

Roosevelt More Familiar With City Than Any Other President

Great Changes Noted In Quarter of Century

Almost All of Old Hotels Have Been Razed: 'Country' in 1913, Is 'City' Now; Building Program Huge.

By Edward T. Follard.

No American President of modern times has known his Washington, D. C., quite so well as Franklin D. Roosevelt. He has seen it grow from a sleepy rather than a bustling Southern town to the bustling world capital it is today.

When Roosevelt came here in 1913, a strapping, dynamic young man of 32, he was Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Washington had a population of 331,000. Today it is almost double that—618,000.

In those early days of Woodrow Wilson's regime, it was entirely possible for a person to walk across Pennsylvania avenue reading a newspaper and not worry much about the consequences. The "horse and buggy days" were just then on the way out, although automobiles here totaled fewer than 10,000. Today there are 227,000 licensed motor vehicles in the city, better than one for every three persons.

The physical changes in the city have been tremendous, and the automobile has been largely responsible.

Most of Old Hotels Have Been Replaced.

When young Roosevelt came here to be a member of Woodrow Wilson's "little cabinet" in 1913, the city's hotels were on Pennsylvania avenue and not far from it. The principal houses were the Willard, the Raleigh, the old Shoreham, the old Ebbitt, the National, the Sterling, the St. James, the Continental, the Belmont, the Franklin Park, and the Poonatinn, which was erected in 1912.

Of those named, only the Willard, the Raleigh and the Poonatinn are operating today. The old Ebbitt, a favorite rendezvous of the great men of the Republic, was razed to make way for the new Shoreham Hotel. The old St. James Hotel, on the west side of the city, was razed to make way for the new Grand Hyatt Hotel. The old Continental, on the east side of the city, was razed to make way for the new Mayflower Hotel.

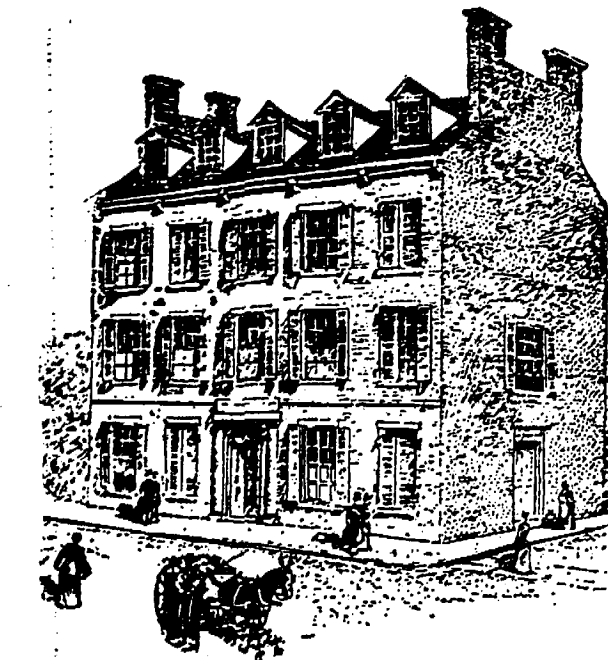
Other hotels that have gone up since Franklin D. Roosevelt came here in 1913 to serve his apprenticeship with the Federal Government are the Washington, the Lee House, the Hamilton, the Mayflower, Hay-Adams, Annapolis, Houston, Harrington, New Ebbitt, Dodge, Commodore, Pennsylvania, Carroll Hall, Claridge and several others.

They and the Roosevelt family thinking that the two men would be pitted against each other in a bitter election battle 12 years later.

