

MORGAN & LOCKWOOD

44 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

December 3, 1946

Clifford C. Edwards, Esq.
East Hampton, New York

Dear Judge Edwards:-

Mrs. Rambe has sent me a copy of your letter to Mrs. Woodhouse dated October 5, 1946, and of Mr. Roberts' letter to the Garden Club of East Hampton dated November 21, 1941. She assures me that you asked her to do this and that you wished my comments and suggestions.

My consideration is based upon the assumption that Mrs. Woodhouse desires to divorce the Nature Trail and the Water Garden from her estate and wishes to be assured that each will be maintained for public enjoyment.

For technical reasons the Garden Club of East Hampton may not take title either outright or as Trustee or be a lessee. Individuals must be, accordingly, the media through whom the purpose is effected.

Mr. Roberts recommends a devise to several Garden Club members as joint tenants. The property under this method would be at Mrs. Woodhouse's death a part of her estate.

You propose a long term lease with conditions and with possible reverter. This leaves, however, the title in Mrs. Woodhouse, as well as contingencies which might prove troublesome.

If Mrs. Woodhouse be prepared to trust the five women you name to carry out her hope and ideals, she might at once deed the property to the grantees as joint tenants. As one dies, her interest should be conveyed by the survivors to a successor, also a Garden Club member who, in the opinion of the survivors, would carry on the traditions. Thus continuity in ownership would be assured and the interest of the Garden Club maintained.

Clifford C. Edwards, Esq.

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12/3/46

Should the Garden Club disband or cease to provide funds for the upkeep, the women title holders might be relied upon to seek a method whereby the signal memorials would be perpetuated. Among other solutions might be ownership by the Ladies' Village Improvement Society or by some other organization.

Under this scheme, which is in reality only a modification of Mr. Roberts' plan, the Nature Trail and the Water Garden would not be a part of Mrs. Woodhouse's estate, although the value might be included for tax purposes. The transfer would, I should suppose, come within the gift tax exclusion of \$3,000. Mrs. Woodhouse would express her wishes formally or informally to the owners and to the Garden Club. It would be the living voice and not the "dead hand"!

I return the copies of the two letters commented upon.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM A. LOCKWOOD

WAL:n
Enclosures

December 14th. 1941

My dear Mrs Woodhouse;

You will please pardon a typed letter, but as this may be somewhat lengthy, I thought it would be easier reading

I have waited to write to you knowing that you would probably be much occupied on your arrival at Palm Beach and would appreciate a breathing spell before Garden Club activities overtook you. It may seem now an inappropriate time to be thinking Garden Club, but I feel sure that you will agree with me that now, more than ever, we should try our best to keep whatever beauty we can in this world.

Thank you for your kindness the last time we met, and your patience in listening to my resume of Nature Trail problems. I hope you did not mind my being a bit straightforward. I would not want to upset you. My only wish is to do what you want, and what would be to the best interest of the Nature Trail, and for any ultimate plan you may have in mind for the Marjorie Woodhouse Garden.

You asked me to let you know whom I thought might be good Custodians for the Club for the Trail property.

Elizabeth Lockwood and I have talked this over, and here are the names we submit for your consideration.

Mrs George Roberts, Mrs Harry Cook, Mrs James A Skidmore,
Mrs Wallace Benjamin, Mrs Allen Wardell, Mrs Arthur Terry.

You will notice that they are among the younger members, selected because, being chosen by you to be representatives for the Club, would give them an added feeling of responsibility to club activities, and an increased interest in the Trail. Being younger they would carry on as a group

for a long time. The choice is of course yours, but Elizabeth and I wondered whether it would be better not to have either Mary, Elizabeth, May Cloud, or myself; for as you know we will always have the interest and expansion of the the Trail at heart, and will always be ready to give our thought and time and ~~thought~~ to its development.

As I told you when we last met, I am convinced that the general interest and activity of Club Members will be much stimulated if they knew that you had, or were actually deeding the Trail lands to the Club.

