Approved:

Don H. Castleberry
Regional Director, Midwest Region

February 10, 1994

Printed on Recycled Paper

Cultural Landscape Report

February 1994

Lawnfield
JAMES A. GARFIELD
National Historic Site • Ohio

United States Department of the Interior • National Park Service • Denver Service Center

CONTENTS

Section I: Administrative Data 1
Introduction 1
Administrative Data 2
Project Identification 2
Management History and Park Establishment 2
Prior Planning Decisions 3
Cultural Landscape Report Proposed Treatment 4
Compliance Statement 4

Section II: Documentary Data 7
A Brief History of Garfield's Life 7
Preamble 10
Historical Criteria, Contexts, and Periods of Significance 11
National Politics/Government 11
19th Century Agricultural Development 14
Influences of Cleveland Industrial and Commercial Development 14
Landscape Architecture Design 15
Significant Periods in the History of Lawnfield 15
Site History 16
Agricultural Practices of the Era 17
Garfield's Mentor Farm (1876-1885) 18
Roads/Fences and Topography 18
Farm Animals 20
Soil Amendments (Fertilizers) 21
Feeds and Feeding 21
Hydrology in the Early Years 22
Woodlots 24
The Campaign and Presidential Years 25
Lawnfield After the Tragedy 26
Significant Landscape Features of the 1876-1885 Era 27
Land Use 27
Spacial Relationships 27
Roads, Paths, and Other Transportation Systems 27
Views and Vistas 28
Vegetation 28
Drainage and Engineering Structures 28
Walls, Fences, and Hedges 28
Buildings 28
Other Landscape Features 29
A Period of Transition (1886-1899) 29
Significant Landscape Features of the Transition Period 34
Land Use 34
Spatial Relationships 34
Roads, Paths, and Other Transportation Systems 34
Views and Vistas 35
Vegetation 35

Drainage and Engineering Structures 36
Walls, Fences, and Hedges 36
Structures and Buildings 36
Other Features 36
The "Estate" (1900-1935) 37
Significant Landscape Features during the "Estate" Period 42
Circulation – Roads, Walks, and Transportation Systems 43
Spatial Relationships 43
Landscape Dividers 43
Views and Vistas 44
Vegetation 44
Land Use 44
Other Landscape Features 44
Lawnfield Becomes a Museum (1936-Present) 45

Section III: Field Survey Data 47
Existing Conditions 47
Acreage and Topography 47
Ambient Conditions, Roads, and Circulation 47
Buildings, Structures, and Objects 48
Vegetation 49
Views 51

Section IV: Analysis and Recommendations 53
Analysis of Selected Treatment Alternates 53
Selection of Preferred Treatment Plan 53
The 1886-1899 Transition Period 54
The Integrity of Significant Landscape Features 54
The Treatment Plan – (1886-1899) 56
Description of the Treatment Plan – 1886-1899 56
The 1900-1903 "Estate" Period 58
Integrity of the Significant Landscape Features 58
The Treatment Plan (1900-1903) 60
Description of the Plan – 1900-1903 61
Archeological Investigations 63
Possible Methods for Archeological Investigations 64
Treatment Alternate – 1886-1899 64
Treatment Alternate – 1900-1903 65
Parking Studies 66

Section V: Illustrations and Maps 69
Figure 1: Circa 1877 photograph of the Dickey farm house 71
Figure. 2: A plan and profile diagram of the farm 71
Figure 3: A diagram of an engine which was developed by the inventor John Ericsson in the 1870s 72
Figure 4: A diagram made by Helen Garfield 72
Figure 5: A sketch memo from Lucretia Garfield to an unknown person 73
Figure 6: USDA Vertical Air Photo, 1937 73
Figure 7: Lawnfield, 1880, L.C. Corwine, delineator 74

Figure 8: A damaged glass negative, c.1880 or earlier 74
Figure 9: Lawnfield, c. spring/summer 1880, west and south sides 75
Figure 10: Classic photograph of 1880 shows the Presidential candidate and visitors 75
Figure 11: A reconstruction of the picket fence shown in figure 10 76
Figure 12: Political Cartoon of 1880 by Currier and Ives, showing an idealized Garfield 76
Figure 13: Campaign Office, c. 1880 and 1900 77
Figure 14: A horizontal slide valve, stationary engine of the Porter-Allen type 78
Figure 15: Mentor Avenue, c. 1880 and 1900 79
Figure 16: Fences found at Lawnfield (several eras) 80
Figure 17: Lawnfield, c. 1888, east side 81
Figure 18: Lawnfield, c. 1888, west and south sides 81
Figure 19: Rudolph Stanley-Brown and James Garfield, c. 1892 82
Figure 20: Two views of Lawnfield from c. 1903 83
Figure 21: Lawnfield, c. 1900, north side 84
Figure 22: Lawnfield, c. 1903, east side 84
Figure 23: A 1906 photo showing the rapid development of the European Weeping Beech east of the library and the Cornelian Cherries screening the campaign house 85
Figure 24: Mollie Garfield poses, c. 1885, on the front porch 85
Figure 25: Trellis designed for the east porch (pergola) 86
Figure 26: Edward Garfield, c. 1904, in the yard at Lawnfield 86
Figure 27: Playhouse of the Garfield grandchildren 87
Figure 28: Lucretia Garfield surrounded by 13 of her grandchildren on the front lawn at Lawnfield, 1906 87
Figure 29: Eastlawn, the home of Harry and Belle Mason Garfield and Belle's mother, to the east of Lawnfield, 1906 88
Figure 30: Wide angle view of the carriage house and the water tower/windmill circa 1896 89
Figure 31: An historic photograph, c. 1894, of the windmill/tower and a portion of the orchard 90
Figure 32: Cresent-shaped bed plantings 90
Figure 33: Lawnfield, east side, c. 1903 and 1991 91
Figure 34: Cover and a page from the Storrs and Harrison catalogue of 1929 92
Figure 35: An 1881 issue of *Orchard and Garden*, a leading horticultural catalogue/journal of the period and a 1939 issue of the Storrs and Harrison catalogue 93
Figure 36: Lawnfield, c. 1936-51, east and south sides during the period when it became a museum 94
Figure 37: A specimen European Beech 95
Figure 38: A large caliper Plane tree northwest of the house 95
Figure 39: Limestone lid and watering trough 96
Figure 40: Drawings, tanks and windmills, c. 1903 97
Figure 41: Antique and modern rams, and a force pump 98
Figure 42: A view of the interior of the pumphouse as it appears today 99
Figure 43: Two types of Myers Model "G" pumps 99
Figure 45: A photograph of an open test pit north of the Garfield house, taken in 1991 100

Figure 46: Tree cores 101
Figure 47: The New York Herald Map of 1881 103
Figure 48 and 48a: Park Site Plans – c. 1985. 105 and 107
Figure 49 and 49a: J. Wilkinson Elliott, L.A. Plans – 1900. 109 and 111
Figures 50 and 50a: Topographic Survey – 1924 113 and 115
Figure 51: Tree Map – 1956 117
Figure 52: Horticultural Recommendation Diagram – c. 1975 119
Figure 53: Planting Topographic Site Plan – 1990 121
Figure 54: Treatment Plan – 1886-1899 123
Figure 55: Treatment Alternate – 1900-1908 125
Figure 56: Recommended Archaeological Investigation – 1886-1899 127
Figure 57: Recommended Archaeological Investigation – 1900-1903 129
Figure 58: Parking Studies – Possible Parking Lot Locations 131
Figure 58a: Parking Studies – Location 3 133
Figure 58b: Parking Studies – Location 4 135

Appendixes 137
Appendix A: Chronology 139
Appendix B: Chart of Crops and Fields at the Mentor Farm in the 1870's 141
Appendix C: The Lake County Nursery Industry 143
Appendix D: J. Wilkinson Elliott, Landscape Architect 144
Appendix E: Lucretia Garfield Builds a Tower 146
Appendix F: Revised Cost Estimate for Site Improvements 150

Bibliography 153

SECTION I: ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

INTRODUCTION

As one component of a larger project, which includes restoration/development of the main residence at Lawnfield, adaptive reuse of the carriage house, and a number of other elements, the team of landscape architects and historical landscape architects were asked by the Denver Service Center of the National Park Service to prepare a Cultural Landscape Report for the site. Van Dijk, Johnson and Partners are the chief architects responsible for the primary restoration efforts for the buildings at Lawnfield.

Within the scope of the CLR, the investigative team was asked to identify, evaluate and determine appropriate management options for the cultural landscape, including considerations for such elements within the site as the historic scene, historic designed and vernacular landscapes. The team collected, presented and evaluated documentary and field survey findings within the context of the Cultural Landscape Report format. During the course of this project, guidelines for the management of cultural landscapes underwent extensive revision and expansion. The investigative team made several revisions to this document in an attempt to conform with the most recent available information. However, it must be remembered that these guidelines are still in a state of flux and thus, some aspects of this report may be superceded by later changes.

The authors owe much to those who have preceded them. Photographs, drawings and data from two previous works, compiled by the National Park Service have been incorporated: *The Historic Resource Study* prepared by Ronald W. Johnson, in September of 1984 for the Denver Service Center, branch of cultural resources Northeast Team, and the report prepared by Paul Newman of the Denver Service Center in September of 1989, entitled: *Lawnfield Historic Structure Report - James A. Garfield National Historic Site.* In addition, the research team has completed extensive additional work in the Lucretia R. Garfield collection and those of other family members at the Library of Congress, Manuscript Collection and in collections available through the Western Reserve Historical Society, the Lake County Historical Society and other sources.

While every effort has been made to review all pertinent documents, a report such as this should still be considered subject to change. As new material comes to light, it may affect some of the design solutions. This is especially true of any later archeological investigations which may reveal slightly different configurations and/or placements of key features.

Since the research team anticipates that this report will often be read by persons who have not had the benefit of access to the other two documents, a biographical sketch of James A. Garfield has been included (SECTION II), as well as a brief chronology (SECTION V). In addition to the work of Messrs. Johnson and Newman, we are also grateful to Carl Engel of the Lake County Historical Society and to the staff of the Western Reserve Historical Society for their assistance in helping us delve through the extensive archival material in their collections.

This report was prepared by The Westerly Group, Inc., Mr. Thomas W. Salmon II, Manager, Ms. Camille B. Fife, President, in collaboration with William Behnke Associates Mr. Lee

Behnke, Principal. Mr. Behnke provided research information on the history of the extensive nurseries in Lake County which has been extremely important in determining the potential vegetative materials which may have been available in the area.

Mrs. Theresa Backiel of the Garfield Garden Club was of great assistance in providing the location and names of plant material around the residence which was installed by that organization. Supplemental information about J. Wilkinson Elliott was found through the assistance of Ms. Helen M. Wilson of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania and Ms. Jean S. Morris, genealogist.

The staff of Lawnfield was most helpful during all stages of this investigation.

During the course of this project, members of the investigative team, and of the collaborative were privileged to become acquainted with George A. Thorson, a man whose unfailing intelligence and kindness enhanced every gathering where he was present. In any meeting, and amongst colleagues from many different backgrounds, his was a voice of "sweet reason." George passed away, unexpectedly, before the final version of this report could be distributed. We will miss sharing it with him. There is no way to replace his special brand of thoughtful consideration.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Project Identification

James A. Garfield National Historic Site, including the house known as Lawnfield, is located at 8095 Mentor Avenue in Mentor, Ohio. The property is listed as a National Historic Landmark. It is part of the National Park System and is managed by the superintendent and staff of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area, 15610 Vaughn Road, Brecksville, Ohio. The house and outbuildings are listed as numbers 001 through 009 in park 6380, category A (structures that must be preserved and maintained).