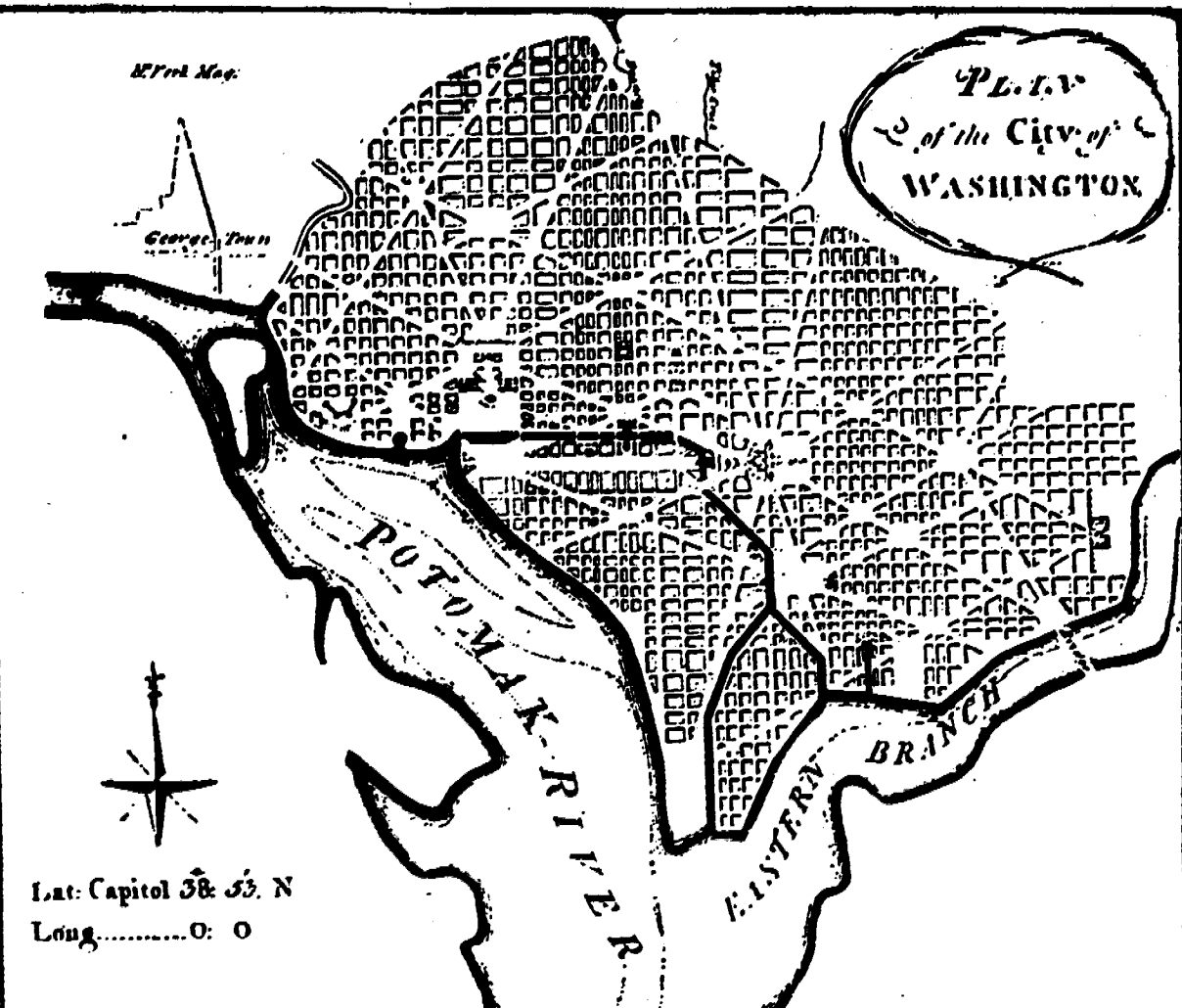
Many Federal Buildings Change Pennsylvania Avenue.

The Pennsylvania avenue that Franklin Roosevelt saw it here in Woodrow Wilson's first inaugural parade on March 4, 1913, bore little resemblance to that famous thoroughfare as it is today. Between the Treasury and the Capitol there was only one Federal structure on the avenue—the old Postoffice Department Building. Today the whole Pennsylvania avenue on the south side, between the Treasury and the Capitol, is Federal ground, dotted with a magnificent array of Federal buildings. And many other Federal buildings, in various parts of the city, have been erected since 1913.

Potomac Park also has undergone a transformation. The Lincoln Memorial, the Arlington Memorial Bridge and many of the memorial statues in the park have been completed in the 24 years since Roosevelt first became a resident of the city.



House built by George Washington, which was really two houses, erected in 1799 by the first President on the west side of North Capitol street, later numbered 224. In 1809 this was a hotel known as the Hillman House, and in 1900 it was called the Kenmore. When the street was lowered to grade, two stories were added to the house underneath.



A little known map of Washington, from a copper engraving published by the New York Magazine, June, 1792.

New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Trenton, Lancaster, York, Princeton and Annapolis, as the Revolutionary War or the conveniences of the members dictated. Some anxious rivalry for the honor had grown up in the various cities and States of the North before 1783, and several offers of permanent locations had been tendered: Newport, R. I.; Kingston, N. Y.; Annapolis, Md.; and Williamsburg, Va.

The decision was the result of a legislative bargain, or, in the language of Capitol Hill, a "log-rolling job."

South, North, and West. The two most important questions before Congress at the time were (1) Federal assumption of State debts, and (2) location of the Capital City. A compromise between what was then known as the East and the South was effected, and that is why Washington is where it is today.

Alexander Hamilton, the financier of the new Nation, and Thomas Jefferson, the great Virginian who was first Secretary of State, were the men who wrought the compromise.

Wives of Presidents Have Been Active In Organizations Promoting Public Welfare

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt Interested in Housing and Education.

