

# The Story of Marcham Hall



**Beatrice Szekely**  
Village of Cayuga Heights Historian  
Ithaca, NY



# The Story of Marcham Hall

For the June 13, 2015 Historic Ithaca House Tour and

Centennial Celebration of the Village of Cayuga Heights

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The author wishes to thank Village history colleagues for their photo and documentary research and conversation, which greatly contributed to this piece: Carole Schiffman, Randi Kepecs, and Patricia Longoria.

Historic Preservation Committee  
Village of Cayuga Heights  
Marcham Hall  
836 Hanshaw Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
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For forty years before it became the municipal building of the Village of Cayuga Heights, Marcham Hall at 836 Hanshaw Road was a private residence. It was built in the late 1920s by a granddaughter of Ezra Cornell who lived there until the early 1940s. A succession of owners followed after World War II.

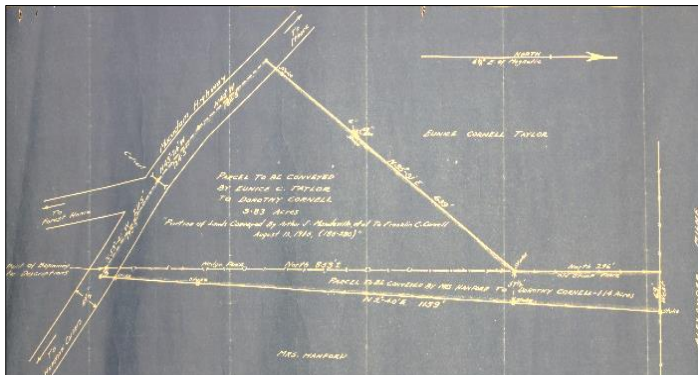


Marcham Hall houses the municipal offices of the Village of Cayuga Heights.

In the late 1960s commercial development in the Community Corners area made the location ideal to acquire as the village hall, and it has been the signature landmark of Cayuga Heights since.

### Stonecroft

In 1926 Dorothy Cornell (1875-1942), who was Ezra Cornell's youngest granddaughter, began construction of a home for herself on the north side of Hanshaw Road east of where it crosses East Upland and Triphammer Roads. The



Carl Crandall survey of Dorothy Cornell's lot, from Dorothy Cornell. Letters and Photographs, #744. Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library



Eunice Cornell and Charles Leigh Taylor purchased the Kline farm house and adjoining property in 1920.

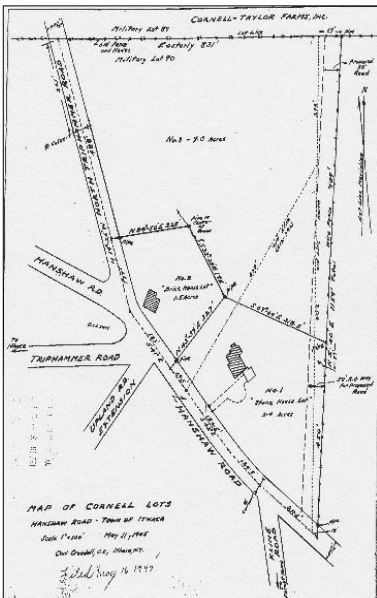
property was a gift from her sister and brother-in-law, Eunice Cornell (1862-1942) and Charles Leigh Taylor (1864-1932). Eunice and Charles lived next door at 830 Hanshaw in the red brick building that was originally the Kline family farm house.

(Tompkins Financial Corporation currently rents the building from Warren Real Estate.) Dorothy's address started out in the local phone directory simply as Hanshaw Road

without a street number, perhaps because it was seen simply as an adjunct to its larger neighbor.<sup>1</sup> At fifty-one years of age Dorothy, who had grown up in Forest Park, the Cornell family farm on East Hill in Ithaca, was moving back home from the town of Sugar Hill in New Hampshire to be close to her relations. Supported financially by money made in real estate by her father, Franklin Cornell, she pursued a lifelong

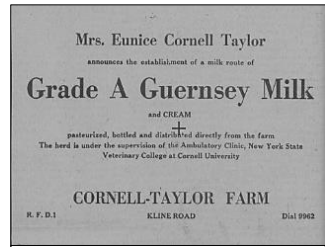
vocation as an artist. Having established a bookbindery at Forest Park and in New Hampshire, she would continue with that and other artistic interests in the new home.<sup>2</sup>

The almost five acres given to Dorothy by the Taylors was part of a much larger parcel of farmland extending north from Hanshaw Road, which the Taylors bought from Eunice and Dorothy's brother Franklin Cornell Jr. Following his father's example, Franklin Jr. had bought farm land from the Manning family in 1903 for investment.<sup>3</sup> Originally it straddled Lots 89 and 90, which were carved out of the land in the Military Tract of Settlement in Central New York State after the American Revolution.<sup>4</sup> At the time of



