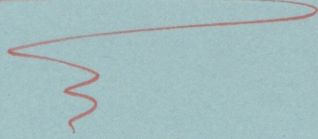


Rough Drafts



9 Am Monday

(H)
369
4457

ADDRESS BY CURTIS ROOSEVELT
FDR HIGH SCHOOL
HYDE PARK, NEW YORK

1 JUNE 1976

I.

How important is Eleanor Roosevelt?

How important was Val Kil to her?

These are the basic questions that need to be answered.

(Time problem.)

II.

Val Kil was ER's place. She had no other place.

(Acknowledge other speakers, slides, etc.)

(Confirm these impressions by childhood recollections and later as an adult.)

2

1 Q. How do you remember Val-Kill
A. From the earliest days.

My sister and I grew up here. Hyde Park--the "Big House" as we called it, ^{was my home} is the mansion now run by the Park Service.

The FDR/ER library didn't exist then, although in the last summer I spent ^{there} here, the first part of the library had been completed. As a small child, my room was the nursery on the third floor--not open to the public--later I moved to the second floor into the small room labeled FDR's boyhood room. I was 14 years old my last summer, but it is my early memories that are the most vivid to me.

(Roosevelt MANSION)

JEAN STARETON, LT. GOV. KAUFMAN

Nancy DUBNER
Joyce Ghee
Hyde Park Vision Environment
Committee

In the way that children instinctively understand sometimes difficult human relationships, I knew that the "Big House" was Granny's house--that is my great-grandmother Sara Delano Roosevelt-- and I knew that Val-Kyll was my grandmother's house. The triangle relationship which they had with my grandfather didn't bother me--

that's just the way it was. (Recollection of Granny and Grandmother.)

In the morning, when we got up and had had our breakfast, we always went running down the long corridor to Granny's room to say good morning, go over the day's routine (which never varied from one day to the next), then outside to go horseback riding. Back for lunch and then a nap. In the afternoon, we came to Val-Kyll. My sister

and I played, went in the pool. If Granny had guests to tea, we then had to go back, get dressed up, and put in an appearance there.

Otherwise, my grandmother quite often gave us iced tea, sitting in the sun around the pool. Probably not many children led as secluded, sheltered and yet totally carried for life as I did when I was at Hyde

Park. But there was no doubt about it, the Big House, Hyde Park, was Granny's; Val Kyl cottage was my grandmother's. Val Kyl was her place.

I returned as an adult to New York City in 1950, and resumed the childhood custom of coming to Hyde Park for the weekends. This time, however, it was not the Big House but Val Kyl Cottage. Every weekend I was fascinated by the people who trooped through. From heads of state--to foreign students--to neighbors and just old friends. Someone from the State Department told me one day that one of the jokes in

12
18
24 2424
24
48
24
72

②
Q
CR!

③
Q
A

what were your days like at Hyde Park

the Big house

we stayed at Val-Kyll

would give

Ellen's

what was Val-Kyll like in later years

1/2 Jewell Draft of Article *margins 3 1/2*
Frances Perkins (1882-1965)

good
The first woman member of a presidential cabinet, she served as U.S. Secretary of Labor throughout the administrations of F.D.R.

Earlier she had served on the New York State Industrial Commission and ~~was the Commissioner~~ *before she was* became Commissioner under the Governorship of FDR. Frances Perkins innovations such as ~~the~~ the introduction of unemployment insurance and higher wages to raise the purchasing power of workers during the 1930 depression, contributed largely to the social reform legislation of the New Deal. *government*

Margaret Sanger (1883-1966)

Founder and leader of the birth control movement in the United States. She promoted the idea that birth control was a basic human right that should be available to all. *Margaret Sanger* ~~Sanger~~ *she* was one of 11 children, worked as an obstetrical nurse in the lower east side of Manhattan where in 1912 a woman died in her arms of a self induced abortion. ~~After~~ *used* This event moved her to ~~xxxx~~ study the current forms of birth control/in Europe. She returned to the U.S. where in 1916 she opened the first birth control clinic -in defiance of the law. ~~She was arrested and jailed and despite many more arrests she pursued her cause.~~ *margaret* In 1917, Sanger founded the National Birth Control League which became Planned Parenthood of America. ~~This led to the establishment of the International P.D. Federation created in 1952 of which she was the first president.~~ *health*

Elizabeth Blackwell (1821 - 1910)

② Devoted her life to fighting for the education and acceptance of women physicians. ^{Elizabeth Blackwell} ~~She~~ was the first woman ever admitted to medical school--^{she} ~~she~~ was accepted at New York's Geneva College after ^{more than} ~~over~~ 30 schools rejected her. ~~After~~ graduating first in her class, she was barred from practicing medicine in New York City hospitals. She ~~then~~ founded the New York City Infirmary for women and children with her sister, Emily, ^{who} also a pioneering woman physician. ~~was~~ ~~born~~. Together for the next 30 years, they administered the infirmary and founded the Women's Medical College which graduated 364 women physicians before it merged with Cornell University Medical College in 1898.

Julia Ward Howe (1819 - 1910)

Author of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic". She was ~~also~~ a leader in the suffragist movement ^{and} ~~and~~ founded the American Woman Suffrage Association with Lucy Stone. She later became president of the association and was a frequent lobbyist for women's rights. ^{insert}

Mother Seton (1774 - 1821) Roman Catholic convert - Founder of the first American Sisterhood.

Elizabeth Anne Seton was widowed at age 29 when her husband died while they were abroad. Upon her return to the United States, she converted to Catholicism and

Health

Activist

expand

Religious Educator

founded the Sisters of Charity. This order sponsored one of the first parochial schools for girls in America--St. Joseph's School. Mother Seton was canonized on September 14, 1975--the first Saint from New York State.

Lillie Devereux Blake (1833 - 1913)

Author & suffragist. President of the N.Y.S. Woman Suffrage Association. In 1880, ^{she} won the vote for women in school elections, secured passage of laws providing for women doctors in mental institutions and of matrons in police stations. In 1900, ^{Lillie Blake} organized the National Legislative League with Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

Harriet Burton Laidlaw

Suffragist. Active in the New York Women's Suffragist Party. Her husband, James, was active in the National Men's League for Woman Suffrage. Together they travelled around the United States speaking on behalf of suffrage. From 1809 - 1916 Ms. Laidlaw was Manhattan Borough chair. ^{person} She ~~was~~ was a leader in the campaign amendment. ^{eventually} that passed a state suffrage ~~XXXXXXXX~~ After the 19th Amendment passed, she devoted her energies toward working for peace.

Sara Josephine Baker (1873 - 1945)

Physician, public health administrator and pioneer for child health. Dr. Baker dedicated her life to

public health education. She developed the Division of Child Hygiene (N.Y.C.) which was the first public agency devoted to children's health. This agency spearheaded many programs which were designed to lower the high infant mortality in the ghettos of New York City. In 1911 she organized the Babies Welfare Association which later became the Children's Welfare Society of New York. She coined the phrase, "Its six times safer to be a soldier in the trenches of France, than to be a baby born in the United States."

Mary Louise Booth (1831 - 1889)

Translator and author, first editor of Harper's Bazaar.

Booth began her literary career by writing the first comprehensive history ever written of the City of New York.

In 1867 she was chosen as editor of Harper's Bazaar-- then a 16-page weekly designed for women--at a salary

of \$4,000 per year. She remained editor for 22 years ^{and during} ~~until her death~~ her tenure the magazine became one of the leading women's publications in the U.S.

Katharine Bement Davis (1860 - 1935)

Penologist and social worker. She began an outstanding

career of public service by establishing a settlement

house for the poor in Philadelphia. In 1901 she was

appointed Superintendent of Bedford Hills Reformatory

and for 13 years she instituted many innovative programs there.

