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Last Updated: 03/05/2025

Life

Nat'l Cathedral
Viet Nam Vets
Mem Service

11/10

Wash Cathedral

Chapel

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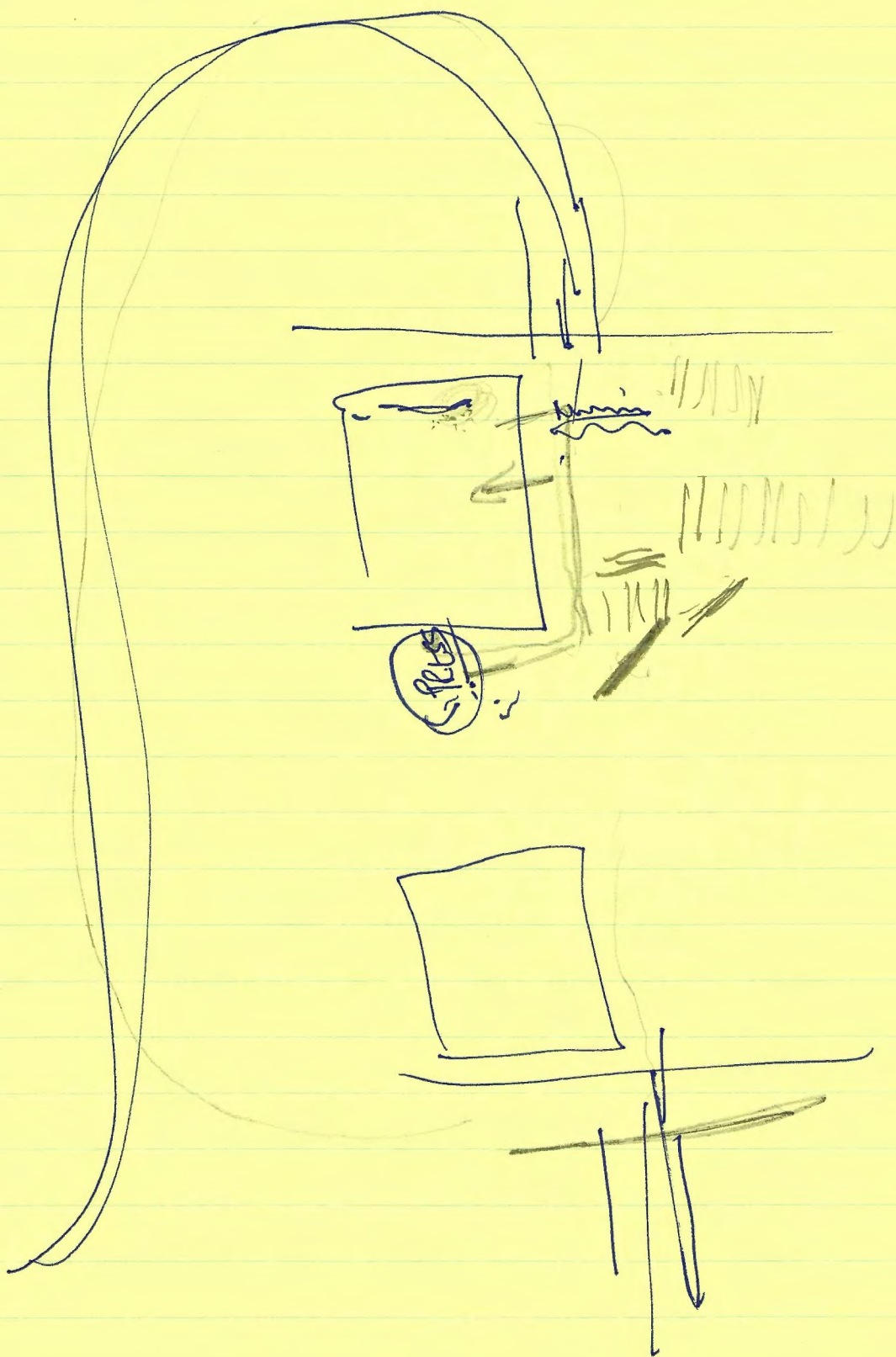
North Portico Cathedral

