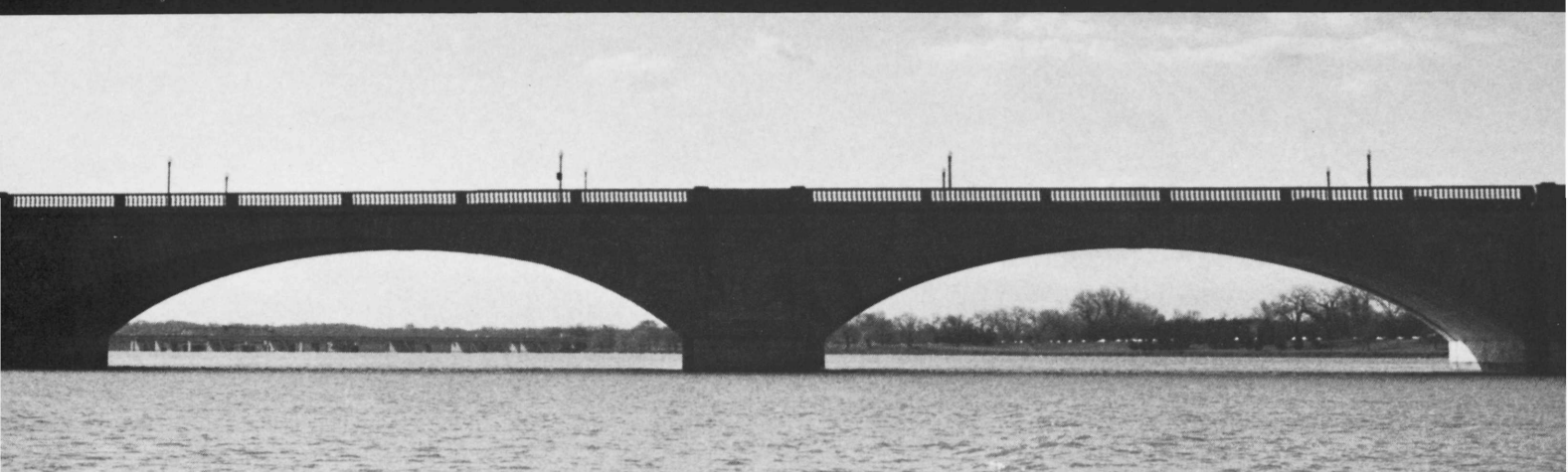


George Washington Memorial Parkway

Virginia, Maryland,
District of Columbia

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



More Than a Road

The George Washington Memorial Parkway preserves the natural scenery along the Potomac River. It connects the historic sites from Mount Vernon Estate, where Washington lived, past the nation's capital, which he founded, to the Great Falls of the Potomac where the President demonstrated his skill as an engineer. Developed as a memorial to George Washington, the Parkway may be used on any day to travel to exciting historical, natural and recreational settings. These settings are all linked by this planned and landscaped road, the first section of which was completed in 1932 to commemorate the bicentennial of George Washington's birth.

If history is your interest, a day's survey of the Parkway's historical features may begin at the entrance to Mount Vernon. As you travel north on your way to Great Falls Park and the Patowmack Canal you can reflect upon the intrigue of Fort Washington and Fort Hunt silently guarding the river approach to Washington. An early start would allow time for a short tour of historic Alexandria, founded in 1749, hometown of George Washington. Continuing north, high above the Potomac River, is Arlington House, the home of Robert E. Lee, now surrounded by Arlington National Cemetery. As you pass Memorial Bridge, Theodore Roosevelt Island is on your right. The Island

is rich in history, from the Algonquian Indians to its present existence as a Presidential memorial. Beyond the island, are scenic overlooks which provide an opportunity to view the river and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal in Maryland. Just past the overlooks, a short stop at Fort Marcy will allow time to explore one of the defenses of Washington. After Turkey Run Park the Virginia Parkway ends and only a short section in Maryland links Glen Echo Park and the Clara Barton National Historic Site. The intended dream of a circular scenic highway encompassing both sides of the Potomac was never fulfilled. A day trip along the Parkway is incomplete without a visit to Great Falls. The ruins of Washington's dream the Patowmack Canal, can be viewed, and a short walk brings you to the Great Falls and the 1/2 mile Mather Gorge, just out of sight down river. The Parkway provides a pleasant day from Mount Vernon to the Falls, passing through the same lands Washington frequently travelled by horse.

