

CAPITAL CITY GAZETTEER

Located on the west shore of the Delaware Bay, approximately 22 miles southeast of Dover, Capital City is the largest and most populous city in Delaware. The city's founders, real estate developer Arthur Richville and financier Chase Livery, hoped it would be "a testament to the power of American capitalism." From the art deco skyscrapers, with their dirigible docking stations and decorated cornices, to the streamlined trains that streak across the city's elevated monorail, to the mighty Statue of Fortune that overlooks the Bay, Capital City was built to be the city of tomorrow – but tomorrow never came. True, more than 60% of the country's Fortune 500 companies maintain an office here, and the city's elite Richville neighborhood hosts some of America's most luxurious mansions. But Capital City is also a city of poverty, crime, and decay, where endless rows of rusted factories and abandoned buildings are the legacy of lost hope, broken promises, and shattered American dreams.

From *"Fortune Favors the Old: The History of Capital City"* by Eddie Exswiss and Mason Cortez

NEIGHBORHOODS

South Slaughter: This rundown neighborhood largely consists of old resort hotels, yacht clubs, and bayside homes that have been converted into low-income housing. El Cartel de Los Carteles traffics arms, cocaine, and sex slaves through the piers and jetties that run along the shore, and only the foolish or heroic visit them at night. The neighborhood was originally named for Slaughter Beach to the north, but frequent gangland executions make it an unhappy double entendre.

Bay Front: This diverse neighborhood offers an eclectic mix of ethnic restaurants, bayside beaches, fashionable shopping, and brownstone townhouses. The shops and houses become increasingly upscale with distance from South Slaughter, although they never approach the luxuries of Richville or even East End.

West End: West End is home to Capital City University, a privately endowed college with 6,300 undergraduates on its 86-acre campus. Other points of interest include the bay front Walter Betts Sports Park, the massive Cathedral of Our Lady of Abundance, the retro-styled Soda Pop Shop, and the notorious KALI Cabaret.

Downtown: The dense Capital City downtown has the city's largest concentration of skyscrapers and high-rises – and one of the city's highest crime rates. The risk of assault and robbery doesn't deter sports fans from visiting the Kirby Arena, though the crowd is rough. The Capital City Police Department is headquartered here, as is the local branch of Dreadnought Securities, Inc. Ascendants, or wannabe ascendants, often frequent the gadget-and-gear shop Wieland Laboratories. The mysterious vigilante Shadowmancer is frequently seen in Downtown Capital City.

Livery: Named for city father Chase Livery, this tony district is the heart of Capital City's cultural activities. Many of the city's most beautiful and historical Art Deco buildings are found here, including the Capital City Hall, the Livery Center for the Performing Arts, the Atlantic Museum of American History, the Grand Sentinel Hotel, and the Metropolitan Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

Broadkill: In the first two decades of the postwar era, Broadkill was a center for American manufacturing and shipping. Every day cargo ships at Broadkill Terminal ferried in raw materials and ferried out finished goods. Morning and night the Streamline Express station brought commuters to and from the factories and powerplants. At lunch and on weekends, well-paid union labor could mingle with white collar professionals at Fortune Park. These glory days are long gone. The unions have been broken by offshoring and the factories that remain are rusted relics, barely profitable enough to maintain but not worth renovating.

Ingram: Once a prosperous blue-collar neighborhood of single-family townhomes and apartments for workers at the Broadkill factories and plants, Ingram collapsed with Broadkill. Nowadays it is a crime-ridden slum run by El Cartel de Los Carteles. Capital City police refer to the neighborhood as "Fort Ingram" and refuse to go there without backup, body armor, and really good reason.

East End: Historically, East End has been one of the city's most affluent neighborhoods, surpassed only by nearby Richville. In recent years, the neighborhood has begun to de-gentrify. As conditions in Ingram worsened, East End residents on its periphery began to move out, triggering a sell-off that devastated home prices and brought in a wave of less affluent residents. The remaining East Enders are currently working to pass strict new zoning laws to keep the have-nots from encroaching any further. Angelyne Knight (aka Stiletto) hails from East End.

Richville: Sometimes called "Bel Air on the Bay," Richville is the wealthiest neighborhood in Capital City. It is home to the descendants of Arthur Richville himself, as well as to eighteen Fortune 500 CEOs and dozens of entrepreneurs, executives, hedge fund traders, and other 1%ers. They pity the "middle class" of East End for having to suffer the recent unpleasantness of de-gentrification, but not so much that they'll do anything about it.