Map of Cornell Lots, 1945

the Taylor purchase what had been Manning Farm and would soon become known as the Cornell-Taylor Farm was part of the Town of Ithaca. Charles had retired from the hotel business in New York City, and he and Eunice set up a dairy farm on the property.<sup>5</sup> Roughly half a century later the land was sold to developer Otto Schoenfeld who developed Texas Lane and Williamsburg Park, which were annexed to the Village of Cayuga Heights in 1954.<sup>6</sup>



Ad from *Cornell Daily Sun*, Volume 54, Number 8, 3 October 1933

Marcham Hall began life as Stonecroft, the name Dorothy Cornell gave the house which refers to a small landholding with a cottage in the Scottish Highlands. A photo album she made for herself chronicles construction from the time stakes went into the ground in the summer of 1926 and shows us facets of her life there through the 1930s.<sup>7</sup>



Title page of Dorothy Cornell's Stonecroft scrapbook, 1926-1927

### The Construction of Stonecroft

The building was sited facing west 250 feet from what Dorothy referred to as "sister's house" next door. In a photo from the winter of 1926-27, "Manning Road runs in between . . . perpendicular to Hanshaw Road."



Photograph from Stonecroft scrapbook shows trees lining the old Manning Road between Stonecroft and the "Brick House."





Dorothy Cornell stands in the garage at the Stonecroft construction site in 1926.

Early photos show the “native gray stone” facing of the building, as she described it, applied over an underlying structure of “hollow tile inside.” The eight-inch square clay tiles, a common building material at the time, formed the interior of all the walls and can be examined today in an exposed wall area running along the basement staircase.<sup>8</sup>

Unfortunately, there are no extant plans for Stonecroft. Former Village of Cayuga Heights Historian Carol Sisler, who saw them on one occasion, ascribes the design to architect Helen Binkerd Young.<sup>9</sup> Young designed homes in Cayuga Heights in the 1920s and '30s similar in style, including several on Overlook and Devon roads. The exterior reflects well the English country revival architecture that was popular in this country at the time, making the name Stonecroft with its echoes of Britain entirely apposite. The interior displays Tudor period details and an eclectic mix of other features typical of the Arts and Crafts movement. Design principles evident throughout, such as reliance on simple forms, clean lines, natural materials and visible handicrafts, suited Dorothy Cornell’s tastes perfectly. As an artist, in addition to

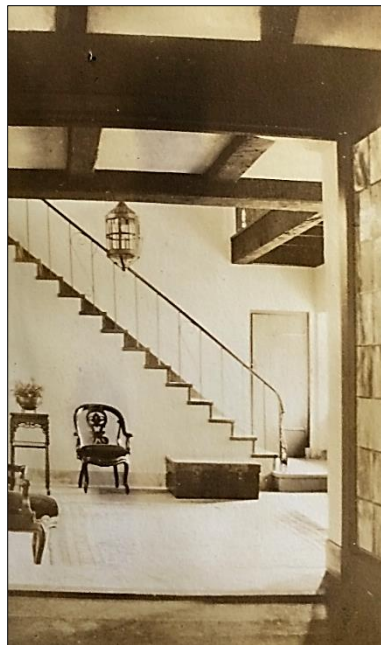


bookbinding, she worked in oil and water colors, made linoleum woodcut block prints, and she embroidered altar cloths and vestments for St. John's Episcopal Church in Ithaca.<sup>10</sup> Although we have no finished artwork by her other than a few book illustrations, notebooks and rough sketches, these show that she favored picturesque, romantic echoes of the past.<sup>11</sup> Walking around the outside of the building, the pigeonholes with perches at the top of the gable above the garage and the charming sundial that can be found on the northeast side of the house epitomize this sensibility. More's the pity, it isn't known who the artisans were that worked for her.

### **Tour the Building**

A tour of the building as it looks today serving as it looks today serving the needs of the Village of Cayuga Heights begins in the large entryway.

Prominent features are the stone floor Dorothy covered with carpeting and an original hanging light fixture, along with open ceiling beams above and a handsome staircase to the second floor. The panes in the double doors shown at the side of the entry are frosted and marbled milk glass panes tinted amber separated by copper mullions.



View of the entryway taken from the "studio"



The studio at Stonecroft decorated for Christmas, 1927

Turning left from the entryway, one enters the large courtroom that Dorothy called her “studio.”<sup>12</sup> Wooden beams continue to provide ribbing across the ceiling and around the interior of the room, giving a half-timbered effect and allowing the eye to see how the house has been put together. One of her scrapbook photographs shows how the studio looked for the first Stonecroft Christmas.

