



Marion County History

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EDITOR

Alfred C. Jones

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-Photo courtesy of Deepwood

Lord-Schryver, Landscape Architects, in 1930. The partnership was new then for Edith Schryver, left, and Elizabeth B. Lord, and it lasted for 40 years.

Lord-Schryver: Landscape Architects

by David C. Duniway

Elizabeth Lord wrote the following account of her "Activities" when she was honored in 1973 at the Mission Mill Museum Association "Panegyric." Miss Lord was cited for her "helping to create the unique heritage of the Salem area," under the category of Professions.



My chief interest was gardening, from young girlhood and still continuing.

I was born in Salem, in 1887, the home situated on S. High St. and Mission and I still love on the same property, though a new home was built facing Mission St. and Bush Pasture Park. The size of the home property was one-fourth of a Salem block.

My mother, Mrs. William P. Lord (Juliet Montague Lord), had a tremendous love of gardens and civic improvement, a subject that I inherited from her. My mother organized the first Garden Club in Oregon, 1915. The Salem Floral Society became a flourishing interest in the Willamette Valley, with flower shows and meetings once a month and good lectures by nurserymen brought notice to other valley towns. It wasn't long before many of the smaller towns had their own garden clubs.

Upon my mother's passing in 1924, I did extensive traveling in the Orient and Europe. Returning to Salem in 1926 I decided to take up gardening seriously, so took a special course in Landscape Architecture in Massachusetts, a school for women called Lawthrop, in Groton, Mass.

I returned to the old home on Mission St. with intentions of making my home in Salem. Accompanying me was a school friend I met on the European garden tour, Miss Edith Schryver, who had been practicing Landscape Architecture in New York City office for five years. We joined forces, desiring to try out a new venture of real garden designing and planting, domestic and park planting.

My main interests seem to turn to civic improvement, so much to do here and such wealth of plant materials. The garden clubs had become more advanced, more interested and greater development. We joined the Salem Garden Club (the year was 1929). Portland now had organized their garden club and invited us to membership. We still hold that membership, which soon gave us membership to the Garden Club of America.

The Garden Clubs of Oregon became federated and one of my first positions on garden club work was to be the chairman of the Willamette Valley Division. This organization brought all the clubs together, quite an event when entertained by the Salem Garden Club.

I always like civic work more than domestic - planning gardens, for other people (while Miss Schryver turned to the

planning and planting of domestic and public buildings). I believe it was Mayor Bob Elfstrom who asked me to be on the non-active Park Bureau. This was purely an honorary position with two very public-minded men; Mr. George Riches, quite a gardener himself, and Mr. Milton Meyers, who had been very active in civic affairs but who didn't know a plant from a weed. He gave invaluable services to go between the City Council and our Park Committee, especially in finances which were unbelievably limited.

There were so many, many problems to decide and progress to make. The City Council allowed the Park Committee the sum of \$6,000 yearly, from which we paid the superintendent and two, sometimes three, laborers, all garden equipment and all planting needed - trees, shrubs and flowers. The latter we used sparingly.

Where to begin was the question. Naming the parks scattered over the town is well to know. The downtown area included, around the Capitol area not on our list, but a space between the Capitol building west to the cross street was under our order, keeping up the lawn and flowers. (I put in two large oval beds, including beautiful pansies every spring, followed by an annual planting. This cost money, but drew much attention).

The government owned the adjoining block to the west, and the County further down to High Street. We had no expense on either piece of ground. (I might add that the Courthouse grounds at this time had not a single tree). The Salem Garden Club voted to suggest the Club would pay all expenses. The county judge granted us the privilege. After much debate he allowed the Club to plant the four corners with shrubbery, the year being about 1910. This work was handed over to me by the Garden Club. That planting remained many years, no pruning shears ever touched it and it became a tangled mess.

In the early '30s the Garden Club insisted upon its disposal, revising the planting with trees. The old judge still held forth, refused our offer, saying to me "you planted it in the first place; why do you want to do it again. We have no money for such an extravagance."

Again the Salem Garden Club came forward to pay the bill. This time it was a Lord-Schryver job, not I alone. With such a tremendous building as the old Courthouse, we selected the English Plane tree, greatly used as a curb tree around buildings. The county was to take charge of the trees, but right here I say that since planting, those trees have never had any care, no pruning or shaping in some 30 years. The Women's Veterans Society gave \$10 to buy two Magnolia grandifloras for us to plant in front of the building. This was the last tough we gave the county courthouse. The new building (1953) was treated better, with rhododendrons, other healthy shrubbery, but the Plane trees still stand in disreputable condition.



Home and office of Lord & Schryver, 545 Mission St. S.E.

Our Park Committee had no expense around the public building, except the small area which included the old Waite electric fountain and Breyman fountain, gifts to the city in earlier days, a great addition to the city park area.

Salem parks were few and far on the outskirts of the city, consisting of the newly acquired Kay, or Englewood Park situated in the new residential quarter northeast of Salem, a large, heavily wooded fir tree stand. We suggested taking out a few firs as the natural growth was so dense—no light or sun penetrated the heavy branches. We received criticism from the neighborhood, but we carried our point with reason.

Paths and fireplaces, benches and tables were added to the picnic areas. The only planting undertaken was a curb planting of Mountain Ash trees, some 24, on the narrow curb. They had a short life. On the first Halloween night of their existence, two carloads of boys drove down the curb, cutting off every tree along the way. It was death to the poor trees and a hard loss to the park finances. They were not replaced at the time, so Englewood Park was a bad experience, little to show for our efforts.

Pringle Creek area had had a long history of park development, but never definitely finished. It had great possibilities of developing into a beautiful natural park. Its only discouraging feature was the overflowing and floods during a heavy winter rain season and back water from the Willamette slough. There was Pringle Creek meandering through Bush Pasture, the Shelton Ditch in natural state, very attractive trees on the bank and the third, Mill Creek, all three joining hands under the Church Street Bridge, thence under High Street Bridge, making a sizable stream before the water emptied itself into the

Willamette slough.