Bay Bridge: This corporate district is named for the Delaware Bay Bridge, a 4-lane 16-mile-long causeway which crosses the mouth of Delaware Bay to connect Capital City with Cape May, New Jersey. The Delaware Bay Bridge is supported by 6,375 concrete pilings and segmented by two bascules which maintain the navigation channel into the bay. Overlooking the Bay Bridge is the mighty Statue of Fortune, a gold-plated concrete colossus of the Roman goddess Fortuna bearing the cornucopia built in Art Deco style. Erected in 1938 to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the settlement of Delaware, the hollow statue stands 145 feet tall (5 SPs) and weighs 156 tons (14 SPs). It rests on a 165-foot tall (5 SP) stepped pedestal of concrete with a visitor's center offering admission to the summit. The Capital City Airport is located about a mile southwest of the Statue.

STATISTICS

Established: 1921

Area: 15.85 square miles (24 SP)

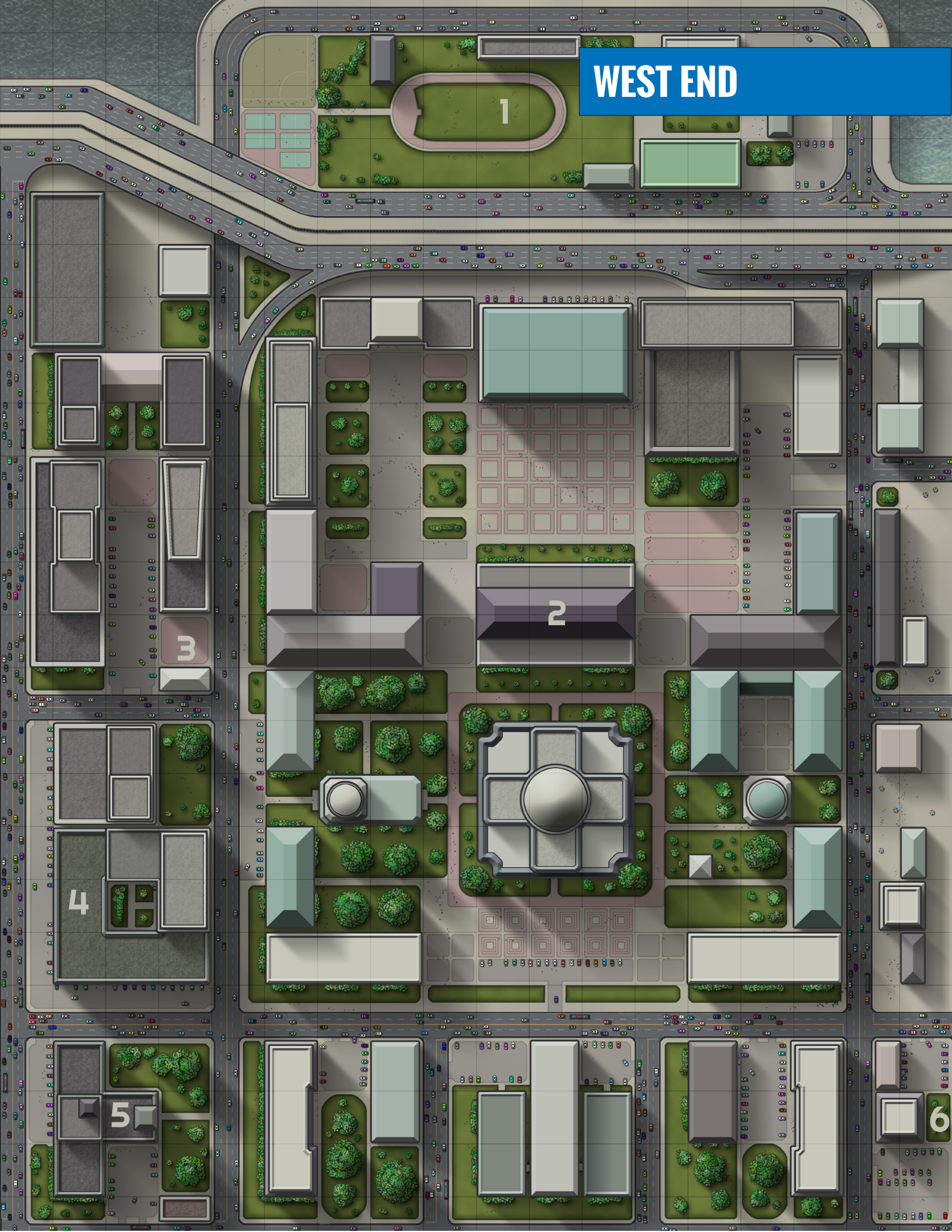
Population: 718,750 (15 SP)

