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Introduction
Our class project in "The Detective Story" was The Case of the Missing Members. This involved answering the question: What happened to the head and arms of the statue outside of building 12 and where did the statue come from? When we were posed with this question in February 1979, we never imagined what roads it would lead us on. We learned that Old Westbury College stands on some 600 plus acres of land composed of E.D. Morgan's fields, F. Ambrose Clark's estate and William Payne Thompson's estate. Towards the end of the semester there was still some confusion as to whether the Thompson's existed; perhaps the land was part of the Whitney estate, since Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney was a sculptress (which accounts for the many statues). When class ended in May 1979, it was concluded, due to last minute information, that the land was owned by the Thompson's and that the statue did come from the formal gardens of said estate.

During the semester much information was found on the Clark's and Morgan's but the Thompson's remained a mystery. As an independent project I decided to find out about the Thompson's and to discover the names of the architect of the house and sculptor of the statues. In doing this research I have spoken to dozens of people, several historical societies and have visited many a library. To date, the architect and sculptor are still a mystery but a profile on the Thompson's has emerged.

The following is a summary of pertinent information on the Thompson's. The complete diary kept during this research project is to be found in section "E".

8/29/79 Miss Small, Society of the Westbury's, remembers visiting the Thompson estate when she was a child. She thinks it was white stucco and remembers some statues. The Thompson's lived in the house from the 1920's to 1940's. They went south during the winter. From the Eisenhower Park Museum I obtained Xerox's of maps showing the Westbury area in 1914, 1927, 1946 and clearly shows the Thompson estate. I also made copies, from the New York Times, of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson's obituaries, which gave a brief background on them.

8/30/79 I uncovered a book in the Levittown library which mentions the Thompson estate as being one of the 5 most outstanding mansions in the Westbury area.

8/31/79 I spoke to Mrs. Murray who described the Thompson house as an Italian house with Italian gardens. It was not very grand or extraordinary.
9/4/79  I spoke to Joe Dowling. He believed the Thompson's were somehow connected to Standard Oil. He also gave me the name of Mr. Thompson's niece, Betty Babcock. I spoke to her and she gave me a run-down on Thompson history. Mrs. Thompson moved to England after her husband's death. The house was pink stucco and decorated in a French style. After Mrs. Thompson's death in 1941, a nephew, William Preston, inherited the house; he sold it to Mr. Clark. Mrs. Thompson was a skilled artist. The original Thompson's came from North Ireland around 1809 and settled in West Virginia.

9/15/79  Received a photograph of the Thompson estate from Carol Traynor, SPLIA.

9/20/79  President Maguire passed on a letter sent to William Davis by a former Thompson employee. Mr. Watts gives a brief description of the estate and of the Thompson's lifestyle. The entrance was on Jericho Turnpike. The house was of French architecture on a small hill. It was built the same front and back. The house was surrounded by several fountains and gardens. There was a small house where Mrs. Thompson did her paintings. They went to Newport in the summer and South Carolina in the winter. Mr. Thompson liked to go fishing and play polo. After Mr. Thompson's death his wife moved to England. Mr. Clark purchased the estate and had the house demolished.

9/26/79  In the Hewlett-Woodmere library I found Mrs. Thompson's name mentioned in a few well-known artbooks. She had several exhibitions done on her work.

10/4/79  I spoke to Warren Stokey, a former employee of F.A. Clark. He remembers Mrs. Thompson occasionally living in the house with her sister. The entrance to the house started on Jericho Turnpike where the Fountainbleau now stands. Mrs. Thompson loved gardens. The house didn't have heat or much furniture in it.

3/25/80  I spoke to Mr. Bellison of the Art Assoc. of Newport, Rhode Island. He informed me that Mrs. Thompson was the granddaughter of Mr. Greenough, a famous sculptor.

4/4/80  Through the phone company I obtained two addresses for the Thompson's: 31 West 36 St., N.Y.; Westbury, L.I., N.Y.

4/8/80  I spoke to Mr. Forbes of St. Bartholomew's Church. He said that Mr. Thompson was buried at Friends Cemetery in Old Westbury and that he died of cancer. I also obtained another photograph of the Thompson estate from Mrs. Leznick, Society of the Westbury's.

4/10/80  From Bill Elsasser I obtained Mr. Thompson's business address: 706 Sixth Avenue, N.Y.; phone number Penna 8500.

5/27/80  I found photographs, in the Frick Reference library, of some of Mrs. Thompson's artwork. They are making copies for me for this report.
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WM. PAYNE THOMPSON SPORTSMAN, DIES AT 50

Owner of Longfields, Westbury
Prominent in New York Society,
Succumbs in Hospital.

William Payne Thompson of Longfields, Westbury, L. I., who has long been active in society in this city and in the hunting set on Long Island, died yesterday in the Presbyterian Hospital in his fifty-first year. He was born in Petersburg, Va., a son of the late William Payne Thompson and Evelyn Moffat Thompson. After attending Lawrenceville School he entered Harvard, but was prevented from completing the course by a serious illness in his junior year. He never entered business or a profession, but devoted himself to social and sporting interests. He was part owner of L’Alouette, winner of the Futurity of 1897.

He and his brother, Lewis S. Thompson, of 903 Park Avenue, owned a large game preserve and stock farm on their estate, Brookdale, at Red Bank, N. J. Among Mr. Thompson’s many clubs were the Knickerbocker, Union, Brook and Racquet and Tennis. His widow was formerly Miss Edith Blight, whom he married at Newport in 1897. Services will be held in St. Bartholomew’s Church tomorrow morning at 10:30 o’clock.
Word was received here yesterday of the death of Mrs. William Payne Thompson in England on Aug. 31. She was the widow of William Payne Thompson, of Westbury, L. I., sportman, who died in 1922. Mrs. Thompson has lived in England for the last fifteen years. She was a former president of the Art Patrons of America and painted under her maiden name, Edith Blight.

MRS. WM. PAYNE THOMPSON

Word was received here yesterday of the death of Mrs. William Payne Thompson in England on Aug. 31. She was the widow of William Payne Thompson, of Westbury, L. I., sportman, who died in 1922. Mrs. Thompson has lived in England for the last fifteen years. She was a former president of the Art Patrons of America and painted under her maiden name, Edith Blight.
MRS. WILLIAM P. THOMPSON

Word was received here yesterday of the death in England on Sunday of Mrs. William Payne Thompson, artist and widow of the Long Island sportsman who died in 1922. Mrs. Thompson, who had lived abroad for many years, painted under her maiden name, Edith Blight.
THOMPSON WILL FILED: STANDARD OIL MAN'S WIDOW LEFT ESTATE TO RELATIVES

New York Times (1923-); Sep 12, 1941; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times with Index pg. 17

THOMPSON WILL FILED

Standard Oil Man’s Widow Left Estate to Relatives

MINEOLA, L. I., Sept. 11—The will of Mrs. Edith Blight Thompson of Long Fields, Westbury, who died Aug. 31 at Bracknell, England, was filed for probate today. The value of the estate was not given, but it was presumed to be large, as Mrs. Thompson inherited $3,000,000 when her husband, William Payne Thompson, Standard Oil executive, died in the early Nineteen Twenties.

One-half of the residuary estate was left to a sister, Mrs. Nina Evelyn Sands of England, and one-quarter each to two nieces, Mrs. Gladys Fane of England and Baroness Edith Thenard of France.


Musées : Luxembourg, Le buste.


Principal tableaux : Genius jenand (Musée d'Helsingfors), Fils de peintre (Palais Kierkner, même ville) Portrait du Mme St.


Musées : Luxembourg, Lille.

Collections : S. M. le roi d'Italie, baron Ed. de Rothschild, Faihères, Thornley fut l'élève et l'am. de Puisz de Chavannes.

TICHLER (Victor). — Voir TISCHLER.

TIDER-TOUTANT (Charles-Gustave). — Peintre de portraits et pastelliste né à Saint-Jean-d'Angély le 29 nov. 1801. Exp. aux A. F., à l'Amicale des Peintres et Sculpteurs, à l'Ecole Française, au Cercle Artistique, à la Fédération des Artistes, Critique d'art à La Gazette des Beaux-Arts. Elevé de Bouguereau et G. Ferrier.


Musées : Budapest, Brooklyn.

TIMAR (Emetek). — Peintre et graveur né à Hucarest le 8 nov. 1808. Exp. au Salon d'Automne dép. 1926, aux Indépendants dép. 1928.


TIRMAN (Henriette). — Peintre et graveur, née à Charleville (Ardennes). Expôse aux Indépendants depuis 1900, au Salon d'Automne dont elle est sociétaire, aux Artistes Décorateurs. Peintre au talent vigoureux, dégagé de toute influence elle s'est fait un nom à la fois comme peintre de natures mortes, comme illustrateur d'une compréhensive intelligence et comme graveur de bois de fil taillés au cintre. Une de ses œuvres se trouve dans la remarquable série des Cent Frondipiques de F. L. Schmeltz. Elle a illustré les Lette du Japon (R. Kipling), la Bhagavadgita et La Marche à la Lumière dans la collection des « Classiques d'Orient ».
Kingore Galleries Arrange Interesting Triple Exhibition.

The Kingore Galleries have arranged a triple exhibition, the three galleries being devoted separately to the work of three artists. The first is given over to a series of "Interiors" painted by Edith Blight Thompson, the second contains a group of famous panels, "Dans Le Touch", and the third portraits by Boleslaw Czedkowski.

Mrs. Thompson's career as an artist is a matter of the last few years—and sufficiently simple to have been resolved into three chapters, with the headings, "She Liked Paintings," "She Wanted to Paint," "She Painted," in any other age than this. The present age insists upon details, and, if possible, something Freudian. Fortunately, there is something Freudian in Mrs. Thompson's case. That is, if it be Freudian to have come at a line that had already contributed remarkably to the arts, to have realized the destiny toward painting in early youth and to have yielded to it later.

One of the chief lights of her family, in the mother's side, was the eminent sculptor Horatio Greenough, who indeed was one of the chief lights of the patron in his period, and who cannot be ignored now by those who wish to appraise correctly the beginnings of our art history. His was a charming personality, and that it was essentially artistic as well as charming is proved well enough by his writings, preserved for us by his biographer. One of his sayings sufficiently attests to his caliber. Of the Washington Monument, the plans for which were then

MRS. THOMPSON SHOWS 'INTERIOR' PAINTINGS

thoroughly trained painter who has a definite idea in each portrait of what he means to accomplish. He certainly gets character, and presumably his likeness, and he retains the old world willingness to draw hands and to invent portrait schemes and to seek the textures of fabrics and accessories. There is so much that is casual and accidental in the current portrait and a certain pleasure comes from Mr. Czedkowski's sureness of means.

The most notable of the portraits submitted are those of Mrs. Harold Sands, Miss Polly Brooks and W. William Schubert.
Salon of the Duchesse De Noailles
by Edith Blight Thompson; Kingore Galleries
Mrs. Thompson Shows 'Interior Paintings'.

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The Kingore Galleries have arranged a triple exhibition, the three galleries being devoted separately to the work of three artists. The first is given over to a series of "interiors" painted by Edith Blight Thompson, the second contains a group of famous panels by Gaston La Touche, and the third consists of portraits by Boleslaw Jan Czedkowski.

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Fortunately, there is something Freudian in Mrs. Thompson's case. That is, if it be Freudian to have come of a line that had already contributed remarkably to the arts, to have resisted the destiny toward painting in early youth and to have yielded to it later.

One of the chief lights of her family, upon the mother's side, was the eminent sculptor Horatio Greenough, who, indeed was one of the chief lights of the nation in his period, and who cannot be ignored now by those who wish to appraise correctly the beginnings of our art history. His was a charming personality, and that it was essentially artistic as well as charming is proved well enough by his writings, preserved for us by his biographer.

One of his sayings sufficiently attests his calibre. Of the Washington Monument, the plans for which were then agitating the country, he said: "The obelisk has to my eye a singular attitude in its form, and character to call attention to it, and not to put it in the history. It says but one word but it speaks loud. If I understand its voice, it says, 'Here I stand. I am a regular artist'."

That Mr. Czedkowski is not the Horatio Greenough tradition that turned Mrs. Thompson's thoughts to art would be, perhaps, too much to say, for who is there who can say when a mental bias begins? But certainly the tendency was there, and when the occasion later arose for some overdoor and other decoration in Mrs. Thompson's new and residence Longfields it seemed a natural thing for her to do them. These were but copies, but the success of them gave the impetus toward original work. It was the late Howard Cushing who first insisted upon regarding Mrs. Thompson as a professional, and upon his advice her first painting, a study of an empire room, that has since been turned into a studio, was submitted to an Academy jury. The jury accepted it, somewhat to the artist's surprise, for there were obvious uncertainties in the perspective. A later and less strained production, "The Green Room," was accepted at the Paris Salon, where it elicited favorable comment.

Both the early works are included in the exhibition by way of contrast to what came later. Indeed, Mrs. Thompson's progress can be traced step by step in the little exhibition, and the consciousness of the very scarcest and least artistic aspects of the salons of the Duchesse de Noailles and of the Exposition Internationale are of the most recent. In addition to the agreeable color and composition, a sensibility which there is plenty of evidence in them that the artist has arrived, is that of intimate and profound comprehension with her paint brushes.

The art of painting interiors, as such, like that of any other comparatively modern invention, it is a matter with a flavor, so to speak, of our other specializations. There have, of course, always been "interiors," but in the ease of a generation of artists it usually began with some figures of figures. The Dutchmen and Hypermabes have had the flatness in them, and this is much modern artists. The portrait by Jan van Eyck of himself and wife has always been considered a miracle both for its portraiture and its still life. Here realism was carried so far that even the tiny reflections of figures that may be discerned in the polished chandeliers have been thought by some critics with sharp eyes to be portraits. There was something in the Flemish temperament that knew no drudgery in work to whatever degree of finish. Jan van Eyck lent himself he was never stilled. Stilledness in art is the unforgivable sin. We have many stills, who finish to kill, but alas, their work is a labor to them and labor without pleasure is a depression to the spirit—especially if they attempt to pass it off as art. Mrs. Thompson doesn't finish to the extent the Dutch did, but she communicates the fun she had in painting—and that's always, an excellent test.

James Stephens, the writer, showing me the manuscript of his "Singulieries," which he had just completed, said: "I think it's good—it ought to be good—I enjoyed writing every word of it."

Mr. Czedkowski is a thoroughly trained painter who has a definite idea in each portrait of what he means to accomplish. He certainly gets character, and presumably the likeness, and he retains the old world willingness to draw hands to invent portrait schemes and to seek the textures of fabrics and accessories. There is so much that is casual and accidental in the modern treatment of portraits that a certain pleasure comes from Mr. Czedkowski's sureness of means. Among the most notable of the portraits he submits are three of Miss Polly Brooks and Miss William Schubert.
Photographs

(Estate, Paintings)
aerial view of the William Payne Thompson Estate

*House Beautiful*, 55 (April 1924) p. 375

Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities

1979
William Payne Thompson Estate

House - pink stucco

Wall - yellow trimmed with white

1980 Historical Society of the Westbury's
Exhibition

of

INTERIORS
and
REFERENCE
FLOWER PAINTINGS
NEW YORK

by

Edith Blight Thompson

February 5th to 22nd, 1936

At the Galleries of
M. KNOEDLER & COMPANY, INC.
15 Old Bond Street, London
Catalogue

No.
1. Salle de Diane, Palais de Versailles
2. Interior, No. 20 Belgrave Square
3. Interior, Palazzo Sermonteta, Rome
4. Interior, Villa Medici, Fiesole, Florence
5. Interior, No. 20 Belgrave Square
7. The Green Dining-room, Westbury, Long Island
8. "The Red Sofa"
10. "The Red Shawl"
11. Salle Hubert Robert, Pavillon de Marsan, le Louvre
12. Bouquet and Fan
13. Interior, Palazzo Barbaro, Venice
14. The Dining-room, No. 20 Belgrave Square
15. Camellias
16. Camellias (Kindly lent)
17. Zinnias (Kindly lent by Lady Cunard)
18. Camellias
19. Fruit and Flowers
20. The Empire Room, No. 20 Belgrave Square
21. The Green Vestibule, No. 20 Belgrave Square
22. "The Shell Flowers"
23. Interior, Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Pavillon de Marsan, le Louvre
24. My Studio, Westbury, Long Island
25. "The Blue Bowl"
VERA SOUTHBY. Wang and his Daughter. From an exhibition of Mrs. Southby's paintings of China at the Alpine Club Gallery. (By courtesy of J. S. Lewis, Esq.) NORTHERN THOMSON. Painting from her exhibition of Interiors and Flower Paintings at Messrs. Knoedler's Galleries during February. Below: ROBERT SWAN. Milton Rosmer. Pencil drawing shown at the Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition. EGGERT GUDMUNDSSON. Etching. This Icelandic artist has been holding a series of exhibitions in the north of England under the auspices of Leeds University and Bradford School of Art.
synthesis. Nineteen hundred and twenty-seven seems to have been a particularly fortunate year, for in it he painted the landscape already mentioned as well as "Deposition" (53), "The Temptation and Rescue of a Hermit" (54) and the portrait of his father which, as Mr. Lascelles Abercrombie in his preface says rightly, "for sheer objective portrayal, let alone its pathos, could hardly be praised too highly."

Another artist who is somehow happier with inanimate objects than with human beings is Miss Patricia Preece, at the Lefevre Galleries; but I think that Miss Preece's discomfort comes from a different source than Mr. Procter's. Miss Preece is a powerful painter in tone, with a strong sense of spatial emphasis which is very well conveyed in her still-lifes of flowers and fruit. But though a sense of humour is not essential to a painter of still-life or landscape, a sense of the ludicrous should surely be necessary for one who includes human beings. Miss Preece's invention of pose seems curiously limited, and her set of three separate pictures of women looking away from a bunch of flowers is capped by her picture of an old man looking as earnestly away from two bottles of beer. In the neighbouring room Mr. Pitchforth is showing twenty-eight examples of his vigorous water-colours. He uses boldly and clearly the calligraphic style, leaving the white paper with a just discretion as in "The Yacht Enchantress." But I think that he gets a more personal note in the more fully painted "Evening," with its able summary of sky and calm, reflecting water.

Tooth & Sons are showing the works of Felix Vallotton, a sincere painter who, although always in the midst of the turmoil that surrounded the birth of the modernistic idiom, pursued the even tenor of his way undisturbed by fashion. As M. Volland, in his entertaining "Recollections of a Picture Dealer" records, he was formerly a member of the "Nabi" group, with Bonnard and Vuillard, and on account of his austerity of his style was called Le Petit Ingres. Oddly enough, Vallotton's paintings no longer strike us with so austere a note after, say, Ben Nicholson. Indeed, "Porteuse de Bois" might be called quite luscious, as are the singing greens of "L'Adour a Dax" and the decisive design of "Lampe a Alcool," is distinctive because of its daring reticence.

At the Redfern Gallery, contrasted with the early paintings of Richard Sickert and the recent Chinese sketches of Ian Fairweather, is the original sketch by Epstein for the curtain of the ballet "David," produced recently at the Duke of York's Theatre. To tackle, as a first experiment, the problem of painting the big curtain himself, is a proof of Epstein's courage, for the task is usually delegated to a professional scene-painter. Yet we must confess that his inexperience seems rather to have betrayed him. The sketch is definitely more coherent than the curtain. Over the larger spaces he has lost a sonority of colour which, in the sketch, binds the whole together. The scenery for the ballet, designed by Meninsky, also his first attempt at theatre art, was pictorially most successful, but the weight of their dramatic promise eventually overwhelms the ballet itself, which seems, before such massive severity, rather a trivial gloss on David's rise to biblical eminence.

Mr. Fairweather's sketches are delightful in colour and original in arrangement. "Cafe Scene, Pekin," "Pair Ground, Pekin," and "Girl's Head" (38), are all orientally romantic in an effective way. But one wonders whether the artist will be content to play variations on the charm he has so far so successfully produced, or whether he will develop a rather more coherently constructed formal expression. At present his work is, as it were, in two-and-a-half dimensions, and the extra half dimension is slightly disturbing.

In her preface to the exhibition of C. R. W. Nevinson's flower paintings, at Barbizon House, Henrietta Street, W., Mrs. Nevinson, F.R.H.S., states that she married six men at one ceremony. I would have added that at least three of them were artists. Like Ernest Procter, Nevinson has found himself at odds between what he takes out of Nature and what he would like to put in,
AN EXHIBITION
OF INTERIORS

Painted by
Edith Blight Thompson
AN EXHIBITION
of
INTERIORS
by
EDITH BLIGHT THOMPSON

With a Note of Introduction by
HENRY McBRIE

KINGORE GALLERIES
JANUARY 18-29, 1921
NEW YORK
MRS. THOMPSON'S career as an artist is a matter of the last few years—and sufficiently simple to have been resolved into three chapters with the headings: "She liked paintings," "She wished to paint," "She painted"—in any other age than this. The present age insists upon details and, if possible, something Freudian. Fortunately, there is something Freudian in Mrs. Thompson's case. That is, if it be Freudian to have come of a line that had already contributed remarkably to the arts, to have resisted the destiny towards painting in early youth, and to have yielded to it later.

