

SOURCES:

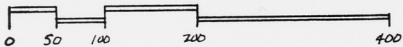
- U.S. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, NACC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, LIVETREE DATABASE, 10/96.
- FIELD INVESTIGATIONS, 1996.
- HISTORIC PHOTO DOCUMENTATION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, MARS
- NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MAP FILES, SEE BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR MAP LISTING

LEGEND**

-  HISTORIC PRIMARY ROAD
-  HISTORIC SECONDARY ROAD / HISTORIC LIMITED ACCESS
-  LOST HISTORIC ROAD / HISTORIC LIMITED ACCESS
-  NON-HISTORIC PRIMARY ROAD

*** Historic Circulation Patterns determined from implemented plans 1914-1934*

SCALE ONE INCH EQUALS TWO-HUNDRED FEET



Map 23

**VEHICULAR CIRCULATION
WATERGATE AREA**

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT
LINCOLN MEMORIAL GROUNDS

PREPARED BY: M. JOSEPH DATE: OCTOBER 1996 FEB. 1997

Pedestrian Circulation. As a part of the development of a shoreline drive after the turn of the century, bridle trails and pedestrian paths, designed to parallel the road, were incorporated into the overall plan for the roadway. The existing system of paths was modified in the 1930s when the layout of the roads was changed as part of the construction of Arlington Memorial Bridge and Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Plans called for a bridle trail to wind through the golf course area in the northwestern corner of West Potomac Park near the parkway, to cross the underpass drive on the north side of the bridge plaza, to pass directly in front of the Watergate steps, to continue southeast along the underpass drive along the slope, or to curve up around the slope of the south wing wall of the bridge plaza toward a second route, which followed the inbound lane on Arlington Memorial Bridge. Along its route, the trail surface was mostly a soil base. However, in the underpasses and in front of the Watergate steps, the trail was paved in square granite blocks.



Figure 102 - Completed sidewalk and bridle trail by south plaza wing wall, June 9, 1933. MRC 1-75.

In contrast to the curving bridle trail on the south side of the bridge approach, two pairs of concrete sidewalks connected to the straight walks on both sides of the bridge and the parkway approach but did so by following the right angles of the north and south wing and plaza walls. The continuation of the bridge and parkway balustrades, with built-in benches, on top of the wing and plaza walls added a high degree of formality to this pedestrian area and gave visual definition to the outer edge of the plaza. The far walks, with their 90-degree turn at the corner of the wing walls,



Figure 103 - Walkway on either side of Ohio Drive at base of Watergate steps, April 1996. LINC 6-15.



Figure 104 - Sidewalk along Parkway Drive, April 1996. LINC 6-18.

ended abruptly at Lincoln Circle. Pedestrians were prompted to cross the circle at a painted crosswalk to the inner circle sidewalk. Around 1960, granite block pavers defined the outer circle sidewalk. This sidewalk was finally paved with concrete in 1973. The inside walks, in turn, followed the gentle arc of the plaza to come together at the top of the Watergate steps. The walks on the parkway approach connected to less formal pedestrian paths along the parkway itself. Proposals for the continuation of informal paths along the river's edge,

south of the bridge, never fully developed. Some years later, an asphalt walkway following the Potomac shoreline did extend southeast beyond the Watergate area. It connected with the concrete sidewalk constructed along the river's edge under the bridge abutment by the lower set of Watergate steps. This path also extended northwest, on the north side of the lower steps, under the parkway approach, where it joined with the previously mentioned bridle trail connection along Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway.



Figure 105 - South plaza wing wall with new concrete path in same alignment as original bridle path, December 5, 1996. LINC 13-1.

To accommodate the changes in recreational use, the bridle paths were modified to serve as both a pedestrian path and as a bicycle trail. An asphalt pathway was installed along the slope in the area north of the parkway approach and connected to the system of walks around the outer circle. In response to patterns of use, the concrete sidewalks located along both the north and south wing walls were removed, and new concrete walks were constructed along the curving curb edge of the bridge and parkway approaches, where a worn dirt path had been created. Even though the use of some paths have

changed, the majority of them still follow the same circulation patterns established in the 1930s. The pair of concrete sidewalks, removed from the top of the wing walls, are the major design elements no longer extant. See Map 24 *Watergate area - Pedestrian Circulation* for graphic representation of contributing and noncontributing features.

<p>Contributing Features</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sidewalks on both sides of Arlington Memorial Bridge, and Parkway Drive2. Sidewalk at top of Watergate steps3. Path on both sides of Ohio Drive at base of Watergate steps4. Path through naturalistic planting (old bridle path)5. Portion of sidewalk along south side of Constitution Avenue6. Path along southwest curb from Arlington Memorial Bridge to Lincoln Circle (old bridle path)7. Path from southern plaza wing wall down to Ohio Drive (old bridle path)	<p>Noncontributing Features</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Path from northern plaza wing wall down to Ohio Drive2. Watergate plaza sidewalk along northwest curb from Parkway Drive to Lincoln Circle3. Path along shoreline from Arlington Memorial Bridge underpass, south4. Path to Theodore Roosevelt Bridge
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