In 1914 she was appointed Commissioner of Corrections--

Journalist

Sociologist

the first woman to serve at a cabinet-level position in New York City. During her tenure she laid out plans for the New York City Detention Home for Women which was opened in 1932. Her Charitable activities included raising over two million dollars during World War I for relief work ~~a~~ in France and England. In 1922 K.B. Davis was cited by the League of Women Voters as one of the twelve most outstanding women in the United States.

Sojourner Truth (c.1797 - 1883)

Abolitionist and reformer. Born into slavery in upstate New York, Soj. Truth eventually became one of the most influential spokeswomen for abolition and women's rights in her time, travelling all over the East Coast. She sang and spoke at church gatherings, in town centers and anyplace where people gathered. In 1864, she was presented to President Lincoln at the White House. Later, in 1870 she presented President Grant with petitions she had circulated calling for the establishment of a Negro state. Although this cause never came to fruition, she is credited for the migration of many Negroes to the Midwest.

Harriet Tubman (1820(?) - 1913)

Fugitive slave, rescuer of slaves and Civil War nurse. Harriet Tubman was born on a plantation in Maryland

Harley Oster

and at a young age escaped to freedom in Philadelphia. She spent 10 years preceeding the Civil War travelling in and out of Maryland bringing a total of ~~about~~ ^{over} 300 people to freedom. During the Civil War she served as a spy and scout securing information from Negro scouts behind confederate lines. After the war ~~she began the~~ ^{insert 2} ~~Harriet Tubman Home for Indigent Aged Negroes.~~

*did she live
up to
it all*

Emma Lazarus (1849 - 1887)

Author. Best known for her remarkably sensitive inscription on the Statue of Liberty, "Give me your tired, your poor . . .". She began her career as a poet, ~~spending her early days composing poetic tragedies.~~ Beginning in 1881, Emma Lazarus was particularly moved by the plight of Russian Jews and therefore began to advocate a national Jewish homeland in Palestine. Sensitive to the needs of Jewish immigrants ⁱⁿ the United States, she pressed for vocational training programs which led to the founding of New York Hebrew Technical Institute.

*Literature
Activist Poet*

Edith Wharton (1862 - 1937)

Novelist. Raised in the high society of New York and Europe, Edith Wharton was one of the first writers to describe this life in prose. She spent much of her life in Europe where she wrote many novels in the Jamensian style. She won a Pulitzer Prize for her work The Age of Innocence.

Seneca Falls
Baller
1828-1906

6

Susan B. Anthony

1828-1906

①
For more than 50 years Susan B. Anthony, along with her friend Elizabeth Cady Stanton, devoted her life to making men and women equal before the law. She was the founder and leader of the National Women's Suffragist Association, which led the effort to secure the vote for women, ~~and~~ In 1868 she introduced the first woman's suffragist adment in Congress. She fought for its passage for her entire life. At the time of her death this goal had only been realized in four states, however 14 years later, mainly due to her efforts, the 19th Amendment was adopted.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton

(1815-1902)

Regarded as the "Mother of Women's Suffrage". Elizabeth Cady Stanton called and organized the first Woman's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls in 1848. It was at this convention that the women's movement was launched and here women formally asked for the right to vote.

14

Q: What influence has Val-Kill had on your life.

Curtis: My grandmother was not awed and consumed by ^{the} power that is always around somebody who is in an important position. She really prepared me for the world we actually live in today which was quite a different place prior to World War II. Eleanor was not impressed by institutions and by office. You see I had the benefit of two important lifestyles... the "Big House" and its grandeur seemed very appropriate for FDR, he was a rich and powerful man that worked hard but nonetheless was an upper class person... on the other hand the simplicity and low-key symbolism of Val-Kill was very much

If I had grown up only one environment
I might very well have a mind set of grandpa
Eleanor. The moderating influence of Val-Kill
was representative of my grandmother's influence
on my life.

Washington during the Eisenhower Administration was that when a head of state came to visit the United States, ~~for example, Marshal Tito,~~ there were three guaranteed stops on the schedule. One, of course, was to formally call upon the President and other officials in Washington. The second was to make an address at the United Nations. The third was to visit Mrs. Roosevelt at Val-Kill. ~~One might pass this off by saying, "Well, of course, they wish to pay their respects to the widow of FDR, the wartime leader." Indeed, they always did pay their respects at my grandfather's grave, but there should be no doubt they came to see my grandmother in her own right.~~

Insert (H)
~~III.~~

⑤ How important was Eleanor Roosevelt? ~~We are just beginning to see.~~

② For many reasons, historians and commentators have been unable to assess or even describe adequately the influence and power of ER--her position in history.

The importance of FDR is comparatively easy to see. (Reasons why.) ?

① ER was called "First Lady of the World". ~~But what does this mean? Is this just a flattering title or is there some real significance to it? The title was not an idle one.~~ ③ She would not have had this world-wide recognition if she had not stood for something--she was a symbol for what humanity might become--therefore, a symbol of hope--for people around the world.

(When I listen to speeches by political leaders ... my reaction is to be somewhat cynical ... their words go in one ear and go out the other--very occasionally is my mind turned ... even less occasionally is my heart moved.

④ My grandmother's influence, ~~on the other hand~~, seemed to come through the pores of your skin. She wanted to change attitudes, change perceptions, move people to a change of heart. While she would sometimes campaign for a candidate or an issue she felt strongly about, she was basically concerned to move your soul. She wanted to influence the total you--not just your vote on election day.

Insert from page 5
⑥ Even when my grandmother had an official position, such as being a delegate at the United Nations, she had a totally different set of relationships than did the other officials. It is difficult to describe, but she was not just the United States representative, she was Mrs. Roosevelt. Delegates went to her, took her advice, were guided by her, influenced by her, in ways that transcended political alliances and ideologies. Her convictions were obvious. Her integrity made her the conscience of the other delegates, of the institution itself. She was Mrs. Roosevelt wielding a power and influence that was quite personal. She was unique, and there has never been a delegate like her since then--from any country. Yet there is no way that historians can record this. Perhaps through oral history, interviewing some of the past delegates who are still alive, you may get some flavor of it, but that's it. It's a flavor, not the sort of published public papers and addresses by which we usually record the activities of important people in history.

⑦ To get inside some of my grandmother's attitudes and answers, or at least describe the puzzles that she represents, is something I want to do very much, and I am now working with Rhoda Lermen to write some essays addressed to these problems. What was her attitude towards institutions--towards bureaucrats, towards politicians, What was the real nature of her partnership with FDR? How did she feel about religion? (COMMENT ABOUT THE LIBRARY).

It is important to see that Eleanor Roosevelt was way ahead of her time--in her attitude towards institutions and the way they deal, acting for and against people. And the way she handled power and influence is something women today should study closely, rather than simply aping the ways of the businesses that don't give a damn for the consumer, the government officials only interested in the next step in their career (we have plenty of those at the United Nations), or the college faculty and administration with only a marginal interest in their students.

⑤ Eleanor Roosevelt effectively fought for the individual against dehumanizing bureaucracies. She was a model of constructive rebellion, of creative confrontation. She mixed her idealism with a keen sense of what was possible to achieve, what was a practical, realistic approach. She obviously had tremendous vision, but she didn't talk much about it or theorize to any extent. Instead she witnessed to what could be--occasionally pushing the old political "art of the possible" to an unprecedented high.

I find comparisons between people tedious, but I would bet you that historians in the next century will appreciate what Eleanor Roosevelt gave us as much as they do the leadership of FDR.

What does Val Kil symbolize? It is indeed more subtle than the "Big House", FDR's estate. There you have only to see the long, straight driveway, lined with its huge trees, sweeping up to the impressive mansion, to feel that period of imperialism in our country's history--a period which was ushered in by Theodore Roosevelt's sending the Great White Fleet around the world, with its style of leadership which came to its height and final act in World War II, presided over by Franklin Roosevelt.