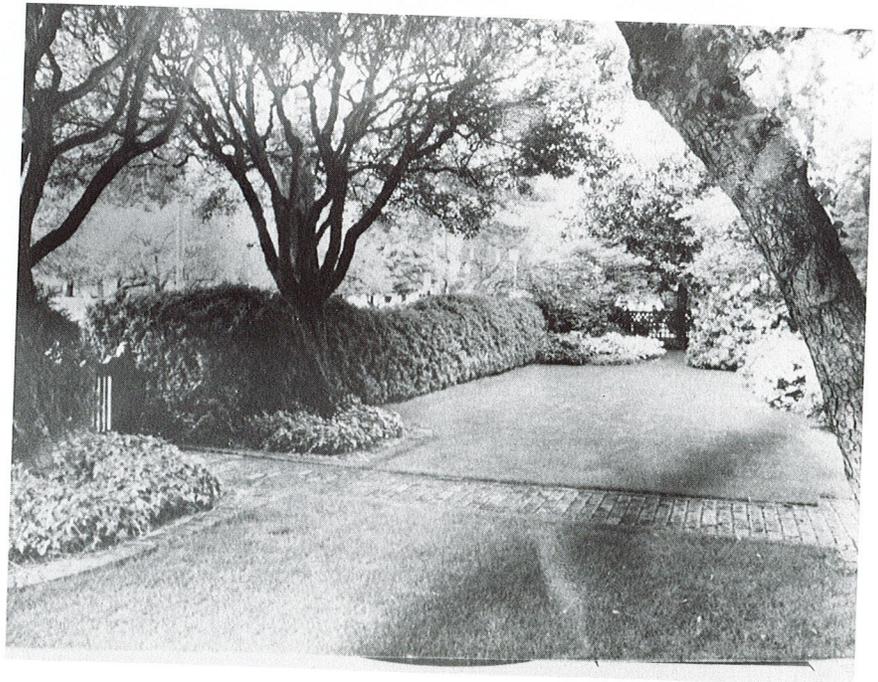
The stream divides the Civic Center buildings from the Fire Department buildings, which is fortunately hidden from view by a group of trees. Nature took care of Pringle Creek Park with native oaks on the park area and all the banks of the stream had natural growth which could have been far more lovely had the Park Committee taken over the edging land, but by being privately owned we did not have the authority to commit ourselves.

But the flat land between Pringle Creek and Shelton Ditch offers a nice picnic ground, without great labor. A WPA small building erected right in the center of this area was an eyesore. The Board finally asked the government to help move the building back, giving access for parking cars. The building is used a great deal for garden club entertainment and many times for private parties.

I would like to say right here that Salem people have never seemed to realize the great privilege we possess to make this city one of the outstandingly beautiful attractive cities in the country.

With all our beautiful streams from the far northern Mill Creek (so alive with wild fowl and even salmon trying to wind their way upstream) to the extreme southern boundary of Bush Pasture Park, we have completely ignored their possibility of beautification. Every citizen who fortunately owns property along the way could help with keeping the piece of land in perfection. Some do, some don't. Perhaps, in time, we will have appreciation of what has been given us so freely and realize we have neglected the one beautiful feature of our city.

Dave O'Hara, long serving as councilman on the City of Salem, showed keen interest in Salem park development. He



Across the front yard along Mission Street.

claims the north part of Salem had been neglected and asked us if we could not take a city-owned piece of vacant property, growing weeds and otherwise bare, and make a small park for people in that part of Salem. The property lay bare across from the north Salem Highland School. Mr. O'Hara distinctly did not desire a playground, because the school playground had all equipment in this line. Both Mr. Riches and Mrs. Meyers were enthusiastic to proceed. They attended to all the details of land clearing, the main thing asking the council for at least \$200 extra as our budget was too meager to take on this extra small public square development.

We asked Edith Schryver to make a plan for this small park, a record the city wished to see before the extra \$200 was advanced. Mr. O'Hara was delighted and approved of all we had planned, trying to keep within the cost of \$700. Only one tennis court was on the plan, the major part was developed, enclosed along the rear line of evergreen hedge, groups of tulip trees and spring-flowering cherries and crabs, a large azalea bed, red in color, and low Mugho pines at the entrance, walks and paths, one far end landscaped as a "tots' garden". There was seating capacity placed in different areas. The park, if one could call it such, was a charming bit of landscape development merely meant for those who lived in this area of Salem, who had been absolutely ignored for any landscape improvement, though paying taxes without



North entrance to the garden of the Lord house.

representation.

However, I am sorry to relate that this little park had a short life. Within three years the city council had changed to city manager form. This park, for no reason we could understand, was stripped of all vegetation, back to its original state. The street was widened, curb trees taken out (24 red maples uprooted) and the land was changed to men's baseball field, another tennis court added, everything for athletics. Such a waste of city money. But enough said.

The law was such that any property holder could plant any kind of tree, shrub or flower on the curb along his property, but could not dismantle what they first chose, without consent from the City Council or whoever held that division of city government. I tried to get that law changed to having the city own the curbs, plant chosen trees all of the same variety, tend to their care as the property owner would not have the responsibility of the upkeep, thus making an avenue of trees on either side of the street. Such is the way in progressive towns wishing to create an impressive vista down a street, or an avenue.

The city attorney with the city manager were uncooperative, saying "Ridiculous. Couldn't afford such extravagance. Just like a woman." That was the only message our committee received.

The park development in Salem extended over the era of 1935 to 1948. Rumors of a changing city order were coming to my ears, mostly by Mr. Shields, our faithful superintendent. He was much worried about discontinuing his job but his knowledge and ability to handle the work were so great that I thought he would be too valuable to the city to replace him. But not so - the organization of the new city government, to be managed by a city manager, wiped out the Park Board and Mr. Shields was included in this change.

Before our complete dismissal from public service, I had, in the 12 years, given very serious thought over the tree planting on the curbs in the residential district. In ordinary language,



Vista on the west side, looking south.