One of the chief lights of her family, upon the mother's side, was the eminent sculptor Horatio Greenough, who indeed was one of the chief lights of the nation in his period and who cannot be ignored now by those who wish to appraise correctly the beginnings of our art history. His was a charming personality, and that it was essentially artistic as well as charming is proved well enough by his writings, preserved for us by his biographer. One of his sayings sufficiently attests his calibre. Of the Washington Monument, the plans for which were then agitating the country, he said: "The obelisk has to my eye a singular aptitude in its form and character to call attention to a spot memorable in history. It says but one word but it speaks loud. If I understand its voice, it says 'Here!' It says no more." That was a "regular artist's" remark.
That it was dwelling upon the Horatio Greenough tradition that turned Mrs. Thompson's thoughts to art would be, perhaps, too much to say, for who is there who can say when a mental bias begins? But certainly the tendency was there, and when the occasion later arose for some overdoor and other decorations, in Mrs. Thompson's Long Island residence, "Longfields," it seemed a natural thing for her to do them. These were but copies, but the success of them gave the impetus towards original work. It was the late Howard Cushing who first insisted upon regarding Mrs. Thompson as a professional, and upon his advice her first painting, a study of an Empire room that has since been turned into a studio, was submitted to an Academy jury. The jury accepted it, somewhat to the artist's surprise, for there were obvious uncertainties in the perspective. A later and less strained production—"The Green Room" was accepted at the Paris Salon where it elicited favorable comment. Both these early works are included in the exhibition by way of contrast to what came later. Indeed, Mrs. Thompson's progress can be traced step by step in the little exhibition, and the connoisseur need scarcely be told that the studies of the salon of the Duchesse de Noailles and of the drawing-room at "Longfields" are of the most recent. In addition to the agreeable color and complete possession of the subjects, there is plenty of evidence in them that the artist has arrived at terms of intimacy and comprehension with her paint-brushes.

And having gone so far with her "interiors," Mrs. Thompson seems clearly indicated as the historian of the period, especially as she appears to have no rival in this field, Walter Gay, a foeman worthy of any one's steel, having elected to paint foreign interiors exclusively. But to paint history in this town, one must paint swiftly. The various Vanderbilt drawing-rooms and libraries, and the rooms at "Longfields," here recorded in paint, might indicate to a foreigner the cosmopolitanism that Colonel Roosevelt deplored but was powerless to prevent. The Duchesse de Noailles' salon, with its green lights from the garden pleasantly tinge its walls, suggests unchanging calm and an immunity from time's ravages, and although seemingly difficult to paint, must on the other hand have been easy to apprehend, its character being so clear. The best American rooms of the day, on the contrary, are not so easy to seize, for though we have about decided upon the kind of eighteenth-centuryism that we prefer, we have not yet lived into it long enough for the style to have become fixed. At any rate, it is all a far cry from the fashions of our forefathers. Colonial drawing-rooms were austere. They were vastly more elegant than the black walnut and vases of pampas-plumes that distinguished our Civil War interiors, but neither the austerity nor the pampas-plumes longer survive. No one has the courage for either; New York is still in a state of flux.

The art of painting interiors, as such, like the art of painting landscape, is a comparatively modern inven-
It is a metier within a metier, like so many of our other specializations. There have, of course, always been "interiors," but in the classic precedent they were usually backgrounds to some drama of figures. The Dutch and Flemish excelled in this line of work, and Vermeer, De Hooch and Terborch have had the flattery of imitation paid them almost too much by modern artists. The portrait by Jan van Eyck of himself and wife has always been considered a miracle both for its portraiture and its still-life. Here realism was carried so far that even the tiny reflections of figures that may be discerned in the polished chandeliers have been thought by some critics with sharp eyes to be portraits. There was something in the Dutch temperament that knew no drudgery in work, and to whatever degree of finish Jan van Eyck lent himself he was never stilted. Stiltedness in art is the unforgivable sin. We have many still who finish to kill but, alas, their work is a labor for them, and labor without pleasure is a depression to the spirits—especially if they attempt to pass it off as art. Mrs. Thompson doesn't finish to the extent the Dutch did, but she communicates the fun she had in painting—and that's always an excellent test. James Stephens, the writer, showing me the manuscript of his "Demigods," which he had just completed, said: "I think it's good. It ought to be good—I enjoyed writing every word of it."

Henry McBride.

CATALOGUE

3. Drawing-Room at "Longfields."
4. Drawing-Room at "Longfields."
5. The Green Room.
7. The Studio.
8. The Studio.
SALON OF THE DUCHESSE DE NOAILLES
LIBRARY OF MRS. WILLIAM K. VANDERBILT II
DRAWING ROOM AT "LONGFIELDS"
LIBRARY OF MRS. WILLIAM K. VANDERBILT II

DRAWING ROOM AT "LONGFIELDS"
Dear

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We are returning your form herewith.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Helen Sanger

Enclosure
ES:JM
MEMORANDUM

TO: Margaret Freeman
FROM: John Maguire

Bill Davis finally passed on to me copies of this letter from Mrs. Hadden who was the nearest neighbor of the Thompson estate when it was separate, and of course, after Mr. Clark purchased it as a part of the Clark estate. He was anxious that you and last spring's class get this particular word.

He also is a subscriber to two London dailies! and has left copies with me for you if you are interested.

Call if you would like to have them.

enclosure: as stated
Dear Davis,  

September 20, 1979

I want to get this off to you before I lose it again!

This is from Frank Watts who was with my husband's family for many years. "The house was named 'Longfield Estate,' the entrance was on Jericho Turnpike, Old Westbury. There was a big yellow wall at the entrance. The driveway was a mile and a half long. On each side of the driveway there was a row of silver maples. The house was of French architecture on a small hill adjoining the Ambrose Clark Estate. The house was built the same back and front. When you came out the front door you walked six steps down and there was a water fountain and a lovely garden all around the walk. Then another three steps down and another fountain and garden and another three steps and the same as above. At the end was a small house where Mrs. Thompson did her painting. It was the same at the back of the house and it was surrounded by a wall. I was with Mr. Paine Thompson for five years (two in the army). We went to Newport in the summer and South Carolina in the winter when the polo was played. Mrs. Thompson had twelve acres of grapes growing for wine during the prohibition years. There was one large cottage, one large garage, one large stable with rooms above for the men. Five of us left there to join the Canadian Army in World War I. Mr. Thompson was quite a fisherman. He hired a boat and had four of us with him. Two as grease monkeys (I was one of them) and the other two as his men. We went to Block Island tuna fishing. He had lots of guests, Mr. Harry Paine Whitney, Mr. Grace and other friends. When we came back after the war Mr. Thompson got very sick and died of kidney poisoning. Mrs. Thompson went to live with her sister soon after that in England. Her sister's husband was speaker of the House of Commons. The Thompsons had no children. I left there to work for your grandmother Hadden which was close by. Mr. Clark bought the Thompson place and had the house demolished."

I hope this will be of some use—Frank Watts is one of the loveliest humans I have ever lived—

Best wishes to you—

Please excuse my writing at least it's better than my handwriting.
society for the preservation of Long Island antiquities

93 north country road
setauket, L. I., New York 11733
telephone 516-941-9444

September 14, 1979

Ms. Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, N. Y. 11710

Dear Ms. Hantz:

Enclosed is a duplicate copy of the photograph we have on file of the William Payne Thompson Estate in Westbury. I am afraid I have not been able to find any additional information about this house in our file. However, our Director suggests you contact Mr. Richard Gachot, Box 273, Old Westbury, N. Y. 11568. Mr. Gachot is well informed about Old Westbury history and may be able to tell you more about the house and about the "Wellman"-type statues; he may even be able to help you to find additional photographs of the house.

Good luck in your researching and I hope the above information will be of some help.

Sincerely,

Carol Traynor
Research Assistant

Enccl.
September 21, 1979

Ms. Carol Traynor
Research Assistant
Society for the Preservation of
Long Island Antiquities
93 North Country Road
Setauket, New York 11733

Dear Ms. Traynor:

Thank you for your help and the photograph of the William P. Thompson estate. The photograph caused quite a stir on campus and will be added to our college archives.

I am still continuing the search for the architect of the mansion and the sculpturer and landscaper. If I should find this information I shall pass it on to your organization.

This research started last February as a class project. When the class ended in May I volunteered to continue the research. I am interested in doing this type of work and am thinking of pursuing a career in this area. May I ask your help? At your convenience, could you please advise me as to the requirements necessary to get into this field.

As a brief introduction of myself let me say that I am 29 years old and have worked since 1968. From 1969 to 1976 I was employed by CBS, Inc. as an Administrator in the Direct Mail/Marketing Division. In 1977 I decided to attend college full time. During this time I accepted a job (in the latter part of 1978) at Publishers Clearing House as an Assistant Manager in the College Marketing Division. I worked there until mid-1979.

I am attending college due to a decision to change my career and any help as to particular courses I would need would be very helpful. I will graduate with a B.A. in 1980. Also, any other information or guidance you could give me would be appreciated.

Again, thank you for the photograph and your help.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. My home address is: 2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710
September 21, 1979

Mr. Richard Gachot
Box 273
Old Westbury, New York 11568

Dear Mr. Gachot:

I am currently attending the College At Old Westbury and have volunteered to continue a project started by one of our professors.

We have done research into the history of the college and the estates which predate the college. The grounds the college stands on is a compilation of the F. Ambrose Clark, E.D. Morgan, and William Payne Thompson estates. We have put together a pictorial history of the times in which these mansions dominated Long Island life by combining information found in books and information given us by various family and staff members of the Clark's and Morgan's.

In continuing this search, however, I have run into some trouble in finding information about the William P. Thompson's. Many sources I have spoken to have suggested that you might be able to help me. The Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities was able to send me an aerial photograph of the mansion but couldn't provide any more information. Their Director, Robert MacKay, suggested I contact you since you are well informed about Old Westbury history and might know such information as to the architect of the mansion, landscaper and sculpturer. From a previous conversation with a guest at Mrs. Rathborne's home I was informed that the statues surrounding the gardens were of the "Wellman" type. Mr. MacKay thought you might be able to tell me more about this and perhaps help me find additional photographs of the mansion.

I would be very grateful if, at your convenience, you could possibly look through your files and share with me any information you have on William Payne Thompson.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. My home address is: 2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710
October 3, 1979

Ms. Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, N.Y. 11710

Dear Ms. Hantz:

Your project sounds very interesting and I wish I could be of more help concerning W. P. Thompson and his home in Old Westbury. Though I have done a rather thorough history of the Quakers here between 1650-1900, I have really not gotten into the estate era. The research information I have collected is very sparse in regard to Thompson. My only entry being: "Thompson, W.P., 1906-32, Preston/ House torn down/ Ran into financial difficulty and sold property to Ambrose Clark very cheaply, circa 1946." You should be able to trace Thompson through New York City records, organizations he belonged to, etc., if you start with New York Times obits. which usually are fairly thorough in giving relatives, clubs, business, etc. SPLIA (Robert MacKay) should be able to furnish you with architect and other information on the house since they have researched architectural magazines of that period for the estates here. Mrs. Clark should be of help also since apparently not only were the Clarks neighbors but purchased the land. You might also call the Old Westbury Village Hall and ask where to reach Bud Dowling now (retired Village Clerk) who might be able to give you more information.

As I proceed with my history, I will be glad to furnish you with anything further that I uncover, but it appears that you know more than I do presently.

I would be appreciative of any research you could furnish me (for the history of our Village) regarding what you have found. There are plenty of books, news articles, etc. on both E. D. Morgan and Clark but it would appear Thompson is rather unknown.
Ms. Susan Hantz

October 3, 1979

I would be interested in seeing your history when it is completed. Please let me know if I can be of further help in other areas.

Sincerely,

Richard Gachot
Village Historian

RG:ns
October 12, 1979

Ms. Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710

Dear Ms. Hantz:

I am pleased to tell you that Air views of Long Island has been found. In order to facilitate your research, please write and let me know what you are interested in knowing, and I will look through the volumes myself.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Janet Parks
Archivist
October 15, 1979

Ms. Janet Parks
Archivist
Avery Library/Columbia University
in the City of New York
116th & Broadway
New York, New York 10027

Dear Ms. Parks:

Thank you for your note informing me of your discovery of "Air Views of Long Island".

What I am interested in is the William Payne Thompson estate - the architect, landscaper, sculpturer and a photograph of the house. The estate was located in Old Westbury where the SUNY/Old Westbury College now stands.

If any of this information is contained in "Air Views..." I would appreciate hearing from you. Please send any information to my home address (2752 Landing Avenue, Bellmore, New York 11710).

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz
October 26, 1979

Ms. Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710

Dear Ms. Hantz:

In "Air Views of Long Island", there is a clear picture of the William Payne Thompson estate. The house is shown from the front and the outbuilding in back is included as is the fountain in the front approach. On the back of the mount is inscribed: "0-27 Wm. P. Thompson, Westbury, L.I."

Other than that, I have not found any information about the architect, landscaper, or sculptor who worked on the estate. If you have not already been there, you might visit the Long Island Historical Society on Pierrepont Street in Brooklyn Heights.

I hope this information will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Janet Parks
Archivist
November 24, 1979

Prof. David DeLong
Columbia University
116th & Broadway
New York, New York 10027

Dear Prof. DeLong:

I am a student at SUNY/Old Westbury doing research on the history of the college and the estates which predate it. One of my biggest challenges has been to find the architect of the William Payne Thompson estate and the sculpturer of his statues which adorned his formal gardens. This research has taken me all over Long Island and into the city, specifically to Columbia University's Avery Library.

With the help of Janet Parks, all I was able to find in the library was a photograph of the estate. Previous to this, I was able to get some sketchy information about the house from relatives and former employees of the Thompson's. Ms. Parks suggested I write to you and request your assistance since your interest is in the history of architecture.

The information I have on the house is as follows: the estate, known as Longfields, was located in Old Westbury next to the F. Ambrose Clark estate. It had approximately 42-48 rooms, was of pink stucco, French-style architecture and was built the same front and back. The statuary surrounding it is cement, of the "Wellman"-type. The house was built around 1900.

I know the information is not much, but perhaps the name of a particular architect will come to mind after reading it. I would appreciate any help you could give me in this matter.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. Please send all information to my home address:
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710
December 12, 1979

Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710

Dear Ms. Hantz:

Without seeing a picture of the Thompson estate that you describe, it is difficult for me to guess its architect, and even seeing the picture is no guarantee of an answer.

I would suggest that you write to Mosette Glaser Broderick, 530 West End Avenue, New York City. She is an architectural historian whose specialty includes Long Island houses of the period you describe.

With best wishes for success,

David G. De Long
Associate Professor of Architecture

/dv
November 30, 1979

Ms. Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710

Dear Ms. Hantz:

I regret the delay in sending this photocopy to you, but as the Archive is a one-person show, I sometimes find myself behind in correspondence.

Here are two xeroxes of the photograph from Air Views of Long Island. The photograph itself is about twice this size and shows lawn and trees to either side of the house and walk.

With wishes for the success of your project,

Sincerely,

Janet Parks
Archivist
December 27, 1979

Ms. Rosette Glaser Broderick
530 West End Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Ms. Broderick:

I am a student at SUNY/Old Westbury doing research on the history of the college and the estates which predate it. One of my biggest challenges has been to find the architect of the William Payne Thompson estate and the sculptor of the statues which adorned the formal gardens. I have been in contact with many historical societies and, so far, have come up with no clues at all as to who the architect was.

I have collected some sketchy information about the house from relatives and former employees of the Thompson's. Professor David De Long, who teaches at Columbia University's School of Architecture, suggested I write to you and request your assistance since you are an architectural historian.

The information I have on the house is as follows: the estate, known as Longfields, was located in Old Westbury between the F. Ambrose Clark and Von Stade estates. It had approximately 42-48 rooms, was of pink stucco, French-style architecture and was built the same front and back. The statuary surrounding it was cement, of the "Wellman"-type. The house was built around 1900. I have enclosed a Xerox copy of a photograph I have of the house.

I know the information is not much, but perhaps the name of a particular architect will come to mind after reading it. I would appreciate any help you could give me in this matter.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. Please send any information to my home address:
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710

Inc.
January 4, 1980

Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, L.I.
New York

Dear Ms. Hantz,

You have indeed decided upon a difficult topic to research. It would be very difficult to discover the architect of the estate, (unless you are incredibly lucky) without a great deal of hard research.

As Long Island has no building department records until 1929, you will have to go to primary material and pour through that to unearth the name of the architect. Unfortunately, there were several "favorite" architects who did some of the Long Island estates in interchanging manners, making it equally possible that any of ten could have done the Thompson estate.

The best thing for you to do is deed research finding out if Thompson bought land with any buildings on it, then figuring out from the date of purchase when he might have built this specific house, should there have been none of the land under previous ownership. Once you have narrowed down the years to a close few, go to the local newspaper covering Westbury, probably only available on microfilm, and read through the years in question until the paper reports on the new house being grandly built for Thompson. This is a slow
process, but the only sure way of finding an architect.

There is a second approach worth a try, but it again depends on the exact date of construction. Once you know the likely three or so years when the Thompson place was built, you can check the range of periodicals which published houses of that type at that time (it switches slightly during the early decades of the century) and scan the pages including advertisements for the publication of information on the house.

I can't be sure, but I think your buildings looks later than 1900, so the dates are very important.

For luck: Have you yet seen a new Harvest House book by Monica Randell on the houses of the "Gold Coast"? I haven't, but it may contain information you could use. Also the Long Island Forum has done some articles on estates which may have your house in its pages.

My knowledge of L.I. covers a much earlier period so I am not up on Westbury, although interest in that section at your time period is growing.

I hope that there may be some assistance for you in these badly typed pages.

Good luck.

Yours sincerely

Mosette Glaser Broderick

530 West End Avenue
New York 10024
February 2, 1980

Art Association of Newport
76 Bellevue Avenue
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Gentlemen:

I am currently attending the State University at Old Westbury and have taken over a research project which delves into the history of the college and the estates which predate it. So far it has been found that the college is made up of the F. Ambrose Clark, E.D. Morgan and William Payne Thompson estates.

Much information has been found on the Morgan's and Clark's; information on the Thompson's, however, has been hard to find. I am trying to discover the architect of their home and the sculpturer of the statues which adorned their formal gardens (several of which are now in the possession of the college).

In doing this research I have uncovered the fact that Mrs. Edith Flight Thompson was a skilled artist and once belonged to your association. Also, according to a niece, some of her work hangs in the Louvre in Paris. I also read in an old magazine article on Mrs. Thompson that she might have dabbled in sculpturing. This has led to speculation that perhaps Mrs. Thompson made the statues.

I was wondering if I could ask your assistance in providing me with any information you might have on Mrs. Thompson and/or the estate. Also, if you have any prints or illustrations of her work I would appreciate it if you would inform me on how to go about requesting copies of them. I think they would be quite inspirational hanging in the art department of the school.

Thank you for your assistance in this project.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. Please send all correspondence to my home address:

2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710
February 2, 1980

Louvre
Paris, France

Gentlemen:

I am currently attending the State University in Old Westbury, New York. In doing research on the history of the college and the estates which predate it, it has been uncovered that one of the estates was the William Payne Thompson estate. Also uncovered was the fact that Mrs. Edith Blight Thompson was a skilled artist and, according to her niece, some of her work hangs in your gallery. I have also read in an old magazine article on Mrs. Thompson that she might have dabbled in sculpturing.

I was wondering if I could ask your assistance in providing me with any information you might have on Mrs. Thompson and/or her estate in Old Westbury. Also, if you have any prints or illustrations of her work I would appreciate it if you would inform me on how to go about requesting copies of them. I think they would be quite inspirational hanging in the art department of the school.

Thank you for your assistance in this project.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. Please send all correspondence to my home address:

2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710
Ms. Susan Hantz  
2732 Landing Avenue  
Bellmore, N. Y. 11710  

Dear Ms. Hantz:

After a quick search of various resources in our library, all I can give you on the Thompson family is that there was a prominent family of that name in Tazewell County, Virginia. The Payne family name was also quite prominent in that county. I do not know if your Thompsons were located there, but I have a hunch they might have been.

I know of no historical society located in Tazewell County, so I would advise you to write to the Bluefield Library, Box 366, Bluefield, Virginia 24605, and ask for a list of local researchers or genealogists who might, for a fee, conduct the research you require.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin L. Dooley, Jr.  
Director  

ELD/md
April 10, 1980

Mr. Bruce Howe  
President  
Art Association of Newport  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Dear Mr. Howe:

On March 25, 1980, as a follow-up to my February 2, 1980 letter, I called the Association and spoke with Mr. Bellson. He informed me that my letter was referred to your office.

In my original letter I had asked for any information you could provide me with on Edith Blight Thompson, a former member of the Art Association (anywhere between 1900 and 1940).

While speaking with Mr. Bellson he read to me a passage from an art book which stated that Mrs. Thompson was the granddaughter of a Mr. Greenhoge, a sculptor. Since we still have statues from Mrs. Thompson’s formal gardens on campus, I was wondering if she inherited his talents. Also, I was informed by her niece that some of Mrs. Thompson’s paintings may hang in the Louvre in Paris. I have written to them inquiring about the truth to this statement and, if yes, how I could go about acquiring prints of her work. So far, I have not received an answer.

The original purpose of this research was to find the architect of the Thompson house and the sculptor of the statues. However, one bit of information has led to another and a fascinating history of two people has emerged.