(The library architectural style and then the "Top Cottage".)

Val Kil very much symbolizes Eleanor Roosevelt's approach. Her own place, converted from a furniture factory, indeed is a big house with lots of rooms, but it certainly isn't grand. The vaulted ceiling in the Stone Cottage is impressive, but certainly not awesome. The whole place is low key, stressing the individual human being. By any standard, it is an estate, but the word doesn't seem to fit when used in the same breath as the Mills estate or the Rogers estate or FDR's estate.

Jewell: I thought Eleanor Roosevelt had a marvelous sense of humor?

C.R.: She would when she felt very secure and she did in her later years I think develop some friendships that she would laugh with but far more quietly whereas FDR loved being that characterized his relationship with her secretary.

What I am illustrating is that they were unable to give each other some elementary things. They had an extraordinary productive relationship which grew out of a profound respect that just surmounted the awkwardness & irritation of the relationship. Val-Kill represents in a physical way the separate life of Eleanor Roosevelt and a life which she was allowed to explore with two other women. FDR had alot to do with the designing of the two houses. There was an architect on the techincal side but he very definitely had a strong hand in designing the first of the two houses. He loved dutch colonial and in a way this represented his own toning down, his own movement from the grandeur.

Jewell: What role do you see Val-Kill playing for women today beyond the historic values?

C.R.: *What role it will play for todays woman*
Time
Premature I don't really know and at this state I think it would be foolish to make any firm decisions as to what it will be on what Val-Kill should be beyond a memorial. I think it is *truly* important ~~to two things.~~

Why How did *Eleanor* she come *to* play such an *important* role in *history*

Jewell: Do you think that's probably why since her being the first lady there has not been a first lady thereafter that has contributed to social change the way she has or taking up the leadership role that she has?

C.R.: One of the reasons why my grandmother played such an extraordinary role as she did, *was* ~~is that FDR allowed it.~~ In other words you must give him credit for encouraging her to get out and do her *own* thing, and her thing was of course being first lady in a manner in which nobody has duplicated or even attempted to duplicate since. But it was never brought out that she would have never done this unless she had been ~~allowed or encouraged by FDR.~~ Her record is on the line, you can see it, but nobody ever speaks or gives FDR credit for *his* allowing this. *Supportive role.*

Q6A What does the kill symbolize
Remember there is a (6A) on page 6 of the CR Xerox

Jewell: ~~What do you think of Betty Ford?~~

C.R.: I think Betty Ford probably stood out and been forthright on issues and not just the normal issues but the symbolic issues. I think her comments vis-a-vis her daughter are really quite terrific. But what she has not done, she has not in any way tried to duplicate Eleanor Roosevelt's first lady's role, if any one can do that or not. I am writing, although its taking me a long time, an essay on the partnership between Eleanor Roosevelt & FDR. It's a study that will be of interest to people like yourself.

Answer to Q7

1) To physically present the place that really represented her stepping out on her own with her husband's concurrence and support. 2) What does Eleanor Roosevelt have to say to us? I think an awful lot. Her when I think something like that ought to grow to a certain . If you get a strong push that is if women that they really can discuss their potential role and gain something being in the place of Eleanor Roosevelt, then I think there is something to be said for it. If you are only competing one conference center with another conference center there are probably other conference centers that can just as well be . I hope that N.Y.S. and the women of N.Y.S. that hold official positions will take the lead focusing on your problems but take the lead to really kind of work out what are some of the practical things that need to be done vis-a-vis the role of women today and that they needs to be developed as one moves away from the radical leadership that has characterized the last 5 years. I hope, may I tell you personally, that you include some men because the real problem is the role of men, the role of male is the real problem not the role of female. Most women I know are really quite secure in their role but they know who they are. Whereas men, particularly men in institutional life do not know who they are. This is the real crisis and is that reaction that but basic elementary problems. I hope the State will take the lead, women in official

It is not just the number of people you might run through it. But tying it in historically with Eleanor Roosevelt. Tying it as a demonstration of the expression of value and tying it in there would be another basic use, but I am not advocating. I think that the use of the place will fall into line and possibly to be planned within .

I think we need to set-up a memorial, to set-up a house. I think the tourist trade, particularly if its tied in with the park service operation of the federal government's park service operation if there is someway it can be tied in with that if not officially maybe between N.Y.S. and the park service someway joint tickets sold. I think it can be financially carried through the tourist trade then I think the other thing should be use of the space, not as a conference center but as a place where you can hold meetings.

8 Jewell: Will you play an active part with the committee in helping to ~~the family and I will play a modest role~~

C.R.: ~~I hope the family plays a modest role, because I would like to see this be the only Eleanor Roosevelt and with all due respect to all of my mothers friends and my family I think all of this may well have an image of my grandmother. The fan club at the last 12 years, younger people. I think it should not be dominated by so if it comes back I hope it's heavily influenced by the local people in Hyde Park; the State involved, I will be~~

that

ValKil, Eleanor Roosevelt's home, says a good deal about her.

Political leaders looking for a style or an image today would do

well to visit ValKil.

Continue pg. 5
For ER is a model that is very appropriate

THIS
for the country as we enter our third century, now the most powerful

nation in the world.

Q What do you think of the efforts being made by the ERCC
CR Those of you who have taken on the job of making Val Kil live

The committee's supporters
again, as Eleanor Roosevelt's home, have quite a job ahead, an extraordinary

task. It isn't just an important restoration. It is not just giving

deserved recognition to a figure of the past. *thus* you are providing a

place where we can learn about Eleanor Roosevelt, her vision, her

values, and the leadership style that emerged from them. That may

be a very important thing to do for America and for the world in

the crisis-packed years ahead.

1 June 1976

1
grandson of Eleanor
Curtis Roosevelt is a senior official in the United Nations Secretariat. Before joining the United Nations Staff twelve years ago, he was Executive Director of the United States Committee for the United Nations. Prior to this United Nations orientation, he was Vice President of the New School for Social Research, a Business Officer at Columbia University, and Regional Director of the National Citizens ^{Commission} ~~Committee~~ for the Public Schools.

Restricted by his oath of office at the United Nations from participating in any outside activities except his religion, Mr. Roosevelt is a Trustee of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City (as was FDR and James R. Roosevelt before him), and is also Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Presiding Bishops Fund for World Relief.

Woman NY thought
it only fitting
to ask Curles
Roosevelt to share
his
recollections and
of what it
means
to people
today

Received
Women's Division
Executive Chamber
State of New York

JUL 26 1976



Credit Line: FDRL

No. 5A H 9C

E.R.'s Desk, Living Room Office, Val-Kill Cottage

November, 1962

NPx 72-158:21

SUBJECT

ER

DATE

July 20, 1943

PLACE

SEATTLE, WASH.

