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THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF
CHARLES CARROLL GLOVER AND OTHER CITIZENS
TO
THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

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For the greater part of the 19th Century, the park system of the National Capital expanded within the area of the original L'Enfant Plan on land acquired by the Federal Government in 1791. With vision and foresight, Pierre Charles L'Enfant planned a city of broad tree-lined avenues, formal parks, canals, and monuments. With but a few exceptions, most of L'Enfant's ideas were carried through and his original plan remains the basis for the design of the Nation's Capital today.

World famous parks, such as the Mall and the President's Park, were developed on these grounds in accordance with the L'Enfant plan. Smaller squares, circles, and triangles were provided by the locations of the broad avenues planned by the visionary L'Enfant. These park areas were adaptable to various landscape treatment and add much to the beauty of the Nation's Capital.

Most of the larger parks in the central area of Washington were designed as the formal settings for the great public buildings. In this respect they have contributed to the dignity and beauty of our Halls of Government.

Toward the turn of the nineteenth century, however, it was apparent that there were too few park lands suitable for varied recreational use. Because the Washington area abounded with woods and open spaces when the Capital was founded, there had been no special effort to set aside additional park lands. With the gradual growth of the central area, however, it was perceived by civic leaders that there were not enough public parks.

As late as 1880, the National Capital park system was without a large natural park. At this time the National Park concept had already received attention in other parts of the United States.

In 1870 a group of men had stood in the midst of the great Yellowstone region and unselfishly dedicated themselves to the task of preserving that irreplaceable gem of nature's treasurehouse for the future generations. Yellowstone National Park was created on March 1, 1872 as "a pleasuring ground for the people."

In Washington there were also individuals who saw the need of acquiring and preserving more lands for park purposes--men such as Charles Carroll Glover, Crosby S. Noyes, and others who believed in the future of the parks of Washington.

Charles C. Glover, banker, financier, and ardent supporter for the development of the National Capital, was born on a farm in Macon County, North Carolina, on November 24, 1846 to Richard and Caroline Glover. At the age of eight he came to Washington to reside with his grandmother in a house on Tenth Street.

He attended the Rittenhouse Academy conducted by Mr. Otis C. Wright until he was sixteen years old, at which time he entered the bookstore of Frank Taylor as a clerk. During three years of clerical experience, he acquired many of the practical business traits which later were to assist him in his upward career.

He had first planned to study law. However, he was persuaded by his uncle, Mr. A. F. Shriver, who was associated with Riggs and Company, to accept a position with the Bank. At the age of nineteen, Charles Glover began work at the Bank of Riggs and Company as a clerk. With enthusiasm he did everything that was asked of him. By natural ability and steadfast loyalty he advanced step by step under the watchful eye of the financier, George W. Riggs; until one day in 1873 he was asked by President Riggs to become a partner in the banking firm of Riggs and Company.

Expansion and progress of Riggs and Company followed in the years ahead, and on July 1, 1896 the Riggs National Bank was created with Charles Carroll Glover as the President of the Bank.

Spectacular as it was, we shall not pursue Mr. Glover's career in the financial world.

We shall, however, talk of another field of endeavor which he held close to his heart and in which he made lasting contributions which cannot be measured in monetary values alone, but also in the satisfaction and enjoyment which they have brought and are yet bringing to thousands of our fellow citizens. These are some of the great parks existing in the Nation's Capital today, to whose establishment and development Mr. Glover devoted a lifetime of service.

The largest and most widely used area in the National Capital park system today is Rock Creek Park. The story of the movement for its establishment as a national park is filled with the generous efforts of far-sighted individuals.

Washington was blessed with the existence of the great natural stream valley of Rock Creek. Its thickly wooded slopes abounded with many forms of animal and plant life. Washington residents had long availed themselves of the recreational benefits afforded by the valley of Rock Creek. Citizens from all walks of life found common and mutual rewards from this rugged natural setting.

The Rock Creek valley had been used by the Indians. Long before the Capital was located on the banks of the Potomac, Rock Creek was a large body of water, capable of accommodating ocean vessels for some distance from its broad mouth. As early as 1703, there was a landing on the west bank of the Creek where it entered the Potomac called "Saw Pit Landing," an important trading post and center of commerce. With the establishment of Georgetown in 1751, new importance came to Rock Creek as an artery of commerce.