The historic sites of the Parkway are enhanced by the beauty of the Virginia countryside, which the Parkway preserves. All along the way are azalea and dogwood. The banks of the Potomac are covered with willows, elders, and birches, and in autumn, the glory of the red maples, oaks, sumacs and hickories sets the hillsides ablaze in splendid color. It is not unusual to see white tail deer, raccoon, wild turkey, opossum or an elusive red fox. These ani-

mals are kept company by the vast bird population which resides in the Parkway woodlands. Notable for its bird habitats is Dyke Marsh, a 240-acre wetland adjacent to the Parkway near Alexandria. Theodore Roosevelt Island, 90-acres of fascinating natural environment, serves as the memorial to our 26th President. For those seeking greater adventure, a rough hiking trail parallels the Potomac from Roosevelt Island to the Fairfax County Dranesville Park, upriver. Finally, to arrive at the natural and geological mysteries of Great Falls, the traveller must drive the first historic Virginia scenic byway, Georgetown Pike. At this premier natural setting near the metropolitan area the visitor can hike, rock climb, fish or enjoy a leisurely amble through the thick upland deciduous forest. The Parkway easily brings into harmony the scenes of man's historic presence with the steady beat of nature's melody.

Considered a commuter route by many local residents, the George Washington Memorial Parkway offers the traveller much more than convenience. It is a route to scenic, historic and recreational settings offering respite from the urban pressures of metropolitan Washington. It also protects the Potomac River shoreline and watershed. The Parkway links a group of parks that provide a variety of experiences to over 9 million people each year. Consider this brochure and map as your invitation to adventure. You are sure to return again and again.



The Robert E. Lee Memorial



Clara Barton House



Glen Echo Carousel

Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial

Arlington House is the nation's memorial to Robert E. Lee. It is linked to the Lincoln Memorial by Memorial Bridge, symbolizing the reunion of northern and southern states. From boyhood Robert E. Lee was a frequent visitor to Arlington. Its owner, George Washington Parke Custis, was the foster son of President George Washington. The house was built between 1802-1818. In 1831, Robert E. Lee married Mary Custis, the Custis' only surviving child. For thirty years Arlington was their home while he pursued a career in the United States Army. His career ended here in 1861 when he resigned his Army commission to help defend his native state, Virginia. During the Civil War Federal troops occupied the house. In 1864, Arlington National Cemetery was established on a portion of the Arlington estate. The 26 room house is being restored to its 1860-1861 condition with original and period furnishings.

The house, two out buildings, bookstore, museum and restored grounds are free to the public. Hours of operation October through March are 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., and from April through September from 9:30 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. Open every day except Christmas and New Years Day. It is a ten minute walk from the Arlington National Cemetery Visitor Center or use the Tourmobile bus service, fee. For information call (703) 557-0613.

Clara Barton National Historic Site

The Clara Barton National Historic Site was the headquarters of the American Red Cross and the home of its founder from 1897-1904. This unusual 41-room building is furnished with original and period artifacts providing fascinating insights into the character of Clara Barton and the American Red Cross,

which she founded and guided through its earliest years.

Visitors can see the large storage closets in which relief supplies were stockpiled, the cozy headquarters offices with their primitive typewriters and roll top desks, and the numerous guest-rooms kept ready for Miss Barton's many friends and relatives.

The house is open for tours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For information call (301) 492-6245.