Management History and Park Establishment

In 1936, President Garfield's heirs deeded the Main House, the Campaign House and the grounds immediately surrounding them to the Western Reserve Historical Society, to be operated as a museum for future generations. In 1944, the family donated approximately 3.6 additional adjacent acres to the Western Reserve Historical Society, including the Carriage House and the land upon which the current parking lot is located. The remaining portion of the current National Historic Site which included the Well house, Tenant House, Barn, Granary, Chicken House, and Corn Crib was purchased by the Lake County Historical Society from Eleanor B. Garfield in 1975.

The property was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1964.

James A. Garfield NHS was authorized as a unit of the National Park System by an Act of Congress [public law 96-607] on December 28, 1980, to "preserve for the benefit, education, and inspiration of future generations certain historically significant properties associated with

the life of James A. Garfield" – 20th President of the United States. In the act, Congress specifically authorized the preservation of this 7.82-acre site, consisting of President Garfield's home, known as Lawnfield, and the grounds. Together the home and these grounds constitute the only remaining portion of his original farm.

The act directed the Secretary of the Interior to administer the site. However, authorizing provisions have permitted the Secretary to enter into an agreement with the Western Reserve Historical Society to maintain, operate, and interpret this historic property. It also specified that the Lawnfield portion of the site, owned by the Western Reserve Historical Society, may only be acquired by donation.

From 1938 to 1984, the property was operated and maintained by the Lake County Historical Society under a contract with the Western Reserve Historical Society. This county historical society used Lawnfield as its headquarters and as a general county museum. It was open to the visiting public seven months a year. In 1984, the Western Reserve Historical Society resumed direct responsibility for management and operation of the historic site, and returned the focus of the site to interpretation of Garfield.

Funds to operate and maintain Lawnfield came from admission fees, memberships, and donations. The Lake County Board of Commissioners contributed funds for Lawnfield operations until 1966. When this support was no longer possible, the county historical society turned to the Western Reserve Historical Society for financial assistance. Between 1967 and the late 1980s approximately $95,000 of capital improvements have been made to the property. Most of the funds were provided by the Western Reserve Historical Society, with some money coming from the federal government in the form of matching preservation grants. However, this funding has been insufficient to meet the ongoing maintenance requirements for the buildings, the collections, and the site as well as development opportunities.

As provided by the authorizing legislation, the Western Reserve Historical Society donated their portion of the site which included the Main House, Campaign House, and the Carriage House to the National Park Service in 1988. The National Park Service purchased the Well House, Tenant House, Barn, Granary, and Chicken House from the Lake County Historical Society in 1984. Also, as provided in the authorizing legislation, the Service has entered into an agreement with Western Reserve to provide day-to-day operations, interpretation, and maintenance for the site.

Prior Planning Decisions

The enabling legislation specifies that the site shall be administered in accordance with the Act of August 25, 1916, (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented, and the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666), as amended. This legislation also required the completion of a comprehensive General Management Plan. Development and planning at the site are now guided by the General Management Plan approved in 1986 (herein referred to as the plan).

A house tour will continue to be conducted to interpret the life and times of James A. Garfield. At present, all visitor use functions and facilities are located within the main house, but the plan calls for removing them. Orientation, fee collection, museum exhibits, sales, and

public rest rooms will be provided in a new visitor center utilizing the 1893 carriage house. Self-guided interpretation of the historic landscape will be provided by a series of wayside exhibits.

The plan calls for the following to provide access and circulation at the site:

- Obliterate the old parking lot.
- Construct new 2-lane access road and parking lot.
- Construct a pedestrian walkway between the Main House and the Carriage House.
- Retain the historic lane.

The plan calls for the following actions for landscape management:

- Maintain trees and grounds.
- Fence boundary.
- Bury nonhistoric utilities.
- Remove picnic tables.
- Provide benches.

Cultural Landscape Report Proposed Treatment

The selected alternative for the landscape treatment (1886-1899) was chosen because it best interprets the life and times of James A. Garfield without the immediate removal of significant features of later landscape changes. The CLR will carry out all of the actions of the GMP plan. This document defines in much more detail how this landscape treatment will be accomplished. The major proposals of the plan are:

- The historic farm entrance road and lane will be restored to its original 1876-1899 alignment for pedestrian use.
- A new entrance drive will be constructed along the eastern boundary. It will curve to the west to form a utility zone at the southeastern corner of the property.
- The parking lot will be located within the limits of the old poultry yard.
- New walks from the parking lot will direct circulation to the new visitor center.
- Documented historic vegetation will be reestablished; mainly trees and shrubs on the site in general; and foundation plantings and vines around the main house.
- A vegetative screen will be created around the edge of the property on the north, east, and west sides.
- The historic picket fence will be restored on the south side of the property, along Mentor Avenue.
- Site interpretation will be provided through outdoor wayside exhibits.
- The site will be made accessible to the disabled. Paths will be constructed to the waysides and buildings not connected to the lane road.

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

All actions proposed at the James A. Garfield National Historic Site will comply with the NPS Management Policies and Cultural Resources Management Guideline (NPS-28). The goal of

the recommended treatments is to rehabilitate the site, with restoration where feasible, to the 1886-1899 appearance. The results will maintain the landscape, its historical values, and associated furnishings. Coupled with the main house and various outbuildings located on the site, this property will provide a beneficial contribution to the interpretation of the life and times of James A. Garfield and the scene in which those events took place.

In applying the criteria of effect, 36 CFR Part 800.3(a), the National Park Service has determined that the proposed undertaking will have an effect on the James A. Garfield National Historic Site.

In applying the criteria of adverse effect, 36 CFR Part 800.3(b), the National Park Service has found the effect not to be adverse because:

A. The proposed undertaking will not result in the destruction of the significant features of the property, even though substantial alterations are planned. Changes made to the fabric of the site and grounds in the course of administering the property since 1936 (and by natural attrition) have altered historic fabric from the most recent significant period 1900-1936. The property will be restored to its 1886-1899 appearance, a period which still incorporates some of the farm planning and design accomplished by James A. Garfield, some of the appearance during the 1880 presidential campaign, but also accommodates all of the remaining buildings and some of the changes made by Mrs. Garfield. The plan incorporates a new access road along the eastern border which leads to a new parking lot to service interpretive facilities being developed in the Carriage House. Its location and alignment are necessary for the administration of the site and reflects previous decisions established in the General Management Plan of 1986. New elements will be designed with the least visual impact on the site and existing buildings.

   The site has been recorded in a survey completed in 1990. A Cultural Landscape Report has been completed which contains a chronology of site alterations and appearance during different periods, and assesses the significance and integrity during those periods. All buildings on the site have been recorded to standards prescribed by the Historic American Building Survey and the National Park Service will maintain a collection of historic and contemporary photographs of the buildings in its files.

   The primary significance of the property is the life and times of James A. Garfield and therefore the removal of a minor amount of fabric, and restoration of the historic appearance to enhance the interpretation, will not adversely affect the qualities which make this site important.

B. The proposed undertaking will not result in the isolation of the historic buildings from, or alteration of the character of its setting. Rather it will have a beneficial effect, recreating the historic scene to the time of peak family use and involvement with the site.

C. The proposed undertaking will not introduce visual, audible, or atmospheric elements that are out of character with the property or alter its setting. As stated above, the proposed undertaking will result in the recreation of the 1886-99 historic scene.

   Incompatible modern elements such as the old west side entrance road, parking lot, electric utility poles, and area lights will be removed. New utilities will all be brought in

underground. New exterior mechanical and electrical equipment will be installed remote from the buildings and screened with plantings. Visual intrusions, such as the surrounding suburban development, will be screened to a greater extent with vegetation at the edge of the property.

Exterior modifications on buildings to make them accessible for people with disabilities, will be accomplished in a sensitive, unobtrusive, manner. A new path will also be introduced to the east side of the site for access to interpretive wayside exhibits. The design for new elements will be sympathetic but will be identifiable as new construction.

D. The proposed undertaking will not result in the transfer, lease, sale, deterioration, or destruction of federally owned property.

SECTION II: DOCUMENTARY DATA

A BRIEF HISTORY OF GARFIELD'S LIFE

For some readers of this report, the life and times of James A. Garfield will be a well-known story. For others, this somewhat obscure, short-term President will be a mystery. A dark horse candidate for the Presidency, Garfield's emergence upon the national scene was short, and ultimately tragic.

Assassinated only a few months into his first term, his potential for national distinction was barely realized. Nonetheless, his place in history is securely made, partly because of his brutal and untimely death, partly because of issues and interests which he had pursued as a 7-term congressman from Ohio, and partly because of the forces of his era, with which he must be inextricably connected.

James A. Garfield was born in the Chagrin Valley of Ohio in 1831, on November 19, in Orange Township, Cuyahoga County. His father, Abram Garfield, had moved to the thinly settled lands of the Western Reserve in 1819,[1] married Eliza Ballou a girl of eighteen and established their home in a log house along the Cuyahoga River. The first years were a disaster. Both parents were ill with serious fever, although three children were born: Mehitabel in 1821, Thomas in 1822 and Mary in 1824, all of whom survived the hardships of infancy and malaria.[2]

James Garfield's father Abram spent some time as a contractor between 1825 and 1827 on the construction of the Erie Canal,[3] to earn funds to purchase the land in Cuyahoga County. According to recollections of Mrs. Eliza Garfield, the land was acquired in 1828-29.[4] It was the first such purchase for the young Garfield family.

At his birth in 1831, James A. Garfield was given the first name of an older child who had died (James, b.1827, d.1829), a well-established New England tradition. All agree that his mother's influence was great on this, the youngest of her children. She described him as: " ... the largest Babe I ever had, he looked like a red Irishman, a very large Head and Shoulders & Body equal to the Head and Shoulders. He was a very good-natured child, ... walked when he was nine Months old, when ten months old he would climb the fence, go up the ladder a dozen times a day, he never was still a minute at a time in his whole life."[5]

This energy and intense devotion to the matter at hand would become as typical of the man as it was of the child. James shared physical characteristics with his father who was known as a man of prodigious strength. It was from his mother, however, that the youngest child of Abram Garfield was to inherit the dynamic forces that were to take him out of the

1. Theodore Clark Smith, *Life & Letters of James Abram Garfield*, Vol.I, New Haven, Yale Univ. Press

2. Ibid., p. 4

3. Harry James Brown, Frederick D. Williams, Eds., *The Diary of James A. Garfield, Vol. I 1848-1871*, p. x.

4. Ibid., p. 5.

5. Bundy, *Life of General J. A. Garfield*, p.5

intellectual range of all previous Garfields These characteristics "lay coiled up in the fine, sensitive, religious nature"[6] of Eliza Ballou who was to remain an important influence on his life.

Contrary to some popular notions of the time, James Garfield's childhood was not necessarily marked by poverty, (although the political value of such a story was not lost on those who later sought to romanticize his early years). The farm produced well, "We lived as well as our neighbors," Eliza Garfield remarked, suggesting an abundant farm diet: "For breakfast we usually had meat and potatoes, Bread and Butter & Tea and sometimes coffee & frequently pancakes, for dinner boiled Victuals or Baked Beans & baked pudding for supper we had Tea, Bread & Butter or Biscuit sometimes apple sauce peach & Cold boiled victuals."[7]

In 1833 tragedy descended upon the young family. Abram Garfield died, probably from pneumonia which developed from a "violent cold."[8] Thus began the years of incredibly hard work and diligence which comprised most of young James' early life. With pluck and courage, Eliza maintained the farm as a source of livelihood for herself and her four children, the oldest of which was about 11 at the time. Nonetheless, James' earliest years were filled with pleasant memories. His mother emerges as a high spirited, deeply religious woman who inspired virtues of hard work, religious devotion and humor, especially in the youngest of her brood.

