

NATIONAL PARK SEMINARY, CHATEAU CAUSEWAYS

Between Linden Lane & Beach Drive
Silver Spring
Montgomery County
Maryland

HABS No. MD-1109-W

HABS
MD
16-SILSPR,
2W-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240

11/11/88
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Location: There are two matching raised causeways on campus. One runs from the northeast corner of Main's dining wing and over a driveway to the Practice House. It continues on the other side of the Practice House to the south side of the Colonial House. A small branch extends off the east side where it used to connect to the rose pergola walkway that is no longer extant. The other causeway runs along Sacks Road from the northwest corner of the Senior House Annex to the northwest end of Ament Hall, with a short branch leading to the Swiss chalet.

Significance: The causeways' design echoed the forms of Main. The design is vaguely Gothic. It is another fantasyland-like feature on the campus. Its rather large girth and length made it a prominent part of the campus. Yet, as with other parts of Ament's design, it was not always congruous with adjacent buildings. By erecting still another architectural feature, Ament heightened the heavy-handed appearance of the campus grounds.

History: The causeways were built during Ament's last major building campaign in 1927.

Description: The enclosed passageways sit on stucco-faced arches that are supported by brick and terra cotta abutments. The causeways are stucco-sided with contrasting wood trim, circular or rectangular windows, and gable slate roofs. The circular windows are segmented into a star pattern. Three octagonal-shaped pavilions with tall hipped roofs were placed with the causeways. One is located in the section between the Practice House and the Colonial House and the other two are in the section between Ament Hall and the Music Hall. The pavilions had interior seating.

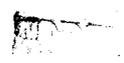
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PHOTOGRAPHS

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