Glen Echo Park

Glen Echo began in 1891 as a National Chautauqua Assembly, a center "To promote liberal and practical education, especially among the masses of the people; to teach the sciences, arts, languages, and literature; to prepare its patrons for their several pursuits and professions in life; and to fit them for the duties which devolve upon them as members of society." By 1900, Glen Echo had become an amusement park which served the Washington area until 1967. In 1971, the National Park Service assumed responsibility and Glen Echo is now an arts and cultural center. It serves both the surrounding communities and visitors from across the country. Its four sessions of classes are taught year-round by well-known artists and professionals. Demonstrations, workshops, and festivals on Sundays during the warm months are part of the Chautauqua Summer Season, one of the largest cultural programs in the Washington, D.C., area. In addition, the antique handcarved and hand-painted Dentzel Carousel, saved by community effort, operates on summer weekends. The Gallery offers monthly exhibitions of Glen Echo's artists.

The Gallery and Visitor Information Center is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays and

Sundays, from noon until 6 p.m. The carousel operates on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from noon until 6 p.m. from early May through late September. A ride costs 25 cents. For information call (301) 492-6282.

Great Falls Park, Virginia

Flowing from the piedmont area, near the Nation's capital, the Potomac River builds up force as it falls over a steep, jagged rock wall, and flows through a narrow gorge. This dramatic scenery makes the 800-acre Great Falls Park in Virginia a popular site with local residents and tourists from around the world. The area was a trading place for Indians and early colonists, and it is still a gathering place today. History buffs and geology enthusiasts find plenty to interest them in the ruins of George Washington's Patowmack Canal and in the story that the rocks tell along the Mather Gorge. The park is open daily offering opportunities for hiking, climbing, fishing and picnicking. For information call (703) 759-2915.

Theodore Roosevelt Island

Theodore Roosevelt Island is managed as a natural area in a living tribute to the energetic President who frequently sought recreation in the solitude of the forest. Three major biological communities, marsh, swamp, and upland forest provide a refuge for a variety of native plants and animals. A memorial is located in the northern center of the island which includes a 17-foot bronze statue of the Nation's 26th President and four 21-foot granite tablets inscribed with Roosevelt's philosophy of citizenship. Visitors today may retreat here from the pressures of urban life to gain a renewal of spirit and deeper appreciation of man's relationship to his environment. Park is open 8:00 AM until dark. For further information call (703) 285-2598.

