a quarter westward to the District boundary. It is crossed by the Chain Bridge, but it is not yet accessible to vehicles.

Another Georgetown park site of great future promise is Theodore Roosevelt Island, just off the Potomac River outlet of Rock Creek, and midway between the Arlington Memorial and Key Bridges. The island is 75 acres in extent, and was presented to the Government by the Roosevelt Memorial Association in 1931, at which time it was known as Analostan Island.

The island was opened to the public in 1936, after C. C. C. workers had built paths and trails, drained the swampy shore, and made the woods accessible. At present it can be reached only by water, but a footbridge will soon connect it with the Virginia shore near the Key Bridge terminus. No provision is made for any vehicular traffic on the island.

### *THE ANACOSTIA PARKS*

**A**NACOSTIA PARK follows both sides of the broad Anacostia River from the navy yard and the town of Anacostia to the Maryland-District line, a distance of about 5 miles. The total tract comprises about 1,100 acres. Newest of the major park systems, its development was long delayed because of special financial and labor problems involved. Work was finally begun in August 1912, and is still continuing.

Archeologists have made many interesting finds in the Anacostia region that relate to the pre-Columbian period. When Capt. John Smith landed here in 1608, in the course of exploring the tributaries

town branch of the Public Library. Its colonial architecture harmoniously conforms to the early Georgetown scene.

Located on Lee's Hill, the library is on the site of the dismantled Georgetown reservoir. The retaining wall of the terrace was formerly the reservoir wall. Two tridents are still to be seen in the wall, and a third is on exhibit in the Peabody Room.

The library is now custodian of the George Peabody collection of Georgetowniana, imprints of the nineteenth century, early maps of the region, and works of Georgetown authors. Open Mondays and Thursdays, 5 to 6 p. m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 2 to 6 p. m.; Fridays, 9 a. m. to 3:30 p. m.

On the other three corners stand the pre-Civil War homes of the Dougal (66) and Marbury (67) families, and Mount Hope (68) of Col. William Robinson.

*Mackall-Worthington House* (69), 3406 R Street. Two blocks to the west, on the south (left) side of R Street, stands another grand mansion in a grove of large shade trees; it is a symmetrical house of gray painted brick, with bracketed cornice and mansard roof. The main facade is relieved by a heavy white balcony which is carried on large consoles above the head of the door. The house was built about 1800 by Leonard Mackall who received the land as a dowry when he married a daughter of Brooke Beall. In 1867 John, son of Dr. Charles Worthington, bought the estate.

The garden of the estate, now (1936) the home of Mrs. Frank West, is open to the public during April Garden Week. Turn left (south) into Thirty-fifth Street.

*Site of The Cedars* (70). On the right (west) side of Thirty-fifth (old Fayette) Street are the wooded grounds of the Western High School, part of the public-school system of the District. This was the site of The Cedars, estate of Col. John Cox.

The land was part of the Threlkeld estate, Berlieth, for which a modern suburb is named. Jane Threlkeld brought the land as a dowry to her husband, John Cox, who built a manor house there. In order that Cox might accept the nomination for mayor (a position he held 22 years) the city limits of Georgetown were enlarged to include his estate. Later the large home was converted into a "female seminary" kept by the Misses Earle.

*Convent of the Visitation*, 1500 Thirty-fifth Street. Along the west (right) side of Thirty-fifth Street from Reservoir Road to P Street are the 40-acre grounds and red brick buildings of the Georgetown Convent of the Visitation of the Holy Mary, which conducts a boarding school for girls. The first building on the north, along

Thirty-fifth Street, and extending west into the grounds, is the Academy Building, housing the classrooms and laboratories, and, behind it, the dormitories and infirmary of the school. This building was erected in 1873. The next adjoining on the south is the oldest structure on the grounds, the Chapel of the Sacred Heart, erected in 1821, and to the south, on Thirty-fifth Street and extending along P Street, is the monastery proper, built in 1857. A new gymnasium and the Sennessy Memorial Hall of the graduate school complete the quadrangle on the west side.