EVENT

(ON COAST GUARD
AUXILIARY CRUISE)

[CLOSEUP FROM NPX70-50]

CREDIT

RL



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

NPx 51-115:261

SUBJECT

Eleanor Roosevelt with
Fala and Tamas in her
cottage

DATE

[1948]

PLACE

Hyde Park, New York

EVENT

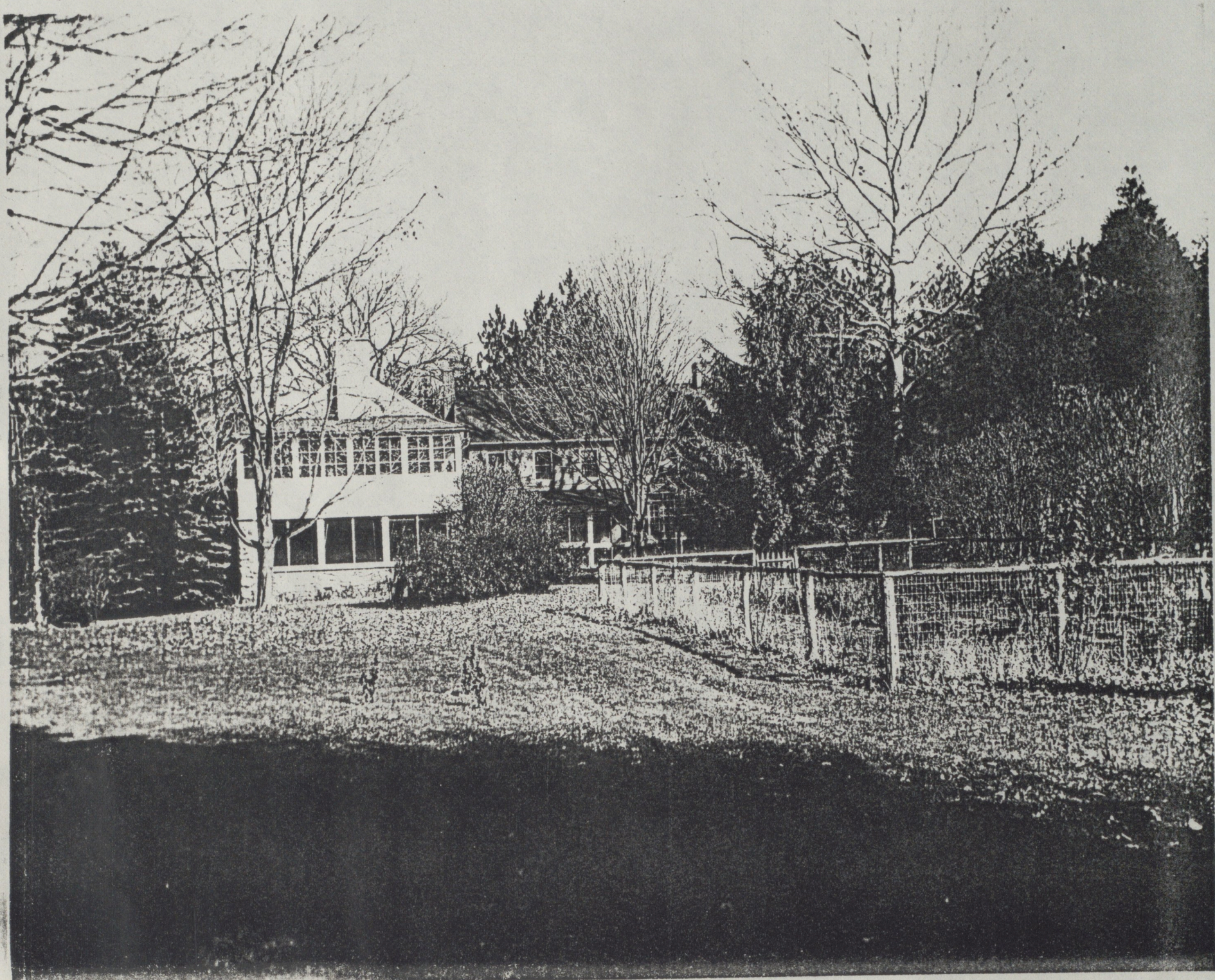
RL from file photo

CREDIT



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

6



Credit Line: E.D.R.L

NPX 65-590 (267)

Val-Kill Cottage and Cutting Garden

Nov. 1962

NPx 48-22:4280

SUBJECT

"ER - a School Picture"

see also Px 47-96:2528

DATE

c. 1900

PLACE

EVENT

CREDIT

Alman Co., New York



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

NPx 72-158:4

SUBJECT

ER PHOTOMURAL

DATE

1960-62

PLACE

EVENT

[CLOSEUP OF WPX 70-59]

CREDIT

A. DAVID GURAWITSCH



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

2



Credit Line: FDRL

NPX 65-590 (268)

VAI-Kill Factory / E.R. Cottage

Hyde Park, New York

11-14-62



Credit Line : FDRL

NPX 50-104:51

Roosevelt Home, Hyde Park, New York



8

Credit Line: FDRL

no. 17A H

E.R.'s Living Room, Val-Kill Cottage

November, 1962



2/

Credit Line: FDRL

h PX 57-681

E.R. with Wiltwyck School Boys at Val-Kill Picnic 1952

X

872

↑

2 1/2

↓



Credit Line: FDRL

PX 58-534 (56-306)

E.R. in Val-Kill Shop with Karl Johannssen

1934



Credit Line: A. David Gurewitsch

NPX 63-533

E.R. and JFK at Val-Kill Cottage

August 14, 1960

Group Is Seeking to Buy Mrs. Roosevelt's Home

By HAROLD FABER
Special to The New York Times

HYDE PARK—"The peace of it is divine," Eleanor Roosevelt wrote to her husband on April 12, 1926, from Val-Kill, her hideaway here from her imperious mother-in-law, Sara Delano Roosevelt, and what she considered the oppressive atmosphere at the Roosevelt mansion overlooking the Hudson River.

Today, 50 years later, a group of admirers of Mrs. Roosevelt is trying to raise funds to buy Val-Kill as a memorial to her as an historic figure in her own right and not merely as an activist First Lady and the wife of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the 32d President.

The Val-Kill property, consisting of 173 acres and several buildings here in western Dutchess County, is owned by two doctors from Long Island and is occupied by seven families who rent the buildings and apartments in them.

Three miles from the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and the Roosevelt National Historic Site, Val-Kill is on a heavily rutted dirt road, with no signs indicating its presence. An occasional visitor wanders in to see the cottage where Mrs. Roosevelt lived and the building where she and her associates once operated a furniture factory.

A Personal Side

"We feel that the museum at the library is important, portraying the events of her life, but that Val-Kill speaks in a different way, speaking of her as a person," said Joyce Ghee, co-chairman of the local committee, which is a subdivision of the Hyde Park Visual Environment Committee.

Mrs. Ghee referred to the Roosevelt Library's Eleanor Roosevelt Wing, which was opened in 1972, 10 years after her death. At its entrance is a frame shaped from a crystal bearing the well-known words of Adlai E. Stevenson: "She would rather light a candle than curse the darkness, and her light has warmed the world."

The other co-chairman of the committee, Nancy Dubner of Rochester, who knew Mrs. Roosevelt in the mid-1950's at the United Nations, added, "We see Eleanor Roosevelt as a role model for today's emerging woman." Miss Dubner is now on the staff of Lieut. Gov. Mary Anne Krupsak.

Still in its formative stage, the committee has already held one mass meeting in Hyde Park and has produced a 13-minute film, "The Soul of Iron," written by Rhoda Lerman with Jean Stapleton reading Mrs. Roosevelt's own comments about her life at Val-Kill.

"Val-Kill is where I used to find myself and grow," she once said. "At Val-Kill I emerged as an individual."

In its preliminary work, the committee has had the cooperation of the National Park Service, which operates the Roosevelt Historic Site, and the State Office of Parks and Recreation. Orin Lehman, the Commissioner of Parks, at one time was president of the Eleanor Roosevelt Foundation.

"If a memorial to Mrs. Roosevelt in the form of an historic site is desired, it seems without question that Val-Kill is an appropriate place for it to be," a preliminary survey for the Office of Parks said. "This is the one place that she considered as her own house—the Big House was always her mother-in-law's home and she a guest there. In later years when she traveled, it was to

Val-Kill that she returned."

But both the Federal and state agencies, while endorsing the idea of a locally owned and operated historic site, have made it clear that no funds are available from them for the Val-Kill project.