In the eighteenth century flourishing mills were located along Rock Creek. Of eight permanent mills located along the stream, within the area of the present park, the only one remaining is Pierce Mill. This historic relic of the past not only stands as a fine example of the early water-power mills of this area, but it actually operates as it did over a century ago.

To the early residents of Washington, as to people today, the Rock Creek valley was a haven of natural beauty affording relaxation and comfort from the daily chores of life.

In 1807 Joel Barlow, one time Minister to France and a famous literary figure of his time, purchased a tract of land overlooking Rock

Creek and named it Kalorama, after the Indian word meaning "beautiful view." It was that to Barlow, who found comfort in his nearness to the winding Creek and the wooded slopes and inspiration from the ever changing story of life. The mansion in which he lived later became the home of the widow of Stephen Decatur, who also found a quiet peace in the sylvan valley--the final resting place of her gallant Commodore.

Abraham Lincoln also took carriage rides through the wooded valley of Rock Creek. Military Road, which crosses the park today, was used for transporting material to construct and later to supply Forts Reno, De Russey, and Stevens--three of the chain of forts in the defenses of the National Capital during the Civil War.

Toward the latter part of the nineteenth century, the inevitable urban growth began to threaten the existence of this valley, which had for so long afforded so much enjoyment and satisfaction to both residents and visitors.

It soon became apparent that assistance of the Federal Government was needed if this area was to be preserved for the use and benefit of the people.

However, earlier attempts to establish a national park in the Rock Creek valley had failed. In 1866 a Rock Creek Park Bill was introduced in the 39th Congress. It was the first of several bills to meet with failure. Major Michler of the U. S. Engineer Corps, who had been appointed as a Landscape Gardener by the Senate Committee, was

asked to make a study of sites for a national park. He chose Rock Creek valley, and his enthusiastic committee report on January 29, 1867 abounded with praise for the inspirational values of Rock Creek valley. Legislation to provide a park of some 2700 acres of this valley and bordering grounds was formulated along the lines of the Michler report; however, it failed to become law.

Sixteen years later plans to establish a park in the valley of Rock Creek were revived. Public interest was aroused and it was suggested that Rock Creek valley be turned into a park ornamented with a lake and reservoir, connected with a system of dams. This plan did not reach legislative action.

On July 22, 1886 another bill passed the Senate authorizing the District Commissioners to acquire land not exceeding 1000 feet in width on both sides of Rock Creek, beginning at Massachusetts Avenue and following the Creek to the District boundary line. This bill was reported to the House Committee on January 31, 1887, but it too failed to become law.

Although several bills calling for the establishment of a park in the valley of Rock Creek had been introduced in Congress, each had failed for one reason or another.

In many great undertakings success often depends upon the driving force and spirits of a few individuals to see the task through--taking set backs in stride and moving on to success. Such a dedicated group were the individuals who banded together to promote the establishment of Rock Creek Park, under the leadership of Charles Glover.

It may be too simple to say that a horseback ride through the Rock Creek valley established Rock Creek Park. However, a particular horseback ride was of the greatest significance in the development of the park. On Thanksgiving morning of 1888, Charles Carroll Glover invited James M. Johnson, Calderon Carlisle, and Captain Thomas W. Symons, of the Engineer Corps to join him in a ride through the Rock Creek valley. Riding through the thickly wooded slopes the party reached a hillside. Overlooking the picturesque valley that lay before them, these four men, at Mr. Glover's request, pledged themselves to work for a national park, and to never cease their efforts until they were successful. It was a pledge that was maintained.

Soon these men were joined by others in a meeting at the Glover residence on Lafayette Square. Crosby S. Noyes, close associate of Mr. Glover and staunch supporter of all moves to enhance the beauty of Washington, presided over the meeting. The project was discussed at length and a bill framed by Mr. Johnson and Mr. Carlisle was read to the group.

This small band of men began to work for the realization of Rock Creek Park. Crosby S. Noyes provided immediate support of the plans by editorials and articles in The Evening Star newspaper. Although success did not come easily, Mr. Noyes continued his full support of the project, thus helping to bring the proposed acquisition of Rock Creek Park to the attention of the public and the legislators in the Congress.

In 1888 interest was shown in the establishment of a Zoological Park in Rock Creek valley. Two bills were introduced in the Senate, one by Senator Beck and the other by Senator Morrill, for the establishment of a Zoological Park under the regents of the Smithsonian Institution. The possibility of the creation of a public park in the valley was again given encouragement, there being a provision in the bills for the cooperation of the regents and the Park Commissioners.