The lineage of beam exposure may be traced back to such principles as “truth in materials” and “honest construction” espoused by John Ruskin and William Morris who founded the Arts and Crafts

movement. The beams are pegged with axe marks that display skills of the individual craftsmen who made them. Other such features of the studio include a stone fireplace framed to match the beaming and alongside it a gothic arched, glass fronted and wood framed book case. Cast iron, hand forged door handles and scrollwork hinges are found throughout the house as are diamond patterned window panes. Of special note in the studio are the two recently restored<sup>13</sup> brass and crystal chandeliers designed in the Art Deco upside-down wedding cake style that was popular in the early twentieth century. As explained with interpretive signage and photos hung to the left of the fireplace, the chandeliers were a gift to Dorothy from the Taylors who very likely acquired them while Mr. Taylor was proprietor of the Beaux Arts style Hotel Martinique in New York City. The door at the back of the room in the far left corner leads to what is now the village justice’s office; Dorothy called it the “alcove.” The conservatory at the back is original although some of the glass has been replaced. Close to a century since it was installed the gear driven mechanism that opens and closes a section of glass for ventilation continues to work.



Dorothy Cornell's sitting room with her desk and family heirloom furnishings

Straight across the entryway one enters the jury room for the Cayuga Heights village court created in what was Dorothy's "sitting-dining room." She identified pieces of furniture with captions as having been inherited from the Cornell family and her mother's Pettigrove relatives. Different photos show them in various locations. She evidently enjoyed arranging and rearranging the furniture along with family portraits and other artwork. Behind the jury room is an addition to the building dating to 2012 that included handicap accessible restrooms and an entryway to the back of the building.

To the right of the front entry what once was Dorothy's kitchen now houses the Cayuga Heights Police Department offices which was enlarged as part of the addition. The kitchen had a large porcelain sink and a fold-out ironing board, as well as a wall mounted Armstrong stove, which was very up-to-date for its day and Dorothy proudly captioned as "electric."



The Armstrong electric stove in Dorothy Cornell's kitchen was wall mounted.

The two garages to the far right side of the building off the kitchen must have been unusual for the time. From albums we know that Dorothy enjoyed driving, or “motoring.” But why would a spinster, as a single woman like her was considered in her day, need space for two cars? Perhaps she had an extra built for Eunice and Charles Taylor who didn’t have a garage next door.

Upstairs, current offices of village department heads and the mayor are to be found in what were originally three bedrooms connected by two balconies facing each across the wide stairwell. The office of the village clerks was Dorothy Cornell’s bedroom with an adjoining bath; the superintendent of public works office at the head of the stairs was a guest room. What is currently the mayor’s tiny office at the end of the hall to the left may have been a maid’s room. From a small window in the attic space above Dorothy was able to take a photo showing Cayuga Lake through the trees.

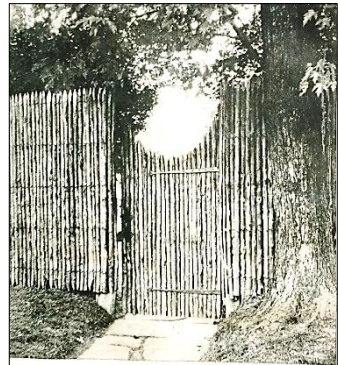


Christian Midjo’s *Shore Birds* hangs in the entry hall of Marcham Hall.

Heading back downstairs to the main floor of the house, the large painting of *Shore Birds* on the wall of the stairwell is signed by Christian Midjo (1880-1973), professor of art at Cornell from 1909 to 1946 who came from Norway.<sup>14</sup> The painting has hung there since 1989 when it was loaned to the village by the estate of Clarence F. Morse (1887-1969), scion of the locally prominent family by that name. A painting of what look to be sea gulls on a salt water coast may to viewers understandably seem quite out of place exhibited inland

in the Finger Lakes of New York State. However, Christian Midjo and George Young Jr., who was a dean of the Cornell College of Architecture and the husband of the reputed architect of the house, Helen Binkerd Young, were good friends. So there is a slight connection at least in the history of Stonecroft for the Morse estate's gift hung in Marcham Hall.<sup>15</sup>