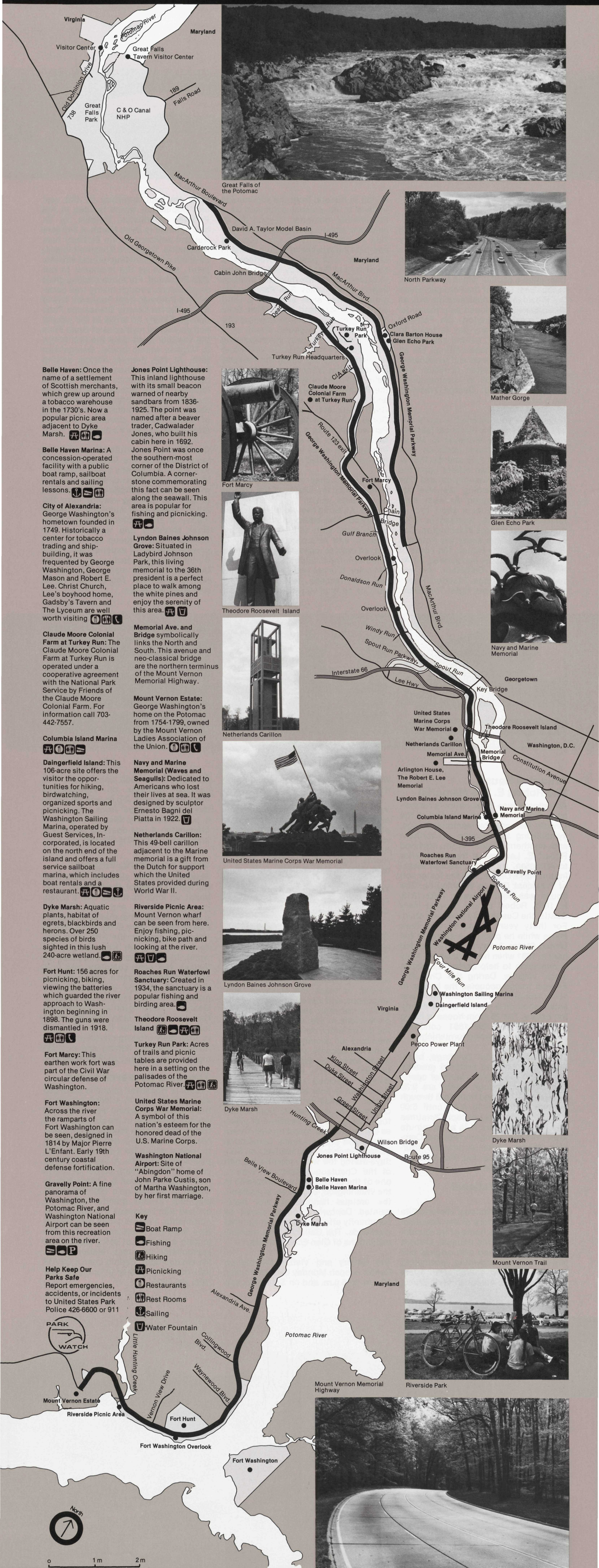
North Parkway



George Washington Memorial Parkway

Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Belle Haven: Once the name of a settlement of Scottish merchants, which grew up around a tobacco warehouse in the 1730's. Now a popular picnic area adjacent to Dyke Marsh.

Belle Haven Marina: A concession-operated facility with a public boat ramp, sailboat rentals and sailing lessons.

City of Alexandria: George Washington's hometown founded in 1749. Historically a center for tobacco trading and ship-building, it was frequented by George Washington, George Mason and Robert E. Lee. Christ Church, Lee's boyhood home, Gadsby's Tavern and The Lyceum are well worth visiting.

Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run: The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run is operated under a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service by Friends of the Claude Moore Colonial Farm. For information call 703-442-7557.

Columbia Island Marina

Daingerfield Island: This 106-acre site offers the visitor the opportunities for hiking, birdwatching, organized sports and picnicking. The Washington Sailing Marina, operated by Guest Services, Incorporated, is located on the north end of the island and offers a full service sailboat marina, which includes boat rentals and a restaurant.

Dyke Marsh: Aquatic plants, habitat of egrets, blackbirds and herons. Over 250 species of birds sighted in this lush 240-acre wetland.

Fort Hunt: 156 acres for picnicking, biking, viewing the batteries which guarded the river approach to Washington beginning in 1898. The guns were dismantled in 1918.

Fort Marcy: This earthen work fort was part of the Civil War circular defense of Washington.

Fort Washington: Across the river the ramparts of Fort Washington can be seen, designed in 1814 by Major Pierre L'Enfant. Early 19th century coastal defense fortification.

Gravelly Point: A fine panorama of Washington, the Potomac River, and Washington National Airport can be seen from this recreation area on the river.

Help Keep Our Parks Safe
Report emergencies, accidents, or incidents to United States Park Police 426-6600 or 911

Jones Point Lighthouse: This inland lighthouse with its small beacon warned of nearby sandbars from 1836-1925. The point was named after a beaver trader, Cadwalader Jones, who built his cabin here in 1692. Jones Point was once the southern-most corner of the District of Columbia. A cornerstone commemorating this fact can be seen along the seawall. This area is popular for fishing and picnicking.

Lyndon Baines Johnson Grove: Situated in Ladybird Johnson Park, this living memorial to the 36th president is a perfect place to walk among the white pines and enjoy the serenity of this area.

Memorial Ave. and Bridge symbolically links the North and South. This avenue and neo-classical bridge are the northern terminus of the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway.

Mount Vernon Estate: George Washington's home on the Potomac from 1754-1793, owned by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association of the Union.

Navy and Marine Memorial (Waves and Seagulls): Dedicated to Americans who lost their lives at sea. It was designed by sculptor Ernesto Bagni del Piatta in 1922.