There was no antagonism between the two projects. Sentiment for the establishment of Rock Creek Park actually hastened the legislation for the creation of the Zoological Park.

In the months that had followed the first meeting in the Glover residence, the small but devoted group of men did not lose sight of a national park in Rock Creek valley. On January 11, 1889, a citizens meeting was held in the Atlantic building, at which time, a resolution was adopted endorsing the plan of securing the park. Charles Carroll Glover was chosen Chairman of the Executive Committee.

On January 14, 1889 Mr. Hemphill introduced the Rock Creek Bill in the Congress, providing for the purchase of 2,500 acres of land along the Creek. The measure was followed closely by Mr. Glover, Crosby Noyes, and others. They realized that it would meet with considerable opposition in Congress.

There were Congressmen who failed to grasp the significance of this measure not only to the local community, but to the Nation as a whole.

Representative Henderson of Iowa believed that the Zoological Bill would pass the Senate, and that it might pass the House with the Rock Creek Bill as an amendment. Charles Glover, who was also anxious to see the establishment of Zoological Park, asked Mr. Henderson to promise that if he could not secure passage of the entire bill, he would make every effort to at least put through the Zoological Bill. As was anticipated, opposition to the Rock Creek Park developed in the House, with the result that only the Zoological Bill passed. The Rock Creek Park proposal had been temporarily sacrificed.

With the opening of the 51st Congress, bills for the establishment of Rock Creek Park were introduced in the House by Mr. John J. Hemphill and in the Senate by Senators Ingalls and Sherman. Senator Sherman's bill passed the Senate and, when it reached the House District Committee, the name of the park was changed to Columbus Memorial Park. Had this been the bill which ultimately passed, we would be speaking of the benefits and enjoyments of Columbus Park rather than of Rock Creek Park.

In the House, the Hemphill bill was debated on March 24, 1890. Strong speeches were made in favor of the bill, pointing out the advantages to be gained. There was also vigorous opposition; however, and the bill went over without action until April 28, when it again came up and was defeated by a vote of 88 to 78.

On May 26, 1890 the bill was again brought up on the motion made by Mr. Hemphill at the time of the former vote to reconsider the bill. This time it passed the House 107 to 83. The bill then went to

the Committee, where the name Rock Creek was restored in place of Columbus Memorial Park. The amount of \$1,200,000 was appropriated and it was provided that the Park Commission should be composed of the Chief of Engineers, Engineer Commissioner, and three citizens. This report was agreed to by both the House and Senate and on Saturday, September 27, 1890, the legislation went to the White House where it became law by the signature of the President of the United States.

The long battle had been won and a small group of individuals headed by Charles Carroll Glover could have the satisfaction in seeing that the natural and historic values of Rock Creek valley would now be preserved for future generations. It was now set aside as a national park and as "a pleasure ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the United States" in the words of the law.

Shortly after the passage of the Rock Creek Bill, Representative John Hemphill wrote the following letter to Mr. Glover:

October 1, 1890
House of Representatives

My dear Mr. Glover:

The bill to establish the Rock Creek Park, which passed Congress only after the most strenuous efforts, has been approved by the President and is now a law. As it was at your request that this bill was introduced setting aside this beautiful section of the country as a park for all time, I desire to congratulate you on the final approval of the measure, and to say that without your earnest, intelligent and untiring efforts during the entire contest, it would, in my judgment, have failed to become a law. Your valuable work in behalf of this great pleasure ground at the National Capital ought to be known and long remembered by the many thousands who shall hereafter enjoy it. With sincere respect,

Most truly yours,

John J. Hemphill

Chairman of Committee of D. C.

The acquisition of the lands for Rock Creek Park was not completed until April 13, 1892, when some 1600 acres were purchased for the park by the Rock Creek Park Commission.

After it had been made a national park in 1890, Washingtonians, visiting Americans, and foreign guests enjoyed the cool depth of Rock Creek Park. Among the latter was James Bryce, the British Ambassador, who often enjoyed the spirit of nature in the winding rocky glen which was Rock Creek Park. The famous diplomat and literary figure said that Rock Creek possessed "an inexhaustible variety of foot paths, where you can force your way through thickets and test your physical ability in climbing up and down steep slopes, and in places scaling the faces of bold cliffs."