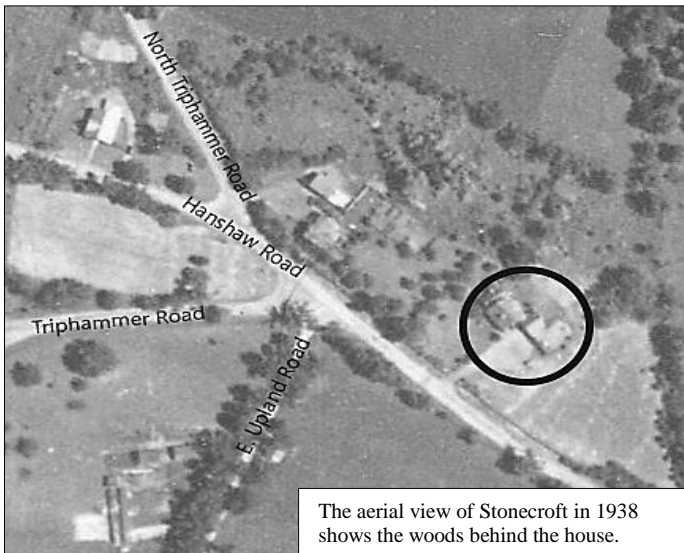
Outside, Dorothy had a Dubois Woven Wood Fence<sup>16</sup> imported from France in front of the house. The fence was constructed of tightly woven vertical members reminiscent of stockade fencing, only thinner. Dorothy's fence ran along her property between stone gateposts on Hanshaw Road where the Taylors installed one as well.



QUINT GATEWAYS ARE RUSTIC BEAUTY  
*Only Stone Post Free* *Fence on post line with this* *Kolan C. Burt Co.*  
*Back in France* *Kind of Fence* *New York*

Ad for Dubois Woven Wood Fence from Dorothy Cornell's scrapbook

Moving to the back of the house, where the addition was added a few years ago, she placed a



The aerial view of Stonecroft in 1938 shows the woods behind the house.





Dorothy Cornell beside a towering geranium growing in the heated conservatory

porch from which she could enjoy the view of the woody acreage east and north of the house where the Village Green shopping center stands today.

By the spring of 1927 Stonecroft was completed, and for ten years Dorothy carried on enjoying her home, which she shared with several canaries, parakeets and the fish who lived in a large stone tank in the heated conservatory. A photo taken in 1930 shows her there dressed quite possibly in an artist's smock admiring one of her six-foot-tall luxuriant geraniums. She is noticeably almost as tall herself.

Came the Depression, both Dorothy and her sister Eunice, who was by then widowed,

suffered losses of inherited Cornell money. To save money, in 1937 Dorothy moved into the big red brick house with Eunice. According to Carol Sisler, who has examined the deeds, Dorothy sold Stonecroft to a first cousin once removed, Franklin Cornell III, who with his wife Emily took over the dairy business from the Taylors and ran it as the Cornell-Taylor Farm.<sup>17</sup> Ownership may have reverted to Dorothy, however, for only a few years later she herself put the house up for sale. An advertisement in the June 20, 1940 issue of the *Cornell Alumni News* shows a picture of the house captioned "For immediate sale" with the description of an "English Cotswold style

### FOR IMMEDIATE SALE



English Cotswold style home, built of native stone, on nearly five acres in residential section one mile north of the Cornell Campus. A roomy home of eight rooms, three fireplaces, three baths, sleeping porch, conservatory, large garage. City water and gas, county taxes. In beautiful motoring country.

**Will Sacrifice at Less Than Cost**

For complete information, write at once to owner, Miss Dorothy Cornell, Hanshaw Rd., Ithaca, N.Y.

Ad from the *Cornell Alumni News*, June 20, 1940, p. 459

home, built of native stone. . . . A roomy home of eight rooms . . . in beautiful motoring country.” In bold, “Will Sacrifice at Less Than Cost. For complete information write at once to the owner, Miss Dorothy Cornell, Hanshaw Road, Ithaca, N.Y.”<sup>18</sup>

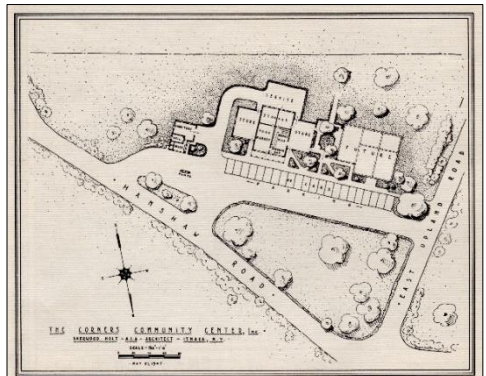
The sale of Stonecroft was a sure sign that the era of Cornell family connections to the two historic houses next door to one another on Hanshaw Road was coming to an end. Both Eunice and Dorothy died in 1942, and Franklin Cornell III in 1945. Emily sold 830 Hanshaw to the Lawrence Scott family who had been managing the dairy farm and took care of Eunice and Dorothy in the last years of their lives.<sup>19</sup> The association of both buildings with the Cornell family receded into the past.