The west side pool

they were a mess! I often had discussed this condition with the major, Bob Elfstrom, early in my appointment on the Park Board. He agreed with me that it was hopeless and my time was slipping by. But I did spend many an hour trying to put the city improvement on the record.

I will always be grateful for the kindly cooperation of Mr. Elfstrom, Mr. Al Loucks and Dave O'Hara for their cooperation and showing such friendly consideration.

When 1952 became a calendar date, the Capitol Planning Commission was on the board. Douglas McKay was our governor and he appointed me to the commission alongside 11 or 12 citizens from all over the state. I hesitated taking this job, as my loss of hearing was dominant and I realized I could never hear well enough to enter into discussions with a group of men—all architects, engineers and successful businessmen. Mr. Robert Sawyer was the chairman and organizer of the commission. But Gov. McKay would not take "no" for an answer. He wanted a landscape architect to direct any layout around the Capitol area. He won his point. There was some calling for my profession to lend a hand, as all other members were engrossed in the responsibility of directing the changes that had to be made and improvements in architectural features.

A young man, graduate of land architecture, had the design and planting of the vacant block north of the Capitol. I had an interest in working on this plan and when the new buildings were erected he made plans for the planting. He asked my advice, but I thought his choice of materials was valuable and well suited to the location. When the big storm of 1962 had finished its course of destruction, there was plenty to do. Mr. Dave Thompson was in Salem at that time and was hired by

the Commission to examine the tree loss. We worked together, spending many days over all the grounds and asked the best tree surgeons from Portland to visit the Capitol grounds to give their opinions.

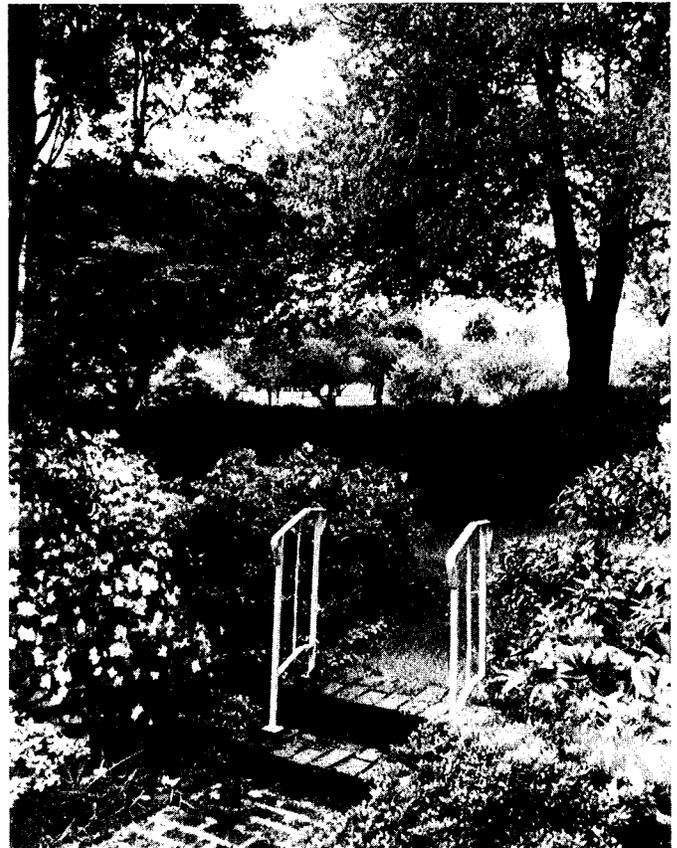
This idea did not sit very well with the Commission—the price of \$3,000 was a bit too expensive. However, they did finally take our advice and employed the tree surgeons. It took about two weeks work to shape the trees back to healthy condition. Of course, many were beyond repair. I missed Milton Meyers on the Capitol Commission. He suddenly passed away and left a vacancy no one could fill as a valuable friend.

So many changes came during those 12 years and I realized it was time for me to send in my resignation. This I did when Mark Hatfield took over as governor.

In the meantime, Bush House was coming over the horizon and I was far more interested in that enterprise than anything that was on the docket.

Between the 1948 park experience and the beginning of the Capitol Commission in 1952 I had a nice trip to the Orient. Upon arrival home I found I had been nominated as president of the Bush House organization, changed to the Salem Art Association. I feel one reason why the "honor" was bestowed upon me was on account of collecting money from interested people, a job I dislike intensely. Another duty to perform to my dislike is being president of an organization. Together the same year was a little too much, but if no one would step forward, the Bush House would never be realized.

A Victorian home of the 1870s, with a beautiful setting in a 100-acre piece of property had to be saved. Willing hands did



Bush Pasture orchard in sight to the south.