A composite picture of wives of Presidents of the United States from Martha Washington to Anna Eleanor Roosevelt would show that with scarcely an exception, these women have all been up-to-date women judged by the standards prevailing at the time of their regimes.

Just as Mrs. Roosevelt, present First Lady, is interested in progressive education and social questions, housing of women and children's causes, so was Mrs. Rutherford Hayes, a banner bearer in the army of temperance. Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, first wife of President Harrison, was progressive enough and devoted to the cause of patriotism to become the first President General of the Daughters of the American Revolution at a time when women were supposed to stay in the kitchen and rear the children for past and present history.

Invalid Mrs. McKinley Interested in Children.

The first President's wife the average Washingtonian remembers was gentle, invalid Mrs. William McKinley. Perhaps this was from the vantage point of being among the children invited by that gracious lady to watch an Easter egg rolling from the south portico of the White House.

Mrs. Rutherford Hayes Temperance Worker; All Had Hobbies.

Washington to the Rapidan camp in the Blue Ridge, making her way around the dangerous curving roads and up the steep mountain sides with real surety and evident enjoyment.

These same ladies all enjoyed White House life. "I love to shake hands, I love to meet people, people are my favorite books," declared Mrs. Coolidge, smiling her radiant smile as she spoke. "One of the things I have enjoyed most while in the White House," said Mrs. Hoover, "has been meeting interesting people and finding out about things at first hand."

Every summer Mrs. Taft assembled her children and their children at the Taft summer home in Murray Bay, Canada, and it is a joyous time of the year to her. Even as Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, she has traveled widely since her husband's death, and generally in walking and out-of-doors occupations. Mrs. Hoover was the first First Lady to drive her own car, and used to drive swiftly from

Mrs. Coolidge Had Guest Rooms Built.

Mrs. Coolidge had guest rooms built on the attic floor which have served White House children since that time. The nursery and roof garden playground Mrs. Hoover arranged are a permanent addition to the future comfort of children living in the historic mansion.

President Coolidge took a personal interest in the clothes worn by Mrs. Coolidge and frequently made suggestions as to their choice. The hand-mad materials, made up with trains for evening parties. Once when Mrs. Coolidge wore a lovely dress but without a train at a function he made the request that she have a train added to it.

Executive Saw Capital Almost Double Its Size

Washington Had Population of 331,000 in 1913, When Young Man With Future Arrived on Scene.

reduced their debts without expecting aid from the new Federal Government, were bitter in their opposition to the Federal Government's assuming State debts.

The Eastern members of Congress threatened secession, Hamilton was in despair. Jefferson met him in the street, before the house of President Washington. The account of that interview has been recorded in Jefferson's memoirs. He tells how he and Hamilton arranged for the Congress to accept, on the one hand, Federal assumption of State debts, and on the other, the banks of the Potomac River as the site of the Capital city.

chief of the armies of the Thirteen Colonies. He served under Washington through the war and was a valued friend and comrade.

When President Washington returned from his tour of the South in the summer of 1791, following a memorable ride of 1,500 miles, he found a visitor awaiting him at Mount Vernon. This was Maj. Pierre Charles L'Enfant, a skillful French engineer, who had been chosen to draw the plan of the new Federal town.

Dr. Stuart, a resident of Alexandria, was the family physician of the Washingtons. He had married the widow of John Parks Custis, the son of Martha Washington, and for this reason, among others, was highly regarded by the President.

THIS DAY'S MAIL.

By the Postoffice of the United States of America.

Proclamation.

WHEREAS the Constitution of the United States of America provides that the President may, in extraordinary occasions, grant reprieves and commutations of pardon, and may extend the time for the execution of any sentence;

I, JOHN ADAMS, President of the United States, do hereby grant a reprieve to the following persons, who are now confined in the Jail of the District of Columbia, for the term of six months, from the execution of the sentences which have been pronounced against them, and do hereby extend the time for the execution of the sentences of the same to the 1st day of July next.

DOKE, a convict of Philadelphia, who was sentenced to die for the crime of murder, on the 11th day of March in the year 1790; and who had been confined in the Jail of the District of Columbia, for the term of six months, from the execution of the sentence which has been pronounced against him.

JOHN ADAMS, President of the United States.

By the President: T. RICKBING, Secretary of State.

Proclamation of President John Adams, dated Philadelphia, March 25, 1797, calling Congress to meet in the first called extraordinary session of that body. From the *Minerva and Mercantile Advertiser* of New York, March 23, 1797.

Gen. Johnson was the representative from Maryland in the Continental Congress in 1774 and it was he who nominated George Washington to be the commander in



Old St. Paul's Church, opposite Church of the Epiphany, in the square bounded by Vesey, Fulton and Church streets. George Washington attended service here immediately after his inauguration in 1789.