

The Palisades

Meetup location: Palisades Recreation Center parking lot, 5138 Sherier PI NW, GPS = 38.92525,-77.10339.

NB: The overall park address is 5200 Sherier, but the entrance to the park is at 5138 Sherier!



1. **Old wagon road**, Dana Place NW. Conduit Road, later renamed MacArthur Boulevard, opened in 1863 after the Washington Aqueduct was built. The "Dana Place Road" soon followed. One block of this old wagon road still remains between Eskridge Terrace and Garfield Street.
2. **Conduit Road Schoolhouse**, 4954 MacArthur Blvd. The Conduit Road Schoolhouse is a one-story one-room clapboard building with a brick foundation built in 1874 to replace one built 10 years earlier which had burned down. It was designed by a District of Columbia government architect and reflects bare mid-Victorian style typical of government schoolhouses in the late 1800's. The school closed in 1928, and served as a branch of the public library. In 1965, it was saved for use as the Children's Museum.
3. **Glen Hurst**, 4933 MacArthur Blvd NW, is a Queen Anne style house built in 1892 for the John C. Hurst family. Around 1890, a subdivision venture called "Palisades of the Potomac" was planned around V, W, Ashby, 48th and 49th Streets as an expensive suburb with homes of the type then being built on the Hudson above New York. Stillson Hutchins, who founded the Washington Post in 1877, was president of the venture. Jacob Clark and John C. Hurst, both from Canada, were the vice president and real estate broker, respectively. Richard Ough was the architect. The venture collapsed in the late 1890s.
4. **Washington Psychoanalytic Institute**, 4925 MacArthur Blvd NW. This house, designed by Richard Ough, is one of the first five houses built for the Palisades of the Potomac development. Each of these homes featured a fieldstone wall along the street-side sidewalks.
5. **Ough House**, 4898 MacArthur Blvd NW. Richard Ough, architect for the Palisades of the Potomac venture, built this Free Classic Queen Anne home in 1891 and lived here until 1894.
6. **MacArthur Theater**, 4859 MacArthur Boulevard NW. This theater, now a CVS Pharmacy, opened in 1946 and featured the world premiere of "Star Trek: The Motion Picture" in 1979.

9. **Castle Gatehouse**, 4601 MacArthur Blvd NW, is a pumping station on the Washington Aqueduct, and was constructed in 1899 at the Georgetown Reservoir to pump water into the four-mile long Washington City Tunnel that led to McMillan Reservoir, completed in 1902.

10. **Washington & Great Falls Electric Railway**. A trestle of this defunct railway stands in Foundry Branch Park. The line was completed in 1895 and ran from Aqueduct Bridge to Cabin John Creek. During the late 1890s Congress authorized streetcar consolidations and in 1902, Washington & Great Falls changed its name to the Washington Railway & Electric Company, reincorporated as a holding company. The route was abandoned in 1960.

11. **The Abner Cloud House**, built in 1802, is the oldest existing building on the C&O Canal. Cloud built the house and nearby mill on the bank of the Little Falls Skirting Canal, and provided grain and flour to Washington before and during the operation of the C&O Canal. Cloud was related to the Pierces of Rock Creek, who owned the Pierce Mill. Cloud died in 1812, but the mill continued to provide excellent quality flour called "Evermay" to Washington until it closed in 1870.

12. **Fletchers Boathouse**, 4940 Canal Road., has been in this location since the 1850s. It was once operated by Julius Fletcher, grandson of the founder. After 145 years of business, the fourth generation of the Fletcher family retired in 2004 and a National Park Service concessionaire operates the facility.

13. **Capital Crescent Trail**. The trail runs on the abandoned right-of-way of the Georgetown Branch rail line of the B&O Railroad. The rail line was partially built in 1892 and completed in 1910. Trains stopped running on the line in 1985.

7. **Drover's Rest Tavern**, 4755 Whitehaven Pkwy NW. The Drovers Rest Tavern stood where Our Lady of Victory Church is now located. There was a huge drover's yard at Reservoir and MacArthur where cattle and sheep were rested and fattened for slaughter after being driven on the hoof from the distant Maryland and Virginia farms.
8. **The Clark House**, at 4759 Reservoir Road NW, is a red sandstone castellated Gothic Revival built in 1893. Jacob Clarks was a partner with Hutchinson and Hurst in the 1890s "Palisades on the Potomac" development. The Clarks lived in this house until 1923, when it became the Florence Crittenton Home for Unwed Mothers of Washington DC. It became the Lab School in 1976.

Other places (mostly dining)

- A. Starbucks, 5185 MacArthur Blvd NW, (202) 244-6071
- B. Et Voila! (Belgian), 5120 MacArthur Blvd NW, (202) 237-2300
- C. Listrani's Italian Gourmet & Pizzeria, 5100 MacArthur Blvd NW, (202) 363-0620
- D. Sur La Place Belgian Bistro & Bar, 5105 MacArthur Blvd NW, (202) 237-1445
- E. Bambu (Asian Cuisine), 5101 MacArthur Blvd NW, (202) 364-3088
- F. Ann Hand (Jewelry), 4885 MacArthur Blvd NW #4, (202) 333-2979
- G. BlackSalt (Seafood), 4883 MacArthur Blvd NW, (202) 342-9101
- H. Figs Lebanese Café, 4828 MacArthur Blvd NW #1, (202) 333-7773

Landmark
 Other