Time Zone: Eastern

Area Code: 302

ZIP Codes: 19958 – 19963

WEST END



WEST END

1. Walter Betts Sport Park: This popular outdoor venue has an amphitheater, a baseball field, a football field, five tennis courts, an indoor skating rink, a playground, and a 400-meter running track. The park is named for Major League pitcher Walter “Huck” Betts, and a small statue of the Delaware Sports Museum Hall of Famer adorns the park south of the amphitheater. The park is dangerous at night, as drug dealers and traffickers tied to El Cartel de Los Carteles exploit the proximity to the University for customers or victims.

2. Capital City University: Founded in 1929, Capital City University hosts a student body of 6,300 undergraduates on an 86-acre campus. CCU has neither the storied pedigree of the Ivy League nor the popular appeal of a party school. What it does have is excellent programs in business, chemistry, and mechanical engineering.

3. Soda Pop Shop: A Capital City landmark since 1941, the Soda Pop Shop is a classic malt shop with a soda fountain, spinning stools, and round tables with sweetheart parlor chairs. The Soda Pop Shop serves California-style burgers, hot wings, fountain colas, ice cream sodas, chocolate malts, and milkshakes, and recently acquired a license for beer and wine. The all-female staff (known as “soda molls”) wear 50s-style pink and polka dot collar dresses, half-aprons, and matching hats. Since last fall, the shop has begun hosting “Super Saturdays” where servers and patrons dress up in ascendant-themed outfits. Not even the servers know that actual ascendants often grab a snack at the Shop before visiting Event Horizon.

4. William H. Forwood Memorial Hospital: This 200,000-square-foot medical center offers 24/7 emergency care, general surgery, orthopedics, imaging, lab, and pharmacy as well as beds for 115 patients. Approximately 1,250 health care providers work at Forwood. Due to Capital City’s high crime rate, the doctors here are highly experienced in treating gunshots, burns, and other physical trauma. Forwood also has Delaware’s most advanced genomic clinic. Under a classified government program, all test results are sent to Dr. Neil Lindgren at the US Department of Health to review for the QAP-correlated ASKC-6, KAH-RW, CYF11, and SKRA exons.

5. Cathedral of Our Lady of Abundance: One of the world’s largest Art Deco churches, Our Lady of Abundance is a Catholic cathedral built between 1929 and 1944. The floor area of Our Lady is 82,900 sq ft (12 SPs), spanning a length of 448 feet (6 SPs), while the roof height is 132 feet (5 SPs). The cathedral’s bronze statue of the Virgin Mary has been criticized by religious conservatives as “pagan,” and urban legends claim that philanthropist Chase Livery actually dedicated the statue to Fortuna, the Roman goddess of wealth. After several decades of neglect, the Cathedral’s fortunes are on the rise. With the rise of ascendants in 2018, Sunday masses have become crowded with anxious citizens seeking solace. Father Charles Ludwig previously trained as an exorcist at the Vatican; some internet conspiracy theorists claim he is part of the legendary Night Stalkers organization.

6. KALI Cabaret: This brownstone building was once the Episcopal Church of the Assumption. In 1983, it was deconsecrated and sold, re-opening in 1985 as a nightclub and disco. The club has changed names and owners several times since then. Today it is called KALI Cabaret and is notorious for its weekly Fetish Friday, a sinful extravaganza of bondage-themed fashion and entertainment. The superhero Stiletto worked at KALI Cabaret prior to her ascension and still frequents the club.

DOWNTOWN

7. Admiralty Park at Pier 28: Admiralty Park at Pier 28 is dedicated to the Delaware naval heroes Jacob Jones and Thomas Macdonough. A pair of statues of the great commanders adorns the two green lawns of the park, while the adjoining gazebo is home to a small naval museum. Pier 28 itself is a bayside hangar often used to host bar mitzvahs, charity balls, confirmations, fundraisers, and weddings. Not only is the view of Delaware Bay breathtaking, but the vantage point is sufficiently far from Broadkill Marine Terminal to avoid unsightly cranes and container ships in the event photos. The bayside shop at the park’s edge sells cheesy Capital City memorabilia.