The committee's immediate goal is to raise \$30,000 as seed money for raising several million dollars in a national campaign to buy, restore and operate the Val-Kill complex, according to Mrs. Ghee. She estimated that the purchase price might be around \$1 million.

However, the present owners, Dr. William Squires of Farmingdale and Dr. Cyrus Dolce of Commack, said that they were "rather upset" that no one had informed them in advance of the committee's formation, that their cooperation had not been requested and that there were no negotiations under way.

Dr. Squires, in a telephone interview, said that the only approach to them had been made by an attorney who did not describe his clients or their intent.

"The way it was done was unfortunate," he said. Maybe it was haste, but the matter could have been handled more graciously."

Describing himself as an admirer of Mrs. Roosevelt, Dr. Squires added: "I think the intent is great. The idea is a fine one. I just wish we had been able to provide more input. I think Val-Kill is an ideal location for a memorial to Mrs. Roosevelt."

\$250,000 Purchase Price

The two doctors bought the property in 1970 for a price reported to be about \$250,000 from John Roosevelt, who had inherited it on his mother's death. A few years ago, according to Dr. Squires, they asked for a zoning change to create a condominium for adults, but were turned down.

Today's visitor to Val-Kill crosses a rattling wooden bridge across the Fall Kill to a rather unkempt group of buildings, with dogs barking and children racing around the grounds.

Mrs. Roosevelt's rose garden is now a vegetable patch, the Fall Kill is plugged with reeds, the swimming hole is unusable because of the danger of snapping turtles, and the paint is peeling from the bench that was Mrs. Roosevelt's favorite spot for outdoor reading.

"When the kids get too loud in the house, I come out here with a book," said Ute Clark, wife of the caretaker, who lives with her family in Mrs. Roosevelt's old apartment in one wing of what was the furniture factory.

In 1927, Mrs. Roosevelt and her associates, Marion Dickerman and Nancy Cook, created Val-Kill Industries to manufacture reproductions of early American furniture, providing training and work for local craftsmen. Their first exhibit included a trestle table for \$40 and a large maple chest for \$175.

Ten years later, the business relationship of the three women ended, and Mrs. Roosevelt bought out her partners. The building was converted to a residence and it was there that she entertained distinguished visitors after the death of her husband.

A few hundred feet away, the stone cottage that was the first building put up at Val-Kill has been restored to immaculate condition by the owners and its present occupants, Mr. and Mrs. Stephan van den Berg. The pool outside, where Franklin D. Roosevelt swam before he became Governor and President, is now used by the van den Bergs.

Late TV Listings

The following information about today's television programs was not available in time to appear in Section 2:

9:30 A.M. (Channel 4) "Here and Now": James J. Sheeran, New Jersey Insurance Commissioner.

10 A.M. (4) "Sunday": William J. Abelow, executive vice president of the League of Voluntary Hospitals and Holmes, and Moe Foner, executive secretary of District 1199 of the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees.

10:30 A.M. (2) "Religious Special": A Question of Ethics; The American Way.

Noon (2) "Newsmakers": William J. Abelow, executive vice president of the League of Voluntary Hospitals and Homes.

Noon (7) "Issues and Answers": Helmut Schmidt, West German Chancellor.

12:30 P.M. (2) "Public Hearing": Jack Bigel, labor consultant.

12:30 P.M. (4) "Meet the Press": Representative Andrew Young, Democrat of Georgia.

5:30 P.M. (4) "Positively Black": Interview with black delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

8:30 P.M. (11) "Borough Report": Trude W. Laab, director of the Foundation for Child Development.

11 P.M. (5) "Gabe": John F. Keenan, special state prosecutor.

For sports events on TV, see Sports Today, Section 5.

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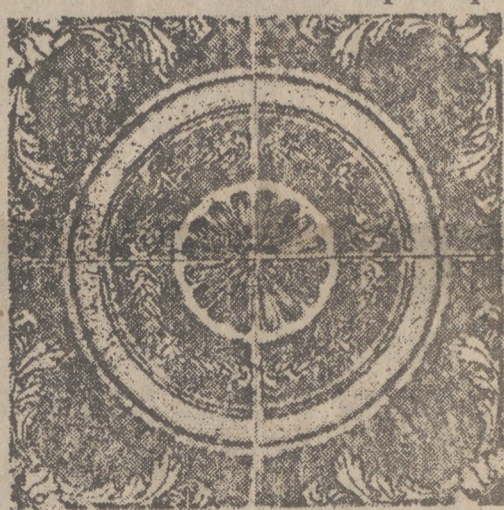
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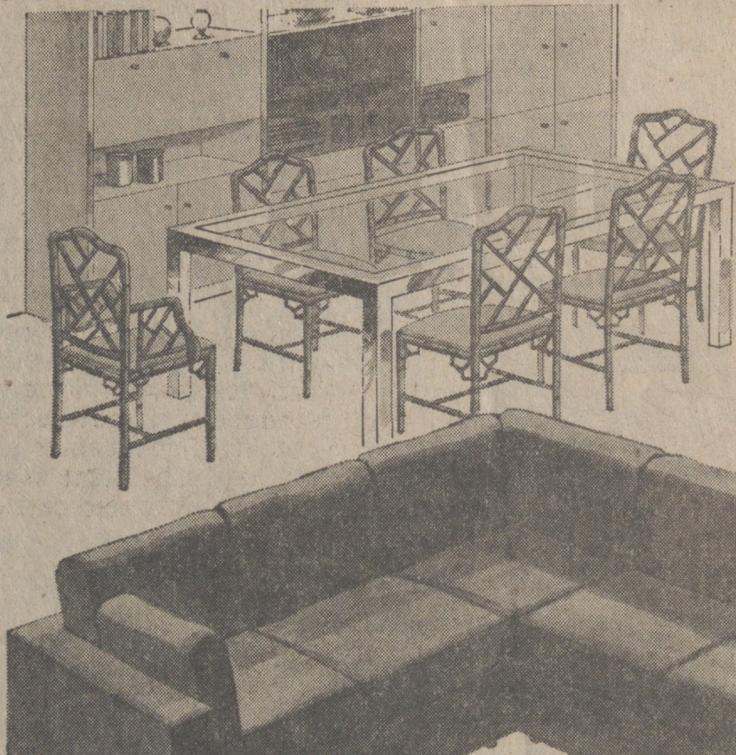
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FRESH AIR GROUP OFF TO OLYMPICS

More Supporters Sought for
ABC-Backed Program

Billy Carr is going to the Olympic Games in Montreal. The 14-year-old plays basketball and wants to watch the stars in action. It is his first trip away from home.

Billy boarded a bus yesterday

in Brooklyn's Ocean Hill-Brownsville section with his sister, Lori, 16, who loves baseball; Tami, 15, who plays very little of anything; Cathy, 12, and Pat, 11. "My youngest brothers had to stay at home," Billy said.

The five Carrs and 200 other youngsters from New York City were selected by the Fresh Air Fund to spend six days at Camp Edphy, a summer camp outside Montreal. They will attend daily Olympic events, go sightseeing, swim, play tennis and eat.

"I'm going to see the Olympics in person," said David Ro-

driguez while waiting to board the bus. His eyes were wide with excitement. "I'm getting away from New York!"

Most of the children who are involved in the Fresh Air Fund program would not otherwise be able to leave the city this summer.

"Because of the cutbacks in the city's social services, more needy children have turned to the Fresh Air Fund than ever before," said Beth Ann Reitman, centennial projects coordinator, who went along with the first two busloads yesterday.

American Broadcasting Com-

panies is paying all expenses for the trip for the first 200 children. ABC is also paying for the advertising being done to find more sponsors to allow (ten) more busloads—500 children — to see the Olympic Games and experience camping in a foreign country.