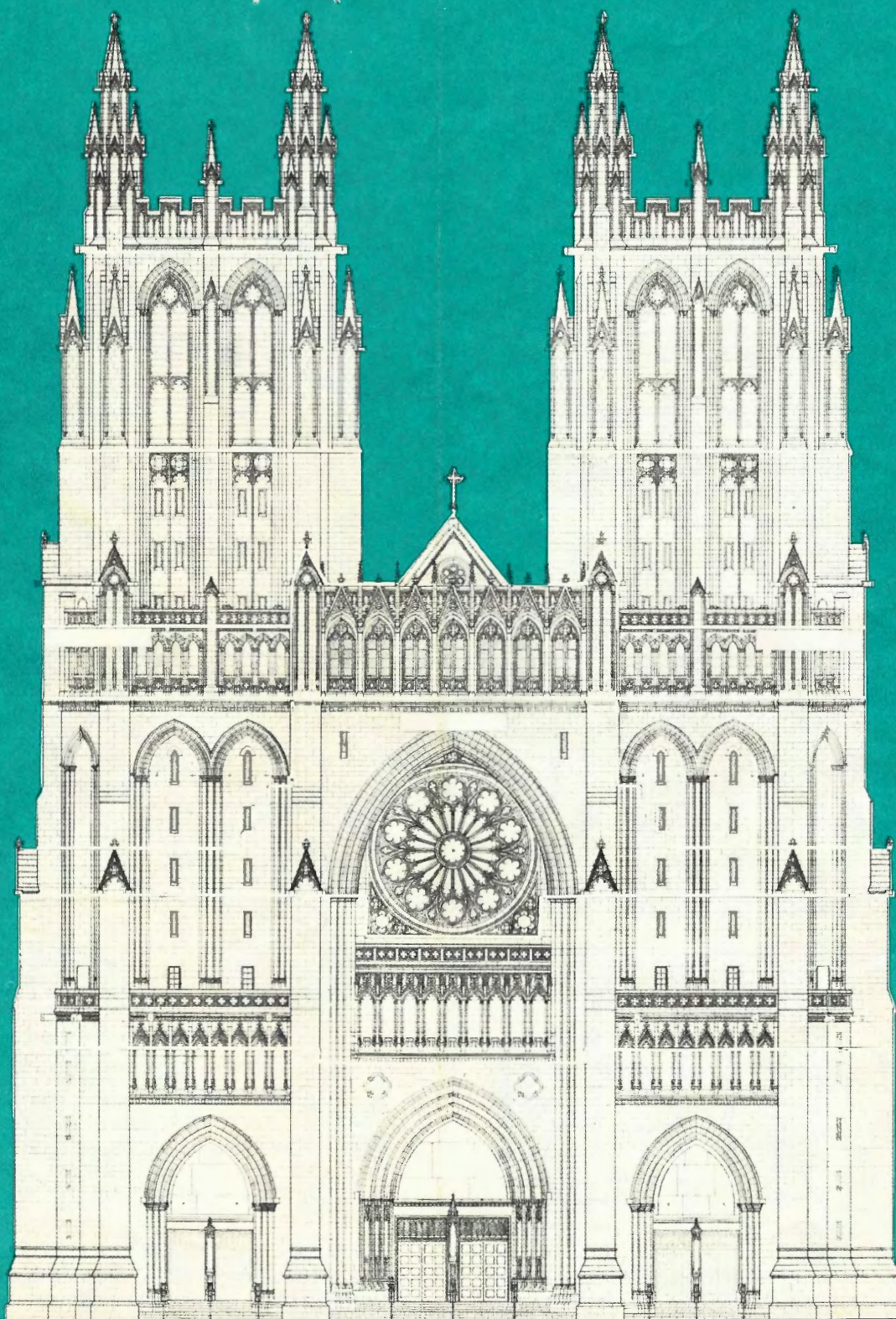
North Transcut Etl

Move press from Chapel

another Chapel

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WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL

Whatever your church, your faith or your nation

we welcome you to Washington Cathedral.

