GLEN ECHO AND CABIN JOHN
Two fascinating towns that grew up along the Potomac. Glen Echo began as a resort in 1889, becoming the site of the "National Catauqua," a utopian community. The Chatauqua Tower in Glen Echo Park is a partially restored reminder of the era, which was ended by a malaria epidemic in 1892. Glen Echo became an amusement park in 1911, drawing thousands of Washingtonians, many of them coming by trolley from Georgetown. The rails are still visible along the canal. The park is now operated by the National Park Service as an arts center. Nearby, the Clara Barton House, also operated by NPS, is an incredible home built in 1892, in Mississippi riverboat style, by the founder of the American Red Cross. The Cabin John Arch, the largest stone arch in the western hemisphere links Glen Echo and Cabin John, and carries the Washington Aqueduct across Cabin John Creek. Cabin John is a small community probably named after "John of the Cabin," an early settler who found gold in the creek.

GEORGETOWN
One of the earliest towns in the Washington area, Georgetown was established as a tobacco port, and is now a fashionable home for government officials, students, and artists. Restored warehouses have been turned into shops and restaurants, but many historic structures are still visible. The Old Stone House, at 3051 M Street, was built in 1765, is a National Park Service headquarters for information about the area; check there for more information. Notable sites include the Duval Foundry, built in 1856; the Grace Protestant Episcopal Church, begun as a mission for canal workers in the mid-1800s; the site of Francis Scott Key’s house; and Georgetown University, oldest Catholic University in the U.S. Down by the waterfront, the Potomac Boat Club is the oldest surviving boat club on the river. Nearby are some ruins of the Alexandria Aqueduct, which crossed the Potomac to connect the C & O Canal to Alexandria in 1843.

TIDE LOCK
Zero Milestone for the C & O Canal
Lime Kiln Ruins: Two stone structures from the Godey Lime Kiln, 1864-1908, now under Parkway Ramp
Pierce Mill: Meal and flour mill built around 1820, now restored and part of Rock Creek Park.
Little Falls Skirting Canal: Meal and flour mill built around 1820, now restored and part of Rock Creek Park.
Chain Bridge: One of the earliest bridge sites across the Potomac; now popular for shad and herring fishing.
Dam No. 1: Site of the original C & O Canal groundbreaking, July 4, 1828, by President John Quincy Adams