8. Kirby Arena: Capital City’s premiere venue for live events has a 250-foot (6 SP) by 125-foot (5 SP) field with seating for up to 18,235 persons (10 SP crowd). Kirby Arena is home to two professional sports teams: The Delaware Ventures (an NBA franchise) and the Capital City Sentinels (an NHL franchise). Capital City fans are so obnoxious to their teams that sportscasters are prone to speak of the “home court disadvantage” suffered by the city’s athletes. Despite the unpleasant crowd, Kirby Arena is scheduled to host the country’s first ever professional ascendant martial arts tournament in 2021.

9. Capital City Police Headquarters: The Capital City Police Department employs 250 sworn officers and 265 civilians (10 SP of Personnel) operating with a budget of \$160 million annually (13 SP of Funds) to police Capital City’s 139 square miles. Officers assigned to West End, Downtown, Livery, and Broadkill operate out of the headquarters, while smaller stations serve

DOWNTOWN



South Slaughter, Bay Front, Ingram, East End, Richville, and Bay Bridge (13 SPs of Facilities in total). Homicide, Vice, and the newly-created Special Crimes Division are all based here. The latter is tasked with investigating ascendant-related crimes and headed up by veteran detectives Louis Hernandez and Rial Porcher.

10. Capital City Times: Capital City's independent source of local news and culture operates out of this shabby downtown office building. With 60 staff (7 SP of Personnel) and \$10 million in revenue (9 SP of Funds), the Times has struggled to survive the declining fortunes of the newspaper industry. The print edition barely maintains enough advertisers to be worth publishing. The Times' website has fared better due to the hard-hitting investigative journalism of Eddie Exswiss (a Troublemaking Journalist). Exswiss made his name by breaking the story of Stiletto's battle against El Cartel de Los Carteles, and has since turned his attention to the mysterious ascendant Shadowmancer. By scanning police dispatches and comparing them to reports of the ascendant, Exswiss has concluded that Shadowmancer is probably a member of the CCPD. It's only a matter of time until he discovers the truth...

11. Dreadnaught Security: This brownstone building has been leased by Dreadnaught Security to serve as the headquarters for its Capital City branch (Facilities of 10 SP). Dreadnaught has received a \$10M contract (Funds of 9 SPs) from City Hall to protect the cruise ship terminal as well as to supplement the municipal police department's SWAT team. At present there are 12 operatives in the city (Personnel of 8 SPs). There is little camaraderie between the city's sworn officers and Dreadnaught's hired guns, largely because Dreadnaught has been openly lobbying the Mayor to privatize the entire police. In order to impress the Mayor, Dreadnaught has assigned its best ascendant, Airborne, to Capital City. The aggressive veteran is actively seeking out a confrontation with one of the city's ascended criminals – perhaps the sinister Shadowmancer.

12. Wieland Laboratories: This shop offers equipment for heroes – or those who think they are – with a product line ranging from body armor to utility belts. The German owner and inventor Stefan Wieland is a talented engineer and tinkerer capable of fulfilling almost any would-be vigilante's wish (treat Wieland as an Absent-Minded Professor but with 100 CPs of Invention). For unusual orders, Wieland will hire ascendants to secure the necessary materials or prototype technologies. The prices at Wieland Laboratories are high, but so is the quality – and everything is discreetly “made in Germany.” Wieland's largest client is the local branch of Dreadnaught Securities, Inc. Wieland is close friends with Dr. Tige Coffey of Project Ascension and can refer prospective recruits to the Star-Spangled Squadron.

13. Event Horizon: The ascendant Singularity owns and operates this underground dance club. The building that houses the Event Horizon appears to be just one of the many vacant low-rises that populate the south side of Capital City. Its brownstone walls are scrawled with colorful graffiti and the boarded-up doors and windows offer no obvious entrance. In fact, there is no entrance to Singularity's club – access to the interior is available only to guests she invites or to those powerful enough to get inside. Those who do get in enjoy a state-of-the-art sound and light system, fully-stocked wet bar, three dance floors, and luxurious VIP amenities. Event Horizon serves as neutral ground where ascendants from any faction can gather in safety. Singularity enforces her club rules personally using her extraordinary ability to manipulate gravity, time, and space.

LIVERY

14. Capital City Cruise Ship Terminal: Capital City was built with the expectation that sea travel would remain an important mode of civilian transportation, and this terminal was intended to host ocean liners ferrying passengers across the Atlantic. With the collapse of maritime passages, the terminal was converted to a cruise ship terminal offering trips to the Bahamas, Bermuda, and Canary Islands. The terminal includes ticketing desks for each cruise line plus luggage depositories, two cafes, and six waiting lounges. The terminal is considered high-risk for terrorist attack by Exodus and Dreadnaught Security has been retained to protect the facility on a 24/7 basis.