George Washington was the first to plan a "great church for national purposes in the capital city." In 1893 Congress granted a charter creating the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation and in 1907 the foundation stone was laid. President Theodore Roosevelt was the speaker on that memorable day.

The official name of the cathedral is the Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. It is the cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, often referred to as Washington Cathedral. Since it seeks to serve the whole nation, offering its ministry on behalf of all churches, it is also widely known as National Cathedral.

The cathedral is built in the shape of a cross; its architecture is fourteenth-century Gothic. It requires no structural steel; the flying buttresses balance the outward thrust of its Indiana limestone walls. Philip Hubert Frohman was its prime architect, taking over the design in 1921 and working until his death in 1972.

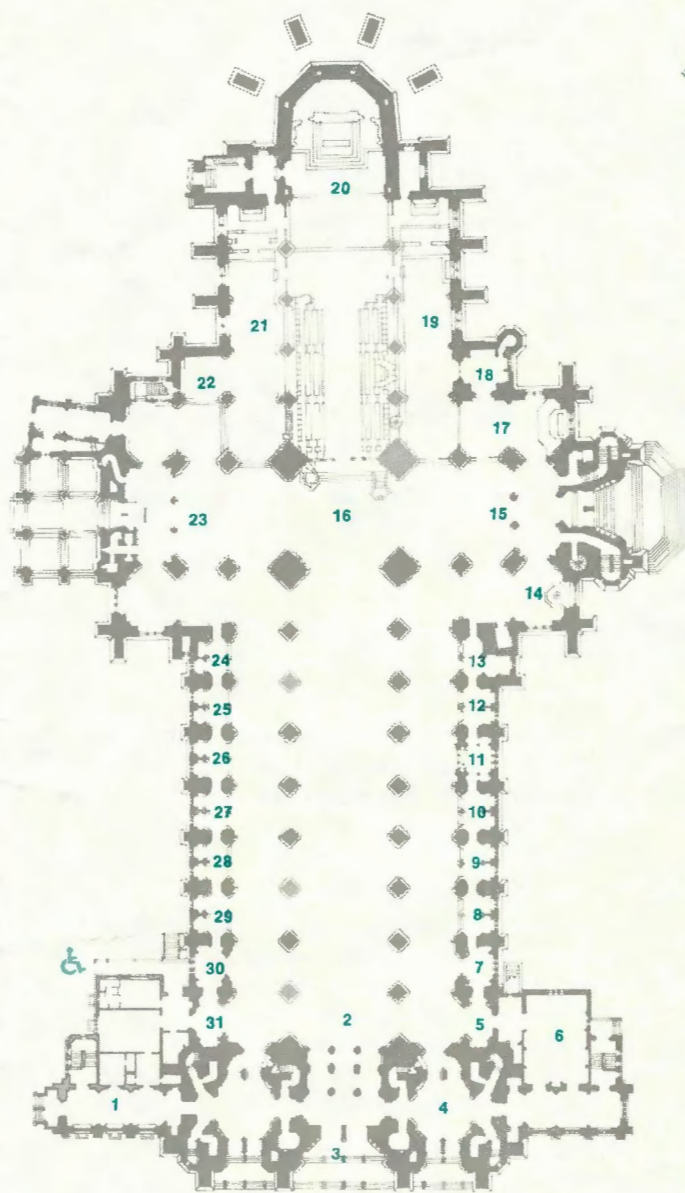
The completed nave was dedicated in 1976. Probably the last pure Gothic construction in the world is that of the west facade and the towers. When complete the cathedral will be the sixth largest in the world. The top of the Gloria in Excelsis tower is the highest point in Washington, 676 feet above sea level.

Clergy of the cathedral contribute to the mission and ministry of the cathedral through the conferences and seminars they conduct on issues of local and national concern, as well as in their sermons and publications on matters of conscience.