I have been working on this project for over a year now. All material has to be handed over to the college by the last week of May. At your earliest convenience, could you please send me any information you have on the Thompsons’. Any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. Please send any correspondence to my home address:  
2732 Landing Avenue  
Bellmore, New York 11710
May 8, 1980

Ms. Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, N.Y., 11710

Dear Ms. Hantz:

I am sorry you get no response to your earlier (February?) letter to me; but I never received it or was told of it. I was in Istanbul for Oct. 1979 - March 1980 and am only now settling into home routines after a trip to Washington, another to Boston and a second to Washington. Please excuse delay and also the paucity of information below. I must also now apologize for my further delay in answering your April 10 letter and in sending you the data below. I am afraid your own personal deadlines have come and gone. I did research on the project in fits and starts; each stab left more things hanging and I kept putting off writing a wrap-up letter; but I realize I must really report now, willy nilly.

I myself knew nothing of the Thompsons but have gotten in touch with two local fountain heads for such knowledge. I report what I have found so far from and through them. Source I is Mr. Richard Champlin, assistant librarian of the Redwood Library. Source II is Mrs. Paul Rogers, former executive secretary of the Art Association. She has further access to other old timers and has volunteered to go through Art Association scrap books, files, annual reports, etc. to track down any useful clues. I do not know how long this will all take but hope we will have something more for you. Really sorry we did not get started on this sooner!

Mr. Champlin consulted city directories, gazetteers (with names of each owner and householder on each lot), a Greenough Family Genealogy Book, and a jumbo volume called "American Book of Beauty" published deluxe 1904 on houses and estates. From all this he comes up with the following: (1) there was an Atherton Blight in Newport in a house on Bellevue Avenue about 1881 and until the turn of the century; (2) there was also a Miss Alice Blight here about 1914. (3) Edith Blight, born 1874, the daughter of Atherton Blight of Philadelphia, married William Payne Thompson. This item was in the Greenough Family Genealogy Book; thus, it seems that the Greenough connection is via the Thompsons - via mother's side. (4) The Redwood Library owns a number of sculptures by Richard Saltonstall Greenough (one of two sculptor brothers, the other being Horatio who was less prominent or prolific). The piece in the Redwood is a bust of a Captain Hunter; two others are on long-term loan to the Newport Historical Society, down the street (subject matter unknown to me).

I assume your spelling of Greenhoge is a typo or else misinformation or misspelling for Greenough; otherwise we must begin all over again as there is nothing known of any one named Greenhoge here. Thus, perhaps your Edith Blight Thompson is/was a daughter of the Blight/Thompson couple named above?

Mrs. Rogers thinks Mrs. Thompson gave some art prizes at the Art Association in her day. It is this and any other references to Mrs. Thompson in our archives she is to be checking. We may come across
evidence for Thompson exhibits, etc. Otherwise there is little else that any old timers seem to know of the Thompson family. Mr. Champlin said it might be useful to inquire at the Historical Soc. for info. Mrs. Belehouse there is the walking dictionary. There are city gazettes and maps giving names of house-holders on each plot and plat.

In any case, the Blight evidence and the Greenough sculpture here in Newport struck us all as significant. Perhaps Mrs. Rogers will come up with more. We will let you know whatever we find. It sounds as if your campus might have Richard Saltonstall Greenough sculptures on its grounds by a wild chance. Also, Atherton Blight, father of Edith, was a friend of Henry James and that opens up another whole realm of data and research!

Sorry I can't be more specific or voluminous; and, again, real apologies for my delays and inconsiderateness. Too many irons in the fire here just now.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce Howe
May 19, 1980

Mr. Bruce Howe
Hammersmith Road
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Dear Mr. Howe:

Thank you for the information you provided in your May 8th letter. I must confess, since I couldn't find the correct spelling of Greenhough, I just spelled it the way I thought was proper.

The deadline for my research has been extended. As a matter of fact, the President of the college has decided to add an archive wing to the new library being built. The college is comprised of over 600 acres, a combination of three estates. The archives will contain information about the three owners as well as trace the history of the area back to colonial times. I will continue to work on the project until the end of summer, at which time others on campus will pick it up.

The Edith Blight Thompson this research is concerned with is the one born in 1874. The Thompsohad no children; my research probably would have been easier if they had!

Talking to various neighbors, I have come to the conclusion that perhaps Mrs. Thompson had the sculptures done by a local statuary. We might use some of them to decorate the archives.

The information you have given me has been very helpful. If, in the future, you find anything more on Mrs. Thompson, or her husband, please forward it to me at my home address. Even if my work on this project has ended, I can pass the information on to my successor.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

(home address: 2732 Landing Avenue, Bellmore, New York 11710)
May 19, 1980

Mrs. Bolehouse
Newport Historical Society
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Dear Mrs. Bolehouse:

I am doing research on an estate in Old Westbury once owned by William Payne Thompson and Edith Blight Thompson. The estate is now part of the Old Westbury campus.

I had previously uncovered the fact that Mrs. Thompson was a member of the Art Association in Newport. I have since written a letter to Mr. Bruce Howe of the Association, and he has provided me with some information. He also suggested that perhaps you might have some information useful to me at the Society.

At your earliest convenience, could you please look through your records and see if you have any information on the Thompsons, their background, lifestyle, homes, hobbies, etc. The information I am gathering on them will eventually be turned over to the college and added to their archives.

Any assistance you could give me in this research will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. - Please send any correspondence to my home address:

2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710
Spoke with William Davis (747-2570). Clark and Von Stade lived in Hempstead. Settled in 1910 on land where college now stands. When he hears from contact in Florida will call me. Spoke with Hal Williams and wife (334-4625, 223 Store Hill Rd., Old Westbury). Were 40-50 statues in formal gardens on Thompson estate. No one knew them or anything about them. Asked the Williams' to contact me if they find out or remember anything.

8/29/79
Decided to check into newspapers and Eisenhower Park Museum for any leads. Called Newsday. They said to write them a letter and they'd see what they could find. Then called Westbury Times (Pat Wiener, 334-3362). They said their back issues at Westbury library. Went to the library (454 Rockland, 333-0176). They were missing many back issues. Behind the library was the historical Society of the Westbury's. I had tried them during the semester but they were closed. You need an appointment to get in. The librarian called and got me in. Spoke to Mrs. Lesnick and Miss Small. Miss Small, as a child, visited the Thompson estate as well as others in the community. She doesn't remember exactly but she thinks it was white stucco. She vaguely remembers some statues but she said all the estates at the time had statues. The Thompson's lived in the house starting from the 1920's to the 1940's. They lived quietly; didn't get involved with the Westbury elite. They went south during the winter. The Society had maps of the Westbury area during this time period. Mrs. Lesnick had gotten them from the Eisenhower Park Museum. The 1914 map showed the Clark and Thompson estates. In 1927 Clark gains part of Morgan field, Titus, Seaman and Ketchum lands. In 1932 Clark gains more of the surrounding estates. In 1940 the Thompson estate is still owned by Thompson. In 1946 Clark now owns Thompson estate. In 1950 Clark owns all the land surrounding his estate. Miss Small suggested I speak to Mr. Von Stade, who resides in New York City and is involved with the Old Westbury Gardens (333-0048) and Joe Dowling, the manager of the Meadowbrook Club on Jericho Turnpike. I had spoken to his brother, Martin, who is the village clerk during the semester. He didn't know anything about the Thompson's. Miss Small said Joe is older and knows more of the residents of Westbury. She also said to call on Fred Hicks who is now owner of Hicks Nursery on Jericho Turnpike. His father, still living, started the nursery and did a lot of landscaping for the estates. She also suggested I look at old copies of Country Life Magazine. They would photograph any new estate on Long Island after its completion. Copies are on file at Stonybrook University. Also look at Whin and Spur, N.Y. Times Obituary Index, Social Register Assoc. (Park Ave., N.Y.), Classica and Town and Country. She told me about a new book coming out in September, The Mansions of Long Island, by Monica Randall. While I waited she called Mrs. Randall and the book contained mansions from the 1960's to the present, so Thompson wouldn't be included. Mrs. Lesnick told me to contact Mr. Wintche or Mrs. Matera at Eisenhower for copies of the maps. The Westbury reference librarian looked at the N.Y. Times Obit index and we found out that William Payne Thompson was listed in the N.Y. Times for Sept. 21, 1922 (17:5) and Mrs. Thompson for Sept. 2, 1941 (17:1). The librarian also told me about a Mr. Gachot who was commissioned to put together a detailed history of the Westbury's for the Historical Society. She didn't know if he'd share his information with me but she told me to try and gave me his address and phone number (95 Old Westbury Rd., 333-8271). I then went to
Eisenhower Park and spoke to Mrs. Matera. She made copies of the maps for 1914, 1927 and 1946 for me. She could offer me no further information. Next I went to the Levittown library to look up the Thompson's obituaries. (The N.Y. Times Index had several William P. Thompson's listed and only one Mrs. W.P. Thompson. Only William Payne Thompson came from the Westbury area - I read all the obituaries. The Mrs. Thompson listed in the index was his wife.) In taking an educated guess I am assuming these are the Thompson's this research is interested in. Mr. Thompson's obituary is as follows: "Sept. 20, 1922 William Payne, husband of Edith Blight Thompson, and son of the late Colonel Wm. P. Thompson and Mary Evelyn Moffett. Funeral services at St. Bartholomew's Church, Park Ave. & 51st St., Friday morning, Sept. 22 at 10:30 o'clock. Interment private. Boston and Philadelphia papers please copy." The Times also wrote a small article on Thompson. It reads as follows: "William Payne Thompson, Sportman, Dies at 50. Owner of Longfields, Westbury; Prominent in N.Y. Society, Succumbs in Hospital. William Payne Thompson of Longfields, Westbury, Long Island, who has long been active in society in this city and in the hunting set on Long Island, died yesterday in the Presbyterian Hospital in his 51st year. He was born in Petersburg, Virginia, a son of the late Wm. P. Thompson and Evelyn Moffett Thompson. After attending Laurencenville School he entered Harvard, but was prevented from completing the course by a serious illness in his junior year. He never entered business or a profession, but devoted himself to social and sporting interests. He was part owner of L'Alouette, winner of the Futurity of 1897. He and his brother, Lewis S. Thompson, of 903 Park Avenue, owned a large game preserve and stock farm on their estate, Brookdale, at Red Bank, New Jersey. Among Mr. Thompson's many clubs were The Knickerbocker, Union, Brook and Racquet and Tennis. His widow was formerly Miss Edith Blight, whom he married at Newport in 1897. Services will be held in St. Bartholomew's Church tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock." Mrs. Thompson's obituary states: "Edith Blight, peacefully in England, August 31, beloved wife of the late Wm. Payne Thompson. Boston and Philadelphia papers please copy." Next I visited the East Meadow library. The reference librarian called newsday and asked their librarian if they had any information on Thompson. Since the paper only started in the early 1940's there was nothing on Thompson. The only articles they had on Clark were: his wife dying - Oct. 2, 1950; his various horse shows; his second marriage; his death. The East Meadow librarian suggested I contact the Brooklyn Historical Society, Roslyn-Bryant library and look at old copies of the Long Island Press (Levittown library). Previous information revealed that Clark bought the Thompson estate in the 1950's. According to the maps I have I think Clark bought the estate after Mrs. Thompson's death in 1941; certainly before 1946.
Made a list for follow-up:
1) Stonybrook library (246-5000) - old magazines
2) Hicks, Edwin - 334-0084
   Fred - 334-0066
3) Joe Dowling - 935-1648
4) Von Stade, Old Westbury Gardens - 333-0048 (Mrs. McEwen)
5) Katherine Von Stade - 334-0898
6) Mr. Gachot - 333-8271
7) Eklyn, Historical Society (no longer in operation)
8) Roslyn-Bryant Library - MA-1-2240
9) Levittown Library - copies of L.I. Press

I called up Stonybrook and they have Country Life Magazine going back to the 1800's. Edwin Hicks was too busy to speak to me and said he might call back; didn't have time for students questions. The Von Stade's, Dowling and Gachot weren't home. The Roslyn library had nothing on Thompson but will keep looking and call me if anything pops up. I went back to the Levittown library and looked through old copies of newspapers, for the years 1922 and 1941, and found nothing more on Thompson. In the reference section I did find a book that made reference to Thompson; it was the first book on L.I. history that mentioned him out of the 30 or so books I looked through. The book, Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens Counties of Nassau and Suffolk, vol. II, A.I. Hazelton, R974.72H, pg.905 states: "...E.D. Morgan's stately mansion at Wheatley Hills. Among other fine places in Westbury are those of Mrs. Willard Straight, F. Ambrose Clark and William P. Thompson. It is a mile from the front gate of each of these places to the front door of the residence and the entrance road is lined with handsome shade trees." These houses are listed as the 5 most outstanding mansions in the Westbury area. It's also the first time I've seen Thompson's name in print in any book before. The Levittown librarian also mentioned contacting the Albany Archive Collection (N.Y. State Library, State Education Center, Dr. Weldon), Long Island Historical Society (128 Pierrepont St., Eklyn., 11201 212/624-0890) and Huntington Historical Society (Agnes K. Packard, 427-7045). I also went to Stonybrook to use their library. I went through Country Life Magazine from January 1901 to October 1922. There were no photos of the Thompson house. There was a photo of E.D. Morgan's summer house in Newport, Rhode Island. The photo's did reveal, however, that the "in" thing during the turn of the century were formal gardens. Estates photographed in Garden City, Roslyn and Massachusetts all had formal gardens. They were set up as follows: one large statue facing the mansion; trees and smaller statues running parallel to one another, leading to the mansion; one or more fountains in the walkway; many shrubs and flowers, all leading to several tiers which lead to the house. There was no particular time period or style to the statues - the estate owners put in whatever hit their fancy. The ruins look very much like the photos of these gardens. I called Mr. Gachot. He wasn't too responsive but took my phone number and said he'd call if he found out anything about Thompson. More follow-up:
10) Social Register Society - 212/685-2634
11) Albany Archive Collection
12) L.I. Historical Society - 212/624-0890
13) Huntington Historical Society - 427-7045
Called the Huntington Historical Society and spoke with Agnes Packard. She didn't know much about the Westbury area but suggested going to the Oyster Bay Town Hall (I believe Ellen Judge did this during the semester and came up with nothing), looking through the N.Y. Times social columns, going to the Avery Library of Architect at Columbia University and speaking to Mr. Charles Felton Hicks (Apt. 7H, Delaware Bldg., Oyster Bay 922-0295). He was once active in Oyster Bay politics and his family goes way back on Long Island. He's also related to Fred & Edwin Hicks, who own the nursery. At a family reunion on Sunday, he is going to question members of the family about Thompson. He knew about the Clarkes, Morgans, Whitney's, etc., in the area because he was part of their crowd but doesn't remember any Thompson. He suggested I call Gray's Saddlery on Post Avenue in Westbury (333-0980). They supplied the area's horsemen with their riding equipment. Mr. Hick's called me a few hours later and suggested calling horse movers in the area, Renaissance Flower Shop (333-0034) and R.B. Hamilton (621-1000) in Roslyn. He tried to look up some people who were prominent during the time period I'm interested in but they had either died or were very old and in nursing homes. Called Joe Dowling; on vacation till Tuesday. I spoke with his son. He said his father has a wealth of information; some of it might be helpful to me. Told me to call George Wittlinger, grounds keeper for the Phipps Estate (2nd generation). He should know something about the Thompson's. If not, he could ask the Phipps' about them. (They still live at the estate, which is now the Old Westbury Gardens.) Called Old Westbury Gardens and spoke with a Mr. Totemler. He suggested I also call the Society for the Preservation for L.I. Antiquities. (I couldn't find a number for them in Nassau - might be in Suffolk - 941-9444). Called George Wittlinger at home (334-0683) and the only thing he remembered about the Thompson's were that they weren't too friendly with other estate owners. Also, they had a very small estate. He told me to call Mrs. J.C. Rathborne, (2 Powells Lane, 333-0404) who is 90 and knew everyone in the area. Called Mrs. Rathborne, who didn't remember the Thompson's very well. She was having tea with a Mrs. Murray and asked her about the house. Mrs. Murray got on the phone and EUREKA! knew something about the Thompson house. It was an Italian house with Italian gardens. It was not very grand or extraordinary. The statues were very cheap looking (she thought either plaster or cement - if they were stone they would have lasted and not gone to ruin in the garden; all the other estates had stone statues). They were of the Wellman type. The Thompson's were not too friendly with their neighbors (or else their neighbors snubbed them because they didn't think they were in their league). Everyone I spoke to today told me to speak to Mr. Gachot. When I told them I called him last night and he was elusive, they said it sounded like him. Some people said he might come around and call me back with the information I need. I also have the feeling that the Thompson's were more in N.Y. society and came to Westbury just for relaxation and hunting and riding.
Charles Hicks called me. Gave me 2 names to follow-up on - Gerald S. Russell (212/728-8027) and Fritz Krauter (922-9200). Called Joe Dowling - he confirmed what Mrs. Murray said about the house. Only he put it - "the gardens were on various levels with lovely statuary placed around it". He said if I call him in a week or so he might be able to give me more information. He said he thinks Thompson or a relation was somehow connected to Standard Oil. Said Thompson's had relatives that often stayed with them. The Preston's, 3 nephews, were always at the house, but Joe couldn't remember any first names. Says he thinks they're dead anyway. Another relative, Betty Babcock, he believes is still living. Use to work for the Syosset School District. I called her (692-4165). William Thompson was her uncle. She is the daughter of Lewis Thompson. Mrs. Babcock is now 79 years old and very spry. She gave me a run-down of Thompson history. After Thompson died his wife moved to England where she died in 1941. The house was pink stucco and decorated in a French style. Edith's sisters married titled Englishmen. After Mrs. Thompson's death her nephew, William Payne Thompson Preston inherited the house. Preston lost interest in the house and let it go to ruin. Eventually Clark bought it (to keep the neighborhood from looking shabby). Most of the interior paintings of the house were done by Mrs. Thompson - she was a skilled artist - and now hang in the Louvre and other galleries in Europe. There are none in America. The house also had several gazebos. Mrs. Babcock is one of 2 last surviving members of the Thompson family. The Thompson's spent most of their time in Europe, which is why no one remembers them in Westbury. The original Thompson's came from North Ireland - Protestants - and settled in West Virginia. They were all well-educated. Came around 1809. George Warwick Thompson was a federal judge - had 3 sons who all fought for the Federacy. The youngest boy was killed in the war. Thompson's father in the 19th Virginia Cavalry - survived war and married Miss Moffett in 1964. Lewis Thompson born in 1865. There's another relative still living - he's now President of Morgan Guarantee Trust. I asked Mrs. Babcock if she had any pictures of the estate and she said she never visited it after she was 15 years old. She wasn't interested in the house or gardens, just their horses. She might have a picture of the Thompson's lying around somewhere but she's not sure. Said if I need any information please feel free to call.

9/5/79

Called the Long Island Historical Society - had no information on Thompson. Also called the Social Register - wasn't registered. The head researcher at Long Island Antiquities wasn't in so I'll have to call back. Mr. Russell and Mr. Krauter are on vacation. I left my number at both residences and they'll call me back. I went to the Bellmore library to look up art and sculptures. I couldn't find our statue exactly but it looks Greek and is probably an imitation. The reference librarian told me the Woodmere-Hewlett library is the art and music library for Nassau.
9/6/79

Went to Levittown library to look through N.Y. Times index for any mention of Thompson. Looked up Futurity of 1897. Only mentioned the Thompson brothers had 3 horses in the race and L'Alouette won. The rest of the articles were on the other horse owners and their horses and jockeys. From 1941 - 1946 looked in index for F. Ambrose Clark. There were articles on his adding to his estate by buying land from estate owners around him but nothing on him buying the Thompson land. I then looked through more books on sculpture, particularly Greek sculpture. Our statue looks quite similar to statues known as "Draped Ladies". In order to get a definite name I'm going to have to find an "expert witness" on Greek sculpture. I called the L.I. Antiquities and spoke to Carol Traynor, the head researcher. She was very helpful. She has some aerial photos of the Thompson house and is going to send me Xerox copies of them. She will also include any info the Society has on the Thompson estate. She said the society has a few gaps in their history on Thompson and is trying to fill them in (still trying to find out who architect of house was, to find out about the statues, etc.). I told her what Mrs. Murray said about the statues being of the Wellman type and Ms. Traynor said she or someone else would check that info out. We both came to the same conclusion that Wellman must have been someone who made cement statues out of molds in imitation of the originals for the estate owners to place in their formal gardens. Ms. Traynor also told me that the April 1925 issue of House Beautiful has an article on the Thompson estate and might contain photos of it. The estate is also mentioned in Views of Various Estates on Long Island but Ms. Traynor doesn't know if this is a book or magazine. She said she'll keep in touch and pass on any info she finds on the Thompson's.

9/11/79

Fritz Krauter from Planting Fields Arboretum called. Couldn't give me any info on Thompson.

9/12/79

Called Gerald Russell. He has known many of the Old Westbury families for 50 years, but never met Thompson. Had no information to give me on them.

