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MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE PARK



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728-732 15th ST. N. W WASHINGTON, D. C Director of Sales

Sales Agents RANDALL H. HAGNER & DD 1207 Conn. Ave

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The Washington Monument from the Treasury

MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE PARK

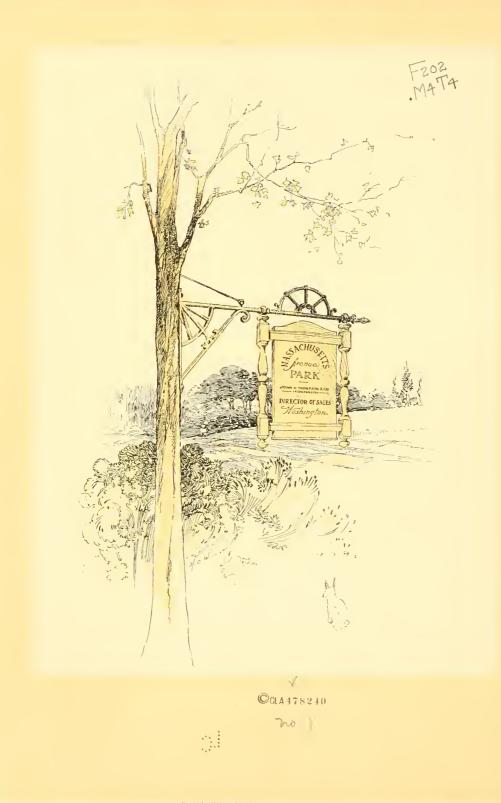


JOHN W. THOMPSON & CO.

Director of Sales 728-732 FIFTEENTH STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

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MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE PARK

HERE are two contending longings which mark the highly civilized man—the thirst of his primal nature for the $^{\prime\prime}$ country, and the hunger of his cultivated mind for the quickening communion of the human city. Little has been left untried for realizing these two desires in one scheme of life. From the hanging gardens of Babylon to the roof-gardens of a modern American metropolis, the story runs unchanging through changing time. If a metropolis could be created today with all that makes a city splendid it might be so planned as to contain the country within it - some wondrous New York where men might dwell in noble houses amid such a tract as Central Park. But a metropolis cannot be created --- it grows, and it grows less by design than by its own confusedly accumulated greatness. If it retains an unspoiled place of virgin woods and hills, it is too precious for any man or any set of men to enjoy exclusively.

It will be difficult indeed to believe that any modern American city contains such a unique preserve, and still more difficult to realize that the capital of the nation has such a country dwellingplace within it. Washington, which has grown so magnificent under inspired city planning that men of all lands declare that it will soon be the most beautiful city in the world, might well be supposed to have left no natural advantage unutilized. Such, however, has



Looking North from Massachusetts Avenue over Rock Creek Park along the Eastern Boundary of Massachusetts Avenue Park

been the case. There has remained in the best part of the capital a place of woods and hills and dales, unappropriated for park purposes, and until recently, uninvaded by the street-maker — a 'rus in urbe' of two hundred and thirty-eight acres of the utmost beauty and charm. Rich in the trees of the lusty American mixed forest, its hills and dales suggest that desire for habitation always foreign to the bare plots of so-called land improvements. This large territory was, until a short time ago, left untouched, chiefly because the Permanent Highway Plan of the City of Washington required subdivision along the regulation city lines of rectangular plots brought to city grade. Had the tract been opened under this law, it would be today magnificent, no doubt, with city houses and pretentious apartment buildings, but a true city section. By a special Act of Congress it became possible to develop it, not as a city subdivision, but as a city site for true country homes. This place of forest crowned hills is not a suburb : it is within a two mile radius of the White House and but half a mile from Sheridan Circle, the center of the National Capital's social life. At an average elevation of more than two hundred feet above Pennsylvania Avenue it lies in that area denominated by The Washington Post. "The Triangle of Increasing Values" between Connecticut and Massachusetts Avenues, the latter Washington's finest residential street. It is protected by barriers which are more than mere buyers' and sellers' agreements as to its restrictions. Rock Creek Park forms the eastern boundary of the tract. A commission has been appointed to acquire more land to broaden the park at this point and also to connect it with Potomac Park. This is being done under plans formulated by the Fine Arts Commission. composed of such men

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Polo on the Potomac Parkway



Chevy Chase Clubhouse

as Messrs. Daniel H. Burnham, Charles F. McKim, Frederick Law Ohmsted, Jr., Augustus St. Gaudens, and Col. William W. Harts.