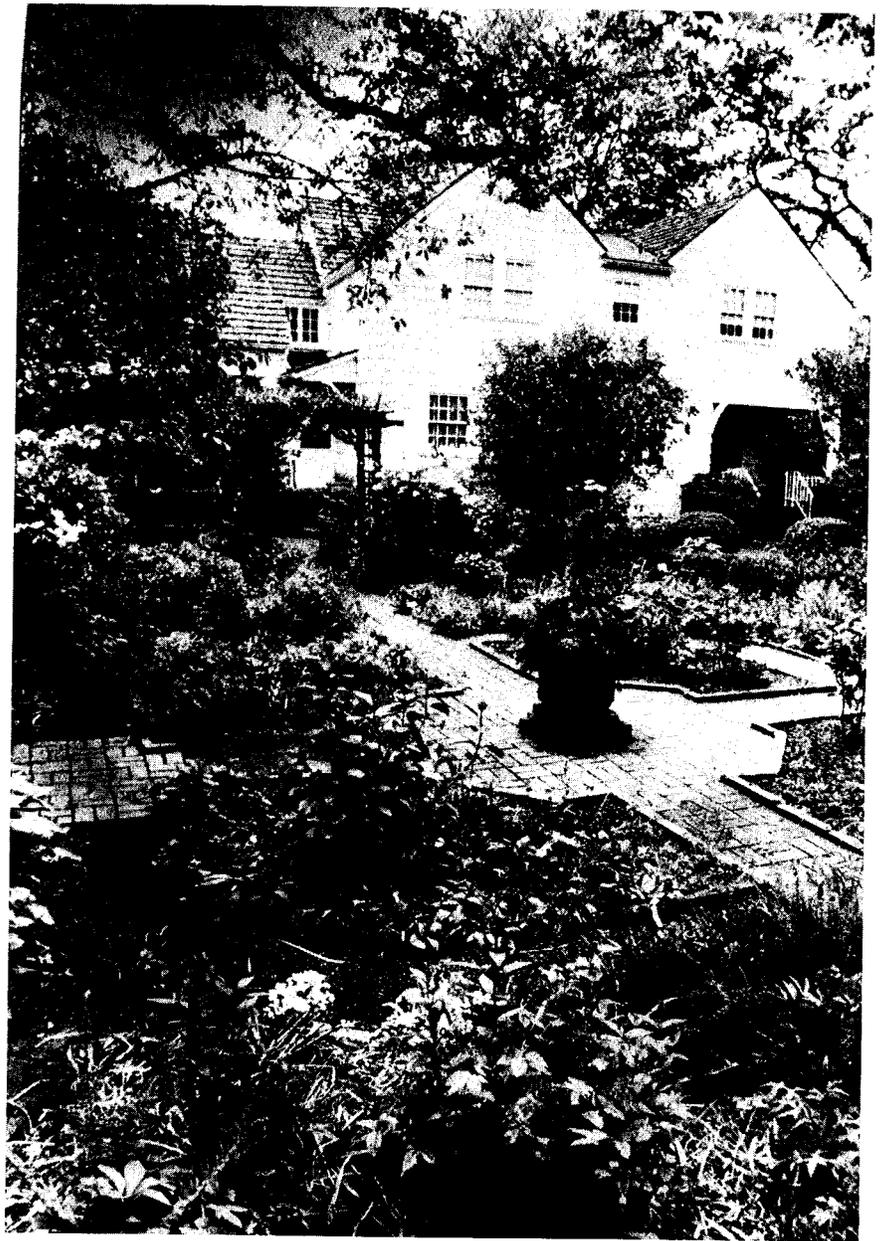
much good work and now as we look back over the years from the infancy of Bush House to the present day, some 25 years, I think all the members who lent their services in work and finances can be proud we did not forsake the land and old mansions, but kept it growing and improving.

There was a great deal of materials for planting on the place, and gifts of roses made it necessary to have a big rose garden as a chief attraction. Arthur Erfelat of Portland, a landscape architect, was given the opportunity to show his talent in designing and over-seeing the planting, 3,000 of them, some purchased and some as gifts. A Mrs. A.R. Tartar, living on the Garden Road far out from Salem, had the biggest collection of old roses in the Northwest. They had to be moved, owing to an urban renewal project, and Mrs. Tartar immediately was giving them to the rose garden, a wonderful addition.

Edith Schryver undertook this job of moving some 200 varieties, all tagged, properly named. The whole month of February was devoted to this task. She made a Victorian garden just north of the big planting – the outer line climbing roses planted against trellises.

The old barn used by the Bush family caught fire and was nearly totally demolished. It was saved by quick action. The general opinion was to tear it down, but good Charlie Hawkes, so generous with his valuable time, claimed it would make the nucleus of a useful and attractive art studio. No stranger enters the grounds of Bush House without exclaiming over its attractive setting and charming architecture. Edith Schryver planted the building area, and down to the walk in the woods under old oaks, leading to the extreme end of the Bush property. The interior of Bush House and furnishings have changed considerably but nothing is accepted that isn't of the highest quality. Changes in old homes hurt many oldtimers, and many old friends of the Bush family refuse to enter the house. I know many, but I've argued it is better to have saved then destroyed, because once the house was dismantled and sold for subdivision, Salem would have lost one of the loveliest natural parks in the West. Thousands pass through the doors every years; its attractions are manifold.

Where was my private practice going and my own garden I loved so much? I thought it wouldn't take too long, and to use only material of the 1900 period was an innovation never before attempted. People now of 1972 do not realize that garden flowers and shrubs of that period were difficult to locate. Deciduous shrubs were entirely used in home gardens—lilacs, the spiraeas etc., roses old and new of the time. Broadleaved shrubs in variety were a scarcity, about seven or eight Camellias were known in private grounds. I had no idea so few were used in the Victorian age. If it had not been for the Knight Pearcey Nursery finding the varieties I must have, I could never have carried out my ideas of the type of planting I wish to do to keep in harmony with the house of that date,

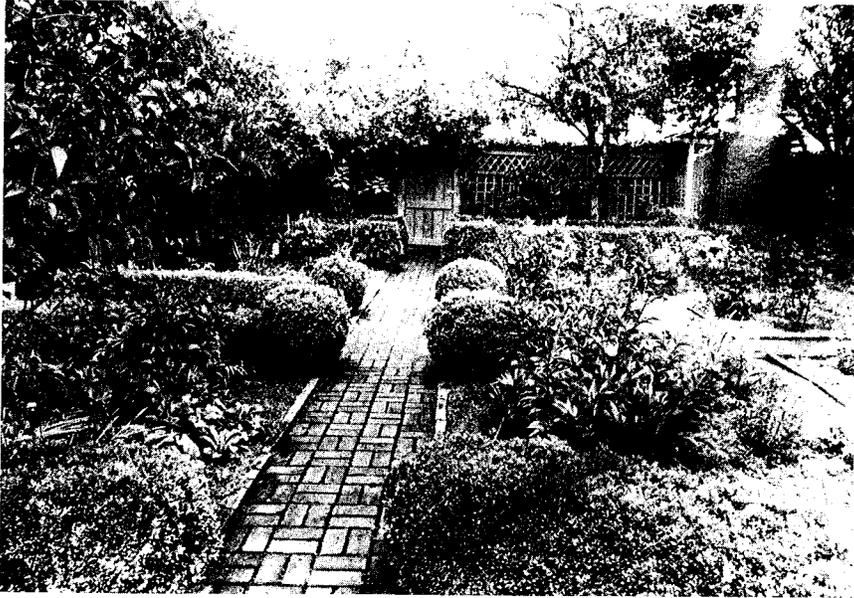


Formal geometric flower beds in back of the Lord residence.