James attended school at the age of three and was called "the best reader in his class of little boys."[9] It is probably noteworthy that a small schoolhouse was built on the corner of Widow Garfield's property. This was usually the result of a donation by the landholder for such a purpose. James' early demonstrations of excellence in academic matters caused the small family to bind together to encourage his academic development. At the time that he graduated from college, he was probably only one of two Garfields to have attained that distinction.

Nonetheless, young Garfield took part in the chores and family life of the farm. This early involvement in day-to-day agrarian activities, was to remain an important influence on his later desire to purchase and develop the Mentor Farm.

By the time James was in his mid-teens, his two sisters had married and his older brother Thomas had left to work "for wages" in Michigan. During the same period James too, made a short career of working for others, particularly by performing a series of small jobs, including "black-salting" – making crude potash by leaching water through wood ashes. These and other activities were to give him a background of understanding of the many farm chores about which he later seemed so expert. During these early years, he also began a journal, a practice which eventually became a lifelong habit.

6. T. C. Smith, *Life & Letters of James Abram Garfield, Vol I*, p.9

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid.

9. Ibid., p. 14.

In the midst of all this, young James became enamored of the sea, probably through his voracious reading. Later he would recall: "In the spring of 1848 I chopped 100 cords of wood upon a farm in Newburg, Cuyahoga County, within sight of the Lake and the passage of a ship made me almost insane with delight. The blue expanse seemed to be a region of enchantment and the great vessels the only means of going into that region."[10]

Although rebuffed in his first attempt to become a sailor, Garfield hired on as a canal boat mule driver. He found employment on the inland canals and spent approximately six weeks working on canal boats.[11] In later years this aspect of his early life was much exaggerated. Actually, it encompassed only a short period of time, but the lessons he learned, of tough manners and hard work, stayed with him throughout life. Unfortunately, young Garfield's tenure was cut short by an attack of malaria, a disease which was rampant in the turgid canal waters. He returned home to convalesce – a long and serious process – during which his mother was able to convince him to postpone his plans to return to the canals. Rather, she encouraged him to further his education. She offered seventeen dollars toward the cost and suggested that he could combine a life of teaching and sailing by doing the former in the winter and the latter in the summer. Thus Garfield embarked upon the shores of the academic world.[12]

In 1849 he entered Geauga Seminary in Chester, Ohio. By August of 1851, he had enrolled in the Western Reserve Eclectic Institute in Hiram, Ohio, and by 1854 had graduated from that institution. In July of that year, he matriculated at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts. By the summer of 1856 he had graduated with honors and had become active in politics, campaigning for the Republicans. In the spring of 1857 he was appointed "Chairman" of the Eclectic Institute faculty and the following year, a resident of the Institute. That November he married Lucretia Rudolph.

His political years began with his election to the State Senate (from Hiram) in October of 1859. Two years later the Civil War began and he was appointed a colonel of the 42nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Garfield's military career during the Civil War included distinction in battles in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Georgia. He moved successfully up the ranks and was promoted to the rank of major general in 1863. The same year saw him assume a seat in the 38th Congress in Washington, DC. The next ten years were spent as a Congressman with strong ties to the Ohio homeland, including a position on the Hiram College Board of Trustees.

The Garfields, by this time, had begun a large family. Five children eventually survived. They purchased and extensively renovated a home in Hiram, and later built a house in Washington, DC. In 1872, the property at Hiram was sold, a decision which Garfield evidently later regretted. In the fall of 1876, he purchased the Mentor Farm. Tired of moving around from place to place during the summer, and when Congress was in recess, he later recalled the decision: "Here is my love of a farm revived in me. Now I must go tossing about at watering places in summer at heavy expense, or I must get a place where my boys can

10. Ibid.

11. Harry James Brown, Frederick D. Williams, Eds., *The Diary of James A. Garfield*, Vol I, Michigan, Michigan State University Press, 1967, p. xv.

12. Ibid. p.xvi.

learn to work, and where I can myself have some exercise, where I can touch the earth and get some strength from it."[13]

The family moved into the house in the spring of 1877. By 1880 Garfield had been nominated to the U.S. Senate, leaving his long-time association with the House of Representatives. By summer, he had been nominated as the GOP candidate for President in a somewhat surprising convention move. He conducted the well-known "front porch campaign" from his farm in Mentor and succeeded in winning election as President in the fall of the same year. On March 4 he was inaugurated in Washington, DC. By July 2, he had been shot by Charles Guiteau, a disgruntled office-seeker.

Garfield teetered between life and death throughout the summer of 1881. In September he died at Long Branch, New Jersey. The response to the untimely death of this relatively young man was worldwide. Similar to the death of President John F. Kennedy in our own era, heads of state and countless people wept over the senseless loss. Although Garfield had had virtually no time to prove his merit as President, the assassination touched the population deeply.

In addition to support for his widow and family, a drive was conducted to provide a Garfield memorial at Lakeview Cemetery in Cleveland. It was dedicated in 1890. In 1886 a new wing was completed at the Mentor farm to house a Memorial Library (the first for a slain President).

PREAMBLE

Lawnfield, the country home of James A. Garfield from 1876 until his death in 1881, is located in Mentor, Ohio, an area once noted for its gracious farms, and the estates of important Clevelanders. The area around Lake County was a popular one for such estates. In a 1903 publication, Thomas A. Knight stated, "Possibly one-third of the country estates surrounding Cleveland are on the lake front and another third are high up on the ridges and hills inland."[14]

The Garfield farm, or "Lawnfield" as it came to be called, underwent a gradual evolution, from a working "gentleman's farm," to an "estate," to its present status as a museum and a National Historic Landmark. To fully understand this evolution, and how it effected the significant features of the landscape, it is important to discuss the historic contexts which this resource exemplifies. In addition, it may also be helpful to recall the ways in which the site meets the Secretary of the Interior's criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. Further, we have established key periods of significance for the historic landscape as it evolved over time.

Cultural landscapes are complex resources, whose key defining historic features are fragile, and change more rapidly over time than most architectural materials. In this, they differ from historic structures, which may retain a great amount of original fabric intact (although often

13. Ibid., p. 917.

14. Thomas Knight, *Country Estates of Cleveland Men*, Cleveland, 1903

hidden), over hundreds of years. Thus, it is not surprising that questions of integrity regarding historic landscapes present somewhat more difficult challenges to the investigators and to management. Hopefully, the discussion which follows will clarify the significance of the landscape during its various periods of evolution, and thus assist in assessing its integrity and in developing treatment plans for its future management.

HISTORICAL CRITERIA, CONTEXTS, AND PERIODS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Because of its association with President Garfield, the site obviously meets one of the Secretary of the Interior's criteria for National Register eligibility. Garfield was the chief architect of the farm. He was a man who involved himself totally and with great energy in any undertaking he attempted, thus, the background and influences which he brought to the development of this farm at Mentor bear greatly on the cultural landscape which developed, especially during the years 1876-1881.

The farm at Mentor can be viewed within the historical contexts of national politics/government, 19th century agriculture, Cleveland industrial/commercial development, and landscape architecture/design.

National Politics/Government

The farm at Mentor was featured in newspaper accounts during the presidential campaign of 1880, which gave it a more direct association with contemporary political themes than most historic landscapes can claim. It played a role in the campaign itself. Garfield was pictured as the embodiment of basic values, especially those which were associated with a somewhat ennobled picture of farm life. A contemporary political cartoon of this period (Figure 12) demonstrates this strategy. Although as a seven-term congressman, he spent most of his time in the nation's capital, Garfield, the self-made man and gentleman farmer, positioned as an antidote to big-city political corruption, proved to be a powerful image, one the public was ready to embrace.

In many ways, it was an authentic image. If Garfield's ability to wield a scythe or man-handle a team of oxen might be questioned, his intellectual and emotional dedication to the farm was undoubtedly real. In any case, for the media and the public, authentication was simply a matter of an invitation which was tendered to one and all during the campaign of 1880: "Come see Garfield, the honest Ohio farmer...on his working farm" (author's quotes). Garfield the candidate was more than happy to oblige and the famous "front porch campaign" was the result. All of this activity, of course, added important significance to the vernacular landscape with which it was associated.

Another dimension can be added to the associations from which the landscape at Lawnfield derives significance. The extraordinary circumstances of the assassination of President Garfield, only a few months after his inauguration, coupled with her courageous conduct during his illness, elevated Lucretia Garfield to a level of national social prominence which she otherwise would probably not have enjoyed. A quiet, down-to-earth woman, with a ready

intelligence and wit, she was evidently a good manager, supervising the construction of substantial additions to their property at Hiram while Garfield served in the Union Army.[15]

By the time of the assassination, both of them had attempted to arrange matters so that they could be together whenever possible. Thus, Lucretia was accustomed to Garfield's frequent travel back and forth between Washington and Mentor, staying in their Washington, DC house when congress was in session. Ironically, when Guiteau's bullet struck, Lucretia Garfield was separated from her husband. She had retired to the New Jersey shore at Elberon, Long Branch to recuperate from a potentially life-threatening illness when the ominous telegram from Washington arrived.

During the course of Garfield's suffering, the country followed his progress avidly through daily bulletins in the national press. Both man and wife were extolled for their strength and courage; according to some, Lucretia found strengths few had seen before. *The New York Times* reported on Thursday, July 7, 1881 (three days after the shooting): "He [Garfield] is bearing himself with great fortitude, and Mrs. Garfield has exhibited a coolness and courage in this crisis for which her oldest and most intimate friends had scarcely given her credit." And, on July 10th: "When the history of this struggle for life comes to be written, not the least interesting part of it will be the story of Mrs. Garfield's wifely devotion. There is no doubt in the minds of the attending physicians that but for the firmness and courage which she has shown President Garfield would have been a dead man long before now."

From the moment that news reached the shores of Britain until the President's death and burial, Queen Victoria sent kind and encouraging messages to Mrs. Garfield – undoubtedly identifying with her plight and remembering her own premature loss of Albert, her beloved Prince Consort. *The New York Times* published many of these missives, and to further enhance the comparison, the following appeared:

> ...the family of the President of the United States has become a rallying centre for human tenderness all the world over. ...[more] than anything which has occurred in this generation, if we except the beautiful association clustering around the memory of the Prince Consort and the name of the royal mother and family of England. In our case a family is involved, not noble from rank or birth, but self-ennobled by the practice of domestic virtues and the exhibition, in the midst of an overwhelming calamity, of purity of character, fortitude, self-control, and affection worthy of the highest admiration.[16]

When, on September 19, the President suddenly died, Mrs. Garfield became a rallying point, a public symbol of the virtues which they had learned to admire in both Garfields during the previous three months. The distinguished financier, Cyrus W. Field began a subscription, the "Fund for Mrs. Garfield," shortly after word of the assassination was known. By October 18, when the official campaign was closed, *The New York Times* reported that the total collected was $360, 345.74, surpassing Field's original, optimistic goal by more than $100,000. By

15. Frederick D. Williams, Ed., *The Wild Life of the Army: Civil War Letters of James A. Garfield*, Michigan, Michigan State University Press, 1964, p. 119 (correspondence between James A. Garfield and Lucretia Garfield, Sept. 27, 1862 and October).