Netherlands Carillon: This 49-bell carillon adjacent to the Marine memorial is a gift from the Dutch for support which the United States provided during World War II.

Riverside Picnic Area: Mount Vernon wharf can be seen from here. Enjoy fishing, picnicking, bike path and looking at the river.

Roaches Run Waterfowl Sanctuary: Created in 1934, the sanctuary is a popular fishing and birding area.

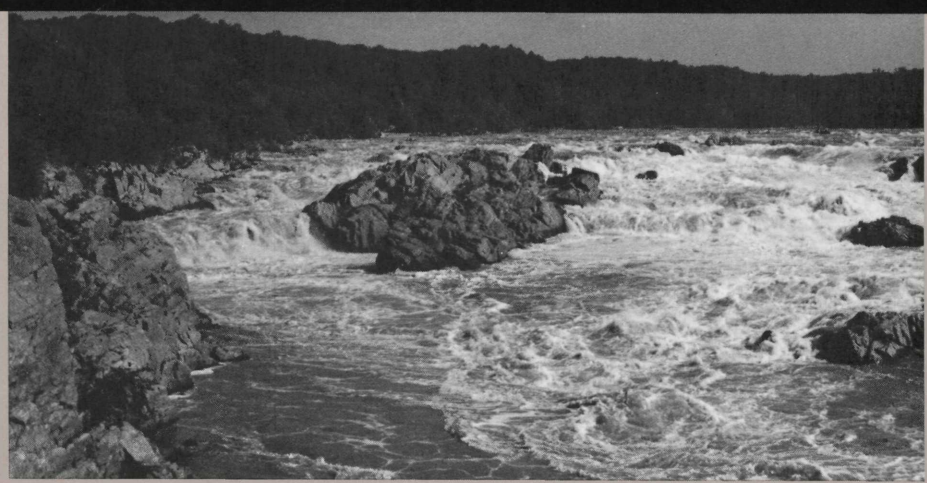
Theodore Roosevelt Island

Turkey Run Park: Acres of trails and picnic tables are provided here in a setting on the palisades of the Potomac River.

United States Marine Corps War Memorial: A symbol of this nation's esteem for the honored dead of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Washington National Airport: Site of "Abingdon" home of John Parke Custis, son of Martha Washington, by her first marriage.

- Key**
- Boat Ramp
 - Fishing
 - Hiking
 - Picnicking
 - Restaurants
 - Rest Rooms
 - Sailing
 - Water Fountain