1870.

Everything that has interested me in civic improvement seems to have started in the year of 1952. Although the last job that I was asked to do did not belong to the Salem area, I accepted because it was all garden and no housework! Dr. Burt Brown Barker surprised me one spring morning in 1952 and his conversation led up to the Minthorn house, boyhood home of Herbert Hoover, situated in Newberg, 30 miles north of Salem. Mr. Barker, a great friend of Herbert Hoover's, had purchased the old home, renovated it, built picket fences, all in accord to the 1870 period.

All that was needed now was the planting, very simple, and very little work. It sounded intriguing and I was foolish enough to investigate the project, having the Bush House and Capitol Commission still on my schedule. I wasn't too certain. Driving down to Newberg from my home was a pleasant drive through the valley farm life, never uninteresting, so the distance didn't bother me. The only thing that did was the lack of capable labor, dependable, and there was some pretty



Path to the Arbor.

heavy work for me to handle. However, I was never the worse for it.

The Colonial Dames of Portland Society were my benefactors. The project was one they took under their wing and, as my Mother was one of the founders of the Society in Oregon, I accepted the job, doing it in her memory.

This undertaking lasted until 1968, from 1952, many years of work. When I reached my last 70 years of age I decided my work was finished. Very capable hands carried on the upkeep painting. Members of the Colonial Dames and I hope that this project will always remain, as I hope the same for Bush House.



Minthorn House in Newberg, Herbert Hoover's boyhood home from 1885 to 1888, benefited from Elizabeth Lord's landscaping from 1952 to 1968.

IN REMEMBRANCE
ELIZABETH B. LORD

Nov. 12, 1887 - Oct. 9, 1976

by David C. Duniway

Elizabeth Lord was our friend, and for each of us she had a very special meaning. The twinkle in her eye, her smile, her graciousness, and the ring of her voice, we all remember and can cherish. But it was her delight in gardening, in trees, in nature that enriches our lives. It began as a child when she found the various wild violets in the Bush Pasture, including the double stemmed vukia and the red violet, along with cat's ears, lamb's tongues and the blue camas. Her mother's interest in her own garden enhanced this concern, and it was only natural that after her mother's death she should choose to become a landscape architect. She had thought of secretarial work and of nursing, but gardens were her destiny.

Elizabeth's father, William Paine Lord, was a major in the Civil War, and afterwards came west in the military service. In 1868, he resigned his commission and settled in Salem to practice law, serving as City Attorney and State Senator. In 1880, he went east and married Juliet Cook Montague of Baltimore, bringing her back to Salem as his bride. Eventually they were to acquire the corner of Mission and High, and it was here that Elizabeth, their youngest child was born, and here that she would spend much of her life. Her father served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and as Governor, and was appointed United States Minister to the Republic of Argentina by President McKinley. The family went with him to South America, and afterwards Elizabeth attended St. Helen's Hall in



Elizabeth B. Lord
1887-1976



Elizabeth Lord's father,
William Paine Lord,
Oregon governor, 1895-1899.

Portland. Her later travels in the Orient and Europe lent perspective to Elizabeth's work and her interests.

Elizabeth took her professional training at the Lowthrope School of Landscape Architecture in Groton, Massachusetts. On a tour of Europe she met Edith Schryver, and in 1928 they came to Salem as partners in the firm of Lord and Schryver.

Miss Lord's interest in trees led to public service in her parents' tradition. It began when she became Chairman of the Willamette Valley Division of the State Federation of Garden Clubs. For Salem's Garden Club she was responsible for the plantings around the Marion County Court House, and the plane trees or sycamores, which are about to be trimmed, she planted. Then in 1937, Miss Lord was appointed to the Salem Parks Board and for nine years struggled with the problems of Marion, Englewood, Pringle and Willson Parks and inadequate budgets. With the appointment of the first City Manager, the Board was replaced, and she served on the Salem Parks Advisory Committee and was Chairman of the Tree Committee. She fought for a tree planting program on the curbs in the residential areas, city responsibility for upkeep, and avenues of trees to provide vistas. The beautification of the downtown which came since has been most pleasing to her. Miss Lord's service extended to the state as a member of the Capital Planning Commission from 1949 through 1963. Here she was concerned with the landscaping of the Capitol Mall and the salvage of the old plantings in the Capitol Park after the Columbus Day storm.

As a friend of Miss Sally Bush, Elizabeth Lord was among those who revitalized the Salem Art Association, when the city was persuaded to dedicate the Bush House as a Museum and the Association acquired the original furnishings. She served on the Board and was President of the Association during this pioneer period.

It was because of our mutual concern in this project that we became friends, although my Uncle had been her father's Secretary and close friend. Outside of Salem, Miss Lord and Miss Schryver were responsible for the landscaping of the Minthorn House at Newberg, the boyhood home of Herbert

Hoover. Elizabeth also was a member of the Salem Garden Club, the Portland Garden Club, and the Garden Club of America.

Elizabeth's interest in history has led her to support the Marion County and the Oregon Historical Societies, the Mission Mill Museum and the Friends of Deepwood. In 1973 she was honored in the "Professions" at Panygeric II. She was a member of the Oregon Society of the Colonial Dames, the Illahee Hills Country Club, and University Club in Portland.

Survivors include her nephew, Melvin S. Lord and his family of Madrid, Spain, a cousin Robert Stockbridge and family of Baltimore, Maryland and her friend Edith Schryver.

Her garden was her pleasure, and the gardens of many others their delight, because of the ideas and the inspiration of the firm of Lord and Schryver.



Photo by George Strozzi, Jr.