In addition to its twelve hundred regular services, each year there are services for other denominations as well as for many national, civic and government organizations. Although administered by the Episcopal Church, it is a house of prayer for all people.

To help you find your way

- 1** Enter the **NORTHWEST CLOISTER**, a short walk from the bus parking lanes on Wisconsin Avenue. There is a wheelchair ramp on the east side of the cloister; restrooms are on the lower level.
- 2** At the west end of the **NAVE** you will have a view of the entire one-tenth of a mile to the high altar. The **WEST ROSE WINDOW** overhead is one of three in the cathedral; its theme is creation.
- 3** The great **BRONZE GATES** of the center portal entrance open onto the **NARTHEX**. Inset in the marble floor are the seals of the fifty states and the District of Columbia, the great seal of the United States and the seal of the cathedral.
- 4** **THE CHURCHILL PORCH**, in the St. Paul Tower, honors the distinguished British statesman.
- 5** A statue of the first president is the major feature of the **GEORGE WASHINGTON BAY**. The abstract window is by Robert Pinart.
- 6** A collection of valuable ecclesiastical books is housed in the **RARE BOOK LIBRARY**.
- 7** The **MARYLAND BAY** is rich with symbols of the state of Maryland both in its carving and its stained glass.
- 8** Windows showing the Lewis and Clarke expedition to the northwest are in the **FOLGER BAY**.
- 9** The **GLOVER BAY** has as its theme man's search for God. Charles Carroll Glover's home was the site of the first meeting to plan the cathedral.
- 10** In memory of Charles Warren, lawyer and historian of the Supreme Court, the **WARREN BAY** contains many allusions to the law. Directly above this bay is the **SPACE WINDOW** commemorating the flight of Apollo XI and containing a sliver of moon rock brought back from that flight.
- 11** The tomb of President Woodrow Wilson is in the **WILSON BAY**. Ervin Bossanyi's lancet windows depict war and peace.
- 12** Windows in the **LEE-JACKSON BAY** contain scenes from the lives of these two Civil War generals.
- 13** Behind its wrought-iron gate, the **MELLON BAY** may be used for private prayer. A memorial to the Honorable Andrew W. Mellon, it also contains a cross of nails from Coventry Cathedral.



14 The font in the **BAPTISTRY** is carved of pink Tennessee marble. The needlepoint, windows and stone carving all symbolize baptism.

15 The south rose window in the **SOUTH TRANSEPT** has as its theme the church triumphant. The south portal is adorned with sculpture, including forty-four angel figures.

16 The **CROSSING** piers soar ninety-eight feet to the vaulting and are nineteen feet in diameter. The Jerusalem Cross inset in the marble floor is the cathedral's special symbol. It includes the arms of St. Peter and St. Paul, for whom the cathedral is named, and the symbol of the Trinity.

17 A tribute to those who have served in our armed forces, **WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL** contains a reredos and windows depicting sacrifice and man's struggle for freedom.

18 **CHILDREN'S CHAPEL** is scaled in size for young people. The only fan vaulting in the cathedral is carved in its ceiling.

19 **ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL** houses the tomb of Norman Prince, founder of the Lafayette Escadrille. Designs for the needlepoint kneelers memorialize historic Americans. The windows feature the miracles of Christ.

20 At the east end of the cathedral is the **HIGH ALTAR**. In the reredos behind the altar, the focus is on the majestas, Christ enthroned in majesty.

21 The ornate, polychromed reredos in **ST. MARY'S CHAPEL** is carved of linden wood. In the carved tomb on the north wall are interred the donors, Larz Anderson and his wife. Windows show the parables of Jesus, while the sixteenth century tapestries tell the story of David and Goliath.

22 The dove is used symbolically throughout **HOLY SPIRIT CHAPEL**. The painted reredos is by N. C. Wyeth.

23 The third Bishop of Washington, James E. Freeman, is buried in the **NORTH TRANSEPT**. Above the balcony is the rose window with its theme the Last Judgment.

