

Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

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Hills of Covington  
Beckon to Yankeeland

By

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# Hills of Covington Beckon to Yankeeland

By CARL B. WACHS

**C**OVINGTON—"Dixie's Gateway"—directly opposite Cincinnati, at the confluence of the Ohio and Licking Rivers—initiates the tourist into a realm of verdant hills, bluegrass, fine horses, tobacco, and a romantic atmosphere of Southern hospitality.

Entering the Gateway he passes over a bridge which was the first of its kind, the Suspension Bridge. It was designed by Andrew Roebling, (nationally known engineer, who also designed the Brooklyn Bridge), and was built in 1865-67. It has a span of 1,057 feet and has never been closed to traffic.

Kenton County, of which Covington is the metropolis, is proud of its highway system. The first concrete road in the State and one of the first in the United States, was built here. It was a section of the Dixie Highway, (U. S. 25) between Covington and Erlanger, built in 1913. There are now forty-seven miles of concrete road in the county. Two main arterial highways, the Dixie Highway (U. S. 25) and Appalachian Way, are now completely concreted throughout the county. The two roads named are also called the L. L. L. Route and Cincinnati-Lookout Mountain Air Line. River road, a new short route to Louisville, will be improved in 1929. All other roads are hard surfaced. There are 487 miles of turnpike in the county.

In Covington the tourist will find the smallest Catholic

Church in the world. Monte Casino. It accommodates only three worshipers at one time and could very easily be set in the doorway of St. Mary's Cathedral, which is located in the heart of Covington. St. Mary's Cathedral claims wide distinction. It is a million dollar structure patterned after the famous Notre Dame in Paris, France, and is one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture in this country. It contains the second largest stained glass window in the world, depicting two scenes of mammoth proportions. The sculptured group above the main arch and entrance is by Clement J. Barnhorn and in the chapel are four large paintings by Frank Duveneck, both Covington men and internationally famous in art circles. The beauty of the Cathedral has drawn visitors from all parts of the world, who gain valuable inspiration in reflection on its beauty.

Devou Park, in the western part of Covington, is one of the largest municipally owned parks in the United States. It comprises 518 acres of hills and dales in their natural state. Recreational facilities have been installed. These include a very sporty nine hole golf links, where the

tourist is welcome, and eight tennis courts, second to none, where State Championship matches have been held. A Riding Club, Archery Club and playground equipment attracts thousands of citizens and visitors to this hilltop  
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St. Mary's Cathedral and Bishop's residence, Covington, Ky.



"The Home Stretch." Beautiful Latonia, Covington, Kentucky.

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idea are ground. An unequalled panorama of Greater Cincinnati and the Ohio and Licking Rivers from this park is worthy of the tourist's visit.

Five miles from Covington is Fort Thomas, a military post, that is at present occupied by the first and second battalions of the 10th U. S. Infantry and one of the Citizens Military Training Camps. The post is surrounded by the city of Ft. Thomas, well known as "The City of Homes;" 11,000 people live in this beautiful community and it has not been touched by the arm of industry.

Within the city limits of Covington is Latonia race track, well known as "America's most beautiful racing plant," where thoroughbred horses of this and foreign countries compete for valuable stakes, urged on by cheering thousands who come from many distant states to enjoy the "Sport of Kings."

Between racing seasons, the grounds are well worth the tourist's visit for the landscaping and formal gardens, constantly cared for by twenty-five horticulturists, present a fairyland of floral beauty.

The tourist will find wonderful natural scenery, typical of Kentucky, by driving on any of the roads out of Covington—the most beautiful route being the Decoursey Pike, which follows the hilltops above the Licking Valley and ends in a beautiful panorama at Ryland Station, overlooking a valley ten miles long and hemmed in by the hills of Kenton and Campbell Counties.

Thirteen lakes are scattered through the valley, which is divided by the Licking River.

On U. S. 25 just at the outskirts of Covington, the tourist sees on all sides beautiful estates of Covington's business and professional men, and here he catches the first view of the stately Kentucky mansions, so vividly pictured by southern authors and dramatists in our current successes in books and photoplays.

This modern ribbon of concrete was once the Lexington turnpike made famous by John Uri Lloyd in his well known novels—"Stringtown on the Pike," and "Warwick of the Knobs," the fertile ground for whose plots was found in the environs of Covington and terminate at Florence, Ky., "Stringtown." This town is quaint and interesting, several of the houses being over a century old. Mr. Lloyd is also an internationally known chemist. He has presented a community house to the town of Crittenden (also on U. S. 25) where many of his early letters and original manuscripts are on exhibition.

As the visitor leaves our metropolitan area, he comes into our famous agricultural and Bluegrass section where the world's finest tobacco and fastest horses will command his undivided attention, and as you leave our friendly territory, and disappear in the heart of Kentucky's hills, we know that your initiation at Covington, "Dixie's Gateway," will linger fondly on in your memory, while we will be the richer from making your cherished acquaintance-ship.