Now about the Trail property. You will recall that I spoke to you of the advisability of having the property on both sides of the stream incorporated into the Trail property. This of course depends entirely upon you. If you will be good enough to study the traced copy which I made from the Survey Map which Elizabeth Lockwood has, you will notice that the Trail is a very awkward shape. It narrows down in some places so that there is practically only place for a path with no space to plant protective shrubs.

in other sections, it is very one-sided, with no protection on one side.

If for some unforeseen reason, some other disposition were made of the Marjorie Woodhouse Garden, the Garden Club would then control only a very small section of the stream.

Anything could happen to the rest of the stream, and the borderland properties bedveloped or used in some way entirely at variance to your wishes to keep this section in its natural growth.

Much as the Club would wish to carry on your wishes, they would have no legal redress.

This of course may never happen, as you are probably planning some arrangement to avoid this situation.

Nevertheless, I personally feel, that unless you much oppose this idea, the Trail would be immensely improved, and would make a much better working unit, and be in a sounder position, if you would consider deeding land on both sides of the stream to the Nature Trail.

Need I say, that whether it is fifteen, twenty five, or fifty feet, or whatever area you may wish to deed for the Trail purposes, be it now, or later, you will always be the Guardian Angel, of the Trail, and we will certainly hope that you will always wish to remain on the Trail Committee.

Where would we be, in fact where would East Hampton be, without your interest, your guidance, and your cheerful cooperation?

I have been studying the Survey, trying to find a good basic point to start measuring from the stream. I think the Pagoda, which is approximately where I have made a mark on the Survey, would serve our purpose. I asked, Chestre Cloud to measure the distance between the Pagoda and the stream. He writes me that it is sixty feet back from the stream. Would you consider keeping ten feet back of the Pagoda, and then drawing a line from that point to Hunting Lane, and on the opposing side to the borderline of the Marjorie Woodhouse Garden on the David Lane side. That would mean fifty feet at the Pagoda point of the stream, and a varying depth from the stream at other points, because of a straight boundry line. This would give amuch better shaped piece of land, and make it more workable. I have marked with a line of dots along the stream where the Trail property line now ends, according to the amended survey of 1939. Could you be good enough to study this, and let me know, whether or not you agree with me. When you have decided just what you wish to do, and what steps you want the Club to take, will you please let me know, so that we may put ourselves in a position to be able to carry on with your plan.

I am delaying any actual transfer of land from Mr. Marvel until I hear from you, thinking it would simplify any matters were we able to make arrangements with him for a transfer deed similar to any method which you may choose.

Once again, I thank you, and hope I have not altogether annihilated you with the length of this letter.

Hoping that you may have a very pleasant Winter, and with all good wishes for Christmas,

I am, gratefully yours,

Please pardon my amateur typing. & corrections.

A lease

Twenty five years, with
a renewal clause, at one
dollar a year

This would be legal, + binding
on any heirs.

Because the Garden Club is
not an entity, a small joint
Committee of three would have
to be the lessors.

Provision would have to provide
that the interest of one who dies
(or withdraws from the Club), shall
pass to the survivor or survivors,
two, + also the liability of rent.

Provision authorizing the two
survivors to assign lease of any
part of it, with the idea that the
two survivors can assign a

third interest in the lease
to a new person of their
selection

Sept. 30 -

Mrs Woodhouse told
us she should supply
! man twice a week for
upkeep of water garden
and trail. The man to be
at the club disposed as
to where to work -

She agreed to will will
garden + trail to club
and named Mrs Lockwood
Roberts - Cloud + Truppe +
our younger members as
trustees for club. W. H. Ramey

Incorporation.

The Club is not an entity + as such cannot accept property.

It can incorporate so as to be able to accept property.

To do so, requires expenses, for legal set up, and necessary certificates etc, + annual state franchise tax Annual report to government.

Officers elected, annual meeting. Certain legal obligations in club procedure because of incorporation. Should the Garden Club dissolve the property would have to be disposed of as part of dissolution proceedings -

A clause could be inserted if it is thought necessary, to the effect that, the Garden Club could designate some other organization or group of people as custodian for the property when the Club to dissolve.

If the property is left to the Village with the proviso that the Garden Club be custodians + maintain the property, I do not think that the Village can accept on these conditions, + the Club would have no legal redress to insist on caring for the property.