Ardent naturalist and conservationist Theodore Roosevelt also admired and intensively used Rock Creek Park. He often found refuge from the cares of his official duties by walking through the park. He admired wildlife which made the park their sanctuary, he silently absorbed the beauty of the woods, and with his frequent companion Jules Jusserand, the French Ambassador to the United States, he gave bent to his desire for physical exercise. A favorite spot of both Roosevelt and Jusserand is now marked by the Jusserand Memorial Bench. Jusserand was a member of Teddy's Tennis Cabinet and on several occasions he and the President swam across Rock Creek in the early spring when the ice was floating upon it. In his autobiography Teddy Roosevelt had these words to say about Rock Creek Park:

"... When our own children were little, we were several winters in Washington, and each Sunday afternoon the whole family spent in Rock Creek Park, which was then very real country indeed. I would drag one of the children's wagons; and when the very smallest pairs of feet grew tired of trudging bravely after us, or of racing on rapturous side trips after flowers, and other treasures, the owners would climb in the wagon..."

There was much beauty for the family of Theodore Roosevelt and other families to enjoy for the park was a veritable paradise of flora and fauna. The banks of Rock Creek had become the home of many types of flora, both native and foreign. Soon after the introduction of the camelia in this country, about 1856, they were planted near Rock Creek where they flourished in great variety and quantity. Sugar maples and white pines were also found in great profusion.

Today the beautiful dogwood trees and many kinds of wild flowers enhance the valley of Rock Creek. There are also sections of the park which today remain untrampled with the rushing city life and which offer the seeker of nature's comforting spirit the same soothing remedies which were so often sought by those from out of the past. Today we too may enjoy the same haunts of Rock Creek Park as did Teddy Roosevelt, James Bryce, and others.

Rock Creek Park was the largest single area acquired for the park system of Washington during the nineteenth century. It remains the largest single unit today. Because of this fact, we have spoken of the addition of Rock Creek Park first in the order of the park development of Washington.

We have spoken of Charles Carroll Glover's part in making possible the acquisition of Rock Creek Park. However, his place as protector and guardian of the parks extended beyond the establishment of Rock Creek Park. There were other achievements in the park development of the Nation's Capital which were also of the greatest significance. These also became a reality largely through the untiring work and generosity of Mr. Glover.

Today millions of Americans and visitors from all parts of the world enjoy the various features of National Capital Parks. Some pause in reverance before the noble statue of Abraham Lincoln in his memorial in the beautiful setting of Potomac Park. With the early coming of spring, others flock to another portion of Potomac Park, where the Japanese Cherry Blossoms form a misty white and pink scarf of beauty about the waters of the Tidal Basin, and in still another part of Potomac Park, thousands of spectators experience the thrills of watching power boats racing at breathtaking speeds in the President's Cup Regatta.

Potomac Park is an area of varied beauty and a recreational playground for thousands. Did we always have this outstanding park? When was it established and who conceived the idea of Potomac Park on the Washington waterfront?

A decade before the establishment of Rock Creek Park, Mr. Glover had turned his attention toward the Washington waterfront as a potential area destined to enhance the beauty of the Nation's Capital and provide useful recreation for the public. The railroads were envisioning the use of the waterfront for purposes far removed from parks and recreation.

In 1881, Mr. Glover called a meeting of public-spirited men at his home to discuss the reclamation of the Potomac Flats. It was his plan to reclaim the disease infested marshes, creating in their place a great park and driveway. The idea came to him as he rode the southern-bound trains from which he viewed the flats and marshes of Washington's southwest. He believed that that area could be converted into a magnificent public park, a mecca for all Americans rivaling any in Europe or the Far East.

He was aware of the action of the railroads in acquiring lands in Chicago and New York and wished to reclaim the Washington waterfront marshes for park development, rather than for sprawling yards of railroad companies. During the meeting, plans were made for the transformation of these marshy waste lands into a beautiful national park. The committee, which was organized for the purpose of carrying through these plans, worked earnestly for the passage of legislation for reclamation of the wasted Potomac Flats.

Although the attempts to secure a Congressional appropriation for this purpose met with fierce opposition, they also received support from men like former Secretary of the Navy, George M. Robeson, and former Speaker of the House, John G. Keifer, among others. The sum of \$400,000 was appropriated to begin reclamation of the flats on August 2, 1882.