**The Stone House**

After 1945 Stonecroft began to be referred to simply as the “Stone House” at 840 Hanshaw Road. For the next quarter century it was owned by three individuals in succession.<sup>20</sup> Following World War II land near the house at the corner of

Hanshaw and Triphammer Road underwent commercial development

in response to suburban growth taking place around it. Across the street in 1947 a Cornell administrator named Walter Heasley built a cluster of retail stores incorporated as the Corners Community Center.<sup>21</sup> Twenty years later a portion of the woods that Dorothy had enjoyed looking at on her property was developed by Chase and Hewitt Realty Inc. as a second shopping center



General plan of the development.

Plan for the Corners Community Center, from “The Corners Community Progress Report,” June 1947

**VILLAGE MARKET**  
 840 Hanshaw Rd.  
 Community Corners  
 Village Green Shopping  
 Center  
**Open 7 Days a Week**  
 9-9 Mon.-Sat.  
 9-6 Sunday  
 ● Deli  
 ● Fresh Meat  
 ● Fresh Produce  
 ● Groceries

Ad from *The Cornell Daily Sun*, Volume 84, Number 41, 1 November 1967



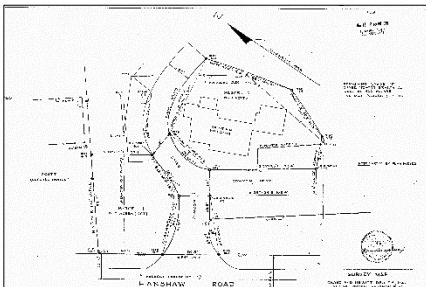
modest in size named The Village Green. In 1969 the Village Green listing in Manning’s local telephone directory included Ithaca postal sub-station number 5, a small grocery and a pharmacy, a gas station still there today, and a few offices. What had been garage space in Stonecroft took on a storefront and became Flavin’s Jewelers. By then, the whole surrounding area along Hanshaw Road from North Triphammer where it crosses East Upland Road and continuing on to Pleasant Grove Road was known locally as “Community Corners,” or simply “The Corners.”

### **Marcham Hall**

The opening of The Village Green shopping center set the stage for the Stone House to be sold to the Village of Cayuga Heights. In 1954 the village had been enlarged by the annexation of adjoining neighborhoods from the Town of Ithaca. During the intervening fifteen years the village government, including the village court, had more than outgrown a one-room office in the fire station at 194 Pleasant Grove Road. Further, the police department was housed inadequately in retail space rented from Walter Heasley at Community Corners. By 1969, therefore, the village board of six trustees under the leadership of Mayor Frederick Marcham had begun to search for more suitable space.<sup>22</sup>

Quite naturally, the two freestanding buildings in the commercial district at The Corners were the prime candidates—830 Hanshaw Road, still owned by the Scott family who had managed the Cornell-Taylor Farm, and the

Stone House then owned by Chase and Hewitt Realty. Initial estimates determined that the cost of renovating 830 Hanshaw was prohibitive, which left The Stone House as the leading candidate. In January 1969 the owners of the Kent Steakhouse in downtown Ithaca were refused



Survey map of the Stone House lot, 1969

permission by the village board to move their restaurant into the building; after that, events moved swiftly toward acquisition by Cayuga Heights.<sup>23</sup> Modest opposition to the projected cost to taxpayers was expressed by roughly a hundred residents with a request for a referendum, but that was withdrawn.<sup>24</sup> On February 10, 1969 acquisition by the village was finalized when the Board of Trustees passed a bonding resolution which allocated funding for the \$59,000 purchase price and \$35,000 for the “reconstruction and equipment of a building commonly known as the ‘Stone House’.”<sup>25</sup> Work began soon on needed repairs overseen by village engineer Jack Rogers. Windows were repaired; walls were plastered, and linoleum flooring was installed in the kitchen area assigned to the police. The basic layout of rooms was left unchanged.<sup>26</sup> Cornell professor of city planning John Reps, a friend of Mayor Marcham, presented the village with a set of maps of world cities reproduced by his company Historic Urban Plans. They were put up on the walls of Dorothy Cornell’s repurposed studio where a monthly meeting of the village board of trustees was held for the first time on November 10, 1969.

Twenty years later Marcham Hall was named in honor of beloved Cornell professor of English history Frederick G. Marcham (1898-1992) on the occasion of his retirement, having served for thirty-two years as mayor of Cayuga Heights from 1956 to 1988.<sup>27</sup> On July 10, 1989 he spoke at the dedication of the garden that was planted outside the building in his honor at that time by



