31 Route

Hunt's

Passing Port Morris, the car goes near Leggett Avenue, formerly Leggett's Lane, along which the British marched, passing a deep cave near the Longwood Club House where the Americans had, while in flight, hidden the bodies of some of their companions. On the right is the site of the Whitlock or Caronava Mansion (1859), in its day one of the most magnificent houses in America. The door knobs were of solid gold and the house had secret rooms and underground passages. Just beyond, the Boulevard crosses Lafayette Lane. Under the trees to the right was an old structure called the "Kissing Bridge."

Leave the car at Hunt's Point Avenue, cross the railroad bridge and follow this road to the East River and back (a little more

than three miles round trip) passing on the right

51. The site of the Locusts, of Revolutionary days, the home of the tutor of the Faile family, who formerly taught in the family of Sir Walter Scott. Beyond is

52. The site of Woodside, built in 1832, the residence of the late E. G.

Beyond is the east end of Lafayette Avenue, formerly the narrow Lafayette Lane. In 1824 the French general traveled from Boston to New York via Fox Corners, presumably to stay at one of the Leggett houses on Hunt's Point. George Fox was one of the marshals of a delegation of New York citizens to meet and escort him. The lane was thus named in his honor. Lafayette is said to have "paused in silent meditation at the grave of Joseph Rodman Drake." On the south side of Lafayette Avenue stands

- 53. The Corpus Christi Monastery. Adjoining is the extensive new Children's Home. Across Hunt's Point Avenue is
- 54. Sunnyside, one of the finest residences in the Bronx, the former home of Peter Hoe. Note the view of Manhattan, showing St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, St. Luke's Hospital, Columbia Library and Grant's Tomb. A short distance below Cherry Lane branches off, leading to the Leggett Dock near the foundations of an old Leggett house. Further along, nearer the Sound, is the site of Blythe, formerly the residence of Francis J. Baretto, after whom Baretto's Point was named. It was of Revolutionary date and when its inside shutters were closed, it was a miniature fortress. Near by is
- 55. The George Fox Mansion, erected about 1848, with its square tower.

Down in the field to the right are the sites of the Jessup and Richardson Houses, near the ancient spring. In 1660, Governor Nicolls granted 1,000 acres in this region to Edward Jessup and John Richardson, who had bought it from the Indians. Among their descendants were the Hunts, after whom the point is named, and they were related to the early Leggetts.

In the field opposite, on the long slope below the Dickey Mansion, see the site

Leggett burying ground, whence ten bodies of early settlers were removed, one being that of Mayor Leggett of Westchester.

On the left, beyond the curve in the road, is the

56. Hunt Burying Ground, containing the grave of Joseph Rodman Drake, author of "The Culprit Fay," "Bronx" and "Ode to the American Flag." The stone is "a modest shaft, half hidden by the tangle of bushes and wild flowers that border the road, marking the grave of a poet who knew and loved our own

neighborhood in the early days when all was country-like and the city far away." The inscription reads:

Sacred to the Memory of
Joseph Rodman Drake, M. D.,
who died Sept. 21st, 1820.
"None knew him but to love him;
None named him but to praise."

The burying-ground is to be included in the new Joseph Rodman Drake Park. See the ancient gravestones of the earliest members of the Hunt family. Among the relics of the old Hunt Inn is a pane of glass from one of the windows on which is written with a diamond the names of Drake and Nancy Leggett, joined at the end with a bracket and the single word "Love." The poet was a lineal descendant of the colonial Drakes, settlers of Eastchester.

Across the road is the

Graveyard of the slaves of early residents, among them being "Bill," the colored pilot of the Hussar (see 83). Further down on the left across the bridge are

- 57. Lord Howe's Intrenchments among a group of trees. In the gravel pit on the east side have been found prehistoric stone implements. Close by is an old cave, declared to have been a Revolutionary powder house. At the extreme end of the Point is the
- 58. Hunt Mansion, dating back to 1688, and built in four sections as the residents gradually added to their wealth, the most ancient house on the estate which for two centuries has been known as Hunt's Point. Among the welcome guests here were Drake and Halleck.

Return by new Hunt's Point Avenue to Southern Boulevard, along which, near Fox Square, see

59. Fox Corners. Here is the Foxhurst Mansion, built in 1848 by the late W. W. Fox, one of original Croton Aqueduct Commissioners. Back of this stood the old Hunt Inn, erected in 1660, a noted tavern, the starting place of countless fox hunts and the rendezvous of the Red Coat officers.

When burned in 1892, many interesting relics were found in its walls.