On the southwest, the Naval Observatory Park fronts it just across Massachusetts Avenue, and Rock Creek Park Extension also forms part of the boundary on this side. Where the frontier of parks does not extend, the property is protected by conditions created through private wealth and the love of art and beauty. On the north and west of the tract, there lie the richly appointed estates of United States Senator Francis G. Newlands, Charles J. Bell, Esq., United States Senator James H. Brady, and James Parmelee, Esq., and also the St. Albans Schools. The National Cathedral School for Girls and the Cathedral School for Boys, with the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul adjoining.



Protestant Episcopal Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul

Thus permanently restricted far beyond its own confines, the tract offered an opportunity which, it was recognized never could present itself again in Washington and, probably never in any other great American city. The plan for opening the territory was placed in the most skillful hands, and every foot of roadway, every grade and curve was designed with the one controlling purpose of preserving it in whole and in part as a virgin landscape. Therefore, notwithstanding that the entire territory has been provided with driveways, sidewalks, sewers, water and lights, it retains wholly unmarred its natural beauty. The winding roads are curtained everywhere behind trees and shrubs; nooks and glades lie unprofaned; the many vistas that beckon to glimpses of Washington and its environments are set in woods that have grown through untroubled years into an art that man cannot attain. All the roads,



Residence of Mrs. Robert S. McCormick, Massachusetts Avenue and Thirtieth Street

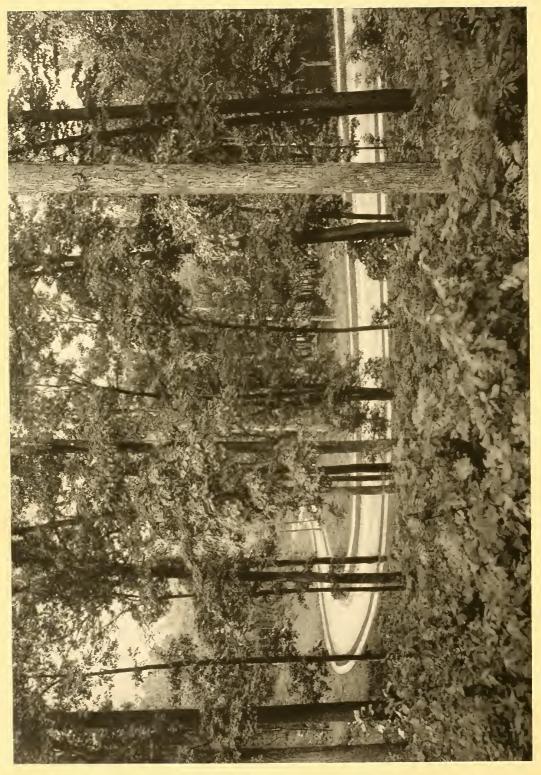
and even the sidewalks. follow the natural undulations of the land, and technical skill has succeeded so brilliantly in making the grades that whether one goes by automobile or on foot the ascents are perceptible only through the ever-changing views of the other parts of the tract, the city lying below, the Potomac, and beyond, the hills of Virginia and Maryland.

Massachusetts Avenue Park is apportioned into sites, each of which conforms to the landscape. As they are of widely varying outline and area, a purchaser can select one in harmony with the character of the home that he plans to erect. The villa sites range from those suitable for residences costing \$15,000 as a minimum to others that invite structures costing \$250,000 or more. Obviously, since the areas and shapes of all the plots vary, it is impossible to refer here in any definite way to the matter of cost. The best indication may be had from the statement that the sites are offered



George N. Ray, Architect

Residence of W. W. Wetmore, Rock Creek and Woodland Drives



at prices that are only fifty per cent, and in some cases, only twentyfive per cent of the prices now being obtained for nearby built-up property—property of the most desirable class although not comparable in beauty or exclusiveness to Massachusetts Avenue Park.