The convent stands on the site of Berlieth, the home of Henry Threlkeld, built about 1716. The pecan trees in the convent garden were a gift from Thomas Jefferson to Threlkeld's son, John, when he married Elizabeth Ridgely. The original Berlieth was burned shortly after the Revolution, but another house was built.

The convent was established in 1799 by Rt. Rev. Leonard Neale, first president of Georgetown College (now University), and second Archbishop of Baltimore in the United States, for his religious protégées, Miss Alice Lalor and two friends. The three girls became interested in taking the vows through study with some Poor Clare nuns who, exiled during the French Revolution, had established a school in the second Berlieth. On the return of the Poor Clares to France, Father Neale acquired the school and set up an unofficial convent. Under the superintendency of his successor, Father Picot Cloriviere, that romantic exiled nobleman who became a priest, the convent was recognized in 1816 by Pope Pius VII as the Order of the Visitation. Miss Lalor then became Mother Superior as Sister Theresa. Cloriviere used his depleted fortune to erect the chapel.

Within the chapel are gifts from Charles X of France, a marble altar, crystal altar lamp, and an altarpiece, *Martha and Mary*, by Madame Le Brun. In the chapel crypt are the tomb of Archbishop Neale, the sarcophagus of Father Cloriviere, and the bodies of Sister Theresa, Sister Joana (daughter of Yterbide, the assassinated Emperor of Mexico), and many other early members of the order. Others are buried in the two small cemeteries within the grounds.

Many distinguished names are on the roster of the school. Daughters of Presidents, generals, and literary men have attended since its foundation.

The convent is the oldest of the Order of the Visitation in this country, and is thus considered the mother convent of 20 others. The order was founded in 1610 by Francis de Sales at Annecy (Savoy) and dedicated to St. Martha, patron saint of the poor, as a ministering order, but was soon changed to a teaching order.



of Chesapeake Bay, he found that the Nacotchant, or Anacostia, Tribe of Indians had been settled here for an unknown period. In his time the settlement numbered about 80 Indian families, peaceful and well disposed toward the whites. English farmers soon occupied the fertile edges of these flatlands, and the game that abounded here supplied the countryside.

During the early growth of Washington, extensive plans were made for harbor development of lower Anacostia. But the development of the city moved westward, so that the swampy Anacostia region has always remained a favorite haunt of the game hunters, with a few farms on the highlands. This aspect of the region is being preserved north of Pennsylvania Avenue. The wide swampy reaches of the river are being broken into channels that wind between bush-covered islets and vast expanses of wild rice.

Between Pennsylvania Avenue and Bolling Field, on the eastern shore, the park is more completely developed for recreational use. Here are golf links, baseball and football fields, tennis courts, croquet and quoits grounds, and a field house with locker rooms and a refectory available to the public. A concrete driveway follows the eastern edge of the river southward from the Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge, passing under the Anacostia Bridge to the boundary of Bolling Field. Above Pennsylvania Avenue additional golf links are being developed, but the upper reaches of the river are being left as largely as possible as nature made them.

Just below the District line on the eastern side of the river are the *Shaw Lily Ponds*, started in 1880 as a private enterprise by W. B. Shaw, a one-armed veteran of the Civil War. The ponds began with a small pool on the Shaw farm, supplied with a dozen roots of the native, sweet-scented lily of Maine. At present they cover 90 acres, divided into 40 pools, from which over 400,000 lilies are cut during the summer. The roots and bulbs are shipped all over the world. Some rare variants of waterlilies have been produced in these waters by hybridizing. Among the hundreds of distinct varieties are the Giant Victoria Regina, whose leaves often reach 6 feet in width, and the night-blooming waterlily.

Anacostia Park ends at the District boundary line. Along the upper western side of the park is the *National Arboretum*. This experimental forest reservation was first recommended by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson in 1899, who wanted a spot "in which can be brought together for study all the trees that will grow in Washington, D. C. . . . furnishing complete material for the investigations of the Department of Agriculture and so managed as to be a