Nature Trail
Specimens from
George Robert
1941

My dear Mr. Marvel
The members of the E. H. S. C.
& J, want to thank you
so very much for your
most generous offer to
give some of your back
land adjoining the Native
Trail to the Garden Club.
This property to be incorporated
as part of the Trail. We
greatly appreciate your
generosity, as also your
sympathetic understanding
of our efforts to preserve
this area. Our objectives

are directed solely to the
purpose of creating a
place of beauty + quiet,
a sanctuary for our birds,
+ a place where our
native growth shall
remain unmolested.
If our Trail, + Mrs Donolo's
land to F Lane can
there be preserved we
shall have made done
something very worth
while for the people of E. K.,
not only now but for future
generations to come.
I have delayed writing,

To you, thinking that I
might be able to tell you
how we could proceed
with any transfer of
land. However, I find
that like all legal matters,
time seems to be needed
to decide the best way
to proceed. I am writing
now, without any information
as I do not want another
day to go by without
your knowing how very
very grateful we are
for your gift.
Mrs Jewett told me

of your suggestion do
put a path through
your piece of property.
That is just what we
would like to do.

However this depends
on what depth of land
you wish to give us.

To put in another path
at a reasonable distance
from the present one
along the stream, we
would need about
100 feet. Does this
agree with what you
had in mind?

This as I understand
it, brings the Trail
to the second line of
trees, + is set in the
low swampy part
of your land. Of course
this would make a
wonderful addition
to the Trail + give an
interesting opportunity
of using that low land;
but we do not want
to seem grasping, when
you are already being
so very, very kind +
co-operative

Would you be good enough
to let me know what
your wishes are. If you
would like to see me at
any time, I shall be
pleased to do so any time
you indicate. I shall
be in E. H. Thauty going
that week end.

Before closing may I extend
to you my sincere congratu-
lations of your marriage &
send to you & Mrs M my best
wishes for your happiness.

With renewed thanks to you
I am Sincerely yours
Nov 15th M. H. Pres.

PALM BEACH
FLORIDA

11. February 1942

Dear Miss Hoyt:

The fact that the book is
for sale at the University
of Chicago, is a very good
thing. I have not had time to
write. I have always been very
busy. I have been very
the acquisition of the book
to keep a record of the
work that I have done in
life to the book. I

of the Table Sea house
by the Water garden Jan
respectfully agreeable to let
you have any part food
to work for the sea only
leaving me the job of
looking to the book
I am to leaving the place
and leaving the arrangement
entirely in your hands.
Remember me Obediently
and my head as a table
has been lighted up the
Coast Road High House

are so thoroughly disgusted
with the attitude of East
Hampton toward the
Liggett store that words
fail them. By their
attitude they show no
loyalty to Gridlock;
they seem to know they
are being sold that is
to play "Potatoes".

However I will forward a
footing of my protest, probably
useful to you. —
In regard to the land back

So if the letter is a-
The Co present -
The... It is hard to reach
The following with dearth
And ~~destruction~~ at our
heart.

Wm. S. Silliman
Mary L. Stockton

Sept 30 - 1946

My dear Mrs Woodhouse.

I enjoyed my conversation with you this morning, and as a new Garden Club President it was gratifying to me to hear of your intention to entrust the Water Garden and the Nature Trail for future years to the Garden Club.

As I explained to you this morning I am a novice in relation to many of the Garden Club problems and I was perplexed at the prospect of keeping up these two Gardens both as to the financial and continuity angle.

You have so kindly reassured me of your intention to assist us financially during the years to come and would we trust in a distant future so express your wishes by will.

Judge Edwards will I am sure be able to suggest the best method by which to convey this property to the Club's care. You will recall that at one time a suggestion was made ^{that you might wish} to deed the properties to a group of three or five club members to hold as trustees or joint tenants for the club as we are not incorporated. Such Trustees to be selected by you

~~Some time ago Mr George Roberts advised us as to the legality of such a procedure and should Judge Edwards desire to see this memorandum I would be glad to forward it to him.~~ ^{you spoke this morning of Mrs. Lockwood, Roberts, Chipps, Cloud + our younger members}

I am sending you this letter as you mentioned that you would like to consult Judge Edwards before leaving East Hampton. If I can be of any assistance to him or to you with further details or a survey of the land which I think we have it will be a pleasure to help.