16. *The New York Times*, August 21, 1881

contrast, a similar subscription effort, for the victims of a Michigan disaster, was not able to raise even a third of this amount – with a considerably longer campaign. Photographs of Lucretia and young Mollie Garfield were in brisk demand (along with those of the President). New York's sidewalk merchants did a thriving business.[17]

There were several probable explanations for the phenomenal public reaction to Garfield's assassination. Lincoln's death was seen by some as directly traceable to the violence and bitterness of the Civil War, but Garfield's assassination, coming in a time of peace and prosperity was seen as " a blow struck at the very life of republican institutions."[18] The contemporary press compared the two events in other ways. For example, the display of mourning drapery and other symbols prepared in New York for President Garfield was "lavish, and far exceeds that made on the occasion of the funeral of the murdered Lincoln."[19] Mrs. Garfield was compared by inference, with Mary Todd Lincoln when an article, reprinted next to an article about Garfield, related Mrs. Lincoln's "strange hallucinations" and reported her comment, upon being informed of Garfield's assassination: "I told you so; good men have to be shot sometimes; don't you know how the Jews killed Christ?"[20] Lucretia Garfield, in the meantime, was cited for earning the respect of her husband's doctors, the Cabinet, and the nation for her calmness, her intelligent decisions, her astute observations and steadfast devotion.

Upon her widowhood, Mrs. Garfield continued to display the same fortitude. She never remarried, and throughout her long life she continued to use a distinctive, black-bordered stationery for correspondence. In many ways, she seems to have embraced her role as model, and as a public trustee for the values which she and her husband represented. For her, these were embodied in the farm at Mentor:

> It has been thought by some that Mrs. Garfield would leave the farm and move to some place where she and the children could all live quietly together while the latter were being educated, but she is said to have stated that she would never leave Mentor; ... that it was in the true sense their home, the home that Gen. Garfield had provided for them, and which he loved so well, and she would live there the rest of her life.[21]

Lucretia was true to her word. The farm at Mentor was always her home and central to her interests, although she owned a home in Cleveland and traveled frequently to New York, Washington, DC, and to California for long periods of time in her later life.

Because of the unique circumstances of her husband's life and death, Mrs. Garfield attained a level of national distinction shared by few other former first ladies. She chose not to express this in any public way, but rather through influences on her children, and on the physical

17. *The New York Times* Friday, September 23, 1881. p.8

18. *The Baltimore American*, reprinted in *The New York Times*, Sunday, July 5, 1991.

19. *The New York Times* Friday, September 23, 1881

20. J. C. A., Letter to the Editor of the Cincinnati Commercial, Springfield Illinois, July 29, 1881, reprinted in *The New York Times*, August 4, 1881

21. *The New York Times* September 30, 1881.

symbol of the Garfield years, the farm at Mentor. Joined in the next decade by her two oldest sons, she attempted to make the property worthy of her husband's life and philosophy. Their interpretation of that mission, in itself, offers some interesting areas of speculation. Nonetheless, it is surely true that they attempted to fulfill this purpose as they understood it.

Thus, it can be established that the development of the landscape at Lawnfield, which underwent extensive changes from 1885-through the early 1900s, under the influence of Lucretia Garfield and the heirs, reflects the national political fervor, which developed during the president's protracted illness and death and thus is associated with this context.

This middle class American family was elevated, in the public eye, to the status of a revered "first family"; they were compared to Great Britain's royal family. Under Lucretia's tutelage, they tried to live up to the role which history had thrust upon them. Much as the Garfield Memorial Library became a precursor to other presidential libraries, the development of the family compound at Mentor can be seen to have parallels in the Roosevelt and Kennedy "first family" compounds with which we are familiar in our own day.

19th Century Agricultural Development

The nineteenth century enjoyed a boom in advances in "scientific" farming and the development of agricultural techniques. While Lawnfield was not the most advanced farm of its day, Garfield initiated a number of agricultural innovations which make it noteworthy. For example, he purchased modern equipment, planters and a steam engine, which could be used to cook feed among other things. The system for elevating water through the ram technology was quite innovative for its time and location. His techniques for crop rotation and the type of soil amendments he experimented with were, by his own admission, quite unique in the area.

Other aspects of agricultural activity at Lawnfield have indirect relationships with general historic themes for the Lake County area. As will be discussed later, the region was known for its horticulture. In particular, it boasted extensive growth and propagation of a wide variety of fruit trees. The large orchards at Lawnfield, some of which existed when the property was purchased in 1876, were expanded by Garfield and further enlarged by Lucretia They are good examples of the chief crop which influenced agricultural development in Lake County.

Influences of Cleveland Industrial and Commercial Development

For James Garfield (and his sons), Cleveland was a center of commercial and legal activity . As the city grew during the nineteenth century, many of its wealthiest citizens established "country estates" northeast of the downtown area in the Lake County region. This phenomena produced a string of landed properties, which displayed highly sophisticated landscaping and accoutrements appropriate for their owners' lifestyles. Just after the turn of the twentieth century, Lawnfield was featured in a contemporary publication as one of perhaps a dozen

such "Country Estates of Cleveland Men."[22] Today, only a few of these estates remain, (one has been individually listed in the National Register) thus Lawnfield can be said to gain added significance from its role as a notable example within the context of this regional historical development.

Landscape Architecture Design

The fact that the Garfields commissioned a landscape architect to design a plan for their family compound, gives the resultant landscape added significance within the National Register criteria. It was unusual to find someone with such a distinction in the midwest at this time. Further, there is at present a paucity of information about such individuals and the work which they accomplished.

From the limited information available about J. Wilkinson Elliott, it appears that he was a competent designer and plantsman, who was known amongst an elite clientele in at least three states (see appendix D). The design which he created for the Garfields (discussed in the following pages) exemplifies several national trends in landscape design of the nineteenth century and can be said to be a good example of these design motifs.

Significant Periods in the History of Lawnfield

The evolution of the landscape at Lawnfield can be divided into four periods in time, reflecting the key influences which operated at the site. These periods are briefly described below. Each will be further explained and discussed in the site history which follows.

1876-1885 The period from Garfield's purchase of the farm, through his assassination, up until new construction began to occur. This is the period when the landscape reflected his greatest influence. Although Garfield died in 1881, there is no evidence that major changes to the landscape began to occur until after 1885.

1886-1899 A transitional period, during which Lucretia Garfield and the heirs began to initiate major changes in the main residence and throughout the property. The library wing was added to the house, a gasworks, a new carriage barn, a windmill and tower were constructed at the site and barns were relocated. In addition, acreage on the west side was incorporated into the property and Hollycroft, the home of James R. Garfield and his wife Helen Newell was built. This period reflects the influence of Mrs. Garfield and of her children.

1900-1935 Within this time frame, a period between 1900 and 1903 represents the era when the landscape probably reflected its last historically significant change. A combined "compound" was complete with the purchase of property to the east of Lawnfield (Eastlawn) by Belle Mason, Harry Garfield's mother-in-law, as a home for herself, her daughter, and son-in-law. This is the period in which a landscape design was commissioned from the Pittsburgh landscape architect, J. Wilkinson Elliott, to unify the property with a single designed plan. Most of

22. Thomas A. Knight, *The Country Estates of Cleveland Men*, Cleveland, 1903 (title)

the plan seems to have been installed and remained reasonably intact (55% or better) through the mid-1920s. The property size remained unchanged until 1908, when Lucretia Garfield sold the land north of the railroad. Unfortunately, during the late 1920s, the farm began to deteriorate.

1936-Present This time period is associated with the change in land use from a farm and residence, to a museum. Dramatic revisions to the size of the property occurred with the donation of the main residence and the small portion of land which surrounded it. This period, while important for the stabilization of the house and the employment of landscape maintenance, cannot be considered historically significant in terms of the development of the landscape and National Register criteria.

SITE HISTORY

The farm which James Garfield purchased in 1876, while well-situated, was not in the best of condition by anyone's standards. The core parcel of the property, a 40.5-acre tract, bisected by the Mentor highway, had been owned by the prosperous and well-known Corning family since 1811. When James Dickey married Harriet Corning, the youngest of Warren Corning's daughters, in 1835, it was probably given to the young couple as a wedding present. By 1842, James Dickey was the owner of record.

Subsequently, he also purchased several other parcels of property: A 53.6-acre tract immediately north was the result of the purchase of three smaller parcels and an additional 23.35 acres. By 1848 James Dickey owned a total of 117.46 acres. With his death in 1855, Harriet Dickey continued to operate the farm. In an 1874 *Atlas of Lake and Geauga Counties* this property is shown with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad right-of-way traversing the northern portion.[23]

The countryside of the Lake County region was described by a contemporary observer:

> The surface is more rolling than level, the soil is good and generally clayey loam interspersed with ridges of sand and gravel. The principal crops are wheat, corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, hay and potatoes. Dairy products, beef cattle and wool are among the staples. This country is peculiar for the quality and quantity of its fruit, as apples, pears, peaches, plums, grapes, etc. Many thousand dollars' worth are exported and many of its inhabitants leave every spring to engage in the business of grafting at the South and West.[24]

Warmed by the lake, the area keeps relatively higher temperatures during the fall and early winter than its inland neighbors. However, as winter progresses, the flat terrain does not prevent heavy snows from being dropped on Lake County and its environs.

23. *Atlas of Lake and Geauga Counties*, 1874 ,Lake County Historical Society.

24. Henry Howe, *Historical Collections of Ohio* ... (Cincinnati, 1847) p.278 (quoted in Ronald W. Johnson, *Histori Resource Study*

Very little documentation exists for the physical landscape of the Dickey farmlands, even for the area surrounding the farmstead and the barns. A single photograph of the barns taken shortly after Garfield purchased the property shows several very large black locust trees, one at the west end of the house, and three parallel to the fence line, slightly East of the house. Together with several small evergreens, they comprise what seems to be the "formal" landscaping in this part of the farm.

A contemporary description paints a rather dismal picture of the farm:

> The buildings, aside from a sad state of dilapidation, were "fearfully and wonderfully" arranged. The shaky old barn stood amid heaps of rubbish close to the street, and in disagreeable proximity to the dwelling. The pig sty wafted its sweetness on the morning and evening air close to the windows of the parlor in the old family mansion – so close that the pranks of the playful pigs could be observed therefrom. Other buildings, venerable with age, stood around the domicile, the whole making a characteristic pioneer group.[25]

It demonstrates a great deal of foresight on the parts of Mr. & Mrs. Garfield as well as their friend and advisor, Dr. Robison, that they were able to visualize with no reservations, the potential for the farm which would be realized within very few years.

From photographs and from land maps of the period, we can see that the neighboring properties were similar to Dickey's, i.e., open fields, simple farmsteads, and ancillary agricultural structures.

Agricultural Practices of the Era

Horticulturists operating in the Cleveland area in the mid-nineteenth century were so expert in propagating, cloning and cultivating fruit trees that their services were in great demand. A USDA air photo, taken in 1936, (Figure 6) shows that much of the Mentor area was still in orchards at that time.

In the 1850s, gigantic strides had been made in the Western Reserve region in all phases of agriculture. It must have been an exciting time for the farmer to realize that non farmers, professionals, if you will, in chemistry, animal husbandry, and horticulture were developing new ideas and making them available to the farmer. It was the era of the Bonanza farm in the far west and many improved machines, especially for grain crops and haymaking, were coming onto the market. Horse drawn innovations such as the Appelby Twine Binder, the Marsh and Mann Harvesters, and the self-raking reaper were available.[26]

Lake County was not as reactionary as was New England, for example, in resisting new developments in farming. When he came to Mentor, Garfield became a leader – espousing many of these concepts to anyone who would listen.