9/15/79

Received a picture of the Thompson estate from the Society. Ms. Traynor also suggested I get in touch with Mr. Gachot. Will write him a letter - he might be more responsive this time.
Spoke to John Collins at the Nassau County Museum. He's an expert on L.I. history and architecture (364-1050). Most of the people he told me to contact I've already spoken to. He knows about the Thompson estate and the history of the area but he also has a blank on his records as to the architect of the house and the statues. He told me to contact Phyllis Braff (883-1610) who works out of a museum in Port Washington and knows a great deal about architecture. He also said the Avery Library at Columbia Univ. may have the information we're looking for. In the card catalog look under Thompson, landscape, buildings. Also, in the rare book section there are architectural photographs taken of various estates on L.I. The library also has the collection of Samuel Gattschiod, a photographer of the 1920's who went around L.I. and photographed it and almost all of the estates standing at that time. Mr. Collins suggested looking for the probate records of Thompson's Will which would have all his possessions listed. This may be found somewhere in the Columbia Univ. Library. Mr. Collins, who sometimes works in conjunction with the Society, requested that if I do find out the architecture of the house and statues to please share this info with the Society.

9/18/79

Esther Pinzer of House Beautiful called and said they have a copy of the April 1925 issue of the magazine and she'll check to see if they have the 1924 issue. If so, she'll Xerox a copy of the article for me.

9/24/79

Spoke to Ms. Pinzer and she said they don't have a copy of the magazine before 1925. The article wasn't in the 1925 issue so it must be in the 1924 issue. Called the N.Y. Public Library (42nd & 5th, rm. 315, 212/790-6161) and they have a copy of the issue.
Spent almost half a day at the Hewlett-Woodmere library. It's the main library for art in Nassau. Since Mrs. Babcock (Thompson's niece) said the house was French style I looked through some French sculpture books. Our statue could well be French. We came upon one by Martin Carlier called "Urania" which could almost be ours. The librarian and I almost woke up the library calling to each other but upon careful inspection of the photo of our statue and the photo of "Urania" we concluded they were two different statues. The reference librarian looked through Art News and other publications to see if Mrs. Thompson was an artist. She's mentioned in E. Benesfit, Dictionary of Painters, Sculptors, Designers and Engravers (the book is written in French).

This is the Bible of artwork and you have to be excellent to get mentioned in this book. She had an exhibition in France in 1923. Since she's more well known in Europe it makes sense that the Louvre has many of her paintings. Mrs. Thompson was a member of the Newport (R.I.) Art Association. There are 3 magazines which have articles on her and reproductions of her artwork.

1) Thompson, Edith
   Exhibition at Pen & Brush. Art Digest 27:21
   9/2/79

2) Thompson, Mrs. Edith Blight 1884- American at Knoedler's
   H.G. Fell. Connoisseur 97:105 F'36
   Reproductions: Interior Lond Studio II (Studio III):107 F'36
   Salle de digne, palais de Versailles

Apollo 23:115 F'36

Adelphi Univ. has the 1952 issue of Art News. Will check N.Y. Public library to see if they have the others. I then spoke to Phyllis Braff. She said the Frick Reference Library in N.Y. would have an auction catalog to check when Mrs. Thompson's paintings were auctioned off. Also look in Columbia's Avery library for American Architect and Builder. Ms. Braff has a file on Clark which might mention his buying the Thompson estate and might describe the estate. If she has anything she'll call me. The name of Edith Blight Thompson was familiar to her and Ms. Braff will see if she has any info under Mrs. Thompson. I finally got to speak to Edwin Hicks. He said his various cousins were the ones who worked on the estates as landscapers, gardeners, plumbers, etc. Unfortunately they are either dead or incapable of communicating with anyone due to their old age. He said he remembers the Thompson estate but wouldn't know the sculptor or architect. That info went with his relatives. He did give me some names to follow-up on: Mr. Schwann (lives in a cottage outside of Mrs. Clark's house); Mrs. Warrending (Mrs. Rathborne's daughter 922-7875); W. Titus (Locust Valley). Warren Stokey (333-4627, 695 Irving St., Westbury) worked for the Clark's. Mr. Hicks said there were 2 employee houses on the Thompson estate. He's going to write a few letters for me to track these people down. He also suggested calling the Old Westbury police dept. and asking for names of retired policemen who were on active duty during the time period I'm researching. The Hewlett-Woodmere librarian called and the head reference librarian said there was a sculptor named Arthur Wellman, born 1885, who worked in Berlin. Examples of his work are in old German artbooks. These can be found in the N.Y. Public library or Frick Library. The books are: Dressler's Kunsts Handbuch, pub. in 1930, vol. II; Thieme Becker, vol. 35; Cicerone, vol. 18, pg. 201; Welhagen-Months, pub. 1916, vol. II, pg. 48 (illustrations); Aprilheft, pg. 186 (3 illustrations).
10/2/79

With the much appreciated assistance of Mark West, I ventured into the city to poke around Columbia Univ. and the N.Y. Public library. Mark went through the Samuel Gattischio collection and came up with an R. Wellman but no Arthur Wellman or Thompson. In the card catalog he came across "Air Views of Long Island" but they were in the basement and that librarian had gone home for the day. I looked through Thieba Becker and there was a small article on Wellman but he was born in Berlin and was a sculptor. I looked for the other books but couldn't find them. Mark and I went through the card catalog and looked under any heading we thought would give us a clue. We went through several books but came up with nothing. We next went to the Public library. I got the 1924 issue of House Beautiful. All it had was the photo SPLIA sent me, with one exception: the gardens aren't in our picture; they would appear below the photo. Only the Oct. 15, 1952 Art News had anything significant on Mrs. Thompson and her artwork. It said, "Edith Thompson: realistic in style most of the 16 effective sculptures in this recent small and lively exhibition were of carved marble and dark terra cotta. While sparing in detail many of them - animals and birds - showed too great a tendency toward sentiment. However, 3 portrait heads included revealed straight-forward and honest modelling of commendable quality (Pen & Brush) - C.R." After reading this article, I began to wonder if Mrs. Thompson did the statues in the garden. Mrs. Murray had said they were of the Wellman type. Since Wellman was an important sculptor of the time, maybe Mrs. Thompson imitated him and put her handiwork in her garden. The library couldn't find the F'36 copy of Connoisseur but it got late and the library was closing. If I get a chance I might make one more trip to the city.

10/4/79

Received a letter from Richard Gachot. Most of what he suggested I have already done. He's interested in seeing my research when it's completed. I called Warren Stokey. He remembers Mrs. Thompson occasionally living in the house with her sister. He said the original entrance to the Thompson estate started where the Fountainbleu now stands on Jericho Turnpike. He used to know a family that worked for the Thompson's who have photos of the house and gardens. He couldn't remember their name but said he'd think on it and call me if he remembers or will have the family call me. He also said Mrs. Thompson loved gardens and hers were well kept and the best around (she'd turn over if she saw them now.). He said there wasn't much furniture in the house and it didn't have heat which led him to believe she lived there only during the warm months. After Clark purchased the house and word went around that it was to be torn down, gardeners in the area dug the rose bushes and shrubs out and planted them in their employers' gardens. Mr. Stokey's description of the gardens somewhat confirms my suspicion that Mrs. Thompson made the statues for her beloved gardens.

10/8/79

Spoke with Mrs. Wilmerding. All she knew was that the house and gardens were Italian style. This is getting somewhat confusing. Mrs. Babcock (niece) said the house and gardens were French while others say it's Italian.
I again went to Columbia Univ. (again, with help from Mark West) to see what I could find. We went through some photos of the Gattschio collection but came up with "zero". The librarian couldn't find "Air Views of L.I." in the basement but she took my name and number and said if she found them she'd call. I found the book SPLIA suggested, Views of Various Estates on L.I., but it wasn't on the shelf. I gave the title and call number of the book to Anita Dierks since her son goes to Columbia. She's going to ask Konny to check the shelf every now and then and take the book out for me when he finds it. We went through several periodicals and came up with nothing. Mark suggested I get in touch with an architectural society - the house being the same front and back might be a "trademark" or particular style of a builder. Also, check the township for a copy of a building permit.

10/13/79

Janet Parks, the librarian at Columbia, wrote me a note saying she found "Air Views of L.I." and upon receipt of a letter from me will go through it to see what she can find on the Thompson's.

10/31/79

Received a letter from Janet Parks. "Air Views..." only yielded a picture of the Thompson estate. Will get in touch with her and ask for a copy of the photo.

11/5/79

Konny Dierks informed me "Various Estates..." is missing from Columbia archives.

11/21/79

Spoke with Janet Parks. She is sending me copies of the pictures of the Thompson estate. She suggested I write to David DeLong who teaches a history of architecture course at Columbia.

11/24/79

Wrote to David DeLong. Received an answer from him 12/12/79. Suggested I contact Mosette Broderick who is an architectural historian.

12/27/79

Wrote to Mosette Broderick and asked for her help in Thompson research.

3/25/80

Called Art Assoc. of Newport as a follow-up to my letter (401/847-0179). Spoke to a Mr. Bellson. He remembers my letter - referred it to Bruce Howe, Pres. of Assoc. Mr. Bellson read to me a passage from an art book whereby it mentions the fact that Edith Blight Thompson was the granddaughter of Mr. Greenough, the famous sculptor. He did the huge statue of George Washington which now stands in D.C. Mr. Bellson said if I don't hear from Mr. Howe soon, write again. (I'm going to try to get a picture of that statue to add to the report).
3/27/80

Called Frick Reference library (10 E. 71 St., NYC, 10021 - attn. reference desk; 212/288-8700; open M-F 10-4, Sat 10-12). The reference librarian said they have 2 brochures from Mrs. Thompson's exhibitions. They can't Xerox the whole brochure, but if I come in person, they may Xerox certain pages for me. The exhibitions they are from are:

London, Feb. 5-22, 1936; Kingsore Galleries, Jan. 18-29, 1921. Magazines they have showing her work are: 1) Connoisseur - Feb. 1936, pg. 105; 2) London Studio - Feb. 1936, pg. 107; 3) Apollo - Feb. 1936, Art News and Notes section, pg. 115-116. They can Xerox these for me (40¢/pg. + $2 mailing fee). I next called the Surrogate Court in Manhattan (31 Chambers St., NYC, rm. 301 - 212/374-8239) about Thompson's Will. The clerk said I have to send a letter containing name, address and date of death for Thompson. I'll also have to pay a fee of at least $25 (also enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope). The clerk said his Will might be in Nassau Surrogate Court, depending on if he used his New York or Westbury address as legal place of residence. Kay Whitmore-Logan suggested the Bureau of Records (near Chambers St.) to find out Thompson's address. Also call the N.Y. phone service. I called the phone service and was told a Mrs. Schonning (516/294-7921) may be able to help me. She wasn't in when I called. Called John Collins (364-1050) again about architecture. He suggested I recall Bob Mackay or Valerie at SPLIA to see if they've found out the architect in the interim.

4/2/80

Spoke to Mr. Martin, Mrs. Schonning's boss. Said he would do some research on his end and get back to me.
Spoke to Mrs. Schomning (294-7211). She suggested I call John Bianco at the Telephone Historical Museum (423-9997). There are some old directories upstairs in the museum. Also get in touch with the hospital and funeral home he died in. Can write to Virginia Historical Society or a University there to see if they have anything on Thompson. Mr. Martin called - said he found 2 addresses for Thompson; in 1921 there was a listing for William Payne Thompson, 31 W. 36 St., N.Y.; in 1920, Mrs. Wm. P. Thompson, Westbury, L.I., N.Y. Mr. Martin said before World War II there weren't any street addresses for L.I. With Mark West in tow I went into N.Y. to visit the Frick. Due to the strike the reference library closed before we got there. As we glumly walked back to the car we passed Knoedler's Art Gallery; the name sounded familiar. I glanced through my notes and found that Mrs. Thompson had had an art exhibit there in 1936. I went in and spoke with the receptionist. She said their librarian, Katherine Moore, would be able to help me. She works Mon. through Wed. I got her phone number (212/794-0550) so I could reach her at a later date. I next called St. Bartholomew's Church (212/751-1616) and spoke to Mr. Forbes. Everyone was busy with holiday services - suggested I call back on Monday. Since Thompson's funeral services were held here, they would have some type of record on him. I called Presbyterian Hospital, where Thompson died (212/694-2500). They said I have to write them a letter requesting this information. I need some type of family or state authority to get this information released. I have to include full name, date of birth and expiration, parents name, last residence, social security number. Write letter to: Presbyterian Hospital, Medical Information Dept., Vanderbilt Clinic, Rm. 202, 622 W. 168 St., N.Y. 10032. We next went to the N.Y. Public library's genealogical section. I'm sure there's some valuable information there but I'll need one whole day and about 3 people helping me. While explaining to the librarian what I needed a woman came over and interrupted us. She said her name was Sandy Ericks and she is a descendant from a family named Payne that came from Virginia and before that, England. She has many charts and information of the Payne's at her home and she said maybe there's some connection or relation with Payne Thompson. She gave me her home number (212/957-0896) and told me to call her next week.
Called Bob MacKay (SPLIA - 941-9444) to see if they've found any more information on Thompson. He said they still have a blank on him.

Suggested I look into something called Thompson Magazine which traces families with that name. Can find magazine at N.Y. Historical Society, L.I. Historical Society, N.Y. Public Library or through Union Catalog.

Next called Mr. Forbes of St. Bartholomew's Church. He has that Thompson was buried on Sept. 22, 1922, he was 50 years old, residence listed as Old Westbury, buried at Friends Cemetery (Quaker) in Old Westbury, died of cancer. (Friends Cemetery, 109 Mad Ave., Westbury 997-3029). Called Sandy Ericks. She didn't have her genealogical charts with her so she'll have to call me when she gets them. She suggested some leads when I told her the information I have - (most of these are at N.Y. Public Library) Civil War Books, find out what county Petersburg, Va. is in and look through history books, find out George Warwick Thompson's wife's name, Bayonne, N.J. Federal Archives, General Service Admission in Washington, D.C., historical records of county, marriage forms, census records for 1810-20. Sandy said she's at N.Y. Public library almost every Tues night. If I'd like to come in one Tuesday she'll help me and show me what books to look through.

Called Katherine Moore at Knoedler's Art Gallery and she said she'd go through their files and I should call back on Wednesday. John Bianco of the phone company will get back to me when he checks out the Thompson's addresses. Visited Mrs. Leznick again (Society for the Westbury's). She has a postcard of the Thompson Estate - will have a photographer make a copy and send it to me. She is also going to Paris in 2 weeks and said she'd go to the Louvre and see what they have on Mrs. Thompson. Will see if she can get them to give her prints or if she can take photos of Mrs. Thompson's work. She'll get back to me on this when she returns. Also told me to call Mrs. Tatem (626-1776) who is a neighbor of Mrs. Murray. She can ask Mrs. Murray to clarify what she meant by Wellman type statue. Called Virginia Historical Society (804/558-4901) and spoke to Mr. Dooley. He's going to check to see if he can find anything on the Thompson line. If so, he'll send me the information. Called Mrs. Tatam – gave me Mrs. Murray's number (Powell Lane, 334-9132).

(On April 24, the Society is having a meeting at 8 p.m. various old-timers come and talk. Two months ago Wm. Davis was the guest speaker. Everyone is invited.)

4/9/80

Spoke with Katherine Moore. Knoedler's has very little on Mrs. Thompson. They did have a brochure on her exhibition but it's missing. She suggested looking in vertical files in the Art Room of the N.Y. Public Library. I called Mrs. Murray and asked what she meant by Wellman. It turns out that she said Roman-type statues in front of a pseudo-Italian house. Mrs. Murray also said that many of the estate owners went to a statuary place to purchase statues for their gardens. John Bianco suggested I call Bill Elsasser (423-2275) to check out Thompson's address. Bill will get back to me after he does some research.

4/10/80

Bill Elsasser called – said only address he could find on a Wm. P. Thompson in Manhattan was a business address: 706 Sixth Avenue, phone number: Penna. 8500. He'll keep looking for other addresses.
5/27/80

Mark West and I went to the Frick Reference library. Found 2 brochures and 3 articles on Mrs. Thompson. The library will make photos of these upon receiving a signed request form from Pres. McGuire. Next went to the N.Y. Public library, art room. Xerox ed a photo of Mrs. Thompson and an article on her and one of her paintings. Librarian suggested looking through Art Index from 1924-41.

7/1/80

Interview with George Rabatin, Director of Facilities.

Mr. Rabatin came to Old Westbury in July 1966 and was a member of the original planning group. He worked for E. J. Capello who was Director of Facilities at that time. Their job was to coordinate the facilities with the architects and the various existing buildings. The first president, Harris Wofford, came here in 1967 and our present president, John McGuire, came about 1970.

Mr. Rabatin gave me a map of the college grounds and explained that the state bought the property from Mrs. F. Ambrose Clark. He believes that Mr. Clark bought the section of interest from the Thompson estate. The section of interest is located across a field opposite the Feminist Press. It contains ruins of a formal garden and what he believes to have been the Thompson house. That is where the statue was found – already without a head and without hands. In the late 1960's the assistant to the president, Jerry Ziegler, and the man who performed the functions of a dean, Henry Scott, were interested in restoring the formal gardens. Work was started but winter interrupted any real progress. These two men decided to remove the statue and also a bust found at the same site to a safer place. The two pieces were put into a storage room at the quadrangle stables.

Mr. Rabatin recalled vaguely that the statue might have been made by the owner of the house, Mrs. Thompson. He also is unsure about the source of the orders to move the statue both to the stables and later to the breezeway in Building 12. He knows that E.J. Capello was involved in the statue's movements. Unfortunately, Capello retired to Arizona and his address is not available.
The Experimental College at Old Westbury 1966 - 1971.
A Case Study by George Truman Gray

Very large book including only the purpose of the structural education at C.O.W. I thought possibly the Socratic dialogue included in the book may possibly have something to do with the statue.

Wofford Harris "Old Westbury, The Socratic Search for Truth Through Questioning" The Westbury Times, 5-30-68

P. 25.

Wofford's ideas were written into the structural aspects of the school. He believed the school should be run in the Socratic way of learning through questioning.

Librarian -

Estate previously owned by Ambrose Clark. It may be that the estate burned. The school did exist in 1966 at the Planting Fields (The old Coe estate). In 1971-72 the school began at the C.O.W. campus where it stands today.

Suggestion - Statue is Victory of Somothroce known as Winged Victory

Looked in phone book for Clark in the Old Westbury area to see if there was an Ambrose. There was; however this was not a relative. This party referred me to F. Ambrose Clark:

F. Ambrose Clark
82 Willets Road
Old Westbury, 333 - 0121
Wife - Ambrose dead 16 years - Statue part of the Thompson Estate around the Clark Estate. It was a garden piece "just a decorative motif, *not an ancestor", "It's just an antique that is too old for you to know about", "The head just came off from time" * peculiar.

11:00 A.M. 2 - 10 - 79

Registrar's Office -
Myra - Trainer House - Horse Trainer’s home for Clark - statue was in hall.
Marge Smith - upstairs Administration Assistant - John Maguire Statue was moved.
Main house burned down.
V.P. Richard Brown's Secy - Marion - Old Garden's Clark estate called the ruins.
Info further - Before Planting fields - first brought to Trainer House from ruins - symbolic - Don't know who it represents - area demolished - ruins were a short distance from original state might have been ruins.
Original staff tried to go in there and clean up possibly use some of the items(renovate the items) never did.
Charles Hendrickson - Maintenance and Operation Service Bldg Area There are pictures of the fire in Brown's office however they asked me to come back some day as they were busy then.
Main House was located where CCEC is.
Clark Estate - Al Williams - gate house - never at Trainer House never remembered head and or arms - moved to campus around 1971.
George Rabiont remembers only 2 pieces of sculpture: the statue at Bldg 12 and the bust.
Quadrangle?
E.J. Cappelo - actual person that ordered the moving.

Questions to Answer:

What date was the land for the school bought from Clark?

Where was the statue actually between 1967 - 1971?

Someone above Hendrikson?

67 - 71 in transition - in the ruins of the formal gardens?

When did the Clarks purchase from the Thompson or vice versa?

Why was the statue moved? Where? Who moved it?

When the school moved transfer of property Thompsons - Clark's Estate - Planting fields to here.

2:00 P.M. 2 - 21 - 79

Charley Hendrickson - been at maintenance 14 years.

1) Who wanted the statue moved?

E.J. Capello.

2) Why?

He thought it would be better off up at the campus being seen rather than just remaining in the woods.

3) Where was it moved from?

The ruins. There still exists another statue there - a fountain. It was at the ruins 14 years ago.

4) What was the condition?

It was in better condition than it was now. It had no head but it did have one arm. The arm came off during its stay at Bldg 12.

5) When was the statue moved?

The year that classes began over at the complex.*

* The ruins were part of the Thompson estate.

2:30 P.M. 2 - 21 - 79

Richard Brown's Secy - Marion
Went up to see pictures of the Main House on fire.
The main house was used in 1967-68 for the executive offices.
Classes were not held yet, however they were to be held that fall 1968. The main house burned down April 1968 when a fire broke out as a result of hot tar being used on the roof for renovation of the building. The administration therefore took over Coe Hall in 1968 and fall classes were held at the Planting Fields.
Temporary domes were set up and used for classes.
Pictures showed the columns as being Baroque style. The statue was probably of the same style.