Fred Marcham outside  
Marcham Hall, 1989

members of the Ithaca Garden Club, which raised \$6,000 in donations from 273 village residents.<sup>28</sup> In his remarks he included a reading of the poem “To His Garden” by the seventeenth century English poet Andrew Marvell.<sup>29</sup> The choice was entirely appropriate for an elderly gentleman who

had moved from England early in life to teach the history of his country at an American university and then in mid-life become mayor of the small village adjoining its campus. Having lived as a boy “in a home on one of the poorest streets of Reading, an industrial town in the Thames Valley of England,” surrounded by what he recalled as nothing less than “poverty and squalor” for all of his adult life, Marcham was drawn to the beauty of the natural world.<sup>30</sup> Although it bears little if any resemblance to the picturesque English villages he took pleasure in photographing during a visit back to his homeland in 1951, he certainly found Cayuga Heights with its narrow tree-lined streets adjoining the Cornell campus wholly congenial.<sup>31</sup> Those of us who were present when he spoke at the garden dedication in Marcham Hall, whose very design harkens back intentionally to English culture, heard him describe Cayuga Heights as “a quiet community, a place of neighbors and of friendships.”<sup>32</sup>

Since the Marcham years much effort has been made to preserve Marcham Hall and use it well. Making what was Dorothy Cornell’s private home function as municipal offices has not been an easy task, particularly with regard to the bedrooms and kitchen that were converted to office space. But it has been a highly successful one thanks to the stewardship of village mayors, members of the village board, professional staff and even volunteer gardeners. Two earlier renovations were proposed and rejected before the 2012 addition to the back and the police department greatly improved the building’s functionality and handicap accessibility.<sup>33</sup> The first, in 2004, was rejected because of a \$650,000 proposed cost. The second, in 2006, which suggested moving the village offices altogether, was turned down because of insufficient space available at the new fire station nearby on Pleasant Grove Road. In 2009 an expression of interest on the part of Warren Real Estate in purchasing Marcham Hall, which was accompanied by a proposal that the village buy and move its offices into the commercial building across the street at 410 East Upland Road, was discussed but did not receive serious consideration by the board of trustees.<sup>34</sup> Subsequent board discussion demonstrated a commitment to staying put and



Jack Lambert's drawing of Marcham Hall

pursuing a more affordable addition, which the mayor, board members and village department heads all agreed was overdue. The 2012 effort was initiated when Village Justice Glenn Galbreath successfully applied for a \$30,000 grant to help pay for the provision of a jury room in compliance with New York State law. A committee of trustees selected the plan put forward by architect Todd Zwigard of Skaneateles among several submitted. His design, it was thought, while “quite modern . . . complemented the existing stone and architectural style of Marcham.”<sup>35</sup> With modest alteration, the project was carried through to completion, adding 550 square feet to the 4,115 square foot footprint of the building at a cost of just over \$100,000. Much of the labor was furnished by village public works employees.

Thus was Dorothy Cornell's Stonecroft renovated and made ready to be shown off as Marcham Hall in the Historic Ithaca house tour marking the Centennial Celebration of the Village of Cayuga Heights on June 13, 2015. Surely Dorothy would approve of the care taken of her home over the years, especially of the recent renovation of her chandeliers. An artist herself, she would most assuredly enjoy the drawings by the late Cornell professor Jack Lambert which now hang on the walls of the courtroom that was her studio.<sup>36</sup> Undoubtedly, she would wish the village well on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

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## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> Hanshaw Road with no street number is the first address given for Dorothy Cornell at Stonecroft in the 1929 *Ithaca City Directory* published by H. A. Manning. In 1935 the house began to be listed as “Hanshaw rd RD1”; it became 840 Hanshaw Road in 1947 sharing that street number when the Village Green Shopping Center was established in the late 1960s. The address became 836 Hanshaw Road in 1970 when the building was purchased by the Village of Cayuga Heights to be the village hall. Further references to Manning’s directories in the text that follows note the year without additional endnotes.

<sup>2</sup> Dorothy was close friends of Minnie, Annie and May Rosina Prat, Canadian sisters who studied art in New York City and Chicago and by 1900 had established a well-regarded Manhattan book binding business adhering to Arts and Crafts design styles. They may have introduced Dorothy to their art form having met her through a family connection because their mother was a “first cousin of Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph.” Quite possibly it was a social visit occasioned by Ezra Cornell’s major role in helping Samuel Morse found the Western Union Telegraph Company that brought the sisters to ‘Forest Park’ in Ithaca where they met and were befriended by Dorothy. See the photograph of “May Rosina Prat and Dorothy Cornell operating the book press at Dorothy’s book bindery at ‘Forest Park,’ Ithaca, New York.” *The Prat Sisters: Free Spirits of the 1890s* from the Nova Scotia Archives: <http://novascotia.ca/archives/virtual/prat/archives.asp?ID=97>. Of further note, a wooden book press that belonged to Dorothy Cornell is on display at The History Center in Tompkins County, collection item 43.16.

<sup>3</sup> Carol U. Sisler, *Enterprising Families, Ithaca, New York, Their Homes and Businesses* (Ithaca: Enterprise Publishing, 1986), 67.