25. *The Geneva Times*, May 24, 1877. Quoted in Ronald W. Johnson, *Historic Resource Study*, September 1984.

26. Wilson, Mitchell *American Science and Invention*, Bonanza Books, NY 1960, p. 240.

For example, in 1880 he was able to fascinate members of the Third Estate with his theories on soil amendments, green and barnyard manure, crop rotation, farm hydrology, and the cooking of corn stover as a substitute for keeping ensilage on the farm.[27] As an associate pointed out, Garfield was ever the teacher in all respects, ecclesiastically, politically and agriculturally.[28]

Garfield's Mentor Farm (1876-1885)

James Garfield's purchase of the farm at Mentor was in many ways the product of an evolution from his early childhood. He had established himself as a successful teacher, politician and lawyer, moreover he felt the need to strengthen in his children's lives the values he himself had learned upon his family farm. It seems evident that he aspired to a life as a "gentleman farmer," as a contrast to his political activity in Washington. Thus, he looked upon the Mentor purchase as an investment in his own mental and physical health and that of his family as well. It was also a financial investment. Farming, after all, was a viable income producer during the nineteenth century. With characteristic intensity, Garfield embarked upon the farm project at Mentor in the spring of 1877. His good friend, Dr. John Robison, provided assistance and on-site supervision. Changes occurred rapidly to both the structures and landscape at the site.

Roads/Fences and Topography. Features in the surrounding landscape about this time (and later), included a clay-surfaced Mentor Avenue , what appears to be a clay or gravel driveway, at right angles to Mentor avenue, entering the farm and a curious combination of wood picket gates (see figure 9) and two types of horizontal board fences, conjoined. Across Mentor avenue, in the acre that Garfield bought subsequently from Widow Dickey, we see a rag-tag split-rail, board, and post serpentine fence. Obviously this was one which had been repaired on many occasions.

The only fences that we know existed on the Dickey farm prior to Garfield's occupation, were those that we can see in an early photograph and which have been previously described. We do not know, however, the condition or the extent of fences throughout the rest of the farm. We do know that one of the early chores of the hands in the 1870s was restoration and building of fences.[29]

On July 11, 1879, for example, Garfield wrote in his diary: "Heavy windstorm threw down many trees and prostrated 100 rods of my fences...." If one is to maintain stock and grain fields in the same locality, fences are an essential. Later we see evidence of utilitarian fences as horizontal boards, horizontal split rails, and barbed wire.[30] A typical practice was the containment of poultry by a woven wire fence, which made its first appearance in the late

27. *The Geneva Times*, May 24, 1887, and *Cleveland Leader*, March 12, 1879.

28. Peskin, Allan, *Garfield*, Kent, Ohio 1978, p. 14.

29. JAG Diary, May 9 and May 12, 1877.

30. Barbed wire, invented by Glidden in 1874, was just then becoming available. Wilson, Mitchell, *American Science & Invention*, NY 1960

1870s. Residential fences included vertical pickets, smooth wire, and a rustic picket (see figure 16).

Like many other farms along Mentor Avenue, the property was long and narrow, however, the unique feature which it possessed, was a dramatic change in topography, occurring at about the midway point, north from the Mentor Avenue line. This "ancient shoreline," as it was called, created a gentle rise in the land, which gave way, on the Northwest, to a fen, or marsh. It is important to remember the distinguishing characteristic of this feature as we discuss the Mentor farm's later development. The diagram (figure 2) demonstrates this unique topographical feature.

As a rural agricultural site, the Mentor farm was laid out to serve the needs of the farming activity. The fact that the original configuration of the barns and other outbuildings was considered inappropriate for the family lifestyle and preference is evidence of Garfield's ambitions. Thus a great deal of relocation took place in the first period of their ownership. Dr. Robison, acting as Garfield's manager, wrote to him early in the new year, stating that he had contracted to: "move the barns back fifteen rods or less from the street. All of them, the large Barn, the long shed, the carriage, the corn houses and hog pen," he wrote, "as soon after 1st of March as convenient."[31]

In May of 1877, the Garfields spent time with a "Mr. Allen of Cleveland" laying out the grounds and locating trees, the next day "Devereaux" (a hired man) was setting out trees and plants. By the third, they found that the grounds were far too wet for continued planting.[32] By the ninth of the month, " the eight-acre field for corn next the woods was accomplished today, ready for the marker (a drag used to locate the hills for planting the corn). Bancroft plowed the meadow, on the hill behind the barn. Fencing North side of highway and clearing out yard."[33]

On the seventeenth of May: "Covered up the old barnyard well near the front gate, by putting a flat stone across it about four feet down, and earth above" (see "Recommendations for Archeological Investigations").[34]

By May 25, "Crete and I went down to Storrs and Harrisons nursery, below Painesville for shrubs and flowers."[35] The likely site for these items would have been in beds at the foundation of the east and west sides of the house and for a garden area which was early established at the east side of the house. This is visible in Figure 8. Later it was abandoned or neglected for unknown reasons. Further planners did not continue that tradition.

31. Robinson to J. A. Garfield in JAG papers, January 31, 1877.

32. Diary of J. A. Garfield, May 1, 1877 and May 3, 1877.

33. Ibid. May 9, 1877

34. Ibid. May 17, 1877.

35. Ibid. May 25, 1877

"The lawn, [was] liberally dotted with fruit trees, gooseberry and current bushes, grape vines...."[36] It is interesting to note that for the most part, the vegetation on the farm during these years was utilitarian, not ornamental.

Unquestionably the farm contained orchards when they purchased the property in 1876. The Garfields immediately began a program of planting apple and peach trees. The latter we know from an entry in Garfield's journal of 1877 which speaks of going to "Clarks" to buy peaches. It must be recalled that this district was known for its orchards; having fruit trees on a farm of the scale of the Garfields was not unusual. No doubt the family soon enjoyed the results of their orchard expansion. (It is possible, for example, when purchasing 1 ½ - 2" caliper trees to have fruit production within two years.)

The Garfields depended upon major trees to provide ornamentation. In the 1870s there were Black Locusts on the site. These were allowed to die out and later replanted as seedlings, as were the evergreens. It seems that the preferred trees used in "laying out" the site were Beech, Silver and Sugar Maple, London Plane, Buckeye, Elm and some Black Walnuts.[37] The other trees were volunteers such as Ailanthus sprout and Sumac. The balance of the tree planting was a prodigious amount of fruit trees which were located in orchards at the south end of the farm. Apparently these bearing trees gave much pleasure to the family, both at Mentor and in Washington.

The following list of apple trees were offered locally through Storrs & Harrison nursery of 1929. The Garfields probably could have had any of these varieties much earlier, however, since they were offered for a long period of time (see figures 34 and 35).

Rome Beauty	Grimes Russet	Stark
Seek Northern	Grimes Golden	Western Beauty
Stayman Winesap	Macintosh	Yellow Transparent
Golden Russe	Northern Spy	

Farm Animals. Swine were one of the earliest animal residents of the farm. Their sty, noisomely close to the farmstead, was a prime target for relocation. All farmsteads of this period had horses, both for driving out and as prime movers of farm machinery, wagons, and stone boats. Oxen were also used as draft animals. Garfield had learned at an early age, on his mother's farm, to drive oxen and had repeated a similar experience on the canals, conducting mules and horses along the towpaths. Oxen were present on the Garfield farm but knowledge of how long they were an important element of the farm stock is uncertain. However, the ram field or fen in the northern portion of the property contained many stumps, decaying logs, and other detritus. It would have required extensive work with strong animals and equipment to clear such a field. A plow with a very deep coultre had been developed in the 1840s. Called a bog plow, it was used to make ditches as well as furrows on this type of land. Generally, oxen were used to pull the implement since horses were not as stocky of ankle and less sure footed.

36. Brisbane, James S., *The Early Life and Public Career of James A. Garfield ...* , Philadelphia, 1880.

37. Theodore Clark Smith, *Life and Letters of James A. Garfield*, Vol I.

At one point the farm contained approximately 39 animals, including cows, calves, horses and oxen, as well as poultry. A "common milch cow"...2 Durham cows, and one Durham calf were purchased in May of 1877 as a foundation for a stock of good cattle as well as a supply of milk and butter.[38]

The major grain crops grown on the farm during the 1870s were: wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat, corn, rye and the grasses for hay production – timothy, clover and some of the fescues. James Garfield was very strict about pasturage and renovated almost all of the meadows. Even the "night pasture" was rotated on an annual or semi-annual basis. He did leave certain areas for browse (see appendix B for a list of crops and fields from primary reference sources).[39]

The remainder of the land was given to fuel producing wood lots, marsh lands, and orchard or tree plantations. Although the farm contained many agricultural buildings, these occupied only a small portion of the total site.

Soil Amendments (Fertilizers). One of James Garfield's earliest work experiences away from his mother's farm was as a laborer, making potash. Such early experiences often spawn lasting impressions. From the date he purchased the farm at Mentor, he began to use soil amendments on all the fields. He was a scientific experimenter in this endeavor.

To better understand the practices of the time, we offer here some further definitions of the names of amendments referred to by Garfield and his contemporaries: Potash, for example, is leached hardwood ashes, or potassium carbonate. While much used in the nineteenth century, it is not considered terribly important today.

Plaster: Today the term denotes a combination of sand, water, and gypsum. However, it is certain that J. A. Garfield did not mean sand, water and gypsum, when referring to "plaster" for his fields, but rather plaster of paris or gypsum by itself.

Limestone: In some cases, the word "lime" is used alone in historic documents. The term is misleading; limestone (a combination of organic fossil material and calcium carbonate) was routinely used, coarsely ground, as a soil amendment in acid-rich ground. True lime, a building material, would have burned the ground and crops.

Bone Phosphate: Made from powdered or ground animal bones is a tribasic calcium phosphorus. Other forms of phosphorus are used as a soil amendment today in great quantities.

These amendments were hand broadcast or deposited on the fields as components along with the manure collected in the loafing sheds and lots.

Feeds and Feeding. Until the late nineteenth and early twentieth century many farmers held that steaming or cooking grains for animals improved their digestibility and nutrient value.

38. J. A. Garfield Diary, May 5, 1877.

39. Leech, M. & Brown, H., *Garfield Orbit*, Harper & Row NY, 1978 , In a letter from J. A. Garfield to Joseph Rudolph, March 13, 1881.

Careful experiments made at Cornell around the time of World War I have shown that, except in the cases of a few feeds and some fodders, such preparations are not necessary. Potatoes and soy beans, however, are better for feeding swine if cooked. Generally, the softening of grains through cooking greatly increases the chance of their becoming stale. Cooked feed corn, on the other hand, if allowed to stand, becomes flinty and *not* digestible. It is not clear to what extent steam was used to cook grains and silage at the Garfield farm. However, it *is* known that, to obtain the optimum benefits from corn stover (the corn stalk, dried and free of ears) cooking can substitute for silage, especially when the farm has relatively few animals. It has been pointed out in contemporary documents that the steam engine was brought to the farm to be used for cooking and as a prime mover for the various mills used to grind grains (although, surprisingly, it was not used to raise water.)