Gerry Gallmanoff - architect - Columbia University - Dean of Architecture. (J. Collett, CHIC EXT 3246, knows address)

McGuire's visit -

Ambrose Clark bought the land in 1912 from Miss Whitney, Herald Tribune family. Eccentric. Clark spent summers in Cooperstown, N.Y. has information on them. Always rode in horse and buggy, driver William Davis, East Williston

Steven Clark - nephew in Cooperstown - still living
Al Williams lives in the Gatehouse and would know about Clark. Has lived here since the 1930's.
In the ruins there is still a mansion foundation.
In 1912 Clark bought the land and had his own house built.
McGuire saw an arch and the statue most likely would have fitted in it. Had it moved to Trainor house. Heard of a head; never saw it.

1960 Old Westbury given its charter as an experimental unit.
Old Westbury I failed, Old Westbury II lives on
In 1912 A. Clark bought land from the Whitney family who owned the land from 1898 to 1902. Mr. Clark was very eccentric person. His chauffeur William Davis is still living in East Williston. House down by BOCES was a animal infirmary for the many horses Mr. Clark owned. In gatehouse Al Williams worked for Mr. Clark for many years and has a good knowledge of the Clark estate and it's history. In 1964 the state bought the Clark estate for the school. The Employees of the Clark estate were put on the state payroll and work here on the campus.

Miss Whitney indulged in the arts and practiced sculpture and made many of the statues because she had laid out a formal garden around her house like she had seen in France. The statues were lying around in the ruins many of them without one part of the body or another. When McGuire found them he was walking around learning about the land with Jon Collett, and E.J. Cappello in August of 1970. In the ruins they found foundation of mansion and ruins of Whitney's sculptures. When Clark bought estate he built himself a brand new mansion with 42 rooms. He may have torn down Whitney mansion. At bottom of steps in garden there was an arch and a statue within 25 feet of the arch. McGuire labeled the statue with the phase "Let us educate the whole man" because its head and arms were missing. McGuire got a truck and some men from maintenance to move the statue to the campus ( Trainer House). The statue was moved to the new campus when it was completed. It was put outside Bldg 12 because that is where the President's office was at the time. McGuire doesn't think there is a head or arm lying around.
In the early 1960's the state decided to have quality low cost education. Planners did the work and decided on two areas which would need good colleges, Rockland and Nassau counties. The planners decided that one campus should be experimental in research and development. In 1967 Old Westbury was given its charter as an experimental unit. Wofford was the first president. Let students decide what to do and to find a faculty advisor to help them. Unfortunately most students just sat around. Teachers met students on their own levels. Campus closed with strikes and demonstrations. Town meeting - one man one vote. This didn't work out and Wofford resigned in 1969-70. Maguire replaced Wofford as president. Old Westbury I was phased out and a new one was set up. The plan was to use old estate and stables as campus until new campus was built. Clark mansion burned down after plan was established. Coe estate, planting fields, was used as a temporary campus. Faculty lived in apartments on the estate and the students lived in barracks-like houses. June 1971 the end of Old Westbury I and Old Westbury II started soon after. Old Westbury II faculty - Bluestone, Welcher, Lawrence, Whitmore Logan, Camponeschi. The new campus was not ready yet, where were the students to go? Resident students set up in Stonybrook, commuter students taught in warehouse on new campus. The new campus was ready in October of 1972. Bldg's 11 and 12 were used as office space for administration. Statue moved from Trainer House to Bldg 12. Trainer House now Empire State. 1970 ruins still stood of the old estate, up to 3 or 4 stories high. The old ballroom still standing until by decree of the state it was torn down.
2/6/79
Annabelle Bagdon - "Statue was here in 1967"... at Trainor House when the administration was housed there.

2/7/79
Veronica Burns - Facilities Planning Office - Statue came from "Clark Estate" - "The Ruins" - relics of formal gardens - in woods across road from Feminist Press... Statue was always headless and armless to her knowledge.

2/21/79
S.U.N.Y. C.O.W. Library: Librarian Elizabeth Blaufeux has talked to Mrs. F. Ambrose Clark, who says her husband was amateur sculptor and he "filled the woods with statues."

2/21/79
Perused files of history of Library archives. Found Library Archives lacking in organization and detail regarding S.U.N.Y. C.O.W. history. Letter was written to Mr. Norman Jung, Library Director, suggesting an archives file be compiled and maintained and suggesting donation of all results of this class's research at the end of semester, with this goal in mind.

From the memos and correspondence in archive files as they presently stand the following definite dates were established: (copies of these documents are attached)

April 1966 - College administration was housed in Clark Mansion
Spring 1968 - Clark Mansion Burned Down
1968-1971 - Administration at Trainor House (See Memos Attached)
October 1970 - Administration still at Trainor House (See Meeting Minutes attached) - Exhibit A
May 24, 1971 - Planting Fields Classrooms and Dorms vacated. Temporary classes and dorms at Service Bldg. (Store Hill Road), Trainor House, Stony Brook dorms, because new academic village not ready as planned for September 1971 opening. Academic year 1971-72 to be interim period with classes and dorms scattered among previously mentioned sites. (See Exhibits B and C)

October 1971 - Some Classes being held at Trainor House and service Building Warehouse. See Sample Course Schedule (Exhibit D)

Fall 1972 - College took possession and occupied Complex A. (See Exhibit E - one page of a multi-page year-end report to Dr. Boyer (chancellor) from President Maguire)

February 1971 - Old Westbury classes at Planting Fields as of this date, documented by Library Memo attached (Exhibit F)
Minutes of First 1970-71 Meeting

COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY
October 13, 1970
Trainor House


Administrative Officers: President Maguire. Director Taylor.

Administrative and Faculty Visitors: Mr. & Mrs. Collett, Mr. & Mrs. McKendall, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Karakashian, Mrs. Maguire.

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m. by acting Chairman Arthur Hug.

After Chairman Hug's greeting to members present, the Council heard a report from Dr. Councill Taylor, Director for 1970-71 of the Planting Fields campus. Director Taylor reported that 167 students have enrolled on a full-time basis at Planting Fields, 122 of them in residence and 43 in various parts of the country and overseas engaged in independent or field studies. He commented on his faculty for the year which is composed of 14 full-time members and 26 part-time persons. Of the part-time faculty, 5 hold full-time appointments at the new campus and are offering a course each at Planting Fields beyond their regular responsibilities. Director Taylor characterizes this year as one of on-going instruction plus the monitoring and evaluating of programs already in existence on the older campus.
Minutes of First 1970-71 Meeting

Chairman Hug then appointed a committee composed of Mrs. Wallace, Mr. Shames and himself to meet at least monthly with Director Taylor and various members of his administration and staff. These meetings will normally take place on the first Tuesday of each month prior to the regularly scheduled community meetings at that campus. The first meeting of this Council Committee for Planting Fields will take place at supper on Tuesday evening, November 3rd.

Mr. Weiss suggested that instead of a committee of 3, the entire Council meet with Director Taylor on a regular basis. Chairman Hug responded that it seemed desirable to keep the group small. Mr. Weiss repeated his objection to the 3-man committee, but agreed to wait until after the first meeting on November 3rd before raising the question again. Chairman Hug made clear that all members of the Council are welcome to attend.

President Maguire then outlined the five phases in which his program is developing during the 14 month period from July of 1970 until the opening of the new campus in September of 1971. From July 7th through Labor Day, the major task was the assembling of a basic planning staff. Thirty-one faculty and administrators are now engaged in that effort: Six of them are full-time faculty and six are full-time administrators: The remainder, represented on a faculty roster circulated by the President, are part-time staff, the majority of whom will be joining the faculty full-time in 1971. From Labor Day until December 1st,
the major effort of the second phase is curriculum design and decisions about admitting the 1971-72 student body. From December 1st through March 1st, the two major items of phase three will be additional faculty recruitment bringing the roster to 55 for next year and the beginning of the formal admissions processes which will yield a student body of 400 by next September. From March 1st through June 30th, the major efforts of phase four will be the preparation of the 1972-73 budget and the further elaboration of the curriculum and program design for the new college. Finally, from July 1st through September 1st, 1971, phase five, the full opening faculty and administration will gather for a two month intensive final planning period before school's opening.

President Maguire then exhibited the long range growth plan for the College for the next decade which calls for the following rate of growth:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>71-72</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72-73</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-74</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<td>76-77</td>
<td>2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>77-78</td>
<td>3,025</td>
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</table>
Minutes of First 1970-71 Meeting

Year:                      Students:
78-79                      3,575
79-80                      4,200
80-81                      5,000

The President then reviewed sketches of the facilities with the Council reporting that 60% of Complex A will hopefully be ready for occupancy in September, 1971. The remainder of that unit to be completed during 1971-72.

He reported that the 1971-72 budget request for the College has been presented before the State's Division of the Budget. Chairman Hug underlined the role of the Council in reviewing the College's budget and assured members that, upon the return to a normal schedule, Council members will be involved next spring in the 1972-73 budget preparation.

The President reported on the re-organization of the Central Administration of the State University in Albany and commented on the improved procedures following Chancellor Boyer's reduction in the number of Vice Chancellorships and increased centralization of his office.

The Council then adjourned its formal meeting for refreshments and a tour of the handsomely rehabilitated Trainor House planning headquarters for the new College.
Chairman Hug reminded members that the next regular meeting of the full Council will take place at 8:00 p.m. sharp on Tuesday evening, November 10th, at Trainor House.
Like continued plans of planned additional activities and personnel information about a number of both.

The Night change of all dormitory facilities at Planting Fields must be vacated by student residents no later than Monday, May 29th. This is necessary in order to prepare the buildings for summer housing to start June.

June 10 will be the new faculty list that will be located in Student Affairs and the Service Building.

MAY 26 — following offices will be moved to the Service Building:

1. From Trainer House - Faculty, Academic Vice President, President, Field Studies, and all secretarial support to those offices.

Switchboard will remain operative in Trainer House. Facilities Office will not be moved. Personnel Office will relocate to First Floor of Training.

2. From Planting Fields to Service Building — General Institutional Services, Educational Opportunity Program, Faculty, and support staff

3. From Planting Fields to Trainer House - Business Office

The Library will not move until July. College Accountant Office, which is at Planting Fields top floor, will not move and will remain even if.

Confidential
MEMORANDUM

April 28, 1971

TO: All members of the College at Old Westbury Community

FROM: John D. Maguire

As you are aware, we have, during these past few months, been forced by circumstances into an intensive review of the College's facilities situation for 1971-72. Beginning with the distressing news last December that Complex A would not be ready by September, 1971, we have been in constant negotiations for a set of alternative facilities in order to assure that the College would begin its new program on schedule. After identifying and exploring various possibilities, we have now determined the basic facilities arrangements for next year's operations.

The College's new group of service buildings just off Store Hill Road is being revamped to serve as the interim hub of our administrative and academic operations. All faculty and most of the College staff will have offices on the Old Westbury campus and a substantial amount of instruction for commuting students will take place in seminar rooms in the service group of buildings. Our library collection will also be housed at the same site. Reading and work spaces are being readied along with an assembly-lecture hall capable of seating between 250-300 persons.

The State University at Stony Brook has arranged to provide dormitory accommodations for up to 200 Old Westbury students during next academic year. The instructional program that we will provide at Stony Brook will support the needs of those students at Planting Fields who will be coming into the new academic program in the fall as well as those of new residential students. Instruction will be handled by our faculty, though we hope to be able to make the standard arrangement of an option for Old Westbury students to register for at least one course each semester from among the Stony Brook course offerings. Arrangements for appropriate support services are being developed at this time.

We are continuing, as of now, to explore the inclusion of two teaching centers in Nassau County for a small number of part-time commuter students.

Our present plan is to provide a substantial faculty and staff presence at Stony Brook. While we will be able to enjoy a range of Stony Brook services - health, cultural, athletic - our own Deans and faculty will be present there
to provide counselling and support in every way possible. We are exploring now the details of supporting, insofar as possible, our own community's special needs while at Stony Brook in a fashion that makes us responsible guests and members of that community during next year's arrangements.

On a related matter, I trust that word has gotten to those of you now housed at Planting Fields of the State Legislature's action to transfer the entire Arboretum to the Department of Parks and Recreation as of June 30, 1971. This effectively terminates the State University's use of Planting Fields as of that date.

Because of long-standing conference commitments by the Arboretum Director, Mr. Gordon Jones, Planting Fields dormitory facilities will need to be vacated immediately after this year's Commencement on May 22. Students now residing at Planting Fields and those with any items in storage there must vacate the Arboretum premises no later than Friday, May 28.

I am aware that the prospect of operating the College at four separate locations next year - two major and two minor - may pose a number of questions for you personally. I trust that we can keep the information channels open and moving these next few weeks to make the transition into the 1971-72 arrangements as felicitous as possible.

John David Maguire
<table>
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<tr>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>COURSE CODE</th>
<th>SECTION NUMBER</th>
<th>LOCATION &amp; ROOM #</th>
<th>DAYS</th>
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<td>AMERICAN STUDIES</td>
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<td>Women: An Introduction</td>
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<td>W TrainorHouse</td>
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<td>W TrainorHouse</td>
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<td>3:00 - 6:00</td>
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<td>C 9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S 048</td>
<td>M/Th</td>
<td>9:00 - 10:30 (1)</td>
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<td>C 10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>W B 290</td>
<td>M/Th</td>
<td>3:00 - 4:30 (5)</td>
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<td>W TrainorHouse</td>
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<td>D 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>S 047</td>
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<td>10:30 - 1:30 (2,3)</td>
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consequence of this was a delay in the planning and implementation of a degree program in the natural sciences. Continuing fiscal constraints require the presentation of an equally lean budget for 1973-74, including an increase in the overall student-faculty ratio. Simply stated, it is apparent that resources are not available to support the timetable the College had envisioned a year ago.

In addition, facilities development continues to present a problem at Old Westbury. The College took possession of and occupied Complex A in the fall of 1972, although some work remains to be done. Capital funds for the Central Core and health and physical education facilities were deferred until at least 1973-74. Funds for Complex B have been deferred indefinitely at this time. Therefore, Complex A will have to support the College's programs until at least the 1975-76 academic year, the earliest that additional facilities will be completed. This argues again for a concentration on existing programs, rather than the development of wholly new ones.

The enclosed budget requests a total increase of $616,883 for 1973-74. Of this, $150,000 is for on-going workload, and $25,000 represents anticipated price increases in supplies and expenses. The College has requested the balance of $441,000 to support new positions, our most serious need. The availability of capital budget money for major equipment items relieves pressure in this area. Base monies in temporary service and supplies and expense will, hopefully be adequate to meet the requirements generated by the expanded enrollment. To handle the enclosed workload, and in some areas even existing workloads, the College's major need is for additional personnel. The increases in the instruction and departmental research are related entirely to the addition of 315 full-time equivalent students. In this area, we have requested fewer new faculty positions than allowed under the current student-faculty ratio.

The library continues to experience manpower shortages in both readers' services and technical services. In spite of an increase of six new positions this year, staff is still not sufficient to eliminate backlog or to keep the library open for any significant period beyond the normal work day.

Student services must also grow in personnel to meet the increased enrollment figures. As the student body grows, it becomes impossible for twelve professionals, including medical personnel, to spread themselves among this broad range of services.

Requests in general administration and general institutional services are aimed at increasing the management capability of the College.

With the exception of ongoing workload, no increases are requested
MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Library Committee
FROM: Elaine Seaton
SUBJECT:

It is clear that a decision regarding the appointment of a Library Director is imminent. In your concluding deliberations, I would like you to take into consideration several points about which I have considerable feeling, and things which I have not had an opportunity to say in person.

You all surely know that I have been hoping that your decision, when finally arrived at, would favor my appointment. I have been searching my heart and mind for an honest appraisal of why I think this should be your choice. Pride...principle...? Yes, of course-- but what more?

When I first came to Old Westbury, nearly three years ago, I asked myself "what must the librarian (especially since there was only one) in a college for this time and place be?" The traditional virtues could not be tossed aside. It was necessary to understand and be knowledgeable about books, publishers, book jobbers, acquisition tools, basic lists, subscription agencies, order forms, budgets, purchase orders, vouchers, office supplies and forms, union lists, inter-loan codes, cataloging rules, filing rules,-- and on endlessly. The establishment of a library from scratch called for being an administrator in every dimension. Skill in assembling, training and inspiring a staff to share in the goals of the college. Articulating policies for the use of the library. Building a collection to reflect the needs of people as well as programs. And doing all of this without drowning in the minutiae -- without forgetting that all these details weren't the job but merely the means to make the real goals possible.

Setting priorities. I had the ridiculous notion that a lot of kids coming to this college had always suffered second best, that for some there would only be a one year or two year Old Westbury life, that none of the students would benefit from what the library would be someday -- they were in need of us in the here and now. So we did it. We worked day and night, but we did meet real needs of real live people. No matter what else was going on at the college, students, faculty, staff -- all came rapidly to know that the library was at least one place where individuals met with real interest, help, warmth, courtesy.
2 - 8 - 79
Phoned Lew Waribelei at 1 p.m.
Called purchasing dept. at Old Westbury. Statue never purchased, was part of estate before college was built. Placed there several years ago but was in better condition, someone knocked head off.

2 - 21 - 79
Phoned Mrs. Gudoyz at 3:30 p.m.
Called Personnel dept. Said she can't give out addresses or phone numbers but will contact E.J. Cappello and ask if he wants to call me. Gave her my office number.

2 - 27 - 79
Spoke with Jon Collett 1 p.m.
Said E.J. Cappello in California. Collett went with McGuire and others to the gardens and saw statue. McGuire had it moved to campus. There is a reason why McGuire wanted the headless, armless statue on campus. Statue standing within an archway. McGuire has some old photos. Would probably like to talk about it. Statue in fields by exit to L.I.E.

3 - 2 - 79
Spoke with Jon Collett at 3 p.m.
Statue, headless and armless, outside of Trainer House when it was used as the campus. It was found headless and armless. In the late 1960's early 1970's when college started there was alot of questioning and analyzing and McGuire thought that statue could
symbolize this and the tone of Old Westbury. Statue moved to its present site in 1972. Was a lot of vandalism on estate before college got here.
3/19/79  9:15 a.m. phoned Margaret Smith in Pres. Maguire's office.  
asked for E. J. Cappello's phone number and address.  Referred me  
to Veronica Burns.  10:35 — spoke to V. Burns.  Cappello's address:  
7020 E. Pasadena Avenue, Scottsdale, Arizona 602/949-1598.  
Phoned — no answer.

5/11/79  9:30 a.m.  Anita and I spoke to Pres. Maguire about whitney  
estate and how he heard it was connected with college.  Told us to  
call Eleanor Simpson, Mayor of Inc. Village of Westbury and Bill  
Wohler (333-1960), head of BOCES on Campus.  Called Wohler about  
us poking around storerooms behind BOCES.  Got security OK from  
Bob Mathews.  Kathy Tole, security guard, escorted us around.  Found  
remnants of statues and such that were once part of estate.  After  
class Josephine, Ellen and I took pictures of statue, ruins and  
gardens.

5/12/79  10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  Called AHRC on Wheatley Rd. about estate  
on corner of Wheatley and LIE service rd.  Didn't know who owned it;  
referred me to two families who are longtime Westbury residents  
("family has been in this area and owned land for ages").  First  
spoke to Mrs. Dowden.  Big house on corner is Winthrop house.  In  
1954 when she would take her newborn son out in the carriage she  
would see Mr. Clark, accompanied by his nurse, being driven around  
in one of his carriages led by one of his many famous horses.  Mrs.  
Dowden referred me to her brother-in-law — Carl Lidstrom.  He  
wasn't home when I called.  His wife said N.Y. Tech on Whitney land;  
their stables are still intact.  SUNY/Old Westbury not on Whitney  
land at all.  Called second family AHRC referred me to — Mrs. Benzie.  
Said she would see Clark in his carriage.  He would wave to the children  
as they went to school.  All these people knew Thompson name but  
nothing about family.  Was told to speak to Von Stade family.  Their  
estate borders college.  Mrs. Von Stade, a widow, is an invalid.  
Spoke to her secretary.  Thinks ruins are of Thompson estate.  Drove  
past it once (over 20 years ago); very beautiful.  Doesn't remember  
any statues.  House vacant; Clark had just bought it.  If you go  
through entrance off Store Hill Road and drive a ways you can see  
where house was.  Carl Lidstrom called — used to work on Phipps  
Estate; now retired — works as volunteer fireman.  Was one of the  
firemen when Clark's house burned.  He's somewhat of a history buff.  
Thinks Clark donated land for college for tax purposes.  I told him  
we found out state had purchased land.  He said: "knowing Clark and  
how he was, he probably arranged for land to be donated so he could  
have all that money saved."  Fire destroyed estate — great loss to  
state and college.  Could have used it the same way they use the  
old buildings at Post College.  Milburn Estate adjoined Clark property.  
E.D. Morgan and Clark estate — back to back.  Held steeple chases  
there.  Clark real colorful character — in summer drove a yellow  
surrey led by white horse.  In winter had horse hitched to huge  
sled and would drive to post office.  Very flamboyant.  Thompson —  
downed small piece of land between Clark and Milburn estates.  Knows  
the name but not much about the people.  Referred me to John O'Shea,  
Village Historian and Mr. M. Dowline, Town Hall Clerk.  Mr. O'Shea  
not at home when I called.