<sup>4</sup> Carl Crandall, Engineer of the Village of Cayuga Heights, *Map of Cornell Lots, Hanshaw Road, Town of Ithaca, N.Y.*, filed May 16, 1945.

<sup>5</sup> Sisler, 67-68.

<sup>6</sup> Patricia Longoria, *From Farm to Suburb: a History of Place Names in Cayuga Heights, Ithaca, New York*, 2015.

<sup>7</sup> *Photographs of DC’s Ithaca House ‘Stonecroft’*, a handmade leather bound album in the *Dorothy Cornell Collection*, V-6-5-7, Photo Album 85, archives of The History Center in Tompkins County.

<sup>8</sup> Conversation with the Village of Cayuga Heights Superintendent of Public Works Brent Cross on site, May 23, 2015.

<sup>9</sup> On the original blueprints for the house that were acquired by Mary Scott, daughter of the family who owned it after Dorothy Cornell’s death in 1942: Carol U. Sisler, “Our Historic Village Hall,” *The Cayuga Heights Courier*, 3, Number 1 (Winter 2005). On architect Helen Binkerd Young: Sara Johnson, Preservation Associate, “A Pioneering Woman: Helen Binkerd Young,” *Historic Ithaca Newsletter*, 40 (Winter 2008). With special reference to Young’s career at Cornell in Home Economics, see her faculty biography in *From Domesticity to Modernity: What Was Home Economics?* Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library, exhibit 2001: <http://rnc.library.cornell.edu/homeEc/bios/helenbinkerdyoung.html>.

<sup>10</sup> Dorothy Cornell’s obituary, *Ithaca Journal*, December 1, 1942.

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<sup>11</sup> She made six wood block prints as illustrations for a collection of travel vignettes written by Elfrieda Hochbaum Pope, *Passion and Pageant* (Boston: Bruce Humphries, Inc., 1933); the notebooks and sketches are from the *Dorothy Cornell Collection* at The History Center in Tompkins County referenced above, kindly shown to the author by archivist Donna Eschenbrenner, May 19, 2015.

<sup>12</sup> This description of Arts and Crafts influences on the interior of Stonecroft exemplified in the studio took shape in conversation with colleagues in the Cayuga Heights Historic Preservation Committee, Randi Kepecs, Patricia Longoria and Carole Schiffman, June 1, 2015.

<sup>13</sup> Mike Montgomery of Vintage Lighting in Aurora, New York, restored the chandeliers in 2015.

<sup>14</sup>“Christian Martinius Susseg Midjo, April 8, 1880 – December 29, 1973,” *Memorial Statements of the Cornell University Faculty*: [http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/bitstream/1813/19012/2/Midjo\\_Christian\\_Martinius\\_Susseg\\_1973.pdf](http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/bitstream/1813/19012/2/Midjo_Christian_Martinius_Susseg_1973.pdf).

<sup>15</sup> *Christian Midjo (1880-1973)*, postings by Mary Jane (Neff), former clerk of the Village of Cayuga Heights on the gift from the Clarence F. Morse estate (August 26, 2006) and by Nancy Humpal, whose father was a student of George Young Jr. (July 18, 2007):

[http://www.askart.com/artist\\_bulletins/Christian\\_M\\_S\\_Midjo/10036871/Christian\\_M\\_S\\_Midjo.aspx#](http://www.askart.com/artist_bulletins/Christian_M_S_Midjo/10036871/Christian_M_S_Midjo.aspx#).

<sup>16</sup> <https://archive.org/details/DuboisWovenWoodFence>

<sup>17</sup> Sisler, 67 and note 53 on page 154.

<sup>18</sup> *Cornell Alumni News*, June 20, 1940, 459.

<sup>19</sup> For the further history of 830 Hanshaw Road, which became the Peggy Cornwall dress shop in 1976 and was acquired by the current owners, Warren Real Estate, in 1986, Sisler 67 and 68.

<sup>20</sup> As listed in annual editions of Manning’s *Ithaca City Directory*: Herman Jones from 1946 to 1949, Edward F. Hall in 1951, and Gardiner M. Rogers until 1966.

<sup>21</sup> Beatrice Szekely and Carole Schiffman, “Community Corners—Looking Back to Move Forward,” *Village Voices* (newsletter of the Village of Cayuga Heights), Autumn 2014.

<sup>22</sup> F. G. Marcham, Mayor, Village of Cayuga Heights, “Restaurants and Office Space,” letter to the editor, *Ithaca Journal*, January 2, 1969.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>24</sup> “Petitions Withdrawn,” *Ithaca Journal*, March 3, 1969.

<sup>25</sup> “Resolution #1397—Bond Resolution, Section 1a,” *Minutes of the Village of Cayuga Heights*, February 10, 1969.