24 In the **KELLOGG BAY**, a memorial to the Honorable Frank Billings Kellogg, is a large carved-oak case containing the cathedral's Book of Remembrance. Kellogg served his country as senator, ambassador and secretary of state.

25 The Boardman Bay, also known as the **HUMANITARIAN BAY**, honors servants of mankind in stained glass and stone carving.

26 Ambassador Henry White and his wife are honored in the **WHITE BAY** with the theme of peace and unity. The windows contain symbols of the United Nations, League of Nations, peoples of the world at prayer and peaceful uses of atomic energy.

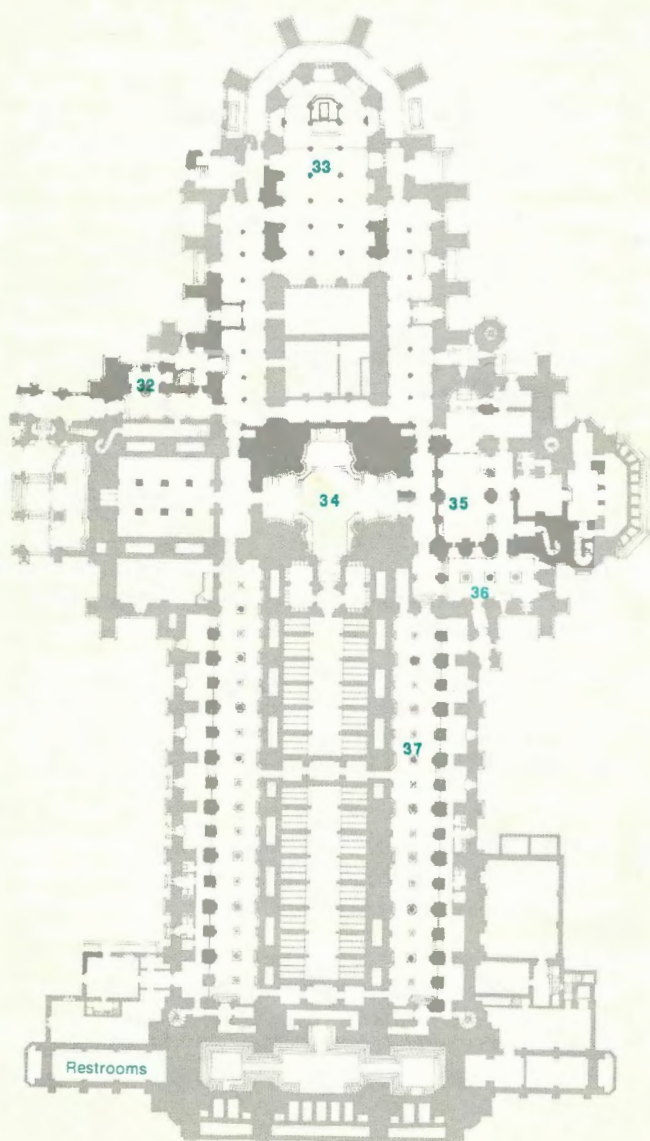
27 The **BETTELHEIM BAY**, a memorial to soldier-author Edwin Sumner Bettelheim, contains windows by Rowan and Irene LeCompte illustrating "America the Beautiful."

28 The **NATIONAL CATHEDRAL ASSOCIATION BAYS** Bossanyi windows show the roles of Christian women as lifegivers, healers, purifiers and teachers. Members of the NCA have built this and other sections of the cathedral as well as supporting its program.

29 The **DULIN BAY**, given in memory of Hanson Lee Dulin and Eugenia Bell Dulin, contains one of the cathedral's most powerful sculptures, the figure of Kierkegaard. The twenty-third psalm is featured in its stained glass.

30 Philip Hubert Frohman, cathedral architect from 1921 to 1972, is memorialized in the **FROHMAN BAY**.

31 The marble floor of the **ABRAHAM LINCOLN BAY** is inset with Lincoln-head pennies in a shield. Phrases from his farewell address at Springfield are carved in the wall; the east window is by Brenda Belfield, the north abstract window is by Robert Pinart.