Almost all of the people I spoke with knew or still know William Davis.
These people, out of curiosity and because they knew the Clark's, went past new college after it was completed. Were amazed at the "clump" of buildings. Were sorry they didn't blend in with surroundings or that some older buildings weren't used as classrooms or such. They really miss the old days when Westbury was the place to be. Said it changed more after Clark's left.

Mrs. Dowden is assistant to President at Post College. Organized women's groups and students to raise money to revitalize old gardens and buildings on Post Estate. Says it adds flavor to college. Used now for weddings and special occasions (graduations, etc.)

From talking to all of these people I got the impression that Thompson was not considered to be in their league. They would say "Oh yes, he had a small piece of land there I believe" or something similar. Everyone knew the Thompson name but don't remember the people. Either Thompson's travelled a great deal or were somewhat reclusive.

All of the people I spoke to have my name and number. They said they'll ask around about Thompson. If there's some type of garden party or whatever being held they'll bring up the subject and see what they can find out. Once I told them what we were doing they became very enthusiastic and opened up and were very helpful and friendly. They seemed to like reminiscing about the past. Phipps Estate now Old Westbury Gardens. I told them when classes were held and if they find out anything will call school and ask for Margaret. They all said if we can get some interest in history of college and the old estates going it would be nice to replant the gardens and grounds. It's a shame that school has so much land and 2/3's of it is just lying there.

5/14/79 11 a.m. Spoke to Mr. Dowling, Village Clerk for Old Westbury. Thompson original owner of estate; changed hands many times. Clark's daughter lived in Thompson House. State purchased land from Clark estate. Town of Oyster Bay should have records. Referred me to Clark Estate, Inc. 12:30 p.m. Spoke to Lillian Andlauer, secretary to Stephen Clark, Clark Estate, Inc. and former worker to F. Ambrose Clark. Asked Mr. Clark to speak to class; he's too busy. Said Whitney estate now part of C.W. Post. If we send him photos of statue and gardens he'll try to figure out where they came from. Mrs. Andlauer is going to do research and send me info on Clark and anything she has on Thompson or Morgan. 9:15 p.m. John O'Shea called. He said Nassau County Museum, Reference Area, Eisenhower Park, should have info on Thompson. Said he had difficulty in researching Thompson. Go to Mineola County Courthouse for title search. If we find out anything on Thompson, he'd like to have info for his files. Also said he'd call me if he found out anything.
Miss Susan Hantz
2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, N. Y. 11710

Dear Miss Hantz:

I'm afraid I don't have very much information for you on Broad Hollow House. Copies of newspaper articles were made, along with copies of photographs of the House.

As for the statuary to which you referred in our telephone conversation, no one seems to know anything about them.

Good luck in your venture - and sorry we couldn't be of more assistance.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Encs.

Lillian B. Andlauer
Seven Nassau locations — each covering more than 400 acres — are being considered by the State University for a new four-year liberal arts and sciences college.

While university officials yesterday declined to reveal the likely choice, The Press learned that the frontrunner is the Ambrose Clark Estate—a 420-acre site in Jericho, just north of the Long Island Expressway.

Other campus sites under consideration are in Old Westbury; Mitchell Field; Planting Fields, the former Coo Estate in Oyster Bay; and three other locations in estate villages on Nassau’s north shore. Mitchell Field and Planting Fields stand the least chance of being chosen, The Press was told.

The final decision rests with the university’s board of trustees, according to J. Lawrence Murray, university secretary.

"The university will present its recommendations to the trustees at their June 10 meeting," Murray said. "A decision should be made then."

MURRAY pointed out that the trustees' decision will not require approval of Gov. Rockefeller or the State Board of Regents.

Rockefeller yesterday told the university to "proceed immediately" with plans for a four-year liberal arts and sciences college in Nassau and a medical school in Stony Brook.

Murray said the proposals (Turn to Page 4)

OFFICIALS at two or the three four-year private liberal arts schools in Nassau have opposed the state plan.

Hofstra University in Hempstead and Adelphi University in Garden City contend their figures indicate another liberal arts institution in the county isn’t needed. They have supported a science and engineering college.

"We are convinced the state studied our figures and listened to our ideas," said Dr. Henry Acres, assistant Hofstra president.

"But the decision has been made and now Hofstra will do all it can to support the State University’s program. We are interested in providing a first rate education for our young people.

DR. ARTHUR W. Brown, president of Adelphi University, said, "If the state has taken this action it assumes it has done so with the best interest of the community at heart."

He pledged he would work with the officials of Hofstra University and C.W. Post College to cooperate with the state in the interest of higher education on Long Island.

A spokesman at C.W. Post College in Old Brookville said yesterday that no official announcement one way or another has been made by the college.

HOWEVER, R. Gordon Hoxie, Post president, did not go to Albany with Hofstra and Adelphi officials in March when they registered their objections to the proposed school. Hoxie was out of town yesterday, according to a spokesman.

One of the first to propose a state liberal arts and sciences college for Nassau, former Nassau County Executive A. Holly Patterson, announced yesterday that he "was very pleased with the news."

Patterson added that he "thinks the college will fill the great need that faces us in the field of education on Long Island, particularly in Nassau. It will be a great help to many families concerned about their children's education."

WHILE Patterson was saying he was pleased and Nassau college officials were offering to cooperate with the state, Nassau veterans groups were outlining plans to renew their fight for the medical school that the state is planning for Stony Brook.

Olav Andreassen, commander of the Nassau Veterans of Foreign Wars, said that the state university announcement that the medical college would definitely be in Stony Brook "just means we're going to fight harder now. We won't concede until construction starts."

The veterans groups want a veterans hospital in Nassau. Since veterans hospitals are being built near medical schools they also want a medical school.

"AS FAIR as I'm concerned," Andreassen added, "the plans for the medical school are still not definite. The legislature still has to vote on the funds."

He said he contacted all Nassau veteran groups yesterday. With them "we will work more closely with our legislators to move the medical school to Nassau," he said.

Doctor Shot By Robbers

A Brooklyn physician is in critical condition today after being shot in the chest by two robbers who entered his office last night.

Police said that Dr. E.F. Pizzitola, 43, may have wounded one of the gunmen with whom he shot it out in his office.

Police said that witnesses saw two men run from the doctor's office shortly after the shots were fired around 8 p.m. Dr. Pizzitola was rushed to St. Mary's Hospital.

Police said that apparently the physician spotted the two men coming into his office and was ready for them with his own gun, for which he has a permit. According to police, a witness told them that one of the gunmen appeared wounded when he ran from the office.

OPEN DAYS

BORNEMOUTH, England (UPI)—A municipal institution here has caused so much interest among the general public that the city council has had to arrange a schedule of "open days." The crowd-puller? A new sewage purification plant.
Old Westbury Picked for NY College

By Martin Buskin
Newsday Education Editor

New York—The 570-acre Clark estate in Old Westbury was named yesterday as the site of a new, four-year State University liberal arts college by the university's board of trustees.

The huge tract fronting on Powell Lane is owned by the family of F. Ambrose Clark, a millionaire socialite sportsman who died last year. A spokesman for the State University said proceedings to acquire the estate will start at once and that the university hopes to begin construction of the $60,000,000 school for 5,000 students in 1967.

The target date for the acceptance of the first freshman class is September, 1970, he said. Previously, a State University official had said that little difficulty was expected in acquiring the land since the estate is up for sale and the university has up to $4,000,000 available for site acquisition.

Likelihood of the selection of the Old Westbury site was reported last month. The announcement yesterday brought a resigned sigh from Old Westbury Mayor Halsey Downer, who had voiced the hope at the time of the reports that the Clark estate would not be selected because of the effect on the village's tax rolls caused by the removal of such a large parcel. He said yesterday: "Recognizing the tax impact of this decision—the people of the village are very much concerned."

Although the village is still engaged in a court battle with another college, the New York Institute of Technology, which plans to build a campus in the village, Downer acknowledged last month that nothing could be done about the State University college because it was a state project that could acquire any site it needed. The village already is home base for a unit of Hofstra University and part of the C. W. Post College campus.

State University officials considered six sites, including the Clark estate, all in northeastern Nassau. A spokesman said the Clark estate was chosen because of its size—which met the university's 400-acre requirement for a campus—its accessibility via the Long Island Expressway and Northern State Parkway, and its nearness to population centers. He said that in addition to undergraduate courses in the liberal arts and sciences, the university expected to add master's degree courses and part-time and noncredit courses in a wide range of subjects.
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Court Upsets Village Ban on College

Minola—A State Supreme Court Justice ordered the Old Westbury Zoning Board of Appeals yesterday to allow the New York Institute of Technology to locate its main campus in Old Westbury.

Justice Frank A. Gulotta thus reversed the zoning board's rejection of the college's request to move its main campus, with 7,700 students and faculty members, from Manhattan to Old Westbury. Gulotta instructed the board to allow the relocation, but he added that "reasonable restrictions," which he did not spell out, could be imposed by the board on the college to preserve the community's character and to prevent an overburdening of municipal services. The judge rejected zoning board contentions that the college, whose property is exempt from taxation, would increase the tax burden of residents, create noise and smoke and possibly raise the crime rate. The college, which wants to locate on 330 acres, including the 275-acre former C. V. Whitney estate, had challenged the board's description of its impact and went to court to overturn the rejection.

Village Attorney J. Oakley McKnight, who has 30 days to appeal Gulotta's ruling, declined to comment on his next move until he read the decision. McKnight also had no comment on whether he thought the village and the college could agree on "reasonable restrictions" if there is no appeal. Arthur A. Kave, the college's attorney, said he foresaw no difficulties. Miss Florence Gay, assistant to Dr. Alexander Schure, head of the college, commented: "Although this is a decided victory for us, we don't think there will be any problems at all. We feel that any future problems can be worked out." She said Schure was out of town and unavailable for comment.

McKnight had argued that 15 per cent of Old Westbury's property is already tax exempt and that the addition of a tax-exempt college campus would be an even heavier tax burden on local residents. But Gulotta noted that tax exemptions for schools and colleges are an established practice in the state. He said: "It cannot be argued, therefore, that the tax burden imposed by the exemption is a permissible consideration for denial of the application." Gulotta also said: "I do not take seriously the findings of the respondent (board) to the effect that, because this is a technical school, smoke will necessarily emanate . . . and that a crime wave will sweep the village." To attack the proposal, the board had pointed to a C. W. Post College of Long Island University in Brookville, where it claimed crime had increased because of the students. However, Brookville police and Mayor Robert Van Tuyl have said they know of no crime increase in their community because of C. W. Post.

Gulotta said he authorized the zoning board to set restrictions on the college because of the impact the institution will have on the community. He noted that the village has about 2,300 residents while the college consists of a campus with 7,000 full-time and part-time students and a faculty of 700. Such municipal services as fire, police, sanitation, lighting and roads, Gulotta said, "will have to be vastly increased at the sole expense of the small (village) population."

A suit by Old Brookville Village against the relocation by the technical institute is also pending in Supreme Court because the college wants to use an adjoining 38 acres in that community.

A similar case occurred in Old Westbury four years ago when Hofstra University conducted a two-year court fight with Old Westbury Village officials before it was allowed to build a college on a 50-acre site on I. U. Willets Road. Hofstra won a Supreme Court decision. The village appealed, but settled out of court.
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Ambrose Clark mansion burns

The 42 room, three story, brick Colonial mansion, former residence of Singer Sewing Machine heir, F. Ambrose Clark, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday, April 17. The fire, believed to have been started accidentally by workmen using a blowtorch and tar to repair the roof, raced through the building for hours as firemen from six surrounding fire departments fought the blaze. The smoke was visible for miles. Firemen arrived at the scene a few minutes before 9 am and used water from pumper trucks which quickly was exhausted. No water was available near the mansion and hoses had to be hooked up to water mains at the entrance to the estate grounds on Storehill road. The firemen used 400 feet of double hose to reach the burning house. Although pumper trucks were stationed every few hundred feet to boost the water pressure, water at first gushed from the hoses and then dropped to a trickle. By the time enough pressure could be mounted to feed all of the hoses the fire was well under way. Firemen fought the blaze entirely from the outside of the building. Fires that start at the top of buildings of this type are particularly hard to fight, according to fire chiefs at the Clark fire, because the fire drops down through the walls and ignites the lower floors and suddenly it is everywhere.

State University secretaries just had arrived at their desks in the recently converted mansion which was used as an administration building (Leader, September 14, 1967) when they heard a sky-light crash through. They paid little attention to the noise since workmen had been remodeling the building for the past year and they were accustomed to strange noises. Minutes later the telephone operator plugged into her switchboard and sparks and smoke came from the board. Smoke began to fill the room and the fire alarm was given. The secretaries were described as “heroic” by a member of the administrative staff. They made trip after trip carrying out valuable records, files and secretarial equipment and then formed a human chain to pass most of the 5000 volume library to safety. The fire was brought under control before it reached the library which had been converted from the Prince of Wales ballroom, so named because Ambrose Clark had it built onto the mansion in 1922 when the Prince visited the United States. The staff worked to remove as much as possible from the building until the smoke made it impossible to enter the rooms and then they stood around and sadly watched as firemen fought the blaze which stubbornly kept breaking out again and again.

Harris L. Wofford, jr., president of the new $100 million college, which is due to admit its first students next September, suffered a great loss in the fire. An ex-Peace Corps associate director and an ex-Kennedy special assistant, he lost all of his White House records and the manuscript of a book he is preparing entitled The Cold War Odyssey.

No estimate has been made of the amount of damage. The State University of New York purchased the estate from Clark’s widow in 1965 for $4 million. The Nassau County Fire Marshall is investigating the fire.

John Capello, director of facilities said that inspection of the building the following day showed the concrete walls to be structurally sound and there’s a good possibility that the house can be restored using fireproof materials.

Although the switchboard was knocked out of service a line not connected to the board has been substituted and phone crews have installed a small temporary switchboard. Temporary offices are being set up in Trainor House one of the large residences on the property.

Contracts for the installation of water mains which will bring village water to the campus are scheduled to be let by the end of this month. The fire is not expected to impede the development of the college’s physical or academic plans.
It was beautiful

by Joan C. Zarada

It stood majestically on its hilltop, overlooking the rolling green lawns, flowering trees and shrubs, horses grazing contentedly in the meadows - a mansion that over fifty years had been the setting for countless social events. It was a place where the rich and famous would gather to discuss their future. Few people discussed its future. A developer might slice up its fields into little building plots. A golf club was interested in buying part of the estate. It would not be the same as being part of a family, but at least its elegance and dignity would be retained. Some familiar social activity would continue. But the news came that the State University of New York had acquired the estate for use as a college. Oh, imagine! Thousands of students scurrying all over the place, cars where the lawns were, fields planted with buildings and parking lots. What would become of the house, that beautiful, stately mansion?

The question was soon answered. State University people began to remodel the house for use as an administration building. The rooms were filled with stark modern office furniture. On the panelled walls hung charts, maps and photos. The dining room became a conference room. The kitchen was torn apart to make more office space. A switchboard was put in and phones installed. "Student advisors" moved in. The halls echoed with the daily activity.

In July it was announced that there would be an "Inaugural Concert." A reminder of days gone by, perhaps, with ladies in evening gowns, men in tuxedos, the clinking of glasses and conversation around the punch bowl. But also, it did not turn out to be so. Invitations (mimeographed) were sent out to special guests. The musicians came for the scene of the fire. The hydrants on the property and the standpipe system were supplied with three 15,000 gallon water storage tanks. The water was quickly emptied and on the pump on the well couldn't refill them fast enough to meet the demand. Fire trucks had to go back to Store Hill road and stretch hose a mile and a half to the house. Some by the time the water traveled that distance there was hardly anything left at the nozzle end. Connecting valves between the Old Westbury and Jericho Water Districts were opened to increase pressure. The Jericho Fire Department was called in, Carle Place's pumpers arrived. Jericho was on a mutual aid call. By 10:30 am Plainview and Bethpage had also sent in pumpers.

The fire spread throughout the house. There were few anchors, no automatic sprinklers, no water from the basement pumps. The firemen arrived in their trucks, trying to keep the fire from spreading. They couldn't seem to get as much water to the house as they needed. Pumps were lined up between the hydrant and the house, connected by hose lines, a half-mile long, with the first washer hydrant at the house and the last at the hydrant. One after the other, trucks were turned around, trying to get men and water to the house. Calls went back to the directors to try to get men and water to the house. Calls for six brought only three.

Word of the fire spread through Old Westbury. The news brought tears, indignation, frustration to those who had known the house. By four o'clock the men began to show up and connect their hose lines. Radios crackled with calls for men to help pick up hose, for the location of trucks so that they could be turned on. One by one the other, trucks turned up the hill with supplies and left the scene. At 5:30 just as the firefighters were returning to headquarters, a call came in for a brush fire on Powell's Lane, just across from SUNY's entrance. Weekly, the firemen returned to battle another blaze.

At six o'clock two fire engines and several other vehicles were still at the scene. Debris was being wet down, pikes pole used to stir up the flames to be sure no smoldering embers remained to start another. There was quiet, an eerie sort of quiet. Horses grazed as though nothing had happened. Gras was turned over and a group of people gathered to watch. The firemen were returned to their trucks. The house that once stood majestically on its hilltop, what was a house, was now just a shell. The windows were broken, the second floor was burned out, the first floor a charred ruin. Horses were grazing contentedly in the meadows, and the house had been consumed by fire.

Too hot to handle

The Old Westbury Civic Association was concerned with fire safety at the State University's property. Since the State first proposed buying it, at a meeting with SUNY Trustees in 1965, Civic Association representatives had discussed the inadequacy of local departments to handle such large complexes. Trustees claimed that fires seldom occur on State University properties, and that in any case, local fire departments to whom they pay taxes.

Continued on back page
U.S. PHONE STRIKE PREDICTED TODAY

Union Expects a Walkout—A.T. & T. Head Hopeful

By JOSEPH A. LOFTUS
Special to The New York Times
WASHINGTON, April 17—The communications workers and the Bell System were braced today for a strike that may stop the work of 200,000 telephone workers throughout the nation at 3 P.M. tomorrow.

Joseph A. Beirne, president of the Communications Workers of America, said, “We have regretfully reached the point of no return. Despite lengthy attempts by both sides, we are convinced that it is now too late to avoid the strike.”

In Boston, however, H. J. Romnes, chairman of the board of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company said at a news conference, “I don’t think it is too late to avert a strike, and we will do our best in trying to avoid it.”

Union and company representatives sat up half the night at the St. Moritz Hotel in New York last night talking about a possible new three-year agreement to replace the one that the union had expired at mid-point. The parties are several percentage points apart on the issue of wage increases.

Nothing came of that informal session. Western Electric, regarded as the pattern setter of the Bell Companies, said today, however, that it would be “willing to discuss the details at the convenience of the union.”

If the strike takes place, dial workers probably will not notice any difference at first, either on local or long-distance calls. At some point in a long strike, however, the equipment may need more attention than supervisory personnel can provide, even with the 12-hour shifts that some of them will be expected to work.

Any breakdown in equipment would disrupt dial telephoning, the union said.

Supervisory workers are also expected to keep television and radio transmission lines in working order for an indefinite period.

Telephone users who need person-to-person service may use their "person-to-person" feature at a numerous toll centers.

The Administration building of State University College in Old Westbury. It had been part of the estate of F. Ambrose Clark, heir to the Singer Sewing Machine fortune.

The police said the fire apparently was accidentally started by workmen who were using hot tar on a new roof of the 56-year-old, three-story red brick building. Firemen had to stretch hoses 4,400 feet from the north service road of the Long Island Expressway near Powell’s Lane to reach the building on the 570-acre estate.

Harris Wofford Jr., president of the college, which is to open in September with 75 students and a faculty of 15, said the administration headquarters would be moved to another of the 20 buildings on the estate. He said the school would open on schedule.

military and railroad communications would not be affected and every effort would be made to meet emergency demands for the police, firemen, physicians and ambulance service.

The wage issue is not entirely a two-party matter. The Government is looking over the shoulder of the A.T. & T. parent of the Bell System.

Bell said that the offers of several of its companies averaged 5.6 per cent a year. That is below the outer limit of any wage settlements that the National Economic Advisors call "scalable in an inflationary economy."

The Bell System's wage negotiations and its complicated rate and revenue case are being "liberated" damage to telephone cables today as the statewide strike of telephone linemen, installers, repairmen and central office workers went into its third day.

Richard Myers, general news manager of the company, said that 40 cases of a damaged cable had been reported by late yesterday.

"Some cables have been severed completely," he said, "and some looked as if they had just been struck with an ax."

Officials of the striking telephone workers union, Local 827 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, denied any responsibility for the damage.
Fire Destroys L.I. Mansion Used by State U. College

Special to The New York Times

New York Times (1923-); Apr 18, 1968; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times with Index
pg. 50

The administration building of State University College in Old Westbury. It had been part of the estate of F. Ambrose Clark, heir to the Singer Sewing Machine fortune.

OLD WESTBURY, L. I., April 17—A 42-room mansion that was being used as a temporary administration building for the State University College here was destroyed by a fire this morning.

About 20 employees of the college were able to save some records and about 3,000 library books after the fire started at 9 A.M.

It took volunteer firemen from the nearby Nassau County communities of Westbury, Jericho, Bethpage, Plainview and Hicksville about three hours to extinguish the blaze. There were no injuries, and college officials were unable to estimate the financial loss.