<sup>26</sup> John B. Rogers, Village Engineer, *Drawings for the first and second floor of ‘Stone House – Village Hall*, July 25, 1969.

<sup>27</sup> There is much research to be done about the Marcham mayoralty in Cayuga Heights. For a personal reflection: Frederick G. Marcham, “Cayuga Heights Grows,” *The Papers of F. G. Marcham: III, Cornell Notes, World War II to 1968*, edited by John Marcham (Ithaca: The Internet-First University Press, 2006), 37-39:

[http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/bitstream/1813/3454/1/Marcham3\\_CNNotes\\_WWII\\_1968\\_s.pdf](http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/bitstream/1813/3454/1/Marcham3_CNNotes_WWII_1968_s.pdf).

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<sup>28</sup> Award application of the Ithaca Garden Club filed with the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc. by Mrs. George Zimmer for Marcham Garden, n.d., likely 1990.

<sup>29</sup> “The Frederick G. Marcham Garden at Marcham Hall, 836 Hanshaw Road,” Monday, July 10, 1989, event program.

<sup>30</sup> John Marcham, “The Photographer,” 93 and quoting from his father’s memoirs, “Marcham through the Ages,” 98, *The Photographs of Frederick G. Marcham* (Ithaca, New York: DeWitt Historical Society of Tompkins County, 2000).

<sup>31</sup> “English Villages,” *ibid.*, 60-69.

<sup>32</sup> “The Frederick G. Marcham Garden at Marcham Hall,” event program.

<sup>33</sup> “History of Marcham Hall Renovation Plans,” October 2008, two-page chronology prepared by village clerk Norma Manning for the Board of Trustees, on which the author sat from that year until 2013.

<sup>34</sup> Letter from Bryan H. Warren, Warren Real Estate of Ithaca, Inc., to Village of Cayuga Heights Board of Trustees, July 17, 2009.

<sup>35</sup> Diana Riesman, village trustee from 2008 to 2014, paragraphs on the Marcham Hall renovation prepared for the Cayuga Heights Historic Preservation Committee, March 9, 2015.

<sup>36</sup> Robert J. Lambert Jr. (1927-2014), professor of freehand drawing in the Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture of the Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; the drawings are a gift to the Village of Cayuga Heights from his daughter Sarah Lambert.



## Who We Are

In 2015, the Village of Cayuga Heights celebrates the centennial of its incorporation. The quintessential American university suburb adjacent to Cornell, Cayuga Heights has enjoyed a close connection with the university since it was founded. In conjunction with the centennial, Village Historian Bea Szekely has coordinated a number of important initiatives to collect and present the history of the village's first 100 years.



- **The History Project (THP) and Online GIS StoryMaps:** The History Project (<http://cayugaheightshistory.weebly.com/>) is the central repository for individual house histories that tell the story of the Village, its residents, and the forces that have shaped it. The Tompkins County GIS department assisted THP in producing online StoryMaps, which present this data in thematic form.
- **Speaker Series:** The series kicked off in Fall 2014 with a talk by former Village Historian Carol Sisler on the architecture of the Heights. Urban horticulture researcher Fred Cowett presented a lecture on the Village's natural environment. In 2015, THP sponsored a panel discussion of long-time residents who grew up in the Village.
- **Marcham Hall Exhibit:** The June 13<sup>th</sup> centennial marks the opening of "Illustrations of Village Life" by Robert J. "Jack" Lambert Jr. (1928-2014). Jack Lambert was professor of freehand drawing at Cornell University's School of Agriculture and Life Sciences and a long-time resident, with his wife Nina Lambert and daughter Sarah Lambert, of the Village. The drawings can also be viewed online at <http://cayugaheightshistory.weebly.com/jack-lambert-illustrations.html>.
- **Publications:** THP members have published Cayuga Heights history highlights on the THP website, as well as written *The Story of Marcham Hall* (2015) and *From Farm to Suburb: A History of Place Names in Cayuga Heights, Ithaca, New York* (2015).

## Contact Us

### Village of Cayuga Heights Historic Preservation Committee

Bea Szekely, Village Historian, [bszekely@cayuga-heights.ny.us](mailto:bszekely@cayuga-heights.ny.us)

Carole Schiffman, Co-Chair, [cschiffman@cayuga-heights.ny.us](mailto:cschiffman@cayuga-heights.ny.us)

Randi Kepecs, Co-Chair, [rkepecs@cayuga-heights.ny.us](mailto:rkepecs@cayuga-heights.ny.us)

Patricia Longoria, Researcher/Writer, [plongoria@cayuga-heights.ny.us](mailto:plongoria@cayuga-heights.ny.us)

Web: <http://cayugaheightshistory.weebly.com/>