Speaking of the drive for additional sponsors, Lisa Pulling—executive director of the Fresh Air Fund, an independent tax-exempt organization that provides free vacations for New York City boys and girls aged 11 through 17—said:

"We have the children, the tickets and the space. The num-

ber of needy children for the Olympics now the participation corporations and individuals. The trip cost \$20

Medal Winners

Former Olympic winners will explain events and help supervise the children. "We'll be watching basketball, volleyball, swimming and boating," Reitman told a group at the Van Dyke Center in Brooklyn. The girls giggle.

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Neglect Imperils a First Lady's Home

By Dan Hertzberg

Newsday Staff Correspondent

Hyde Park, N.Y.—While federal dollars preserve the home of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the home of his wife, Eleanor, a mile away is slowly falling into decay.

Eleanor Roosevelt was the hostess and often the occupant of the Roosevelt mansion at Hyde Park, now a major tourist site. But her true home for 30 years, both before and after FDR's death, was a two-story stucco house in a picture-book rural setting on the edge of the Roosevelt estate. It was called Val-Kill.

Val-Kill "was perhaps her only real home," said her eldest grandson, Curtis Roosevelt, who remembers Val-Kill as

having been always "filled with guests and family." Joseph P. Lash, author of two best-sellers about the Roosevelts, wrote, "Val-Kill was home and sanctuary, the place to which she was ready to withdraw if public life became intolerable."

Today, Val-Kill is in private hands, shrunk to 173 acres and separated from the Roosevelt mansion, which has been christened the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site and is run by the National Park Service on an annual budget of \$325,000. Val-Kill's present owners, two Long Island physicians, tried unsuccessfully a few years ago to make it a nursing home.

Her old home is divided into apartments and rented to a half-dozen ten-

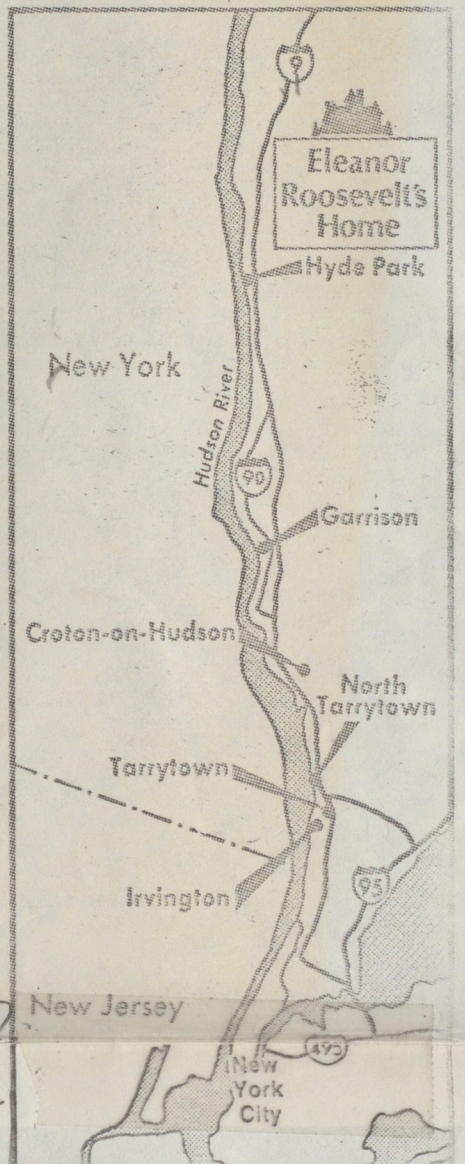
ants. For lack of a gardener, Mrs. Roosevelt's flower garden long ago lost the battle with weeds. The pond near the house is partly choked with water plants and is becoming a swamp.

In her husband's lifetime, Mrs. Roosevelt was the most active first lady the nation had ever seen. After Roosevelt's death, in 1945, she forged her own public career as a UN diplomat, columnist, fighter for humanitarian causes and, many said, most-admired woman. It is no surprise that in the age of feminism there is renewed interest in her life.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Cottage Committee, headed by two women, is seeking the means to buy Val-Kill as a memorial. They envision Val-Kill as an international women's conference center, crafts workshop and park. "Mrs. Roosevelt was a role-model for the emerging American woman," said committee co-chairman Nancy Dubner, an aide to Lt. Gov. Mary Ann Krupsak. "She was probably the most distinguished American woman of the century" and her "contribution is not that of being the wife of a President; it is as a woman in her own right."

Mrs. Roosevelt's life was tied to Val-Kill in many ways. Roosevelt personally helped design one of its buildings. For a few years around 1930, the site housed Val-Kill Industries, Mrs. Roosevelt's ill-fated project to provide jobs for unemployed local farmers in the winter. They made reproductions of Dutch provincial furniture.

When Roosevelt was absent from Hyde Park (leaving his domineering mother Sara Delano Roosevelt there), Mrs. Roosevelt preferred to stay at Val-Kill. She lived briefly in Val-Kill's best building, a two-story fieldstone house known as "the stone cottage," but she soon took up quarters in the simpler house she occupied until her death in 1962. When Roosevelt died and the family mansion went to the federal government, Mrs. Roosevelt and her son, Elliott, bought Val-Kill and 825 acres of farm lands and woods from the President's estate. In the estate's heyday, Elliott ran an extensive farming operation, raising dairy



and beef cattle, turkeys, hens and Christmas trees—the only profitable crop.

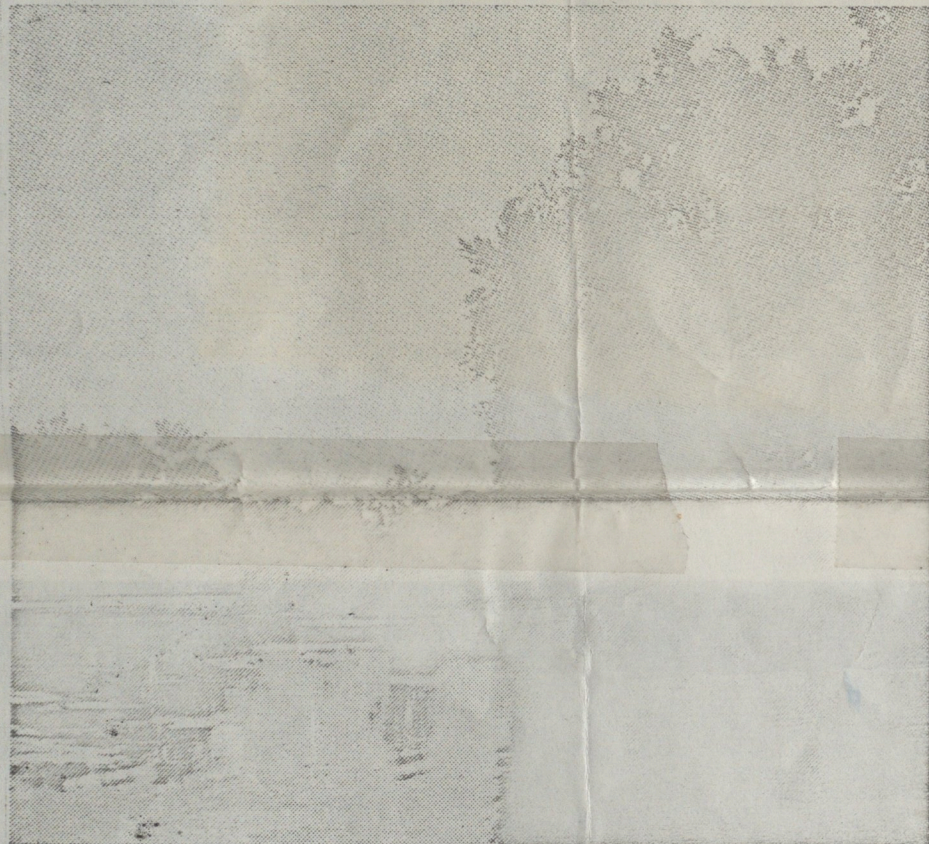
Val-Kill eventually passed to another son, John Roosevelt, and in 1970 he auctioned the contents of Val-Kill and sold the buildings and land. Dr. Cyrus R. Dolce of Commack and Dr. William J. Squires of Farmingdale purchased Val-Kill for an undisclosed price, applied to the Hyde Park town board to get a zoning change for a nursing home and were rejected. Dolce and Squires are now asking \$1 million for Val-Kill.