The Heart of the Tree

HENRY CUYLER BUNNER

*What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants a friend of sun and sky;
He plants the flag of breezes free;
The shaft of beauty, towering high;
He plants a home to heaven anigh
For song and mother-croon of bird
In hushed and happy twilight heard—
The treble of heaven's harmony—
These things he plants who plants a tree.*

*What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants cool shade and tender rain,
And seed and bud of days to be,
And years that fade and flush again;
He plants the glory of the plain;
He plants the forest's heritage;
The harvest of a coming age;
The joy that unborn eyes shall see—
These things he plants who plants a tree.*

*What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants, in sap and leaf and wood,
In love of home and loyalty
And far-cast thought of civic good—
His blessings on the neighborhood
Who in the hollow of His hand
Holds all the growth of all our land—
A nation's growth from sea to sea
Stirs in his heart who plants a tree.*

from One Hundred and One Famous Poems

At Deepwood, the restored Tea House Garden.



Edith Schryver
1901-1984



**Memorial Service for Edith Schryver
in the Lord-Schryver Garden
545 Mission St. S.E., Salem, Oregon
24 May 1984**



by David Duniway

"Welcome to the Lord-Schryver Garden on this occasion devoted to the memory of Miss Edith Schryver, our dear friend who added so much to the beauty of Salem and the Pacific Northwest. These gardens are a fragile monument to two wonderful women, partners as Lord-Schryver, Landscape Architects. As such we hope the next owners will maintain the gardens in their spirit, as well as the beautiful house designed by Clarence Smith, Salem's major architect between our two World Wars.

"When Miss Elizabeth Lord, senior member of the partnership, died, October 9, 1976, seven and a half years ago, it was my privilege to prepare a similar memorial service, designed with the help of Edith Schryver. Some of this service will be drawn from that special observance."

IN REMEMBRANCE — EDITH SCHRYVER
March 20, 1901 - May 20, 1984

Edith Schryver for each of us has a very special meaning. Life she savoured, like a dinner at Illahe, a trip around Mt. Hood, an Art Association Board meeting, or a journey around the world. The anticipation in her eye, the imprint of her voice on our consciousness, her fundamental intelligence, these we can all remember and cherish. But it was her enjoyment of space, her concern for vistas, her appreciation of color relations, and her excitement over new plant materials, that pervaded her work.

Edith, or Nina, as many of us knew her, was born and reared in Kingston, New York, half way up the Hudson to Albany, and on the west side of the river. The town was south of the Catskill's, not far from Woodstock, a famous art colony. It was Dutch country, originally, and her family was Dutch. She was valedictorian of her high school class of 600. She began to attend Lowthrop School of Landscape Architecture, in Groton, Massachusetts, even before she completed High School, working summers. When she finished her training, she had a year at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, and entered the prestigious office of Ellen Shipman, landscape architect in New York. There she was assigned the job of carrying out plans and drawings for five years.

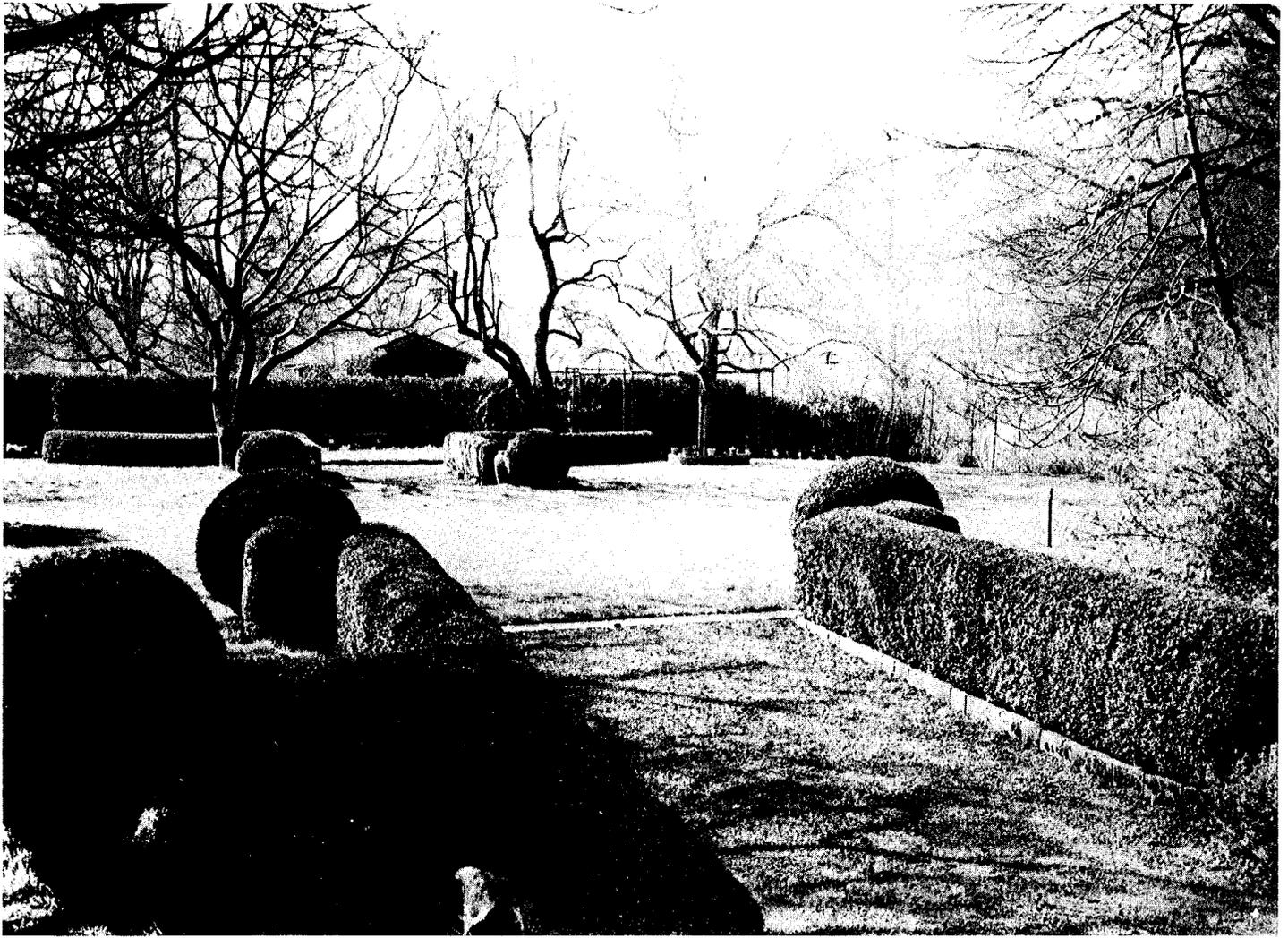
In 1927, Elizabeth Lord from Salem, completed her training at Lowthrop. She was the daughter of William Lord, lawyer, Governor, and Minister to Argentina. Elizabeth's brother, Montague, gave Elizabeth a graduation present of a trip to Europe. She joined a Harvard led tour for a group of young girls, one of whom was Edith Schryver. After the tour was