While many of those who purchase in Massachusetts Avenue Park will naturally be automobile owners, the tract will have perfect accessibility by street-cars for the convenience of tradesmen, servants, etc., as the opening of Calvert Street, west of Connecticut Avenue, is now under way and will bring the center of the property within three city blocks of surface transportation on that avenue. By automobile, the center of the city is but a few moments distant, and is reached in but little longer time by trolley. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia in 1914, in a published report, approved the extension of a street-car line from Connecticut Avenue to Wisconsin Avenue, through Massachusetts Avenue Park, by way of Calvert Street and Cleveland Avenue, but the building of a line at that time was impossible, as Calvert Street had not been opened. However, with the opening and improvement of this street public necessity will require this connection.

The inspiration that led to the plan outlined for opening this property has not had in view the financial aspect first, but the ideal of creating a stately place of habitation that would appeal to the distinguished men and women whom Washington attracts, not only because it is the center of the nation's statesmenship and political affairs, but also the center of America's learning and art.

It is impossible to adequately describe the unprecedented conditions which obtain in Massachusetts Avenue Park, and therefore it is necessary to visit the tract to fully appreciate the excellence of



Looking South on Woodland Drive



Cathedral School for Boys



An Attractive Corner on Normanstone Drive and Thirtieth Street

the location, its wonderful charm as a place of residence and the extremely low cost for land of such value. A number of sites have already been sold and building has begun, so that there can be no sense of unpleasant isolation for those who may now decide to choose Massachusetts Avenue Park for their place of residence.

No other property in Washington can now, or ever compare with this in natural beauty. With the tract developed, and with the character of houses and grounds assured by careful restriction, it will be by far the most beautiful part of the most beautiful city in the world.



Rock Creek Drive, East from Massachusetts Avenue, Rock Creek Park on Right



Rock Creek Drive at Intersection of Normanstone Drive



Looking South on Woodland Drive at Twenty-ninth Street showing Washington Monument in the distance



Panoramic View of Sherida



Panoramic View of Washington



rele, Massachusetts Avenue



m Massachusetts Avenue Park



Intersection of Woodland Drive and Rock Creek Drive with Natural Bridge over Rock Creek



Normanstone Drive, looking East towards Thirtieth Street Rock Creek Park on the Right



Looking East from Massachusetts Avenue, Rock Creek Park on the Right



Looking North on Normanstone Drive



Looking up Thirty-second Street from Normanstone Drive



Looking North on Thirtieth Street at Intersection of Woodland Drive



"Twin Oaks," Residence of Charles J. Bell, opposite Northern Boundary of Massachusetts Avenue Park



Clarke Waggeman, Architect

Residence of Mrs. L. F. Day, to be erected on North Side of Massachusetts Avenue at Thirtieth Street



Thirty-second Street. North of Woodland Drive, showing Intersection of Cleveland Avenue



Looking South from Woodland Drive, down Thirtieth Street



Looking North on Woodland Drive, near Twenty-ninth Street



"Westover," Residence of Charles C. Glover, Massachusetts Avenue, West of Wisconsin Avenue



Residence of Senator James H. Brady, on Woodley Road, adjoining a portion of Massachusetts Avenue Park on the North



"Friendship," Home of Edward B. McLean, West of Massachusetts Avenue on Wisconsin Avenue



"Woodley," Home of Senator Francis G. Newlands, situated on Woodley Road, adjoining portion of Massachusetts Avenue Park on the North



"Causeway," Home of James Parmelee, Esq., Klingle Road and McComb Street, adjoining Massachusetts Avenue Park on the East



Residence of Mrs. John R. Williams, North Side of Massachusetts Avenue at Rock Creek



Home of John Hays Hammond, Kalorama Road and Twenty-third Street, East of Massachusetts Avenue Park



Connecticut Avenue Viaduct over Rock Creek Drive, just East of Massachusetts Avenue Park