It is indeed gratifying to think how much East Hampton will benefit by this gift of yours. I hope you will have a splendid winter in Tahiti

Beach and enjoy many happy days -

Cordially -

W. H. R.

The three Tenants would not
have to report ownership in
their own income tax report.
(There is no revenue to report)

The Village Tax bill would be addressed
to the three owners (Tenants) but
could be paid by the Garden Club
Treasurer.

It would simplify deed, if no
actual provision were stated
about replacing any Trustees,
who might have withdrawn
from the Club, or died. The
Club would be trusted to appoint
another Tenant, + a deed of
transfer given to the new Trustees

If this method is agreeable to
Mr. Woodhouse, + he would
like ^{to} draw such a deed now
it would simplify matters.

If this is done by will names
might have to be changed
in the will, because of possible
death or withdrawal from Club

A clause could be inserted stating that the Tenants could designate some other organization or group of people to assume co-ownership in case the Garden Club should dissolve.

It would be better not to specifically mention what group or organization, as there is no telling if at that time they would be the best people to carry on Mrs Woodhouse's wishes in regard to the upkeep & purpose of the property.

Legal phrase "as joint tenants & not tenants in common".

East Hampton Nature Trail

The committee for the care and supervision of the Nature Trail is a unit in itself. It is composed of several Park Commissioners appointed by the Mayor, also appointed representatives from the Garden Club of East Hampton, The Eastern Gate Garden Club and the L.V.I.S.

The major work of maintaining the trail is done by village men under the direction of the Village Superintendant of Highways who is now Bruce Collins; and under the guidance of the Nature Trail Committee.

The Nature Trail's funds are held in an account by the Garden Club of East Hampton. These funds are used for improvements on the duck feeding station, for the shrine and for hurricane damage. Once during a hurricane forty trees were uprooted.

The purpose of the Nature Trail Committee is to coordinate the operation of the representatives from the different organizations in the maintenance and preservation of the trail and to be available for consultation to the Village Board of East Hampton for any project concerning this unspoiled land.

The Nature Trail and Bird Sanctuary has been called by some The Garden of Peace. One man who returned from the war wrote Mrs. Hopkinson a letter about how he regained peace of mind by walking there every day during a visit in East Hampton.

The property consists of twenty-three acres. In 1934 Mrs. Lorenzo Woodhouse loaned ten acres to The Garden Club of East Hampton; seventeen years before it was given to the village. Eight acres were given by a Mrs. Roger Donahue in 1951 in memory of her husband and this was added to the fifteen given by Mrs. Woodhouse, ten of which had originally been loaned to the Garden Club. Two years ago Miss May Rogers gave another 1/8 of an acre which extends the property from Egypt Lane to Fythian. The trail was officially opened to the public in 1942.

The Garden Club of East Hampton had worked on it for eight years under the supervision of Mrs. William Lockwood who was president of the Garden Club of America and a president of our club too. Under Mrs. Lockwoods' guidance they laid out a plan for the paths and wild flowers. This beautiful piece of land is traversed by a lovely stream and in the north end there is woodland that has never been cleared.

A few pairs of wood duck were added to the wild ducks by a Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy King who used to feed them every winter until they both died. The memorial bench was put in by the garden clubs in their memory; many ducks breed there now and are a great joy to the children who are constantly feeding them.

The original St. Francis shrine was given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Cloud and many ~~the~~ memorial trees have been planted in the north side of the trail.

I am sure everyone in East Hampton realizes what an inspiration Mrs. Russell Hopkinson has been. She has worked very hard and has headed the village committee for over twenty years. It is obvious how much concern and care Mrs. Hopkinson has always had for this beautiful, peaceful spot that we are so lucky to have in our village.