Crypt Floor

32 The only section of the cathedral now open around the clock for private prayer is **GOOD SHEPHERD CHAPEL** just off the **GARTH** on the north side.

33 **BETHLEHEM CHAPEL** was the first section of the cathedral to be constructed. Behind the altar is the tomb of Henry Yates Satterlee, first Bishop of Washington. The bay with the baptismal font on the south side is a memorial to Angus Dun, fourth Bishop of Washington.

34 Directly beneath the crossing is the **CHAPEL OF ST. JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA**. The mural by Jan De Rosen tells the story of Christ's entombment.

35 **RESURRECTION CHAPEL**, below the south transept, is a memorial to Alfred Harding, second Bishop of Washington. The mosaics show the post-resurrection appearances of Christ.

36 Volunteers offer hospitality and information in the **VISITORS CENTER**. The tomb is that of the Reverend Frederick Ward Denys, staunch friend of the cathedral.

37 Guide books to the cathedral are available in the **CATHEDRAL MUSEUM SHOP**. Sales of religious art, books, gifts, cards and souvenirs help support the cathedral's ministry.

On the Close

The grounds upon which a cathedral stands are called "the close." Comprised of fifty-seven acres, Washington Cathedral's close is the site of three schools, a college, the offices of the Diocese of Washington and St. Alban's Parish Church. The **BISHOP'S GARDEN**, south of the cathedral, is modeled on a medieval walled garden. Nearby is the equestrian statue of George Washington.

The **HERB COTTAGE** offers dried herbs and jellies, books on herbs, herb seeds and gifts. Proceeds from sales go to the maintenance of cathedral grounds.

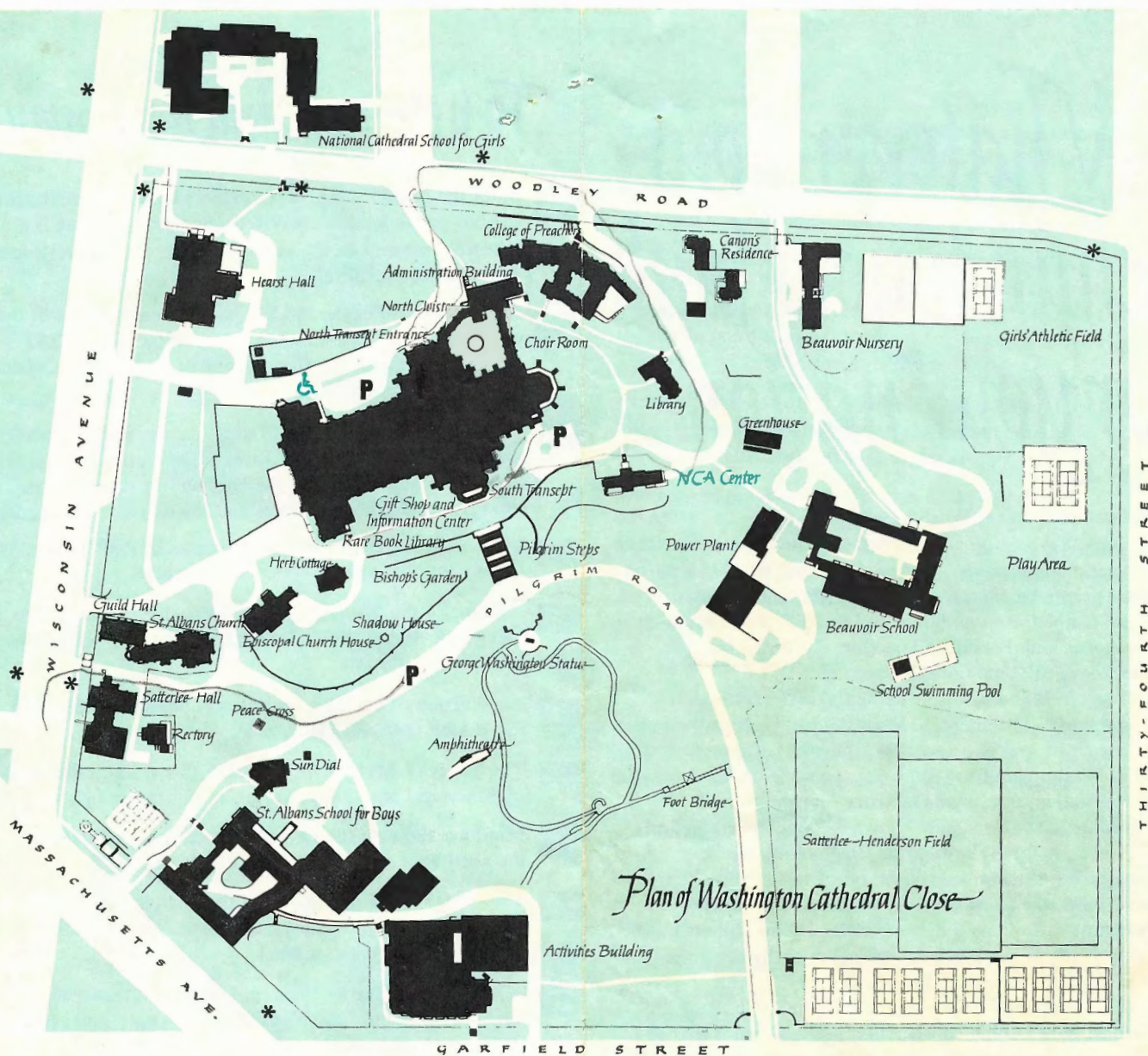
The **GREENHOUSE** has a unique variety of growing herbs and other plants for sale.