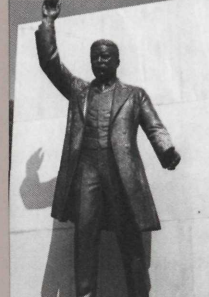
Great Falls of the Potomac



North Parkway



Fort Marcy



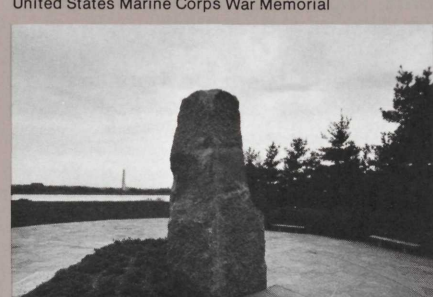
Theodore Roosevelt Island



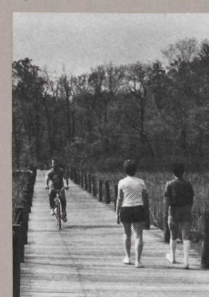
Netherlands Carillon



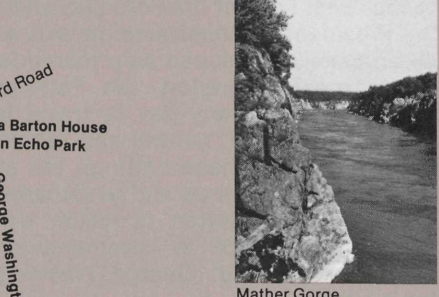
United States Marine Corps War Memorial



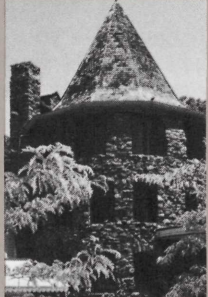
Lyndon Baines Johnson Grove



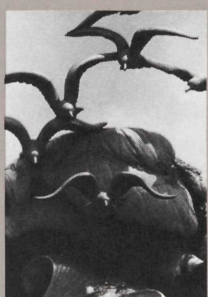
Dyke Marsh



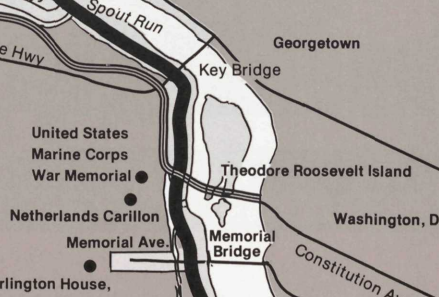
Mather Gorge



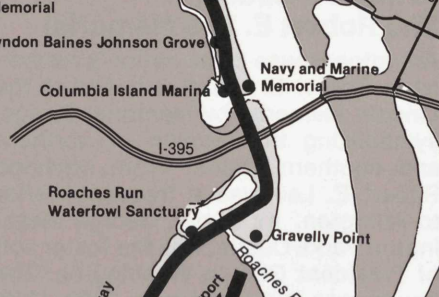
Glen Echo Park



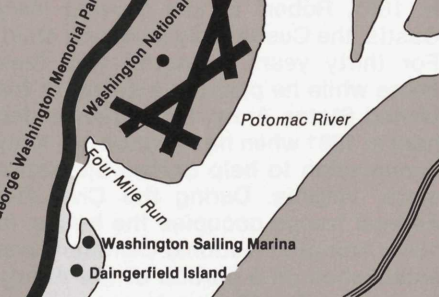
Navy and Marine Memorial



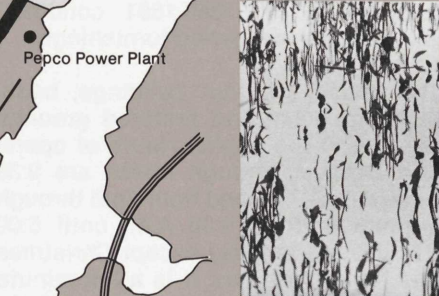
Theodore Roosevelt Island



Navy and Marine Memorial



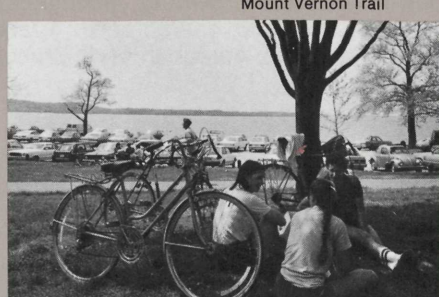
Washington National Airport



Washington Sailing Marina



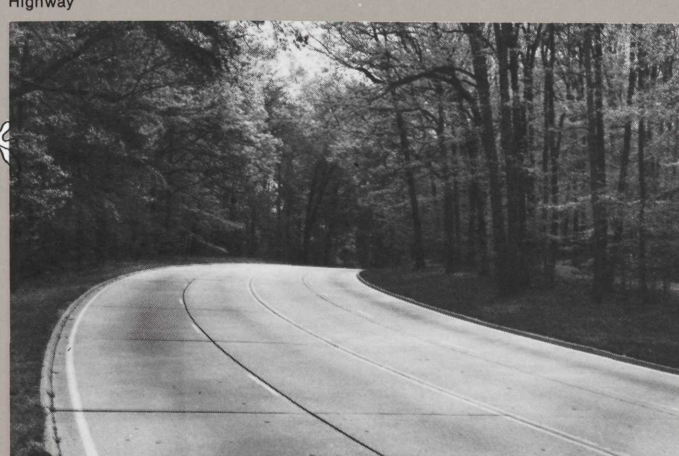
Dyke Marsh



Mount Vernon Trail



Riverside Park



Mount Vernon Memorial Highway