Garfield writes in a letter to his sons at St. Paul's School (October 31, 1880): "the new steam engine has come and is soon to be in its place, under a lean-to soon to be erected on the east end of the engine house."[40] In a letter to his mother several years later, James R. Garfield says, in jest, "It would take a Corliss machine to move it...." He could have been referring to his father's stationary steam engine. Corliss engines were used on thousands of farms at this time.[41]

In addition to the steam engine being in the lean-to, we would assume that the boiler and wood storage would have been kept outside of the engine house. Further, we would assume that steam power was transmitted "through the walls" to the mills and steam jackets for cooking, in the "machine shed." Figure 14 shows a photograph of a stationery steam engine installation at a farm in Indiana in 1901. It is a horizontal slide-valve engine of the Porter-Allen type. This model is equipped with a fly wheel and belt pulley.

Garfield was very much aware of the perils of steam engine technology of the time. As a U. S. Representative, James A. Garfield of Ohio introduced a bill proposing a procedure for the investigation and reporting of every fatal railroad accident. In 1867 on the Lake Shore railroad, (the same line which ran through his property), a train was demolished at Angola, New York, near Buffalo. It was a great disaster. The fact that Garfield located the "steam engine" in a lean-to, versus a valuable building is indicative of the care he felt must be taken.

Hydrology in the Early Years. Delivery of water to the residence and to the animal lots was a very early preoccupation of James Garfield at the Mentor farm. It was probably his friend, Dr. Robison, who recommended that a ram be installed in a field, north of the ancient lake shore line. The field, incidentally, was bog-like and even described by one observer as a "fen." It seemed a likely candidate for the location of this machine.[42]

Simply put, the ram was a means of making the stream use its own power to pump a great amount of water into a cistern or other holding device. Placed in a ditch or brook, with the collection pipe upstream, the force of the water operated a valve, which increased water and air pressure within a metal globe; this was periodically and forcefully released via a valve, thus operating the ram. Many thousands of such engines were used on American farms and

40. JAG to James R. and Harry, October 31, 1880 quoted in Leech, M. and Brown, H. J. *The Garfield Orbit*, NY 1978.

41. Ibid.

42. J. A. Garfield Diary July 7, 1879.

were additionally known as "water engines." A New Englander referenced good sources as being "the pond, the creek and ditch and bog meadows."[43]

Dr. Robison spoke to his friend Garfield about the desirability of damming a portion of the meadow to establish a farm pond for water as well as ice. However, this was probably not accomplished at the site of the ram field, but farther to the north, perhaps in the field purchased from George Dickey.

Ram technology had been around for hundreds of years. Vitruvius, in the first century A.D., speaks of rams in his work on hydrology.[44] Joseph Gwilt, the architectural encyclopedist, stated in the 1867 edition of his book that "Once set in motion, it [the ram] will continue to work as long as it is supplied with water or until the wearing of the valve disables it." Later in this discourse he remarked that a fall of 5 feet to the ram would enable it to supply a tank sixty feet higher than the source and 2,000 yards distant.[45]

A chief objection to rams was the continued loud clicking of the valve, a noise which incidentally, must be endured even with modern rams. The sound is more accurately described as a "booming" noise. The 1881 base map (Figure 47) shows the ram lot approximately 2,000 feet from the house, well within the 2,000 yards spoken of by Joseph Gwilt.

Undoubtedly, the raising of water by ram to a house cistern, (when it worked properly) would have delighted the household, since it could provide a continual source of water under good pressure. Unfortunately, after the ram was installed and the ditching and tiling was in place, during dry seasons, the bog evidently became drained of water, and thus the ram system became ineffective. Later, a new well was dug, and a third after Garfield's death. The water table in this area was only 12 to 15 feet below the surface. In time the ram became a continuing problem and was often out of service. Additionally, the great lengths of pipe from the ram to the house were difficult to maintain.

As the ground water level decreased, either through the drainage described above or from drought, the ram was not accomplishing its purposes. Other problems occurred such as those caused by the shallow depth of the water line from the ram to the house which was necessary in order to maintain the head and to provide for the change in ground contour. In 1878 we find hands repairing a water line which froze during that winter.[46] These lines were not below the frost line, the intent being that they would flow all the time and therefore, could not freeze. Again, in 1879, Garfield notes, "ram failed from freezing, hands repaired."[47]

The sketch prepared by Dr. Robison and sent to Garfield in Washington, DC, gives very little insight into the position of the ram in the field. The saga of the ram does not end here, but unfortunately little information is available regarding its retirement.

43. Sloane, Eric, *American Yesterday*, Wilfred Funk, Inc., p.12

44. Loeb, ed. Vitruvius, *De Architectura Book VIII*, Vol II, 1934

'8. 45. Gwilt, J. *Encyclopedia*, p. 664, art. 2223b.

46. JAG to Lucretia Garfield, 12 June 1878

47. Brown, H. J. & Williams, F. D., eds. *The Diary of James A. Garfield*, Vol IV

In 1991, test units for house storm water drain locations, put down in four positions north of the house and leading to the historic "lane" indicate that vitreous clay tile drainage pipes (about 22" long, 8" diameter) took storm water from the house gutters north to some low point. Such tiles were available prior to 1870.[48] The final destination of these pipes could very well have been the ram field, if one studies the site topography. This would indicate that rain water, conducted from the house to the ram field would then have been collected and pumped back to the house. (Also unearthed were 1 ½" water pipes.) The preoccupation with quality water did not die with the President, in 1881, but was a continuing obsession of his widow, Lucretia Garfield, as will be discussed later in this report.

Garfield and his neighbors ostensibly conducted "dry farms." Due to the normal rainfall south of the Lake, it was not necessary, at least for the crops described above, to introduce any form of irrigation. The many references made by Dr. Robison, Garfield and later, by Joseph Rudolph (who managed the farm) to "ditching" and "tiling" make us wonder if in periods of drought the circuits were not reversed, and that some form of vestigial flood irrigation was not used to water the orchards and fields. In particular, a reference in James A. Garfield's diary of July 9, 1879 indicates that the ram might be used to irrigate fields below or north of the escarpment.

Woodlots. From various entries in the letters and journals of James Garfield, the presence of extensive woodlots on the property can be deduced. If one has cut and stacked a cord of wood, one is in awe of Garfield and his men cutting and stacking 500 cords for the railroad in December of 1879.[49] This was in exchange for certain fencing along the railroad right of way, which would have solved one of Garfield's preoccupations with liability and cattle loss due to trains crossing his property.

Evidently there was a great deal of wood used as fuel at the farm during this early period.[50] In the 1900s coal was often purchased, at least for special purposes. Pennsylvania coal, or anthracite, expensive even then, was used in forges and on high pollution days.[51] It may have been used in the steam engine boiler. Coal blends were popular because they were thought to give more energy per ton.

It was common in the Victorian era to find outbuildings, especially near the house named variously: coal- and woodshed, coal- and washhouse, coal- and servants quarters. Garfield did mention a woodshed in a letter to his boys at school, stating that the entrance to the woodshed was being closed in for the winter. Considering that they had farm apparatus, and possibly the steam engine to feed, considerable amounts of wood fuel were probably consumed.

The current wood lot, north of the windmill, did not exist during the 1880-90 period. This area was part orchard, chicken yard, and part field. The major wood lot was at the

48. From Joseph Gwilt, *Encyclopedia of Architecture*, Longmans, Green, London, 1867, we find that similar size vitreous tile were available through import from England.

49. JAG Diary Vol. IV, January 4, 1880

50. Ibid.

51. L. R. Garfield Papers, Library of Congress, MSS Collection, Container #101

escarpment. The bog meadow itself may also have been a source of wood when it was first cleared in the late 1870s.

The Campaign and Presidential Years. As mentioned before, Lawnfield deserves a unique niche in history for its role in the campaign of 1880. For the first time, a candidate's home became the center of political activity. In advance of the campaign and, to some extent during it, Garfield made changes and improvements.

A good example of the state of the farm during this period is given by Garfield's old friend, Croyden E. Fuller:

> We arrived at the farm of Mr. Garfield about 10 o'clock .... he put on his coat and hat and led me to the carriage which I had hitched to the gate. And taking the lines drove into the yard and down the long lane which leads back north through the farm and across the Lake Shore Railroad. He showed me the improvements he had made on the farm and others he had planned which were yet to be made; pointed out a fine peach orchard he had planted; stopped to give directions to his foreman as to some hay which had been out and which he thought sufficiently cured to be put into the barn .... we entered the house through the old-fashioned brick-paved court in the rear.[52]

The court which Fuller mentions was removed when the library addition was erected (following Garfield's assassination). During this period Garfield gleaned satisfaction and evident relaxation from farm matters: "He clung, from the day of the nomination, to the farm administration as to a rock of Salvation ... hauling oats ... mending roofs ... roof gutters and corn thrashing."[53]

In spite of Garfield's attention to the farm, there were vicissitudes to contend with. Trains stopped temporarily at the farm so that visitors and well wishers could come to hear the nominee orate from the porches of the house and other buildings. Some groups were as large as two or three hundred. The havoc which such crowds might create is not difficult to imagine. Melons, and other fresh fruits and vegetables were all easy prey for hungry visitors facing a long train ride back to Cleveland, not to mention the voracious appetite of the souvenir hunters:

> For instance, the German delegation carried off the last of the cabbages, the Irish took the potatoes, pumpkins went to the Indiana delegation, the front gate to a workmen's group, businessmen carted off a barrel of pork and a dozen large containers of butter, others removed the family Bible and even lids to the cookstove! Obviously they trampled the grass because Garfield had the backyard resodded in October, and the front in November.[54]

52. Fuller, C. E. *Reminiscences of J. A. Garfield*, June 23, 1880, p. 430.

53. Smith, T. C.*The Life and Letters of James Abram Garfield*, Vol II , p. 1018.

54. Ronald W. Johnson, *Historic Resource Study, James A. Garfield National Historic Site*, National Park Service, 1984 p. 105.

It was during this period that reporters from the *New York Herald* were invited to spend a week at the farm. The map shown in Figure 47 was possibly created at this time, although not published until after Garfield's death. It would be foolish to attribute great accuracy to the cartographer who translated his information into the map. But we see many parallels between this document and other facts known about the farm at this time.

The campaign house or office was sparsely landscaped as contemporary lithographs show. Shrubs were probably forsythia, privet, spirea or similar types and the trees were most likely Maples or other typical species. We assume that other normal farm procedures progressed during this period. Perhaps even at an increased pace because Garfield was there so much of the time.

Lawnfield After the Tragedy. President Garfield died in mid-September of 1881, during the last quarter of the year. It was nearly the end of the month before the funeral and memorial ceremonies were complete and Mrs. Garfield, accompanied by her children, her mother-in-law, and Joseph Stanley-Brown returned to Mentor. Also living at the farm were Lucretia's father, Zeb Rudolph, her brother Joseph (called "Uncle Joe") and his wife, along with various farm workers and servants.

During the last summer of his life, dying in the cottage in New Jersey, Garfield spoke appealingly of his Mentor farm.[55] At the time of his death, the Mentor farm consisted of approximately 157 acres. The residence and outbuildings occupied about 12 acres, 70 acres were in cultivation and the rest was sprout or woodland.

After Garfield's death, the farm continued to operate under Joseph Rudolph's guidance. Rudolph had served as farm manager since 1880 when he relocated there with his wife and father. On March 13, 1881, four months before the assassination, Garfield had written to Rudolph:

> Dear Brother: Yours of the 11th ... is received and proposed changes of the farm are noted and approved. I had hoped that Lot No. 1 would prove to be in condition to raise a fair crop of hay, or to make a tolerable night pasture. But since you find this is not so, it is best to put nearly all the manure you have and add what can reasonably be brought to bring the field in good shape.[56]

It seems logical to assume that all of the agricultural activities at the farm continued much as before, under "Uncle Joe's" management. It is also probable that Lucretia, observing several years' period of mourning, did not immediately concern herself with changes and amendments to the site.