Music

Sunday afternoon organ recitals following Evensong are scheduled as visiting organists come to the cathedral.

The carillon is played on Saturdays at 4:30 pm. The ten bell peal is rung following the eleven o'clock service every Sunday.

Choirs from churches, colleges and universities all over the country sing regularly at the cathedral.



WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL

The Right Reverend John T. Walker, Bishop of Washington
 The Reverend Canon Charles A. Perry, Provost
 Mount Saint Alban, Washington, DC 20016
 Bounded by: Massachusetts Avenue, Wisconsin Avenue,
 Woodley Road and 34th Street NW
 Telephone: (202) 537-6200

HOURS

Main floor open 10 am to 4:30 pm. Chapel of the Good Shepherd open 24 hours.

SERVICES

Weekdays 7:30 am, 12, 4 pm Sundays 8, 9, 10, 11 am, 4 pm

TOURS

Monday through Saturday: 10 am-noon; 1 pm-3:15 pm
 Sundays: 12:15 and 2:30 pm, hours subject to change. Special interest tours may be arranged for groups on any day.

CATHEDRAL SHOPS

Museum Shop, Greenhouse, Herb Cottage & London Brass Rubbing Center are open Monday through Sunday, hours subject to change.

How you can help

The mission and ministry of Washington Cathedral and its completion depend entirely on the gifts of friends throughout the world. Each building stone, each note of music, each word spoken in prayer or preaching, is supported by the money you and people like you contribute to the cathedral. Please clip the coupons below and send them in . . . join us in this act of faith.

THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL ASSOCIATION is a nationwide fellowship of cathedral friends which you are invited to join. Members receive **CATHEDRAL AGE**, a quarterly magazine devoted to news of cathedrals everywhere, and are eligible to attend the annual meeting of the association in Washington. They also receive discounts at all the cathedral shops and on the slides and films programs.

Gifts in memory or in honor of a loved one, in thanksgiving for a happy event or simply to the glory of God may be given either to **Building** or to **Program**. Please indicate your preference on the coupon below. If you wish, a certificate is sent to the person you designate. Donors of \$15 or more receive **CATHEDRAL AGE**.

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22

NATIONAL CATHEDRAL ASSOCIATION
Mount Saint Alban, Washington, DC 20016

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