The police said the fire apparently was accidentally started by workmen who were using hot tar on a new roof of the 56-year-old, three-story red brick building. Firemen had to stretch hoses 4,400 feet from the north service road of the Long Island Expressway near Powell's Lane to reach the building on the 570-acre estate.

Harris Wofford Jr., president of the college, which is to open in September with 75 students and a faculty of 15, said the administration headquarters would be moved to another of the 20 buildings on the estate. He said the school would open on schedule.

The state bought the estate in December, 1965, from the estate of F. Ambrose Clark for about $4 million. Mr. Clark was an heir to the Singer Sewing Machine and the Clark Thread Company fortunes.

The college, the 67th campus of the State University system, expects an enrollment of 1,000 students by 1970 and 5,000 by the late nineteen-seventies. It will offer a four-year liberal arts program.

The only part of the mansion that was undamaged today was the one-story south wing, known as the Prince of Wales Ballroom. It was built in 1922 for the then Prince of Wales when he attended a ball at the estate.
Fire Sweeps Building
Of New State U on LI

By Pat Patterson

Old Westbury—A fire that swept through the administration building of the new State University branch here will not keep the college from opening, President Harris Wofford Jr. said late yesterday.

The fire that gutted the 56-year-old converted mansion, for decades the home of Singer sewing machine heir F. Ambrose Clark, broke out about 9 AM on the roof. Brisk winds whipped the flames and low water pressure hindered firemen's efforts to extinguish the blaze. Several persons were at their desks in the building when the fire broke out, but all escaped without injury. The cause so far is unknown.

By noon, the attic and second floors of the mansion were gone and the first floor was a charred ruin. The four stately white columns still stood in the front of the house, and the "Prince of Wales' ballroom, a one-story extension built onto the house in 1922, also was saved.

Clark, a multimillionaire sportsman, and his wife were Long Island social leaders. The ballroom was built especially to entertain the visiting Prince of Wales, now the Duke of Windsor. Clark died four years ago at the age of 83. Three years ago, the state purchased his 600-acre estate for $3,900,000.

The 42-room mansion was being converted to provide offices on the first floor and classrooms on the second for the liberal arts college, the newest addition to the State University system. Wofford, who quit his job as assistant director of the Peace Corps to be president of the new college, said yesterday that the fire would not prevent the school from opening with about 5 students this fall. The school expects an enrollment of 1,000 by 1975.

"It will not affect the opening," Wofford said. "It mainly affects the bureaucrats, not the students. We won't be working in such beautiful surroundings now." A temporary administration office will be set up in a converted stable elsewhere on the estate. Wofford said that the mansion probably would have been converted to use as an art gallery or conference center in a few years after a permanent administration building had been constructed.

Firemen and staff members managed to save the school's admission records and most of its business records. They also formed a human chain to remove the school's 5,000-volume library.

Wofford said that all of his personal records were lost, including those from his days as a special assistant to President Kennedy, his papers from the Peace Corps and an unpublished manuscript he had written on the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Wofford could place no dollar value on the building. "It's one of those basically inestimable things," he said. "No one will ever build another like it." Asked if the building would be restored, Wofford said, "It looks questionable, I would say.

Westbury Fire Chief John Dowling said that the cause of the fire was still under investigation. Old Westbury Village police, however, said that the blaze apparently started when hot tar being used by workmen to repair the roof ignited. About 150 firemen, including companies from Westbury, Jericho, Carle Place, Plainview, Hicksville and Bethpage, helped fight the fire, the smoke from which was visible five miles away.
Even when the state was given land, it didn't take care of it. In 1923, the total legislative appropriation for upkeep of state parks would be $30,000. The philanthropists or their descendants or the historical societies designated in their wills to administer the parks had to pay for their upkeep. Permanent improvements—even comfort stations—were all but unheard of. Most parks could not be reached by automobile. In 1922, those state parks that did exist in New York went all but unused.

Part of the difficulty, Moses had learned while running the Reconstruction Commission, went back to the old question of organization. Fearing—knowing—that the state would let them run down, the parks' donors had turned their administration over to men or societies dedicated to the preservation of historic or scenic attractions. Montcalm and Spy Island "State Parks," the first of the American Revolution. Having no authority over private individuals or organizations, the Legislature was reluctant to give them money. And since no central body of any type unified their activities, they presented to the Legislature the spectacle of separate agencies competing with each other for funds.

This lack of unified administration also meant that a considerable potential source of power for parks was dissipated. In many cases, the trustees of the parks were political leaders in the upstate counties in which they lived and from which came many of the Republican legislative leaders. United, the park trustees could have exerted considerable influence in Albany, but, acting separately, they dissipated their influence.

State park administration was one area in which the Reconstruction
Directions to the Campus

BY CAR:

The College at Old Westbury is located immediately north of the Long Island Expressway in the Village of Old Westbury, Long Island, approximately 35 miles East of New York City.

The main entrance to the College is located on the west side of Route 107 approximately one-half mile north of Jericho Turnpike.

From the South Shore (Nassau County) take either Meadowbrook Parkway or Wantagh State to Northern State Parkway Eastbound. Exit Northern State at Exit 35 North (Broadway - Route 107). Proceed north to campus entrance.

From North Shore (Nassau County) take either Northern State Parkway or Long Island Expressway Eastbound to Broadway-Route 107 - (Northern State Exit 35 North, L.I.E. Exit 41 North) and proceed as indicated above.

From South Shore (Suffolk County) take most convenient North-South road to Long Island Expressway westbound. Exit 41 North (Broadway-Route 107) and proceed to main entrance as indicated above.

From North Shore (Suffolk County) take Long Island Expressway to westbound and proceed as indicated above.

BY TRAIN:

The Long Island Railroad stops at Westbury. Taxi service to the Campus is available. The taxi fare is about $2.50. The College runs a bus to and from the Hicksville train station Monday through Friday.

(For information on bus schedule, call 876-3000)
February 26, 1979

Mr. Norman Jung
Library Director
S.U.N.Y., C.O.W. Library
Old Westbury, New York 11568

Dear Mr. Jung:

As participants in the CHIC course The Detective Story (C'412) - Margaret Freeman, Instructor) it has come to our attention in the course of attempted research regarding the early history of this college that the S.U.N.Y. C.O.W. library archives contain little if any substantial historical information regarding the history of the school or the land upon which it is built. In fact, the little historical records on file reflect only bits and pieces of philosophical and administrative history.

In view of the unusually beautiful pastoral setting of this campus and the philosophical and architectural uniqueness of the college itself we would like to propose that an attempt be made to organize a complete archive file in the library which would contain in as much detail as possible an accurate reflection of the history of this college and the grounds upon which it sits.

In keeping with this proposal we would like to donate at semester's end whatever pertinent material we are able to discover as a result of the research involved in our class project.

We thank you for your consideration of our proposal.

Sincerely,
March 9, 1979

Mr. Oscar E. Lanford
General Manager
SUNY Construction Fund
194 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12206

Dear Mr. Lanford:

We are students of a class at SUNY/Old Westbury doing research into the history of our campus.

In particular, we are interested in pinpointing the location of the buildings on the original estates at the time the state purchased the property. Any help you could give us in positioning any structures including fountains, crypts or statues on the grounds would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for any assistance you can give us in obtaining the above-mentioned information.

Sincerely,

P.S. Please send information to Ms. Margaret Freeman's attention at above address.
March 12, 1979

Mr. Alexander Kouzmanoff
Kouzmanoff Associates
510 East 46 Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Kouzmanoff:

We are a group of Old Westbury College students at the SUNY campus for which you were the architect. Our class project for a course called "The Detective Story" taught by Margaret Freeman includes finding out about the original architect's work and during the college's construction. In particular, we are interested in finding out its landscape features and what was on the estate, including the site of the formal gardens.

We would, therefore, very much like you to visit our class to talk about the campus, if that would be possible. The class meets every Tuesday and Friday at 3:00 p.m. Any day that would be convenient to you would suit us fine. If this is not convenient for you, some other could come into the city to meet with you. We can be reached through Margaret Freeman, CHIC Program (316, 376-3247).

Thank you for considering our request.

Yours faithfully,
March 23, 1979

Mr. E. J. Cappello
7020 East Pasadena Avenue
Scottsdale, Arizona 85253

Dear Mr. Cappello:

I am a student attending the College at Old Westbury. This semester, in a course titled "The Detective Story", our class project is to put together a history of the college and to find out the history of a certain statue which stands outside of building 12. The statue in question is minus its head and arms.

This letter concerns itself with my asking your help in solving some of the mystery surrounding the statue. We have, so far, acquired information about the school and statue from President John McGuire, Jon Collett, Mr. Rabitan as well as other faculty and staff members. One name, however, always pops up in their conversations: "Cappy". It seems you hold the key in unlocking some of the answers to our puzzle.

At your convenience, could you please write and tell us everything you remember about the school, the grounds it was built on and the statue. Also, could you tell us who discovered the statue, who ordered the statue to be moved (how and where to) and if there was more than one statue.

We would appreciate any help you could give us in our research. When the project is completed all information will go into the college library archives. Copies will also be sent to Pres. McGuire's office and Trainor House. This information will also be available to anyone interested in the college's history.

Thanking you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Sincerely,

Susan Hantz

P.S. - My address is: 2732 Landing Avenue
Bellmore, New York 11710
March 26, 1979

Ms. Margaret Freeman  
State University College  
Box 210  
Old Westbury, New York 11568

Dear Ms. Freeman:

This is in response to your group's request of March 9th for data regarding the Old Westbury campus in connection with your research.

I am enclosing several topographic maps and photographs which I hope will be useful to you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

General Manager

Enclosures
April 10, 1979

Mr. Oscar E. Lanford  
General Manager  
State University Construction Fund  
State University Plaza  
P.O. Box 1946  
Albany, New York 12201  

Dear Mr. Lanford:

We have received the maps and photographs which you have sent and wish to thank you for your cooperation. The material you sent will be very helpful to us in our research.

In your letter you did not mention whether you wanted this material returned to you or not. If we do not hear from you by the end of the semester (May 25) concerning this matter we will donate the maps to the college archives.

Again, thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
May 21, 1979

Mr. Alexander Kouzmanoff
Kouzmanoff Associates
310 East 46 Street
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Kouzmanoff:

We would like to express our appreciation for your visit with us on Friday, May 18. We found the information about our school and campus fascinating. In fact, it seems to us that publication of the details regarding the philosophical and architectural history of our campus would inspire students in the struggle to return Old Westbury to its early commitments.

There was an excitement and pride inspired by your description of the college as it could have been and may yet be which moved us all deeply.

Thank you again for taking the time to share all this with us.

Sincerely,

The Detective Story Class:

JL:jl
FIELD TRIP ITINERARY: Tuesday March 20, 1979
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.:

The following partial tour of the Old Westbury Campus was attended by the Detective Story class:

1. Ring Road was travelled to Exit C to L.I.E. Service Road and back into Exit B - Gatehouse.

2. **Trainor House** - Visited Trainor House and were able to talk to an employee (formerly John Maguire's secretary) Ms. Barbara O'Connell who showed us where statue stood while at Trainor house.

3. Ring Road back around to Store Hill Road (near C Gate) - Cars were parked near road across from Feminist Press and the class walked through open field into "Ruins" of formal Gardens. Here we discovered:
   a. "Niche" speculated by Dr. Maguire to be the original site of the statue.
   b. Pedestals indicating sculptures of various kinds missing from the gardens.
   c. Assorted statue parts (heads, etc.) none of which appear to be our "missing members."
   d. Statue/Fountain in center of garden, defaced and in disrepair
   e. Various levels of Garden Ruins, now used as refuse accumulation site, and a dirt road leading to these ruins, with two large pedestals at entrance, indicating additional missing sculpture
   f. Some question was raised as to whether there was a house at this third level of ruins or whether the house was set at some distance further back from the gardens.

At this time (5:00 p.m.) the class returned to their cars, and decision was made to make additional field trip at future time to visit the Clark Mansion Ruins, Child Care Center, President's House and to attempt to discover the actual ruins of the Whitney mansion.

Submitted by Josephine A. Loizzo
4/5/79
Mr. William Davis, Chauffeur to F. Ambrose Clark for 30 years, visited with our Detective Story Class. The following information was garnered from this interview with Mr. Davis:

Members Present: Margaret Freeman, Anita Dirik, Susan Hantz, Ellen Judge, Josephine Loizzo, Larry Canzone, Earl Harris, Louise Kohler

Mr. Davis told us the story of the Clarks from the time he came to work for them as chauffeur (1928) to the mid-sixties when the land was bought by the State.

The Clarks and Bostwicks (Clark's nephew) had intense interest in horses and racing. Spent much of their time travelling back and forth to Europe and other States in pursuit of horse racing interests.

The Clarks had only one child, a retarded daughter, who lived with her nurse in a separate house (which is now the President of S.U.N.Y. Old Westbury's house)

The Clark Estate was built in 1912.

A small piece of land, the "Thompson" place, was purchased by the Clarks in the early 1950's to prevent it being sold by its owner to developers. This is the plot which contained the formal gardens.

Clark's employees were very well taken care of both during their employ and at the time of the transfer of the Estate to the S.U.N.Y. system.

A field trip with Mr. Davis through the campus grounds was part of this visit. Itinerary as follows:

1. Ring Road to the Gate B road past Garages near the Stables Quadrangle (Boces). A quick right turn takes us up a dirt road where Mr. Davis points out the remains of the sites of the destroyed servants' cottages, including his own.

2. A visit to the C.O.W. CCEC which sits on the site of the former Clark mansion. (Mansion destroyed by fire in 1968)

3. Walked from the mansion site (CCEC) to President's House (the former Clark's daughter's house) passing the "doll House" which was Clark's daughter's play house.

4. Ring Road to Gate C takes us to the fields across from the Feminist Press where we explored again the Ruins of the Formal Gardens
Josephine A. Loizzo - Attempts to trace ownership of "Thompson" land

5/10/79 - Ellen Judge has come up against dead ends in her search for legal documents to trace ownership of the Thompson lands where our statue comes from.

J. Loizzo contacts Mr. Ed Schaeffer of Professional Abstracts, Inc., Mineola, New York, title research firm, to discuss our difficulty in finding details of Thompson land transfer, etc.

Mr. Schaeffer is familiar with the piece of land in question - refers to it as the "Thompson farm tract" - says it is a hard one to trace and there have been problems with it before. He advises it would take some time to conduct this search and he cannot tell us how to proceed without seeing all the legal documents and a survey of the Thompson property. With only ten days left to close our project it appears we do not have the time available to undertake this part of the research.
May 11, 1979 - Search for the "?? Second Statue ?? "

4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

A decision was made to investigate the still unconfirmed report by George Rabkton that there were two statues, one of which was stored in the barn area. It was important to find out whether or not our Building 12 statue was the one President Maguire found near the niche in the formal gardens or whether the statue was switched for "the one in better condition" as George Rabkton remembers.

Question: Does our statue have a twin somewhere?

Permission was obtained from Campus Security and clearance from BOCES to go into Quadrangle area storage buildings to hunt for the possible twin statue.

Present on the Hunt were: Margaret Freeman, Louise Kohler, Anita Dillard, Susan Hant, Josephine Loizzo, Ellen Judge, and Security Supervisor Cathy Tole.

The S.U.N.Y. Storage Warehouse at the BOCES Quadrangle was found to hold 2 Grecian busts as well as a few arches, pedestal parts, and various other remnants compatible with the remains of the formal gardens. There was also remnants of estate cottages, building supplies from the campus construction years and other odds and ends, but no twin statue. Security Warehouse (Service Building #19) was also searched and here we found two concrete benches which probably came from the Gardens and six Pedestal bases.

In Service Building 19 we found an old keyboard with labels for key hooks as follows: "E.A. Moat Cottage"
"Thompson Keys"
"Gustave Ambrosious"
Bay Ave., Hampton Bays

Perhaps these names can turn up some clues in the future. The Thompson Keys label confirms that the portion of land was still called the "Thompson" land. We wonder what the keys were for, since the Thompson mansion was destroyed by Clark (completely razed) very shortly after he purchased the property.

No statue resembling our Building 12 Statue was found anywhere and no one we talk to has admitted to seeing any such second statue (except George Rabkton who admits he did not see the two together at any one time). Therefore we conclude this investigation to be a dead end and we will proceed on the premise that there is only one statue, our Building 12 statue.
Josephine A. Loizzo

5/11/79 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. - Picture Taking of Statue and Gardens and Measurements of dimensions of Statue and Niche for Consultation with Expert Witness

Josephine Loizzo, Susan Hantz, and Ellen Judge.

Photographs: The attached photographs were the only ones which developed well. No photo of the niche was developable. Another set of pictures to be taken on Friday May 25.

Measurements:

Statue: Pedestal to Top of Neck 
(Pedestal itself 4" high) 

60 1/2 

Estimate of intact statue 
(60 1/2" + 8-9" head and neck) 

68-69"

Niche: Height of Archway 
Depth 
Width 
Pedestal inside Niche: Height 
Space (for statue) inside niche 

113"

63"

60"

31"

82"

5/16/79: Professor Louis Camnitzer, our expert witness regarding the aesthetics and probability of this statue having been in the niche: YES! Measurements compatible.

5/11/79 - Gardens also inventoried and found to contain:

2 pedestal bases (near niche)
2 pedestal bases (in front of fountain at center of garden)
2 pedestal bases (behind fountain at center of gardens)
1 mutilated headless statue at center of fountain which appears to have been some sort of half-fish/half-man sculpture.
Submitted by Josephine Lofzin

Statue - Building 12

Susan Hantz imagines the statue with head and arms
Poor photograph of second level of Formal Gardens

Section of Gate C road across from Feminist Press which is closest to the Ruins of Formal Gardens
The remains of the fountain and statue in center of Formal Gardens
Mr. Kouzmanoff visited with us today and brought with him a wealth of information on the philosophical and architectural beginnings of our campus.

Interesting facts regarding the early ideas on S.U.N.Y. Old Westbury --
It was to be the "Harvard" of the S.U.N.Y. system. The beauty of the estate was to be utilized as a backdrop for an efficient university complex, complete with five separate colleges, restaurants, shopping center, and a small village community ambience which unfortunately never was realized.

Many small details of the architecture of our campus and their original purposes were explained, giving us a clearer picture of the school as it was envisioned at its outset. It occurred to the writer that Mr. Kouzmanoff might be asked at some future time to help in a project to publish these details for distribution among the students, including all new students each semester, so that awareness of our original purposes might stimulate support and interest in bringing about some of the dreams of the original plans.

Regarding the Statue and Gardens, Mr. Kouzmanoff told us that he saw our statue in the niche in the mid-sixties when the state came onto the land; at that time the statue had a partially detached head.

Mr. Kouzmanoff thinks that the Gardens dated from around the early 1900's and he never saw another statue like ours anywhere near the Gardens or anywhere else on the campus grounds. He tells us that the only thing E.J. Capello had was a few concrete Roman busts and a few other statue parts but none which resembled a twin to our statue. (This was confirmed by our visit 5/11/79 to the SUNY warehouse at the stables)

When shown a picture of the Gloria Vanderbilt studio and gardens which we have speculated to possibly be the Thompson Gardens, Mr. Kouzmanoff says this is not the same Gardens, the scale is wrong. Therefore we conclude having previously found no supporting evidence and now having this negative evidence, that these gardens were not the Vanderbilt studio and gardens, closing that question in our investigation of the Thompson land.
During his visit to our class, President Maguire told us his theory on the origins of our statue. This theory was based on an article in the New York Times about the sculptress Mrs. Whitney who had a studio in Old Westbury surrounded by a formal garden. The picture accompanying the article bears a striking resemblance to our ruins. It was President Maguire's belief that the statue was made by Mrs. Whitney and the ruins were the remains of her garden.

The article in the Times was based on a biography, Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney by Bernard Harper Friedman (published by Doubleday & Company, Inc. in Garden City, N.Y. in 1978). There are similarities between what we knew as the Thompson estate and the Whitney estate mentioned in the book. Yet the identity theory has to collapse on the fact that the studio of Mrs. Whitney was still standing in the 1970's. F. Thompson Clark had torn down the house in our formal gardens in the early 1950's.

On our return visit to President Maguire we learned that there is no other evidence of a Whitney connection. However, he speculated about the existence of two almost identical statues, one found by him and the other by Ziegler and Scott. One of the statues might still be somewhere on the campus. No other statue was found in any of the storerooms we searched. Mr. Kouzmanoff, the architect, who was on the grounds in the late 1960's, remembers only one statue.
Nassau County Historical Library:
No listing for Clark Dr Thomson.
The file on Old Westbury (village) contained newspaper clippings about the state's purchase of the land and the fire that destroyed the Clark house.
The State of New York bought 576.8 acres of land from Clark in 1965 at a cost of 3.9 million dollars.
The Clark house burned down on April 18, 1968.
In the articles about the fire there was some information about the Clarks. The articles said that the house which was called Broad Hollow was built in 1922 except for the Prince of Wales ballroom which was added later.

The property maps showed who owned the land.
on the 1923 map Clark is shown as owning one piece of land consisting of 116.1 acres. This does not change until 1940 by which time Clark has bought 217 acres from E. L. Morgan. Some time between 1940 and 1965 Clark obtained 243.7 additional acres which would complete the total which he sold to the state.
Both the 1923 map and the 1940 map show William P. Thomson as the owner of 100.1 acres adjoining Clarks.