President Chester A. Arthur directed Colonel Peter C. Hains of the U. S. Engineer Corps, for whom Hains Point is named, to undertake

the work of reclamation. Several years were to pass before those reclaimed lands would be dedicated to the people as Potomac Park, but nevertheless, work was progressing. These lands which add so much to the Washington park scene today were being created.

An attempt was made during the 57th Congress in 1895 to make the Potomac Flats a public park, called "Riverside Park." This measure was defeated as the critics of park development remained tenacious.

Charles Glover later told how he went before Congress and declared that with an appropriation of \$400,000 he could deliver to the National Capital 700 acres of the most beautiful park property in this country. He said, "there were those who laughed, and others who shook their heads significantly."

More years were to pass before the bill creating Potomac Park was to become law. Charles Carroll Glover did not lose hope in the project. Instead he pursued the goal against all opponents. The opposition was formidable for the flats were valuable as a railroad siding and every influence was brought to bear upon Congress to prevent carrying out the plan to make a park of this useless land.

Mr. Glover's ceaseless energy was rewarded with the favorable action of Congress in 1897. Even after Senate Bill No. 3,307 had been passed, however, he could not rest at ease until this Bill establishing Potomac Park was made law by the President's signature.

Mr. Glover went to the White House to see the President. As the two men sat and talked in the President's office, Mr. Glover remarked, "Mr. Cleveland, it is certainly gratifying to know and to

feel that that wonderful stretch of land is to become the great National Park of this country." The President, who had not yet signed the Bill, showed considerable surprise at this statement and declared: "It is not yet a park and it seems to me that the plan to make it a public garden was the right idea." The effect of these words upon Mr. Glover must have been momentarily disheartening. He was aware that the President did not have in mind a flower garden, but a truck garden. Close as he was to seeing the creation of Potomac Park, he fully realized that his work was not yet consummated. In the presence of the Chief Executive of the Nation some men would have readily agreed to the President's reasoning, even though their own views may have been different.

Perhaps no incident better illustrates the character of Charles Glover than this presidential meeting. He sat down and explained the whole plan for a great public park. Quietly and intently he pointed out the immeasurable recreational values to the people, and the enhancement of the beauty of the Nation's Capital. More than an hour passed and President Cleveland was convinced that the only proper thing to do was to make a park of the 700 acres of land dredged from the river.

On March 3, 1897, Mr. Glover again visited the White House. He felt that he had convinced the President of the merits of the bill, but nevertheless, there was the apprehension that it might ^{not} be signed before Mr. Cleveland's term of office expired. Mr. Glover must have

received the greatest pleasure when he was handed a note from Henry Thurber, the President's Secretary. It read as follows:

Dear Mr. Glover:

I take pleasure in informing you that Senate Bill No. 3,307 declaring the Potomac Flats a public park under the name of "Potomac Park" has just been approved by the President.

For almost 17 years, Charles Carroll Glover hoped for such a message. He had fought against all the private enroachments upon the Potomac Flats and he had waged a never ceasing battle to make of these lands a great park for the people. With vision he foresaw the future need for adequate parks for the people and he was able to do something about that need.

In paying tribute to Mr. Glover's civic contributions, in 1938 Mr. Newbold Noyes remarked that his grandfather, Crosby Noyes, who was an intimate associate of Glover in all the projects for the development of the Nation's Capital, had appraised the secret of Mr. Glover's achievements as the rare combination of his dreams and the practical power which he put behind them to insure their fulfillment. He was both a businessman and a poet.

At the time of the creation of "Potomac Park," many citizens failed to realize the significance of the measure. Some expressed wonderment at the constant dredging and mud spreading on the river banks. Few realized that this land would one day form one of the beautiful features of their Capital. Upon its green carpets would stand the great memorials to Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson, from its banks willows would drop to the waters edge, and along its course thousands would thrill to water sports of all kinds in nationally famed Regattas.

There were, however, a number of public spirited men, who appreciated the achievement of Charles Carroll Glover and the men who had worked with him. It was suggested that the land be called Glover Park in recognition of the one who had contributed most to its being a park. It remained, however, Potomac Park.

There was much work to be done before this vast area was developed to the extent we know it today as East and West Potomac Parks. Gradually, however, the great park which Charles Glover envisioned took shape as did others under the impetus given by the McMillan Park Commission, which was formed in 1901 under the Chairmanship of Senator James McMillan of Michigan. After much study and consideration, the McMillan Park Commission formulated a comprehensive plan for the future development of the National Capital intended to be an extension of the original L'Enfant Plan in so far as was possible.