On June 1, the Eleanor Roosevelt Cottage Committee drew a crowd of 1,000 to a local rally in Hyde Park. They heard UN diplomat Curtis Roosevelt reminisce about his grandmother, and actress Jean Stapleton, an ardent admirer of Mrs. Roosevelt, read selections from the former first lady's writings. Nevertheless, both the State Parks Department and the National Park Service say they lack funds to acquire Val-Kill.

Ernest Connally, associate director of the National Park Service, admitted that none of the service's 300 parks and historic sites honors a first lady. "Though we honor Presidents, I don't think there is anything for a President's wife . . . not even Abigail Adams or Dolly Madison."

But Curtis Roosevelt said, "I think by the next century you will see historians giving equal place to FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt. She will be seen as having as much influence as FDR had."

"No first lady either before or since my grandmother had her power in the White House. Nobody else has had the skill and the will to attempt it."



Newsday Photos by R. Scott Yarwood

The pond at Val-Kill, above, is partly overgrown with vegetation. The house, below, where Eleanor Roosevelt spent her summers, was described by biographer Joseph Lash as her "home and sanctuary."



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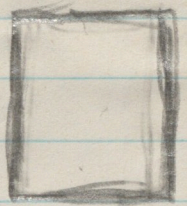
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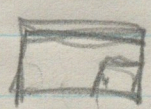
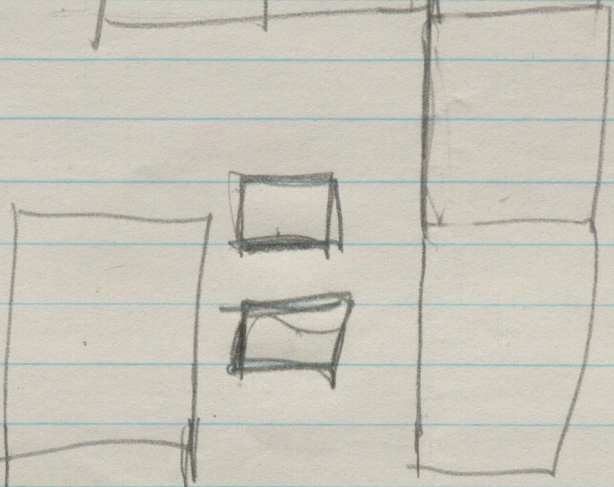
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Val-Kill

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* Physically where is it in relation the Mansion

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* Why

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her place
her Val-Kill cottage
work years - Exterior
EXterior

Bedroom
Study
Furniture Shop
interiors - Kennedy indorsement
Wiltwicks School for Boys
lunch and read to them

Mr. Teichman ARchivist

Historic

When she entered the halls
of the United Nations representative
from all countries rose
to honor her. She had
become not only the wife
and widow of a towering
President but a noble
personality in herself.
In the White House ~~and~~
~~no~~ first Lady could
touch Mrs. Roosevelt
for causes espoused,
opinions expressed,
distances spanned, people
spoken to, words printed
precedents shattered, honors
conferred, degrees garnered.

She was a symbol
of the new role ^{women} were to
play in the world

"World's Most Admired
Woman"
In 1945 ER was named
by Harry S. Truman as
a delegate to the General
Assembly when org
came into being
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elected Chairman
of the Commission
on Human Rights of
the United Nations
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Mrs FDR was more involved
in the minds and hearts
and aspirations of ~~other~~ people
than any other First
Lady in history. By
the end of her life
she was one of the
most esteemed women
in the world. During
her 12 yrs in the
White House she was
sometimes laughed at
and sometimes bitterly
~~definitely~~ resented. But
during her last years
she became the object
of almost universal respect.

Marion
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joined the Bd of the
League of Women
in the work of the
Women's Trade Union League
and of the City
Housing Corporation

She became a syndicated
columnist edited a magazine
judged contests

NY C
Oct 11, 1884 Theodore R
25 Pres was
her uncle

the former First Lady
famous as the Wife and
Widow of the 32nd President
of the United States and
an international figure
in her own right died
at her home at 55 East
74th Street. She was 78
years old. The reaction
to Mrs. Roosevelt's death
was quick and deep. The
woman who was
a noted humanitarian,
author and columnist,
delegate to the United
Nations and active force
in the Democratic party
was mourned by people
over the world. President
Kennedy called her "one
of the great ladies in the
history of this country."

② Harriet Tubman

Harriet Tubman settled in Auburn, New York where she founded a home for the sick and aged--the Harriet Tubman Today it is a shrine operated by the African Methodist Church.

② Gertrude Elise Ayer (1884 - 1971)

Educator. The first ^{Black} ~~Negro~~ woman to serve as a principal of ^{an} schools in New York City. She began her career in 1905 teaching at P.S. 11 in Manhattan. In 1924 she was appointed Assistant Principal in a Harlem school and spent the rest of her professional career serving the community. She was a pioneer in introducing vocational guidance into the schools.

① Julia Ward Howe

Both Mrs. Howe and her husband were prominent abolitionists. He was editor of Commonwealth, a major abolitionist periodical. She was also president of the American branch of the Women's International Peace Association. She lectured extensively and wrote several works of social criticism.

ER BIO

Eleanor Roosevelt, 1884 to 1962, was a symbol of the new role women were to play in the world. ~~The woman who~~ ^{She} ~~was~~ a noted humanitarian, author/columnist, delegate to the United Nations and an active force on behalf of ~~the~~ social justice, was "the world's most admired woman". # The former First Lady famous as the wife and widow of ~~the~~ ^{FDR the} 32nd President of the United States was an international figure in her own right. When she entered the halls of the United Nations representatives from all countries rose to honor her. Mrs Roosevelt was more involved in the minds and hearts and aspirations of people than any other First Lady in history. # In the White House, no First Lady has matched her for

causes espoused, opinions expressed, distances spanned, people spoken to, words printed, precedents shattered, honors conferred, degrees garnered. She was sometimes laughed at and sometimes bitterly resented. But during her last years she became the object of almost universal respect.

Nancy Dubner and Joyce Ghee are two concerned citizens dedicating this time in their lives to the ~~re-establishment of a monument~~ for an outstanding American - Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. They are the co-chairpersons of the Committee to save Val-Kill.

WOMEN NEW YORK interview with NANCY DUBNER and Joyce Ghee
Interviewed by Jewell Jackson McCabe
and Joyce Ghee

WNY

Jewell: What is Val-Kill?

Nancy: Val-Kill is a 173-acre area with several structures that was home to Eleanor Roosevelt for nearly 40 years. In the mid 1920's, Eleanor talked to Franklin and said she would like to have a home of her own. Franklin, an amateur architect, worked with a professional and assisted in the design of the first structure which was the stone cottage; and oversaw its construction and actually purchased a lot of the material as indicated by his records. It was home for Eleanor from then, January 1, 1926 when they moved in, until her death in 1962.

to the
creation of a
fitting memorial

ELEANOR
ROOSEVELT
1884 TO 1962
Nov. 7TH
Val-Kill
Cottage
Committee

To Rhoda Lerman

From:

Subject: Aug/Sept issue Women NY

attached please find ~~the~~^{the} copy for ~~the~~ the
interviews with Nancy Dubrow, Peipe Quee and
Curtis Roosevelt on ~~the~~ Val-Kill. I have also included
quotes to be used on ^{front} cover of the newsletter ~~and~~
~~statement~~ please advise ASAP. I may be

Reached 212 9772767 212 6286246

The former first lady famous as the wife and widow of the 32nd President of the United States and an international figure in her own right. The woman who was a noted humanitarian author and columnist delegate to the United Nations and active force in the Democratic Party was ~~mourned by people over the world~~. President Kennedy called her "one of the great ladies in the history of this country."

