

said system shall be a sufficient description of the parcel of land to which it relates, for all purposes of assessment and collection of taxes and assessments of every kind:

Each square in the city of Washington shall bear a number or other designation that will distinguish it from every other square in said city.

Each lot or parcel of ground in each such square shall bear a number or other designation that will distinguish it from every other lot or parcel of ground in such square.

Each block in each subdivision in said District outside of the limits of the city of Washington shall bear a number that will distinguish it from every other such block.

Each lot or parcel of land in each such block shall bear a number that will distinguish it from every other lot therein.

Each piece or parcel of un subdivided land and each parcel of land deced by metes and bounds in said District shall have a distinctive designation.

As nearly as practicable, in the judgment of the Commissioners, the numbers in each of the aforesaid squares, blocks, or parcels of land requiring to be numbered shall be in a regularly increasing numerical sequence and order, beginning with the lowest number practicable; and, in case of the lots, shall commence at the same relative location in each of the squares, blocks, or parcels of land, and be continued in the same relative order.

Numerical sequence.

It shall be the duty of the said Commissioners to cause a record of the designations of the several aforesaid parcels of land to be made in accordance with the foregoing system, in the office of the surveyor of said District; and said Commissioners shall cause the necessary work to be commenced immediately upon the passage of this Act; and hereafter it shall be the duty of the surveyor, in giving numbers to blocks or lots of future subdivisions, to be governed by said system.

Record of designations in office of surveyor.

SEC. 2. That the designation given as hereinbefore prescribed to each of said lots or parcels of land, which they shall respectively bear on the records of the assessor of said District at the time said lots or parcels become subject to sale for arrears of any tax or assessment, shall be the official designation of said lots or parcels of land for the enforcement of the collection of all such arrears of general taxes and assessments for the tax year in which the said designation shall be given, and until such designation be changed pursuant to law.

To be the official designation for collection of arrears of taxes, etc.

SEC. 3. That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall cause to be made a daily transcript, and entry on the records of said assessor, of the designations of lots or parcels of land in said District appearing in instruments of conveyance received for record in the office of the recorder of deeds, and the designations of lots or parcels of land in said District transferred by probated wills; and the person or persons whom the Commissioners of said District may designate for the purpose of making such transcript shall for this purpose at all times during office hours have full access to the records of the recorder of deeds and the register of wills of said District; and the assessor shall daily furnish the surveyor with a copy of such transcript.

Daily transcript from records of recorder of deeds and register of wills.

SEC. 4. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Repeal.

SEC. 5. That in the District of Columbia the annual license fee for an exhibition of paintings, works of art, or works of historical interest shall be one hundred dollars.

License fee for exhibition of works of art.

Approved, March 3, 1899.

CHAP. 458.—An Act Relative to the control of wharf property and certain public spaces in the District of Columbia.

March 3, 1899.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, with the exceptions hereinafter provided, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall have the exclusive charge and control of all wharf property belonging

District of Columbia. Commissioners to have control of wharf property.

to the United States or to the District of Columbia within said District, including all the wharves, piers, bulkheads, and structures thereon and waters adjacent thereto within the pier lines, and all slips, basins, docks, water fronts, land under water, and structures thereon, and the appurtenances, easements, uses, reversions, and rights belonging thereto, which are now owned or possessed by the United States or the District of Columbia, or to which they or either of them is or may become entitled, or which they or either of them may acquire under the provisions hereof or otherwise; and said Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall have exclusive charge and control of the repairing, building, rebuilding, maintaining, altering, strengthening, leasing, and protecting said property and every part thereof, and all the cleaning, dredging, and deepening necessary in and about the same within the pier lines. Said Commissioners are also hereby authorized and empowered to make all needful rules and regulations for the government and control of all wharves, piers, bulkheads, and structures thereon, and waters adjacent thereto within the pier lines, and all the basins, slips, and docks, with the land under water, in said District not owned by the United States or the District of Columbia: *Provided*, The the following described property shall be placed under the immediate jurisdiction and control of the Chief of Engineers of the United States: The banks of the Potomac River from the north line of the Arsenal Grounds to the southern curb line of N street south; also five hundred linear feet of shore line in the Flushing Reservoir at the foot of Seventeenth street, west, and west from the western curb of said street, including a levee one hundred feet wide.

Regulations.

Proviso.
Property controlled
by Chief of Engineers.

Regulations.

SEC. 2. That said Commissioners and the Chief of Engineers of the United States Army are hereby authorized and empowered to make all needful rules and regulations for the government and proper care of all the property placed in their charge and under their respective control by the provisions of section one of this Act and to annex such reasonable penalties to said rules and regulations as will secure their enforcement; and also to make and enforce rules and regulations in regard to building and repairing wharves, the rental thereof, and the rate of wharfage. All rents so collected shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States, one-half to be placed to the credit of the United States and one-half to the credit of the District of Columbia. No lease made under the provisions of this Act shall extend beyond the period of ten years.

Leases.

Testing grounds in
Potomac Park for De-
partment of Agricul-
ture.

Proviso.
Character of land
not to be changed, etc.
Vol. 29, p. 624.

Park to be under
control of Secretary of
War.

Removal of Botanical
Garden fence.

Proviso.
—of Botanical Garden.

Harbor lines.

That the Secretary of War is authorized to grant permission to the Department of Agriculture for the temporary occupation of such area or areas of Potomac Park, not exceeding a total of seventy-five acres in extent, as may not be needed in any one season for the reclamation or park improvement, the said areas to be used by the Department of Agriculture as testing grounds: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to change the essential character of the lands so used, which lands shall continue to be a public park, as provided in the Act of Congress approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven: *And provided further*, That said area or areas shall be vacated by the Department of Agriculture at the close of any season upon the request of the Secretary of War: *And provided further*, That the entire park shall remain under the charge of the Secretary of War. That on or before January first, nineteen hundred and three, the fence around the Botanical Garden shall be removed: *Provided*, That at the first session of the Fifty-sixth Congress the Joint Committee on Library is directed to report a bill embodying a plan for removing the Botanical Garden to another location.

SEC. 3. That the harbor lines of the District of Columbia shall be determined by the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

Approved, March 3, 1899.