Upon the suggestions of the McMillan Park Commission in 1901, the Mall was extended west to the river banks for the site of the Lincoln Memorial; the reclaimed land south of the Washington Monument later held the Tidal Basin, the Japanese Cherry trees, and still later the glistening domed memorial to Thomas Jefferson.

On the eastern point of the park a circling water front drive gave recreation to many.

Potomac Park became the scene of water sports. Early in the summer of 1909 President William Howard Taft gave his endorsement to a Regatta off Potomac Park. He and the members of his Cabinet personally assisted in making the September Regatta a memorable one indeed.

Revenue cutters, lighthouse tenders, and a torpedo flotilla of eight war vessels anchored off Potomac Park during the Regatta. Since that day, Regattas have grown in number and size and have become annual events which bring enjoyment to thousands of citizens. It is significant that water sporting events held from the shore lines of Potomac Park are fast causing national attention upon Washington as a growing center for water sports.

When one considers that Charles Glover was the guiding hand that brought forth Rock Creek, East and West Potomac Parks, one would almost think his interest and efforts for parks could not boast further achievements. There were, however, other achievements which followed.

Charles Carroll Glover's efforts in establishing Rock Creek and Potomac Parks entitled him to a prominent place in the history of Washington's park development. However, over and above these achievements, he generously made three personal gifts of land for the park system of the National Capital. In 1924 he gave to the Federal Government some 80 acres of virgin land in western Washington designed to serve as a connecting link in the proposed parkway to join Rock Creek Park. It was to be known as the Glover Parkway and Children's Playground. On February 11, 1927, Mr. Glover deeded to the Federal Government 31 acres of forest land in the eastern part of the District, with the stipulation that the land must be used for park purposes. This land was in the area between Fort DuPont and the Anacostia Parkway and added another step in the proposed linking of the Civil War defenses by a Forts Drive.

Mr. Glover's third gift to the park system was also in 1927, when on April 27 he gave deed to another smaller parcel of land along Massachusetts Avenue, S. E., and adjoining the Fort Dupont property. It was received by the park system by Lt. Col. U. S. Grant, III, the Director of the Public Buildings and Public Parks in the Nation's Capital.

These three gifts were demonstrative of the genuine love and faithful service which Charles Glover gave to help give the City of Washington one of the finest park systems of any city in the country.

In his lifetime of service to our parks, Mr. Glover received many letters of praise from Presidents, Congressmen, civic leaders, and Government officials. To emphasize what his contributions meant to those men actually charged with the responsibility of administering the park system, I should like to quote the following letter written on April 6, 1925 to Mr. Glover by Clarence Sherrill, Director of the Park System of the Nation's Capital at that time.

"My dear Mr. Glover:

I wish to take this opportunity to express to you my deep appreciation for the tremendous service which you have rendered on numerous occasions to my office and to myself personally in the up-building and advancement of the park program of the National Capital.

In the limits of a letter it would be impossible for me to enumerate the many services which have been rendered by you in this connection since I came to Washington to say nothing of the repeated services extended over a period of thirty or forty years previous to my arrival on this duty extending back beyond the days when Rock Creek Park was acquired as a large park area largely through your efforts.

Some of these most notable services are the legislation for the acquisition of Rock Creek Park, for the reclamation of the Potomac flats, the authorization and acquisition of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Your services also were notable in connection with the legislation for the purchase of seven squares of ground north of B Street and west of 18th Street two years ago as well as securing \$25,000 for the preparation of plans for the Arlington Memorial Bridge and also in connection with other purchases which you have so helped the National Capital Park Commission secure at low prices. Most notable probably of your services that have come within my knowledge is the wonderful gift of 80 acres for the Glover Park, which you made last year and which will throughout all the future stand as a living memorial to your devotion to Washington and your broad vision of the necessity for park development in the District.

I wish for you and Mrs. Glover the greatest pleasure and happiness on your journeys abroad and on their conclusion a safe return here."

Today in the National Capital Parks there are 6,950 acres of park land within the limits of the District of Columbia. Of this total acreage, some 3,200 acres of land are constituted by parks and parkways which Charles Carroll Glover either helped to create or gave for the people. This fact cannot help but make us appreciate the life of service which he rendered to his community and to his fellowmen.