15. Atlantic Museum of American History: Designed by architect Walter Dorwin Teague in 1946, the Atlantic Museum of American History is considered a masterpiece of Art Deco construction. It is most famous for its “American Industry” collection, showcasing Yankee ingenuity and American know-how including classic inventions such as the smoke detector, air conditioner, refrigerator, incandescent lamp, rotary dial, zipper, muffler, semi-automatic shotgun, nickel-zinc battery, airplane, automatic transmission, bulldozer, liquid-fuel rocket, jukebox, electric razor, ENIAC computer, and more. The museum curator, Anastasia Rosen, is actively seeking ascendant devices and inventions to add to the collection.

16. Livery Center for the Performing Arts: Endowed by city founder and philanthropist Chase Livery, the Center for the Performing Arts consists of three buildings, the Opera House, the Ballet Theater, and the Symphony Hall, which form a U around Livery Plaza. The plaza itself is often used for outdoor events in the spring and summer. The Livery Center is not profitable and is sustained only by generous donations from the city elite in East End and Richville.

LIVERY



17. Church of Ascension: The newly-constructed Church of Ascension in Capital City stands out sharply for its asymmetrical expressionist architecture. Inside, the Church resembles a cross between a temple, a medical spa, and a gym, with biofeedback machines, virtual trainers, and meditation rooms filled with aspiring superhumans. New visitors are encouraged to download the “StartAscending” App and urged to pursue genomic testing at the Forwood Memorial Hospital in West End. During daytime hours, there is almost always a small crowd (0 – 1 SP) of protestors from ACAV harassing churchgoers. Capital City police don’t get involved unless things get out of hand.

18. Capital City Review-Journal: The Review-Journal is the city’s oldest and most respected newspaper. The Review-Journal claims to maintain its 124 staff (8 SP of Personnel) and \$21 million in revenue (10 SP of Funds) with the support of the city elite. After all, it would seem disreputable for Capital City to lack its own daily broadsheet! In truth, the local leadership of El Cartel de Los Carteles quietly bankrolls the paper’s operations in exchange for subtly favorable coverage and tips on police activities. Publisher Samuel Fletcher (Unscrupulous Executive) will do whatever it takes to keep his paper profitable and his reputation intact.

19. Grand Sentinel Hotel: When it was built in 1947, the Grand Sentinel was among the most luxurious 5-star hotels in the world. Its posh Art Deco exterior continues to impress visitors today. The interior, though well-maintained, has never been renovated. The retro décor maintains its charm, but guests are less forgiving of the Grand Sentinel’s old-fashioned heating and cooling systems and lackluster internet services. Recently the hotel came under the ownership of adult entertainment tycoon Jean-Michel Renard, who has pledged to re-make it into an icon of 21st century luxury. While publicly applauding the hotel’s renovation, the city’s “old money” is quietly concerned that Renard will turn this 75-year-old landmark into something gauche and trashy.

20. ACAV Chapter Headquarters: The Delaware chapter of American Citizens Against Vigilantism has a 5,000-square-foot office in this mid-rise. ACAV is a not-for-profit foundation that claims to represent the interests of everyday people against ascendants and their enablers. It maintains a watch list of “persons of mass destruction” and publishes a weekly bulletin highlighting crimes committed by ascendants and collateral damage caused by ascendant activity. The Church of Ascension frequently sends missionaries to hand out disparaging leaflets near the ACAV offices. Here, too, the Capital City PD stays out of it when it can.

21. Metropolitan Conservatory and Botanical Gardens: The 10-acre (14 SP) botanical gardens and adjacent glass-walled conservatory is filled with more than 900 species and varieties of regional native plants and wildlife, many quite rare. The carnivorous Crimson Pitcher plants are the most popular attraction, but the moss garden, white flower garden, and bird viewing shelter (with its snow geese and piping plovers) are also beloved. The gardens used to suffer from night-time vandals, but has been strangely untroubled as of late. Eddie Exswiss of the Capital City Times has claimed that an ascendant plant controller is feeding would-be vandals to the carnivorous plants.

22. Capital City Public Library: This historic Art Deco building is home to the Capital City Public Library’s main collection of 977,320 books (22 SP of Clutter, 37 SP of Information). The Library’s pride is the Edward G. Budd Engineering Collection, which includes the great inventor’s original patent applications for arc welding, stainless steel, and streamlined automotive. Although the library maintains copies of all of the city’s papers and public records, the collection has never been digitized due to budget shortfalls. Researchers investigating Capital City’s history must painstakingly comb through catalogs of print and microfiche.