over, they traveled together, and decided to become partners. They returned to Salem, and in 1929, the legal partnership was formed. It lasted forty years, until they retired.

W. Kay Huntington in his appraisal of her work in *Space, Style and Structure, Building in Northwest America*, edited by Thomas Vaughan, describes the founding of this firm as "one of the milestones in the history of the Northwest garden design..." For four decades they designed and supervised work in Seattle, Tacoma, Portland and Salem... "of which the quality was consistently high." Since their clients were "both conservative and publicity-shy, the gardens remained largely unpublished - too remote from public view and too subtle for popular taste." The Lord-Schryver gardens were largely formal designs adapted to demanding sites where sloping properties and existing trees precluded the standard formal plans used in Colonial Revival schemes. "There was ever an element of surprise."

Edith Schryver with her background in the prestigious firm of Ellen Shipman in New York concentrated on design and construction and Elizabeth Lord on plant composition which included plant selection and planting. They were both greatly influenced in their work by the ideas of Gertrude Jekyll, the Englishwoman who broke with the tradition of geometric beds for the planting of flowers. She was the first to match plants to natural environments in wall and water gardens, woodland shade, and borders in the full sun. She created "drifts" of massed colors of daffodils or primroses under and between the trees, an idea often used in the Lord-Schryver gardens. They were also influenced by Louise Yeoman King of Michigan who shared her gardening as "an art, this adorable occupation" through her writing and her work with national garden organizations.

The various Lord-Schryver designed and planted gardens in Salem may have been transient, and have changed beyond their original plans, but Miss Schryver's design, preserved in the gardens of Deepwood, was prepared as a work of love for their mutual friend, Alice Brotherton Brown Powell. Plant composition, which was Elizabeth Lord's specialty, has survived in her own garden. As Kay Huntington says, "So subtle are the foliage colors and textures, so skillfully arranged in the successions of blooms that, like an impressionist painting, it may at first seem deceptively simple, but upon closer examination the incredible command and knowledge of their media - plants instead of painting - is truly stunning. Here the geometry of the compartmented scheme is at its most effective and the quality of design in arbors and fences at its classic finest. Anyone who conceives of a formal garden as being



The Deepwood garden before the Lewis & Clark iron gazebo arrived. It was designed by Lord & Schryver.

static has only to study the calculated interplay of spatial relationships in this tour de force of garden design."

During her first ten years in Salem, Edith was called upon by the Landscape Architecture Department of Oregon State College, now University, to participate in conferences and to lecture from time to time to their students. With World War II, and the disappearance of staff into service, she commuted to Corvallis three times a week for three years to teach Landscape Architecture. From these experiences, she developed her basic philosophy of gardens. She told me at a dinner in 1981 that "landscape architecture is first of all an art, secondly a profession, and last of all a business."

"A garden is never the same, but its characteristics should be preserved, even though the availability of plant material always changes."

In her design work, Nina felt that there should always be a basic connection between the garden and the house which it serves. Doors to gardens, and vistas of garden from the house are essential.

It was the policy of Lord-Schryver to develop conceptual watercolors which they would present to their clients to illustrate what they proposed to develop. For example, the Mildred Robertson garden, which was destroyed with the expansion of the Capitol Mall, had a basic color scheme in greens

and lavenders.

One of Nina's greatest pleasures was the design for the garden of the Jarman house at 567 High St. S.E., in 1929, one of her first jobs. There she was able to work closely with the contractor, William F. Wyatt of Santa Monica. The garden and house are both on the National Register of Historic Places.

Another private Salem garden which still preserves its original character is that done for Dr. and Mrs. Charles Robertson at 460 Lefelle St. South. A beautifully terraced garden, it closely relates to the house, and both garden and house are also on the National Register.

Portland gardens which Edith remembered with pleasure were the gardens of Ann Kingry in Dunthorpe, where she worked closely with the architect, Ernie Tucker, and the white-walled French garden for Herbert Templeton in Eastmoreland. Lord-Schryver also designed the front plantings for Reed College as a public service, and laid out the beginnings of the garden for the Portland Garden Club.

In Salem, Nina's public service included her place for years as liaison with the Salem Parks and Recreation on the Board of the Salem Art Association, and more recently as Senior member of that Board. During the early years at the Bush House, she did many flower arrangements for the House, and she designed the beds behind the House. She also supervised

the removal of the ancient moss roses to the new Municipal Rose Garden. More recently, Nina served on the Board of the Friends of Chemeketa, and as advisor to the Deepwood Gardeners in the revival of those gardens on historical principles. She was a major supporter of the Marion County Historical Society, the Mission Mill Museum, the Friends of Deepwood and the Humane Society.

I asked Melvin Lord to characterize Nina for me. He felt that she was typical of many Dutch people he had known. There was a basic stubbornness, taking a position and sticking to it. The only way he got around this attitude was not to engage in argument, to ignore her position, and eventually to lead her around to his point of view. He also felt that she may have been difficult for most people to get to know, with her sharp sense of personal relationships. Once accepted however as a friend, the experience was most worthwhile, as I am sure many of us would agree. She liked to be loved and flattered, and she appealed to youth.