Although during her early widowhood, she was the recipient of a considerable fund from many private individuals, these were placed in trust funds, to earn an annual stipend. The government awarded her franking privileges and, eventually a pension. A separate fund, earmarked for a Garfield Memorial in Cleveland, was being subscribed, but would not have been available for work at Mentor. There were, in addition, at least two insurance policies

55. Smith, T. C., *The Life & Letters of James A. Garfield*, Vol II, p. 1196.

56. JAG to Joseph Rudolph, March 13, 1881 Washington DC

reported, and undoubtedly other funds. How much of this money was available to her in the years immediately following the assassination is unknown.

Both Lucretia and Joseph Stanley-Brown, Garfield's private secretary, had become convinced that a proper repository should be constructed to safeguard the former President's library and the extensive correspondence, diaries, and other papers which had been accumulated during his years in Washington and before. A prodigious writer, he had amassed, in his short life, a large collection of materials. Out of this seemingly simple need, a great many changes would eventually take place at Mentor. However, between late 1881 and early 1885, Mrs. Garfield and her advisors had only begun to explore the possibility of instituting a memorial library at Lawnfield.

The only agricultural improvement of note during these years was the building of a hay barn north of the railroad. Its exact location is unknown. It is probable that planning for the memorial library consumed the time and attention of Mrs. Garfield. In addition, she was spending much of her time in a house she had purchased in Cleveland shortly after her widowhood began, probably to assist Mollie's adjustment to school in the city.

Significant Landscape Features of the 1876-1885 Era

To capsulize the previous discussion: The historic vernacular landscape which existed at Lawnfield can be characterized by the following key significant features:

Land Use. The property at Mentor was a working farm. Typical of many such farms in the Lake County area, the production of fruit, grain, hay, and feed was primary. Facilities were present for typical farm animals. Extensive pastures, fields, and orchards supported this activity.

Spacial Relationships. Spatial relationships between buildings and site features were atypical of the midwestern farm, which normally relied on a grid pattern. Here, the alignment of barn and other farm structures did not coincide with that of the main residence, rather, they were arranged in a fashion which was remotely related to the long and narrow shape of the property itself, an important distinguishing characteristic (see figure 47). The location of the barns was mentioned in James A. Garfield's diary of 1877 and 1878, indicating his personal involvement in their placement.[57]

Roads, Paths, and Other Transportation Systems. Little reliable information is available about the paths on the farm during this period, other than those which can be seen at the front of the house, and inferred toward the first barns and by the campaign house (figures 7, 9, 10 and 13). However, we have good documentary evidence from primary sources to document the significant use of the farm "lane," especially during the 1880 campaign and before. While not specifically shown on the only contemporary map for this era (figure 47), nor on any contemporary photograph, its alignment must have been approximately the same as can be discerned today from the presence of an ancient allée of large caliper trees. A similar alignment is shown in figure 48.

57. Paul Newman, *Lawnfield Historic Structure Report*, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, 1991, p. 15.

One of the most important features which existed in the landscape during this period was the presence, in the extreme northern segment of the property, of the "Lake Shore" Railroad line. This feature had prime importance during this period because of its use for access to the property (on special occasions) by large numbers of people.

Views and Vistas. The views from the property, southward toward Mentor Avenue cannot be said to be unusual, nevertheless, the closeness of this active road meant that the farm was not isolated, but actively connected to other suburban communities. The view looking into the property from Mentor Avenue, was open and inviting. Contemporary photos and a lithograph show the lack of screening for house and barns; the open gate; the accessibility of the front porch and door. While there were plantings at the front of the house and a young orchard on the southwestern sector in front of the relocated barns (c. 1877), none of this material blocked the view of the farm structures. The prominence of the views of decorative gables on the residence, cupolas on the barns and chimneys was impressive.

There were undoubtedly views from the slight rise of the ancient shoreline toward the railroad, although they must have been vistas of fields and crop land. It is unlikely that the shore of Lake Erie was visible from this or any other vantage point on the farm, at least no mention of such a vista has been unearthed during the course of this study.

Vegetation. Garfield, from the first, concentrated on improving the farm vegetation; fields, pastures, crop lands, orchards of pears, cherries, apples, and peaches complimented those which were present when he purchased the property. Ornamental trees and shrubs were "laid out," especially around the front and sides of the house. From documentary evidence throughout the early years,[58] it is evident that a farm garden was maintained at Lawnfield. One possible option for its location (or that of a flower garden, or a combination) can be inferred from a contemporary photograph (see figure 8). Otherwise, the exact location of this feature cannot be confirmed from contemporary sources to date.

Drainage and Engineering Structures. The ram and its field, along with the extensive early waterwork system which was installed, remains a uniquely significant feature of this early landscape. It is indicative of Garfield's adventurous scientific bent, but it also vividly brings to mind the crucial importance of a constant, generous, and reliable source of water on a 19th century farm. In addition, the steam engine for milling, cooking grains, and other purposes, also contributes to the characterization of this working farm as "scientific."

Walls, Fences, and Hedges. There is little evidence during this early period, for the presence of walls or hedges. The dividing features in the landscape are primarily typical farm fences: four- and five-board wood fences, later pickets, and post and wire fences to restrain animals. The picket fence which was installed across the front of the property (see figures 7, 9, and 10), denoted a neat, well-run, upper-middle class farm and home.

Buildings. Both the main residence which was enlarged during this period and considerably improved, stylistically, from its predecessor, as well as the complex of formal barns and other outbuildings, are very important in establishing the historic character of the site as a 19th century gentleman's farm. Architectural elements which helped give the barns a formal

58. The Diary of James A. Garfield, various entries from 1877.

appearance included vertical battens and decorative cupolas. The structures bear the direct influence of Garfield and are good examples of this genre. The buildings, including the modest structures such as the ice house, corncrib, chicken coop, pens, machine shed, wood storage building, and secondary barns, which are contained within the landscape contribute greatly to its significance within the historical context of midwestern agricultural development.

Other Landscape Features. Although typical of many farms in the Mentor region, the presence of the "ancient shoreline" gave the property a particularly interesting natural feature which effectively separated the fen, or bog, from the rest of the site. (Or at least made it less visible). This feature can be best discerned by an examination of the 1924 survey (see figure 50a). The farm lane curved at this slight rise and turned, to follow the crest for a short distance before continuing northward toward the railroad.

The fen which fed the ram, and thus provided water to the farm was also an important feature of the landscape of this period, although there is no evidence of other ponds or streams within the property boundaries. Site furnishings, other than possible farm troughs, etc., are not known and artificial lighting features do not play a role until later dates. Special characteristics of natural light, which would have been typical of a rural farmstead in a midwestern plain, were not noted in contemporary correspondence or other documents. Sculpture as far as is discernable, was not present in the landscape at this time.

A Period of Transition (1886-1899)

Beginning about 1885, with the construction of the memorial library wing on the main residence, a welter of activity occurred at Lawnfield which would eventually culminate in the transformation of the landscape. As previously discussed, these changes can be associated with Mrs. Garfield's influence and, later, the President's heirs.

Mrs. Garfield, in contrast to her late husband, was a cautious planner. No building or planting plan was undertaken without careful consideration of possible options and cost-saving measures. This was especially true in later years, when she consulted with most of her children about planned projects at Mentor.

During the years which succeeded Garfield's death, Mrs. Garfield was advised by one of her sons to improve the condition of the herd at Lawnfield. As a result, she investigated purebred Herefords at a nearby farm. Beef cattle really would have been a better breed to have on the farm, as against a milking herd, if for no other reason than the attention required would have been considerably less. However, records demonstrate that this plan was not fulfilled. A very active dairy industry was promulgated at the farm, and it survived well into the 20th century.

Mrs. Garfield's planning for the memorial library was aided by Joseph Stanley-Brown. Close to the President during the latter's lifetime, he remained deeply involved with the family after his employer's death, marrying Garfield's only daughter Mollie in 1888.

He was concerned, in 1885, about more than just the building of the library; he had interests in improvements to the landscape as well, "With the abolition of the disgusting kitchen doors," he commented, "and the construction of a grass-plot and a flower bed or two, how

attractive will this back porch become?"[59] Items as insignificant as "abolishing the wash-house" to the enigmatic "where is the new well?, the old one is dangerous" can be found in the correspondence.

In a memo to Lucretia on May 17, 1885, he pointed out "As you will have an excellent cellar for the storage of fuel, the wood house, always so unsightly can be torn away." The weatherproofing of the entrance to this unsightly structure had been improved by Garfield only four years prior.[60] Subtly, changes were being recommended which would significantly alter the character of the farm. Little by little, the two oldest Garfield sons, still at college, were being drawn into decisions made about the Mentor farm.[61] With the library addition and other changes that began to occur after 1885, the landscape at Lawnfield was metamorphosizing, at least in the vicinity of the house, to "estate" status.
In the spring of 1885 a new well was put down (its present location is unconfirmed).[62] At the same time, Lucretia Garfield contemplated a permanent structure, a windmill of large proportions. However, this was not constructed until nine years later, when a second "new" well had to be dug. Probably, a simple wooden water tower was erected, to enhance water pressure.

In 1885 Uncle Joe Rudolph had told his sister about a new hot air engine and espoused its installation on the farm. Literature gave testimonials, one from a gentleman in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Lucretia, thorough as always, wrote a letter to James R. at Williams College asking him to find local references for the Pittsfield man. But, in a later letter to James R., "Hal has undoubtedly told you that we were obliged to give up the idea of an engine .... "[63] This decision was reversed at a later date as we find bills from tradesman for servicing – for bronzing the cylinders and providing parts.[64] In 1892, Lucretia mentioned to her son James that, "we can easily keep the house tank supplied ... with the [hot] air pump. "[65]

An early and famous name associated with the development of the hot air engine was John Ericsson. A Swedish emigrant to the United States, his improvements on the work of Robert Sterling of Scotland developed a machine which was widely used in the United States for many years. It's chief function was to pump water. The drawing below is of a prototypical Ericsson type hot air engine.

During the summer of 1886, a lovestruck Harry Garfield spent time at Lawnfield, noting in his Journal for August 3: "At the farm. Tennis, work on library & Irv's green. My correspondence goes to rack and ruin these summer days as does everything save my love

59. Stanley-Brown to LRG, April 25, 1885 in LRG papers, Box 21, Library of Congress (quoted in Johnson, R., *Histo Resource Study*, p. 125).

60. Leech, Margaret & Brown, H. J. *The Garfield Orbit*, New York, 1978JAG to James R. and Harry Garfield, Octob 31, 1880.