23. Capital City Hall: This building houses the offices of the Capital City municipal government. Capital City is run by a city commission of five members elected by block vote. The city commission collectively decides on appropriation, regulation, taxation, and other legislative matters. Executive responsibility is parceled out by vote of the commission to the individual commissioners, of whom the mayor is merely first among equals. The current mayor is Nicolas Long (a Principled Local Politician), a fourth-generation scion of Capital City who believes that the rise of ascendants represents an opportunity for renewal in Capital City.

BROADKILL

24. Broadkill Marine Terminal: Container ships ferrying cargo up, down, and across the Atlantic are loaded and unloaded at this rusting but functional sea yard. The terminal’s 50-foot deep container berths are serviced by a pair of gantry cranes. Both are Post-Panamax models with 140-foot lifting heights (5 SPs) and 50-ton workloads (Super-Strength of 12 SPs). The larger crane features a dual-hoist system that allows it to lift two containers simultaneously. Each crane can handle 40 standard containers (Volume of 6 SPs) per hour, and the terminal as a whole can handle 233,000 containers a year. Containers are typically unloaded into the 5-acre cargo yard just beyond the berths then dispatched to warehouses throughout the district. There are persistent rumors that El Cartel de Los Carteles and Exodus use container ships to smuggle contraband and criminals, but an ongoing police investigation has yet to uncover any leads.

BROADKILL



25. Mono Station: The Capital City Streamline Monorail (CCSM) is a double-stacked elevated monorail system that commands breathtaking views of the Bay. It was originally built to ferry passengers between the residential and industrial neighborhoods of the city. Nowadays, the CCSM is better known as “the Mono” and avoided like the plague after dark by anyone who cares about their own health. The exteriors of its streamlined stainless-steel cars are tagged with graffiti from scores of gangs, while the car interiors are littered with used syringes, cigarette butts, and the occasional slumbering drug addict.

26. Fortune Park North: This 13.5-acre (15 SP) park is adorned with beautiful white oak and hawthorn trees that form an arcade around Pluto’s Pond, a man-made 7-foot-deep lake (with 11 SPs of water) populated by snow geese and pintail ducks. Broadkill Square, south of Pluto’s Pond, is a paved plaza where parkgoers can skate, watch street performers, and rest on benches to feed birds. Fortune Park was intended for the enjoyment of commuters to the nearby factories and plants, but since the Great Recession of 2008 it has become the campground of the city’s burgeoning homeless population.

27. Fortune Park South: At 16.7 acres (15 SP), Fortune Park South is slightly larger than its northern sibling, albeit less popular. The parking strip was once a favorite choice for teenagers looking to make out but is nowadays vacant after dark due to the crime rate. Trophy Circle, at the park’s north end, is reputedly the rendezvous point for the Unseen Court, the vigilante organization that protects Capital City’s least-privileged. Graffiti depicting the group’s symbols and deeds covers much of the concrete.

28. Broadkill Generating Station: This 1,240-megawatt (23 SP) power plant is fueled primarily by no. 6 petroleum and natural gas. Multiple combustion turbines cycle to meet peak power demands. The red-and-white main chimney, known as the “Grand Moor”, is 610 feet (7 SPs) tall, while the “Petty Moors” are each 410 feet (6 SPs) tall. The origin of the chimney names is unknown but widely blamed on the plant’s French builder.

29. Delaware Bay Chemical Plant: The Delaware Bay Chemical Company owns and operates this 70-acre (17 SP) factory. It manufactures polystyrene materials, synthetic rubbers, latexes, dispersions, and adhesives. The Delaware Bay Chemical Company claims the plant meets all EPA safety guidelines, but that doesn’t stop the scent of burning rubber from filling the air in its vicinity. Internet conspiracy theorists claim that Capital City’s unusually-high number of ascendants is due to the biological stress inflicted on the city residents by the pollutants from this plant.

30. Hetty Automotive: Frank Hetty runs this automotive garage and dealership in seedy South Broadkill. Depending on who you ask, Hetty has alleged ties to Capital City PD, Dreadnaught, El Cartel de Los Carteles, Exodus, and/or the Unseen Court. Some even claim he’s Stiletto’s boyfriend. Whatever the truth, Hetty is close-lipped about it. His customers can order special parts, body work, customization, and repairs with no questions asked as long as they pay in cash.