Oyster Bay Town Hall:
No information on the ownership of the land, recommended trying the County Clerk's Office.

County Clerk's Office:
The records were very difficult to understand.
No record of Clark purchasing any land from Thomson.
He did buy land from Mrs. Ellis in 1945 and in 1946. Gloria Vanderbuilt Witney in 1944, and Mable Brady Garvan in 1943.
The property maps show that the Ellis and Garvan lands are now part of the college, they do not show the Witney lands.
Mr. William Davis:

Stated while speaking to the class that Clark bought the Thomson estate in the early 1950's. He stated that he was only in the house once and that soon after he (Clark) bought the house he had it torn down.
Through various sources we found out that the statue was from a part of the estate called the ruins. The ruins were those of a once formal gardens. According to George Rabatin and Mrs. F. Ambrose Clark the once formal gardens had belonged to the Thompson estate. Thompson had lived in a house by the gardens and sold out his land to F. Ambrose Clark in 1950 according William Davis.

E.J. Cappello known by many as "Cappy" was referred to us by many of our sources as the one person who would know most about the former Clark estate grounds since he was the head of maintenance the years the school was established. At the time we could not contact Cappello, and we still cannot, therefore, we contacted Charley Hendrickson who took over Cappello's place and has been with maintenance 14 years.

According to Charley Hendrickson E.J. Cappello wanted the statue moved and had ordered the maintenance crew at the time to do so. Hendrickson said Cappello wanted it moved because he'd thought it be better off seen at the campus then in the woods. It was moved directly from the ruins to Building 12 in 1971, the year classes began at the campus. At this time Hendrickson said the statue had one arm but no head. The arm came off at its stay at building 12.

Hendrickson's story is a little different than the one we had gotten from George Rabatin, Director of Facilities, here since July 1966, one of the original members of the Old Westbury planning group. Rabatin states that E.J. Cappello was involved in the movements of the statue; however, those who wanted the statue moved were Jerry Ziegler, assistant to President Wofford, and Henry Scott, the man who performed functions of the Dean also under Wofford. These men had wanted the statue moved because they had wanted to restore the formal gardens.
Weather interrupted any real progress so the statue and a bust found at the same spot were moved to a safer place. The place these were moved to was a storage room at the quadrangle stables. This is now a storage room connected to B002E, property of SUNY Old Westbury. Mr. Rabatin does recall the statue as being without arms. He is not sure about when and who ordered the statue to be moved to the stables and later to building 12.

Our next source of information was Jon Collet who informed us that President Maguire was involved in the moving of the statue. Maguire had wanted it removed from the ruins and to the campus because he saw symbolism of the school in it. The statue was already headless and armless at the time it was moved. When it was moved, according to Collet, it went directly from the ruins to Trainor House and in 1972 it was moved to building 12. Before the college was established on the old Ambrose Clark estate grounds there had been a lot of vandalism. This may have been how the head and arms (the missing members) had become removed.

Our next lead was President Maguire since we had been informed that he was also involved in the moving of our statue. His visit to our class made a whole new turn around in our story. Maguire states that Clark did not buy from Thompson but from a Miss Whitney who owned the land from 1898 to 1902. Miss Whitney indulged in the arts and practiced sculpture and made many statues for the gardens because she had laid out a formal garden around her house like the ones she had seen when she had been to France. Maguire had found the statue while he was with Jon Collet and E.J. Cappello. He thought it to belong to the niche approximately 25 feet away from where it had stood. The headless and armless statue to Maguire was an excellent symbol for our school. Its motto being "Let us educate the whole man". Maguire states he got a truck and some men from maintenance to move the statue to Trainor House and then it was moved to building 12 where the president was to reside when the academic village had been completed.
We do know that a statue stood in Trainor House because there are marks on the floor of the entrance proving this. It could have been our statue and it could have been another one similar to ours. The stories that we have been told state the statue all coming from one place but they vary in places the statue went to. Some say Trainor House then building 12, some say building 12 directly, and others the quadrangle stables and then building 12.

Maguire and Rabatin have gotten together since our talk with them and now they think there may have been 2 statues. We have been to the quadrangle stables and the maintenance buildings around the area to see if there was another statue that is similar. There was no statue but there were 2 busts, remains of pillars, and garden seats, made of all the same cement material.

Not only are we confused about our statue's whereabouts but who made it and whom did it belong to. We have been told Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney loved and worked on her sculpting on this estate, that she must have made this statue. She supposedly sold her land to Clark in 1902. Then we are told it was the Thompson estate sold in the 1950's.

Mr. William Davis, the chauffer to Ambrose Clark has confirmed that this area in which we call the ruins was in deed the Thompson estate sold to F. Ambrose Clark in 1950. Clark had destroyed the house that stood there for income tax purposes. Mr. Davis only remembers going in the house once to witness the appraisals of some valuable paintings in the house. The gardens as he remembers were overgrown. He does not recall any statues but of course he wasn't really interested and this is probably why his lack of notice.

Who was Thompson and did he make and own these statues? So far we cannot find any deeds to the selling of the Thompson estate to Clark. We have found out from a title researcher that the Thompson farm tracks did exist at one time in these areas, however, it is one of the extremely hard title deeds to be found. It has been questioned before and so far nothing has come of it. We have found evidence
in one of the old garages that Thompson's did live here at one time. There was a place for their keys on a board in the garage.

The Miss Whitney story is also confusing. Did she ever own this land or perhaps was she related to Thompson? In a book, on Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, there are pictures of formal gardens that stood on her studio that look like what could have once stood in what is now called the ruins. The book, however, states that her studio and gardens still stand in Old Westbury.

Alexander Kouzmanoff, original architect of this school says that Clark was having a battle with the woman that owned this land known as the ruins but Kouzmanoff does not know who this woman was. When Clark got rid of her he got rid of the house that was on this land. Kouzmanoff did feel that this area must have been established and occupied in the early 1900's.
JOSEPHINE A. LOIZZO

May 21, 1979

REPORT ON METHODS AND CHRONOLOGY OF METHODS:

MYSTERY OF MISSING MEMBERS - CH499 THE DETECTIVE STORY

Dr. Margaret Freeman, Instructor
Methods of Investigation and Research:

At the very outset there was agreement on the cooperative organization and division of research tasks with note-taking and sharing of information frequently, usually on a once-a-week basis so as to delineate further steps and assignments which would emanate from our progress.

Initial groundwork was carried out to gather preliminary information with which to proceed using the following sources:

Library research on the S.U.N.Y. Old Westbury history and personal interviews with persons known to have first-hand information regarding college history (i.e., persons associated with the college from its early days)

Early interviews gave us important information, names and dates with which to begin research. Interviews with persons known to have been associated with the college from its early days were conducted (e.g. Jon Collett, Annabelle Bagdon, Veronica Burns, George Rabjton, etc.) We invited President Maguire to class as soon as we discovered he had an important link to the statue. From his interview we learned he found the statue and ordered it moved from the Ruins of the Formal Gardens to Trainor House where Administration was located at that time. From our interview with President Maguire we obtained names of the people who owned the property before the State bought it as well as some names of people who had lived and worked on the former estate, among them Mr. William Davis, long-time chauffeur of F. Ambrose Clark, the former owner of the Estate.

Later on in the semester class visits for interviews with Mr. William Davis and Mr. Alex Kouzmanoff, architect of the college, proved valuable sources of information with which to proceed.

Some eyewitness information was contradictory and therefore researched to ascertain credibility. (e.g., the story of the "twin statue")

Research Sources used: Libraries, historical societies, museums, county clerk's office, village clerk's office of Old Westbury.

Expert Witnesses: President Maguire, Professor Collett, Mr. Davis, Mr. Kouzmanoff, George Rabjton, Professor Louis Campnitzer, Land Title Researcher was contacted regarding steps to research transfer of lands on surrounding properties, including "Thompson" land parcel on which Formal Gardens stood.

Field Trips were taken of the Campus, Trainor House, President Maguire's house, the Formal Gardens of the Thompson Estate, and the Stables and Service Building '19 area of the Quadrangle.

Dead Ends, Open Avenues: Each piece of new information was explored for its own value and its ability to lead us to another avenue of investigation.

A dead end was determined by lack of viable evidence or pathways of investigation or by time limitations. For example, early mention of
a Whitney family connection to the Thompson Gardens was found to be a dead end when absolutely no confirming evidence of any connection with the Whitneys was found; in the same manner, research into the land transfer of the Thompson Estate was found to require more extensive time commitment than the semester would allow, as was research of the actual "missing members", the statue's head and arms.

Open Avenues were those with enough leads and confirmation and/or evidence to be considered bona fide pathways to some definite conclusions. For example, John Maguire's eyewitness report of finding the statue near a niche in the Formal Gardens (corroborated by Jon Collett) led us to postulate the statue originally stood in the niche. Measurements of the statue and the niche were confirmed by Professor Louis Camnitzer as artistically compatible. However, firm evidence came from Alexander Kouzmanoff, architect of Old Westbury, who testifies that in his early days on campus grounds he saw the statue, with a partially detached head, in the niche.

Obvious open avenues to history of the estate were the names of former residents of the Estate, for example, Mr. and Mrs. William Davis, Mal Williams, Mrs. F. Ambrose Clark, Stephen Clark.

Deductions on Truth or Falsity of Evidence - Obviously some leads turned out to be false. In reasoning regarding truth or falsity we used a "true until proven false" attitude and investigated all leads thoroughly. For example, there were early discrepancies between John Maguire's story of finding and moving the statue and George Rabten's story of finding a second statue, in better condition, which he moved to President Maguire's offices, after storing the original statue in the stables area. No eyewitnesses were found who had seen two statues at the same time, and careful search of all storage areas in the stables and Service Building #19 turned up no evidence of any similar statue, merely some assorted cement busts and statue remnants. Alexander Kouzmanoff reported seeing only one statue of this type in the Gardens or anywhere on Campus, even from as early as the mid-sixties. On the basis of this evidence we deduced there was only one statue and that the story of existence of a second statue was false.

Using the above methods we discovered the early history of Old Westbury I and II some history of the Estate on which S.U.W.N.Y. C.O.W. is located and something of the lives of the former residents of the estate. Most importantly, we accomplished our major focus -- we discovered the original location, subsequent finding of our statue and we traced its steps from the niche in the woods to the halls of Trainor House, and finally to Academic Village in front of Building 12 where it symbolizes Old Westbury's commitment to educate the whole person.
Conclusion.

In spite of all our research a shroud of mystery still covers our statue with the missing members. In my mind I can see a face reacting with a Mona Lisa smile to all our efforts.

Who was the sculptor? Or sculptress? The lady of the house in the formal gardens inspired by the classic art of Greece might have created our statue. The formal gardens are on a piece of land known as the Thompson estate. No records of ownership before 1950 could be found. Did a Thompson live there or was the name attached to the house by a previous owner? When F. Ambrose Clark bought the house shortly after 1950 he had the building demolished. The formal gardens started to be turned into the ruins we know today.

The first eye witness report of the statue comes from the architect of the college. Mr. Kouzmanoff found it standing in a niche at the foot of the formal gardens. The statue still had a head hanging from a re-enforcing wire in the late 1960's. By the time President Maguire found it the statue had been moved about 25 feet from the niche and the head was missing. The distance was too great to account for a simple fall. Did someone try to take the statue away? Maybe the someone gave up and contented himself with the head only.

President Maguire was intrigued by the statue as a symbol of our school. "Let us educate the whole man." It took the efforts of four men to lift the statue on a pickup truck. It drove the statue to Trainor House which housed the college until Complex A was completed in 1972. For two years the statue stood in the hall of Trainor House - symbol of the school and occasional coatrack.
When the administration of the school moved into Building 12 of Complex A the statue moved with them. It was put into the breezeway outside the President's offices. Vandalism during a school strike removed another small fragment of the arm. Though it has no head and only fragments of arms it leaves many people with the feeling that it resembles 'Winged Victory'.

Where does the illusion of wings come from? The statue has been called an insignificant work of art, but it is certainly thought-provoking.
THOMPSON RESEARCH

Susan Hantz
FOLLOW UP TO RESEARCH

1. Mrs. Leznick/Society for the Westbury's - work in conjunction with us?

2. Harry Payne Whitney - friend of Thompson's
   a) William Paley (CBS) - wife a Whitney/ perhaps can put us in touch with Whitney's son, John Jay

3. W. R. Grace - friend of Thompson's - daughter still living in house

4. Coleen Nicoll - grandmother worked for Clark's and Graces. Has books and toys of Clark family - retrieved them after 1965 fire. Knows many people who worked for wealthy families in area. Will talk to people who now have these items to see if they'll donate or loan.

5. Standard Oil - Whitney/Thompson

6. Betty Babcock - Thompson's niece

7. Mr. Preston, Morgan Guarantee - Thompson's grandnephew

8. Atherton Blight (Philadelphia) - Mrs. Thompson's father
   a) Henry James - friend of Blight's
   b) Greenough, Richard and Horatio - Granduncle and grandfather of Mrs. Thompson
   c) Museum of Fine Arts, Boston - Lawrence Curtis (Horatio Greenough statues)

9. Redbrook, New Jersey - Thompson game farm

10. Virginia Historical Society - Payne connection

11. galleries - Thompson paintings

12. Mrs. Thompson's life in England

13. more background information on F. A. Clark and E. D. Morgan

14. Art index 1924-41

15. land - division and history of estates

16. college history - plans, building, grounds, college administration

17. Supplied by SPLIA:
   E. D. Morgan -
   a) Country Life in America, May 1913
   b) Architectural Record, Sept. 1906, vol. 20
   c) Real Estate Record and Guide, Sept. 1906, vol. 78
   d) The Architecture of McKim, Mead and White 1870/1920

   F. A. Clark -
   a) Architecture, April 1918, vol. 37
   b) Country Life in America, June 1934, vol. 66
18. Monica Randall (516/921-7438) - Director, North Shore Preservation Society; Asst. Director - William Nimmo. Ms. Randall author of *The Mansions of Long Island's Cold Coast*

19. taken from *The Mansions...*
   a) Mr. Anthony - Old Westbury Gardens
   b) Mr. George F. Baker II
   c) Mrs. C.Z. Guest
   d) Long Island Press
   e) Mansions and Millionaires Inc.
   f) Oyster Bay Guardian, Mrs. Edwena Snow
   g) American Adaptation of the French Chateau, 1917
   h) The American Architect, May 5, 1929 - Harrison Williams
   i) The American Architect, Sept. 17, 1919 - Pembroke, Delano and Aldrich
   j) Barr Farrell, American Estates and Gardens, 1904
   k) Fortune, June 1932 - W.D. Guthrie
   l) Sheldon George, Artistic Country Seats, Types of Recent American Villa and Cottage Architecture
   m) Homes for People in Suburb and Country, Villas and Mansions
   n) Life, July 22, 1946 - The North Shore, Clark Estate, W.R. Coe
   o) Price C. Matlock, Transplanted Architecture
   p) N.Y. Times, Sunday, Sept. 7, 1924 - guest list, Harbor Hill Party
   q) Augusta O. Patterson, American Homes of Today, 1924
   r) Herbert H.L. Pratt, American Country Houses of Today, 1915

20. Coe Estate - part of college history


22. Harvard University and Laurenceville school


24. follow-up letters to people I've written or spoken to

25. oral history - tape reminisces (start of college) of original faculty and staff. Also tape "community" - William Davis, Mrs. Clark, Betty Babcock, etc.
2346—Clark—NEW YORK

2346
Clark (The Edna McConnell) Foundation ▼
250 Park Ave., Rm. 900
New York 10017 (212) 986-7050


Donors: Edna McConnell Clark, tit Van Alan Clark.

Financial data: (yr. ended 9/30/84): Assets, $274,305,565 (M); gifts received, $2,550,000; expenditures, $17,858,613, including $14,065,132 for 140 grants (high: $1,840,000; low: $1,500; average: $103,000).

Purpose and activities: Programs presently narrowly defined and directed towards four specific areas: 1) reducing unnecessary removal of children from troubled families by establishing better family preservation policies and services; supporting courts, agencies, and advocates in implementation of specific foster care and adoption reforms; 2) improving the school-to-work transition of disadvantaged urban youth by: developing model work education programs among private industry, schools, community organizations and unions, and monitoring government initiatives particularly as they relate to disadvantaged youth; 3) seeking more rational, humane, and effective ways of dealing with those in criminal justice system by developing alternatives to unnecessary incarceration, supporting litigation to correct abuses and to establish standards of care, and exploring ways to reduce the length of prison sentences for offenders who present little threat to society; and 4) helping millions in the developing world through a targeted research program aimed at controlling the tropical diseases, schistosomiasis, trachoma, and onchocerciasis.

Types of support awarded: Consulting services, continuing support, research, seed money, technical assistance.

Limitations: No grants to individuals, or for capital funds, construction and equipment, endowments, scholarships and fellowships, annual appeals, deficit financing, or matching gifts; no loans.

Publications: Annual report, informational brochure, program policy statement, application guidelines.

Application information: Action-oriented projects preferred; research support primarily in Tropical Disease program.

Initial approach: Letter
Copies of proposal: 1

Deadline(s): None
Board meeting dates: February, April, June, September, and December

Final notification: 3 weeks for declination; 2 months on positive action
Write: John R. Coleman, President

Officers: James M. Clark, t Chairman and Treasurer; John R. Coleman, t President; Peter W. French, Vice-President; Patricia Cary Stewart, Vice-President and Secretary.

2347
Clark Foundation, The ▼
30 Wall St.
New York 10005 (212) 269-1833


Donor(s): Members of the Clark family.

Financial data: (yr. ended 6/30/84): Assets, $136,973,711 (M); gifts received, $2,928,275; expenditures, $6,800,160, including $3,294,941 for 130 grants (high: $125,000; low: $1,000, $1,452,256 for 657 grants to individuals and $240,316 for 1 foundation-administered program.

Purpose and activities: Support for a hospital and museums in Cooperstown, New York; grants also for charitable, welfare, and educational purposes, including undergraduate scholarships to students residing in Cooperstown area. Support also for health, educational, youth, cultural, and community welfare organizations and institutions and for medical and convalescence care of needy individuals.

Types of support awarded: Operating budgets, continuing support, annual campaigns, seed money, emergency funds, building funds, equipment, special projects, student aid.

Limitations: Giving primarily in upstate NY and New York City. No grants for deficit financing, or matching gifts; no loans.

Publications: Program policy statement, application guidelines.

Application information:
Initial approach: Letter
Copies of proposal: 1

Deadline(s): None
Board meeting dates: October and May

Final notification: 2 to 6 months
Write: Edward W. Stack, Secretary.

Officers: Stephen C. Clark, Jr., t President; Michael A. Nicolas, t Vice-President; Edward W. Stack, Secretary; John J. Burkley, Treasurer.


Number of staff: 4 full-time professional; 2 part-time professional; 18 full-time support; 1 part-time support.

Employer Identification Number: 13047034

2348
Clark (Frank E.) Charitable Trust
112 East 64th St.
New York 10021 (212) 108-0411

Incorporated in 1952 in New York.

Donor(s): Robert Sterling Clark.

Financial data: (yr. ended 10/31/84): Assets, $34,791,345 (M); expenditures, $2,371,375, including $1,754,129 for 83 grants (high: $120,000; low: $2,000; average: $25,000; total: $30,000).

Purpose and activities: The foundation supports projects that: 1) encourage permanence and stability for children in or at risk of, foster care; 2) strengthen the management of cultural institutions in New York City and the greater metropolitan area; 3) ensure the effectiveness and accountability of public agencies in New York City and State; and 4) protect reproductive freedom.

Types of support awarded: Loans, special projects, research, publications.

Limitations: Giving primarily in New York, with emphasis on New York City. No grants to individuals, or for operating budgets, annual campaigns, seed money, emergency funds, deficit financing, capital or endowment support, matching gifts, scholarships, fellowships, or conferences.

Publications: Annual report, application guidelines, program policy statement.

Application information:
Initial approach: Full proposal
Copies of proposal: 1

Deadline(s): None
Board meeting dates: January, April, July, and October

Final notification: 1 to 6 months
Write: Margaret C. Ayers, Executive Director.

Officers: Winslow M. Lovejoy, Jr., t President and Treasurer; Miner D. Cravy, Jr., t Secretary.

Margaret C. Ayers, Executive Director.


Number of staff: 4 full-time professional; 1 part-time professional; 1 full-time support.

Employer Identification Number: 131957-92

2349
Clark (Robert Sterling) Foundation, Inc. ▼
112 East 64th St.
New York 10021 (212) 108-0411

Incorporated in 1952 in New York.

Donor(s): Robert Sterling Clark.

Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/83): Assets, $2,606,163 (M); expenditures, $187,643, including $174,500 for 36 grants (high: $14,100; low: $400).

Purpose and activities: Charitable and religious purposes; income distributed to the parent body of major religious denominations for aid to needy churches; support also for health, welfare, and other charitable organizations.

Limitations: Giving primarily in NY.

Application information:
Initial approach: Proposal
Copies of proposal: 1

Deadline(s): August 31

Board meeting dates: November
Write: Helen M. Thorne, Vice-President.

Trustee: Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company (Helen M. Thorne, Vice-President).

Employer Identification Number: 136049012

The FOUNDATION DIRECTORY