Garden Club Has Special Meeting For Nature Trail

Miss Eloise Luquer Gives Wild Flower Talk Before Members and Guests

Over fifty children, and many more than that number of adults, were guests of the Garden Club of East Hampton on Tuesday afternoon, when new Nature Trails at the foot of David Lane were opened to the public, Mayor Judson Banister and other members of the Village Board, members of the Ladies' Village Improvement Society and their young people, Girl and Boy Scouts, Brownies, and Cubs were among those attending. At 3 o'clock the guests went through the new trails, added this spring to those already opened in the land given to the community by Mrs. Lorenzo E. Woodhouse and maintained by the Garden Club. A "quiz" was given the children, who wrote down names of flowers and shrubs which they recognized; prizes were awarded at the close of the afternoon.

Prizes were given by groups, the winners being: Boys, 11 to 16 years, 1st, Melville King, 16, with 23 answers; 2nd, Dennis Bennett, 13 years, with 16 correct answers.

Girls, 11 to 16 years, winners tied, Doris Collins, 15 years, and Jeannette Loper, 16 years, each with 18 correct answers. Honorable mention, Jane Bennett 12 years, Betty Spencer, 12 years, Eleanor Osborne, 11 years, each with 17 correct answers.

Under 11 years, 1st Averill Dayton, 8 years; 1st, Peggy Nugent, 8 years, each with 14 correct answers; 2nd, Patty King, 7½ years, with 12 correct answers; Honorable Mention, Tommy Elliott, 10 years, with 11 correct answers.

At 4 o'clock everyone assembled in the Laboratory Theatre for a delightful talk on wild flowers by Miss Eloise Luquer of Bedford, N. Y. The speaker was preceded by introductory remarks by Miss Marguerite Hogue, Garden Club president, and Mrs. William A. Lockwood, chairman of the Nature Trail Committee, which also includes Mrs.

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Garden Club Has Special Meeting For Nature Trail

Continued from Page One

and Mmes. Russell Hopkinson, Harry L. Jefferys, Arthur H. Terry Jr., H. Allen Wardle, Lorenzo E. Woodhouse, and Miss Maria Knox; with Frank Eldredge and Dr. William T. Helmuth Jr. as consultants. Mrs. Lockwood described the many gifts of Mrs. Woodhouse to this community; this latest gift affording everyone an opportunity to appreciate Nature, that greatest artist of all.

Miss Luquer is a descendant of William Payne, first master of Clinton Academy and father of John Howard Payne. She described her first visit to East Hampton at the age of four, when she was brought here for the sea bathing. Her bathing suit, described amusingly, is still kept as a family memento. Her talk enthralled her audience, young and old alike. Mrs. Lockwood, in her introduction, said that Miss Luquer is chairman of the Conservation Committee of the Garden Club of America; she has spoken to clubs and groups of children in 36 states; she is known as the Flower Lady, and her own village of Bedford has a wonderful Nature Trail.

Wild flowers, she said, have been her lifelong hobby; they are always good friends, never go back on you. Her father was for 53 years Rector of Bedford Church. She found 265 varieties of wild flowers growing on their farm in Bedford; and 200 more with the five-mile radius that could be covered by their horse and buggy. These specimens were identified and studied around the one lamp and center table during the quiet evenings. (Electric lights, Miss Luquer said, have done more than anything else to break up family life.)

She traced plant life back to the creation; going from lichens and mosses through the ferns and rushes, stopping to give some hint to her hearers of the pleasure each form of plant life can afford to those who give it time. Watching mosses come to flower and seed, she said, can give indoor pleasure all through the spring. She described the seeding

of ferns; up to 100 years ago people used to say that fairies sowed fern seed. She told of rushes that contain mineral, silica, and were formerly used in cleaning silver; and of those rush seeds which explode like fireworks in the warmth of the hand. Describing the evolution of plant life from reeds to trees, Miss Luquer said that this study re-affirms our faith that human beings too will evolve upward, into something better.