② Mrs. F.D.R. was more involved in the minds and hearts and aspirations of people than any other first lady in history. By the end of her life she was one of the most esteemed woman in the world. ④ During her 12 years in the White House she was sometimes laughed at and sometimes bitterly resented. But during her last years she became the object of almost universal respect.

When she entered the halls of the United Nations representatives from all countries rose to honor her. She had become not only the wife and widow of a towering President but a noble personality in herself. ③ In the White House, no first lady could touch Mrs. Roosevelt for causes espoused, ~~opinions~~ ^{ed} opinions expressed, distances spanned, people spoken to, words printed, precedents shattered, honors conferred, degrees garnered.

She was a symbol of the new role woman were to play in the world.

"World's most admired woman" Harry S. Truman named Eleanor Roosevelt in 1945 as a delegate to the General Assembly when organized came into being in 1945, elected chairman of the commission on human rights of the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural organization.

Joined the Marion Dickerson and Nancy Cook, Board of , League of Women Voters, took part in the work of the Women's Trade Union League became Director Foreign Policy Association and of the City Housing Corporation. She became a syndicated columnist edited a magazine, judged contests, Oct. 11, 1884. Theodore Roosevelt, 25th President was her uncle.

happy to play a modest role but largely because of my professional background in the U.N., staff development corporation.

End.

picks up again -

C.R.: By the 21st century historians may well be deciding that my grandmothers influence was equal to my grandfathers influence but the park service would still consider that it is right of the attendant of the President rather than somebody on her own. I just don't see it at the moment so that I think we are stuck with the old thing that is why I think that even though ^{there are funds for the} State to put forward that I think that the State ought to receive the funds and it should be somehow connected with the State and with a public body set-up to run it.

on the street -

C.R.: My grandmother had to a great extent developed as a person in her own right. She made more money than FDR did when he was Governor due through her radio program and writing and so forth. But prior to his being Governor she had been in the Democratic Party in N.Y.S. chairman of the Women's

positions to take the lead to use Val-Kill so that the spiritual presence of my grandmother can be there. You can hold that sort of conference in the Biltmore Hotel, but I think you have a different feeling. Secondly, I see nothing wrong if the right people come together and so forth in moving to set-up a demonstration craft operation to less of an art center but more of a center for the basic conception of everyone ought to make a part of their education the ability to use their hands. This was why there was a factory there. That is the second house that was originally the factory. My grandmothers concern was to very simple humans to give young people work in between the seasonal work that they have for there are alot of people today who still have seasonal work. What she was doing in the 20's which then with the depression and then moving out of the depression seemed to be passe. People with the 19th century approach is actually going to come back. Because the short work week, what are you going to do, sit in front of the television. I hope to God not. I hope people who work in factories or diamond districts can then go home and do pottery, weaving or what have you. Because if they only work 30 hours or 25 hours they ought to be doing something productive other than the boob tube.

Division and that was not an honorary thing. She travelled stump the State and was heavily responsible for Democratic Party organization particularly upstate where the Democrats are traditionally weak. And the women were far better organized in many counties than the men in the last half of the 20's, due to a group of women of which my grandmother was chairman. She was very active. She had arrived, so when she went to Washington she was no _____.

The partnership of my grandmother & grandfather was developed out of the agony of that relationship. Whereas today most people would say, who needs it, split. You just didn't in those days. But instead of estranging themselves into two armored camps, there was a basic respect for each other. Even though there was a high level of irritation on both sides, there was a basic respect for the other person. And they both moved to enable the other person to grow and live in spite of the fact that each for the other did not provide much in the way of emotional satisfaction but the unique thing is that they developed a partnership and I will bring this out in my essay. I think without even discussing it, but it was like two people who have to live together but who just don't accommodate each other but who continue to be creative in that relationship and it is less than coming together, it's more an enabling of the other person of sort of recognizing that in terms of personal satisfactions. I doubt that they gave each other too much personal satisfaction. My grandmother for example lacked sensitivity. FDR loved to play - especially in human interaction and all kind of kidding.

CURTIS ROOSEVELT - Interviewed by Jewell Jackson McCabe

Jewell: How do you remember Val-Kill?

C.R.: From the earliest days, Hyde Park ^(The Roosevelt mansion) was my home. ~~My parents were separated and my mother went back to the family to live. My sister and I were raised really in Hyde Park. Every afternoon we would go over to my grandmother's cottage to swim and really come under her influence as different from my great grandmother who predominated the house. I would go over every afternoon and it was always my grandmothers place. It was her place as opposed to granny's place, my great grandmother. Then later, of course, when I came back in 1950 to New York, every weekend both as a child and then as an adult married. Seeing my grandmother and being with her at Val-Kill both when she was wife of the President and then totally on her own.~~ ^(Val-Kill)

Jewell: What influence, if any, has Val-Kill had on your life ~~as opposed to that with formality of the Mansion and your great grandmother's?~~ ^{as opposed to the formality of the Roosevelt mansion}

C.R.: I think ^{was quite} really you have to interpret it in terms of people. It seems ~~quite~~ appropriate that my grandfather have the kind of place that Hyde Park is, which is a mansion, ~~there is no two ways about it. It was as everyone looks into it and find out was a country house, a clobbered country house which my great grandfather had purchased and then FDR redesigned~~

in all
~~to give it the grandeur, it presently has.~~ I think the house represents very much the symbol of where my grandfather came from ~~when he moved in and changed very much his own thinking and style for a man,~~ rather a spoiled *he was a* rich man working hard but nevertheless very much an upper class person with ideals and then this had to be translated into what eventually came out into but still *even*

in the 30's & 40's up until he died, Hyde Park in that big house seemed very appropriate of FDR, *he was a rich man that* on the other hand the simplicity and low-key symbolism of Val-Kill was very much my grandmother's. So that ~~the two things really~~ if I *had* grown up in *only environment* ~~none~~ I might very well have a mind set of grandeur but *the* moderating influence of Val-Kill was really representative of my grandmother's ~~moderating influence.~~

worked hard but nonetheless very much an upper class person with

② She really prepared me for the world we actually live in today which *was* a very different *Place* world prior to World War II. My grandmother *she* was not impressed by institutions and by office. *my grand* ~~She was not awed and consumed by the power that is always around somebody who is in an office whether if it~~ *an important position* was when FDR was Assistant Secretary of the Navy or when he was Governor, when he was a Vice Presidential candidate even prior to that in 1920, and certainly when he was President she was totally aware and accustomed to office but not impressed by the grandeur of the official position or by the institutional drapings and this really set her apart from other people who generally are the opposite.

DRAFT (Linda - 8/27/76)

Eliza Kellas (1864-1943)

Educator. Began an outstanding career in education at the age of 16 teaching in a one-room school in Mooers, New York. Thirty years later she was appointed principal of the Emma Willard School in Troy, New York. Under her leadership, the school became one of the leading preparatory schools in the United States. Later Mrs. Kellas persuaded Mrs. Russell Sage to donate funds to open a new vocational school for women. In 1916 Mrs. Kellas became President of Russell Sage College of Practical Arts--which ^{is now} ~~later became~~ one of the state's leading liberal arts college.