At times, Nina could be a terrible procrastinator. The removal of a tree was a matter of anguish extending over many seasons. On the other hand, the planting of a tree was also a difficult decision. There are many stories of how a tree once planted could be moved two hours later, and then again before a day was over. Even a few feet, or the relation of a branch to the vista made a difference to her.

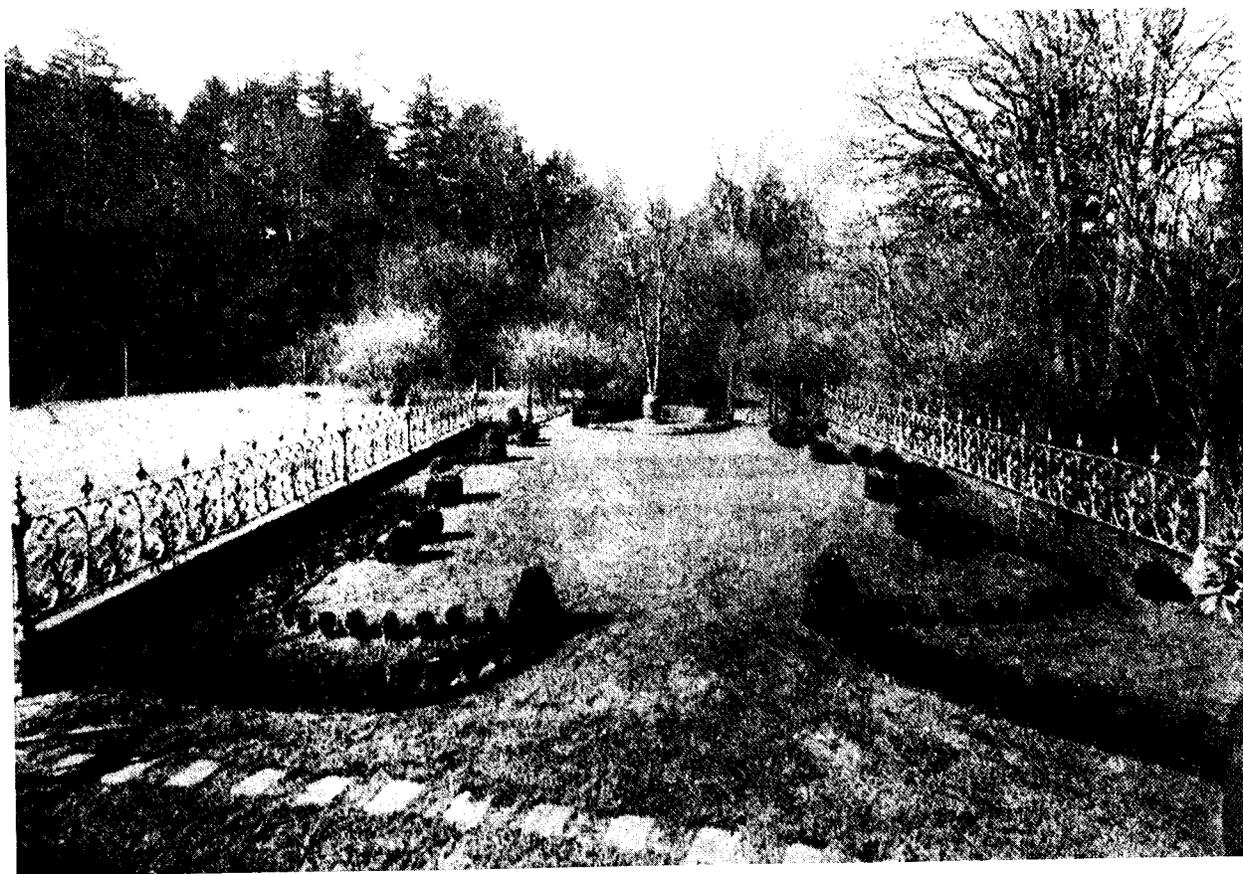
Nina enjoyed her friends and loved to travel. Melvin remembers that when he was at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania in the 30's, he went to New York City to spend a vacation with his Aunt Elizabeth and Nina at the Barbizon

Plaza. The pace which they set, going to museums, theatre, movies, concerts, was too much for him. He returned to college three days early.

Once Nina told his grandchild that she and Aunt Elizabeth were "Catholic." The child was amazed to know that they belonged to her church. Nina had to explain that "Catholic" also meant universal, and they were "Catholic in their tastes, interested in everything."

When Melvin acquired a new home in Washington, D.C., he asked Nina to design a garden for a side of the house that had no formal treatment. She presented a plan which he very much admired, but his ten year old daughter was appalled to learn that the area where she and her friends played was to be destroyed. Nina sided with the girl, and the plan was never executed.

Each of us must have our own stories of Nina which we could share. But this morning, I think many of us want to visit her garden around us and enjoy its subtleties. Like many housekeepers, she would apologize for nature, since the spring flowers have bloomed, and peonies and roses are not yet in glory. That we can anticipate. We would also like you to share a little libation in her honor under the arbor. But let us close this service with a poem by William Ernest Henley:



Deepwood's Wedding Garden, Salem, when first established in the late 1930s and designed by Edith Schryver.

*A late lark twitters from the quiet skies:
And from the west,
Where the sun, his day's work ended,
Lingers as in content,
There falls on the old, gray city
An influence luminous and serene,
A shining peace.*

*The smoke ascends
In a rose-and-golden haze. The spires
Shine and are changed. In the valley
Shadows rise. The lark sings on. The sun,
Closing his benediction,
Sinks, and the darkening air*

*Thrills with a sense of the triumphing night—
Night with her train of stars
And her great gift of sleep.*

*So be my passing!
My task accomplish'd and the long day done,
My wages taken, and in my heart
Some late lark singing,
Let me be gather'd to the quiet west,
The sundown splendid and serene,
Death.*

WILLIAM ERNEST HENLEY

from The Oxford Book Of English Verse



Bush House, looking over part of the rose garden which Lord & Schryver adopted as a project.