Home of John W. Thompson, at Intersection of Woodland Drive, Twenty-ninth and Calvert Streets



Home of Clarke Waggeman, Woodland Drive, Twenty-ninth Street and Rock Creek Drive



Sales Office for Massachusetts Avenue Park at intersection of Woodland Drive and Thirty-second Street



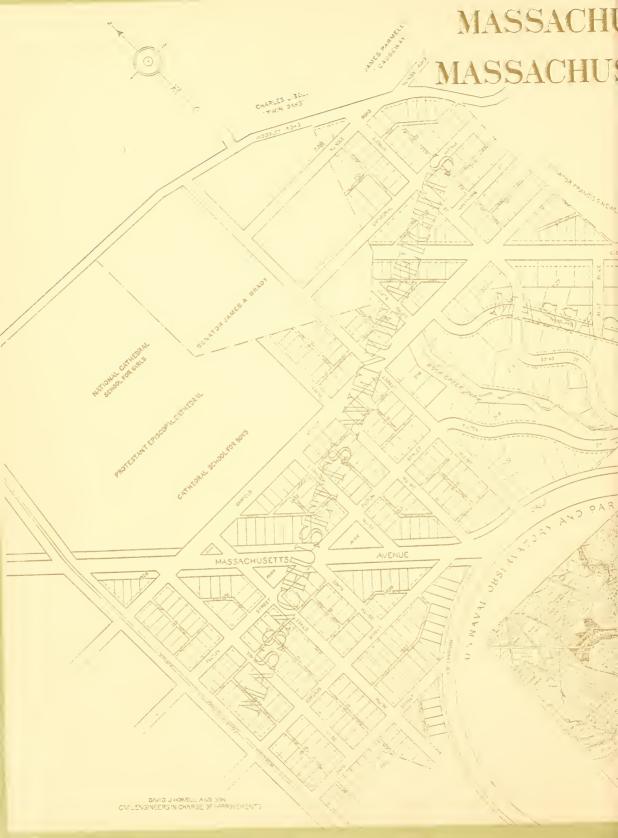
"Ruthven Lodge," where Dolly Madison secreted herself when the British burned the White House in 1814 and which has been demolished to make way for the improvement of the Park



Entrance Way to Massachusetts Avenue Park, Capitol and Monument in background



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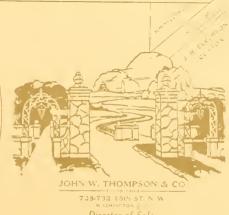
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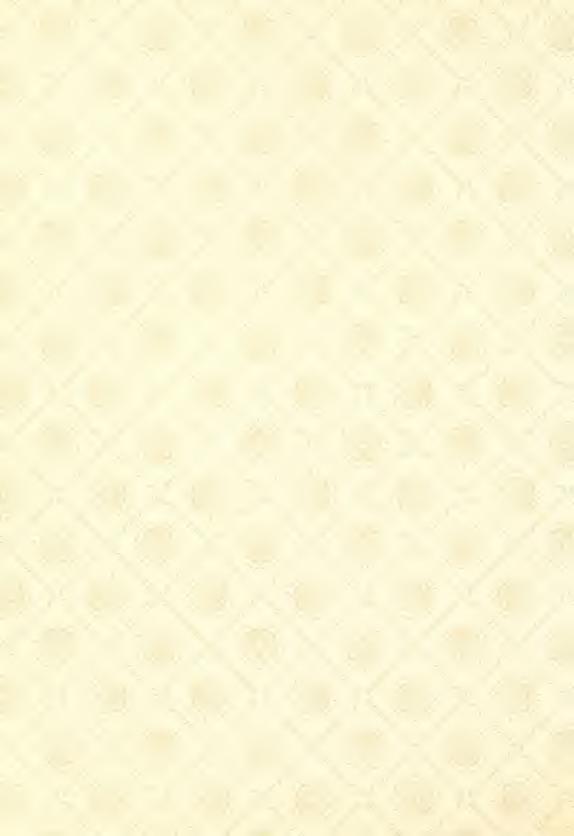
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