Instead of pressing flowers in her youth, Miss Luquer said, she began painting them from life. A representative collection of her wild-flower paintings was shown at the back of the stage as she talked. She spoke of the meaning of plant names, going back to Aristotle's botany of 370 B. C. She pointed out the various families of flowers, and those that should be "enjoyed but not destroyed" and others, very common composite flowers like the daisy and dandelion which may be picked freely. Conservation, she pointed out, is only common sense. If people really love things, they will want to save them. She described how various wild flowers in this country have come from overseas. She told how plants react to their surroundings: ("They do everything that we do, but talk"). She described a simple process by which seed and plant changes may be watched, by putting seeds in cotton batting and keeping them moist.

She ended her talk with a poem learned in childhood, and just as valuable for today's children to know:

It doesn't take money, as many suppose,
To enjoy the good things of this earth.
The best of its treasures are free to those
Who know how to value their worth.
The sweetest of music the birds to us sing,
The loveliest flowers grow wild;
The freshest of waters gush out of the spring,
All free to man, woman and child.
The afternoon ended with the serving of punch, sandwiches and cake in the beautiful water garden.

Opening Day Of Nature Trail Here Tuesday, July 7

The members of the Ladies' Village Improvement Society and their young people are cordially invited by Mrs. Lorenzo E. Woodhouse and the Garden Club of East Hampton to attend the opening day of the Nature Trail on Tuesday, July 7, at 3 o'clock.

The members of the Village and School Boards, Scoutmasters, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts have also been invited to attend.

The Nature Trail will be open after July 7 to the public; for their enjoyment of the wooded paths and the quiet stream, of this secluded section of East Hampton.

Mrs. Woodhouse has again demonstrated her interest in our village and has generously entrusted this property to the Garden Club to maintain, for the pleasure and instruction of all those who are interested in the preservation of native growth and the protection of birds.

On the opening afternoon, starting at David Lane, there will be walks through the trail and through Mrs. Woodhouse's fascinating Ori-

ental garden, with its irises and pond lilies, offering a delightful contrast to the Nature Trail.

Mr. Rollins has loaned the Laboratory Theatre for the afternoon and Miss Eloise Luquer will speak there at 4 o'clock on "Little Known Facts about Wild Flowers" and will show her paintings. Miss Luquer belongs to the Payne family of East Hampton, her great grandfather, William Payne, being one of the first principals of Clinton Academy.

Following the lecture refreshments will be served. For the amusement of the younger people plants and shrubs in the trail will be numbered. Prizes will be given to those identifying the greatest number of shrubs.

NATURE AND PEACE

The Garden Club of East Hampton has grown in scope year by year since its founding in 1914; and while its membership is purposely limited to a fairly small group of close friends, its work embraces the entire community. East Hampton has enjoyed its Flower Shows; its Door-yard Garden prizes have encouraged home gardeners and given pleasure to passers-by along our lanes and highways. Young people here have been invited, on several occasions, to hear nature talks given by experts and sponsored by the Garden Club.

This year's program has already included two meetings to which the club invited guests from the year-round village. On June 23, members of the Eastern Gate Garden Club were invited to hear a talk on soil, given by Thomas H. Everest of the New York Botanical Garden. On Tuesday of this week, L. V. I. S. members and a large number of young people were Garden Club guests at the opening of beautiful new Nature Trails at the foot of David Lane, given by Mrs. Lorenzo E. Woodhouse and maintained by the Garden Club; then everyone enjoyed a delightfully lively and informative talk on wild flowers by Miss Eloise Luquer, collateral relative of John Howard Payne. Next week, in Clinton Academy Garden, there will be a party, not open to the public, but commemorating a public gift, in which the Garden Club is deeply concerned. Mrs. Theron G. Strong's unique collection of lilies, now in bloom there, was planted and tended by the Garden Club; the lilies and the labor of love are both a permanent gift to our village. When she put her affairs in order and sold her house, last year, Mrs. Strong did not plan to be in East Hampton this summer. But the Garden Club, of which she is a charter member, persuaded her to return from Edgartown, Mass. for their party in her honor. Mrs. Strong planned the "Friendship Garden" at the East Hampton Free Library, and now the lily garden at Clinton Academy makes another beautiful, restful spot in the heart of the village.

We are deeply indebted to the Garden Club of East Hampton, for its stress of lasting values in troubled times.