61. Lucretia Garfield to James R. Garfield May 13, 1885 in James R. Garfield papers, Box 26, Library of Congress

62. Lucretia Garfield to James. R. Garfield, May 22, 1885, in JRG collection, Library of Congress

63. LRG to JRG, May 13, 1885, JRG Collection, Box 26, Library of Congress

64. Invoice to Mrs. Gen'l Garfield from E. M. Herron June 8, 1906, paid receipt from G. W. Blackmon's Sons June 1906., LRG Collection, Box 101, LC

65. LRG to JRG (from Washington DC), April 23, 1892, Box 24, LC

for Belle & work on the Library." Other entries during the same period refer to his work of organizing the library, scraping and refinishing his father's desk.[66]

Natural gas from a well drilled at the site was in use on the property when the 1885 addition was complete (see Johnson, *Historic Resource Study*, p. 131-132). However, correspondence between James R. Garfield and his mother in November and early December of 1892 indicates that a gas well drilling operation was also underway at that time (perhaps for a secondary source to accommodate additional needs): "...The gas well is having a success.... now about 400 or 500 feet deep." And on December 2, he added: "this morning the gas well was 780 feet down and the men were to stop at 800 unless more gas was found. This venture seems to be successful." Mrs. Garfield asked James R. to suggest a plan of distribution. According to Uncle Joe they would have enough gas to illuminate all of East Mentor, and plenty for the furnace.[67] A question which may merit additional subsurface investigation: Did a pipe run from the gashouse to the pumphouse in order to fuel the hot air engine? Or, since the original configuration of the gashouse was twice its present size, did it once contain a gas-powered pump which kept the house tank full? The floating lid gas storage tank is present at the site today as is the well head.

The same year, plans were in hand for construction of a grand new barn. After much correspondence from many family members, (including Uncle Joe Rudolph), about what to do with a harness that the late President had bought, Lucretia declared: "...put it in a glass case and keep it for a decoration to our new stable."[68] By 1893, Mrs. Garfield had hired contractors to build the new structure, which later became known as the carriage barn, a very prominent feature in the landscape north of the house. This structure was built adjacent to the existing gas storage building, with some overlap, since initial archeological investigation indicated that a foundation, in excess of the gashouse, extended under the carriage house.

The memorial library addition has been characterized as having its closest ties to the Richardsonian Romanesque and Queen Anne styles.[69] The carriage barn, built in 1893, also shares elements of the latter style. The gashouse, a utilitarian structure, nonetheless is constructed with a mortared, quarry-faced stone which had some affinity to the memorial library and which was similar to the material used for the windmill/tower, built in 1894.

Correspondence between Lucretia Garfield in 1893 and 1894, from the Mentor farm, to her son Abram, who was at Williams College, then in Boston, studying architecture, indicates that there were extensive and massive changes taking place, not only on the original tract, but in adjacent properties as well. For example, on March 29, 1893, Lucretia told her son: " ... the work of demolition has begun and excavation for the new barn is just to begin .... "[70] Later, on April 28th she commented: "... The surprise was the purchase of Mrs. Alvord's place. They seem very glad to sell and we are equally glad to see the old barn and fence come down....

66. Harry A. Garfield Journal, August3, 1886 and later, HAG Papers, Container #2, Library of Congress.

67. JRG to LRG, November 28, 1892 and December 2, 1892, JRG Collection, Box 24, LC

68. LRG to JRG, April 20, 1892, JRG Collection, Box 24, Library of Congress

69. Paul Newman, *Lawnfield Historic Structure Report*, Draft, 1989, p. 18.

70. LRG to Abram, 3/29/93, Lucretia R. Garfield Papers, Container 2, Library of Congress MSS Division

The new stable with the stone tankhouse will be quite a feature in the improvements. "[71] And again, on May 1st: "... and [I was] very much pleased that the Dilly place was to become a part of the farm at last. It will make the western outlook much pleasanter with the barns, fence and house out of the way and something further in their place to build next door...."

Further evidence of the many changes which were occurring came in June as Lucretia excitedly related to Abram: "... The two big barns are moved and the small ones will all follow this week if nothing happens and the weather continues good...."[72] Later, in August, she commented to Harry:

> You will be glad to know that they have found underneath the old barns a splendid gravel bed. All we need for building roads can be taken out right here and the holes filled in with clay sand and muck making a good place for flower garden, etc. The clearing up begins to show the possibilities for making all very pretty, even in spite of the dry weather.... "[73]

During the fall, she complained that a major wind had destroyed or damaged a number of trees at the site, " Yes, one of the old locusts is gone. The one next the big gate.... Several of the Lombardy Poplars were badly tipped and as their chief beauty is their erect-tallness, we will take them out. "[74]

In December of 1893, Hollycroft (James R. and Helen's home) was under construction, on a parcel of property formerly owned by Julia Alvord, adjacent to the Garfield property line on the west. The northeastern portion of this lot abutted, on the east, the portion of the Garfield acreage which had been purchased from Mr. Dickey in 1877.

In a letter of April 23, 1892, from Washington, DC, Lucretia Garfield had informed James that she had received an analysis of their well water (from the later of at least 2 wells which existed on the Mentor site at this time) and that it was in need of an overhaul. She referred to their active study of the water at Mentor: "and since we have begun the work of investigation, would it not be well to have the water of the old well analyzed...."[75]

The continuing problems of good water at the site were evident. Lucretia's response to this problem led to much discussion between members of the family, and eventually, to a large and well-designed windmill/tower (see appendix E). This was not a pedestrian, or utile structure, rather, in keeping with the tenets as set forth by Mr. Knight, it definitely constituted a "feature." Similar windmills were typical of estates around the area. Examples are shown in Figure 40.

The ground floor of the Garfield windmill was of stone in an eclectic style with Richardsoniar influences. The upper story was shingled, and the roof carried a metal windmill and rudder

71. Ibid., LRG to Abram 4/28/93

72. Ibid., LRG to Abram 6/4/93.

73. LRG to Harry A. Garfield, August 9, 1893, HAG papers, Cont. #22, Library of Congress

74. Ibid., LRG to Abram 11/26/93.

75. J. R. Garfield Collection, Box 25, LRG to JRG, 4/23/92

manufactured by Flint & Wall, probably of Kendallville, Iowa. Situated in the old apple orchard, it must have been a delight to behold. Aside from the aesthetics of the structure, it did fulfill a definite function by providing ample amounts of water to the farm as well as to the home.

A new well was dug directly beneath this structure. It will be recalled that the water table was approximately 12-15 feet below the ground surface. We postulate that a force pump was installed at the top of this well, driven in part by the windmill (see figure 31). The commodious upper stories of the Garfield windmill housed wooden tanks which provided a good head of water to the nearby farm buildings and periodically recharged the cistern in the upper reaches of the main house, Hollycroft, and perhaps other buildings at the site.

The construction of the new wing, the new buildings plus the removal of outdoor privies, and the relocation of the campaign office, ice house, and woodshed (with the construction of the library), must have given a very different look to the area immediately behind the house. A children's playhouse (an old trolley car) was installed before 1899, behind the main house, a sign of the presence and influence of the next generation of Garfields at Mentor.[76]

In later periods, hedgerows which were developed along the old farm lane may have served as confinement to animals and farm crops in the adjacent fields. Extensive fencing was used during this period before the hedgerows were developed. The lane served as a utility route, for transport of feed, and other farm goods between the extremes of the long property. In the late 1880s and 1890s open ditches probably paralleled the lane, in some cases on both sides. In the 1870s, the President had tried to stabilize this situation through tiling, filling, and placing road metal in some of the ditches. But topographic maps of 1924 show that certain ditches still remained open even at that late date.

Farm animals of this period included horses, work horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, and by the latter part, an incubator for chickens. On April 28, 1893, Lucretia exclaimed to her son, Abram: "...Have put 400 eggs in the incubator and have 18 chicks !!!"[77] Incubator records were maintained well into the first decade of the 20th century. Crops included wheat, hay, oats, corn, and potatoes, all typical Ohio farm products.[78]

All of the changes to the site which occurred because of the building activity, while not impinging upon the agricultural activities (chicken farm, oats and other crops, extensive gardens and orchards still continued to be a source of food and income) affected the general appearance of the landscape and its surroundings. This period represents a transition between two major periods of development, the "scientific farm" and the "estate." The obviously upgraded design of the modest farm structures (carriage barn, windmill/tower, gashouse), and the addition of Hollycroft, indicates that the family was moving closer to establishing an estate or compound at Lawnfield, even during the last five years of the nineteenth century. However, this plan had not yet reached its full maturity.

76. LRG to Belle Mason, August 24, 1899, "...Rudolph and James have made a nice piece of furniture

77. LRG to Abram Garfield, April 28, 1893, LRG Papers, Cont #2, Library of Congress

78. Ron Johnson *Historic Resource Study*, p. 134.

It is clear that the vernacular landscape no longer reflected its primarily agrarian land use to as great a degree as it did during the previous period, under President Garfield's influence. At least after 1893, when the typical midwestern barns were relocated to the rear of the property, it seems apparent that the family was attempting to give at least the front of the site a more suburban (rather than rural) character. By removing the unsightly barns and (probably) replacing them with plantings, they would also achieve more privacy for these activities. It is probably also true that Mentor Avenue traffic was increasing, providing a more noisome environment than may have been thought healthy for the breeding farm animals.

Unfortunately, it is difficult to determine the state of the landscape during this transitional period. The only survey which exists, is a drawing of 1895 which leaves much about the site to the imagination. In the section which follows, the key landscape features are discussed, in an attempt to discern (as much as can be known) its significance during this period.

Significant Landscape Features of the Transition Period

Because this era encompasses such a long period of time, it has been necessary to select a shorter time frame within it for discussion. The investigative team has chosen the years 1894-1899, since all of the new structures were in place by that time.

Land Use. During this period the primary land use was still agricultural, however, with the relocation of the barns (in 1893) we find a more typical residential emphasis appearing in the southern, or front portion of the property. More of this portion of the land was becoming used for recreational family purposes. The activities of the farm, did not keep pace with agrarian innovations, however, it still retained significance as a good example of a typical agrarian landscape of the region.

Spatial Relationships. With the relocation of the barns, the main residence became more isolated from the agrarian buildings. The relationships changed, so that two sectors began to develop. On the southernmost portion of the property, ornamental plantings, orchard and stylistically improved "features" (windmill/tower, gas works, carriage barn) began to appear. On the more northern portion of the land south of the ancient shoreline, the typical agricultural buildings and activities (animal pens and facilities, garden and poultry yard), began to coalesce, in essence forming a zone where these activities were concentrated. Young and old orchards, certainly apple, and possibly other varieties, eventually formed a buffer zone between these two activity areas. The "lane" was still the connecting link, north to south, although it was no longer the dividing line between various barn and farmyard activities (see figure 54).

Roads, Paths, and Other Transportation Systems. As mentioned above, the house and farm were still served by the single gravel driveway which came from Mentor Avenue. This feature was lined (in some places on both sides), with drainage ditches, as it passed through the agricultural areas of the farm, both to the south and the north of the ancient shore line.

The drive, by this period, had been changed from the previous entry, of which little is known, except through photographs which show a small circle which relieved carriages at the front of the house. As this lane progressed back through the farm, it also served as a utility route. This "historic lane," as it moved north toward the relocated barn area, is undoubtedly in its

original alignment, to judge by the large caliper trees still present. The lane continued along its path toward the northern sector of the property and the railroad.

A trace, on the east side toward the ancient escarpment, which led toward the farm dump area, was probably still in use at this time. There is little or no evidence of a system of paths on the property at this time, at least from the house to other parts of the farm. It is likely that there were no stabilized paths, since within the next year, Helen Garfield would request that the landscape architect include at least one in his plan so that she would not have to drag through the mud to visit her mother-in-law next door.

The railroad still travelled through the property, recently fenced and with an expanded right of way. However, this feature has relatively little historic significance, since there is little or no direct access by the family to the trains which cross the property.

Views and Vistas. By this time, internal vistas within the property were becoming considerably more attractive, with the plantation of many fruit trees and some ornamentals. One of the best of such views would have been to the west, in the direction of Hollycroft, where the removal of the barns, the sties, and the neighbor's house had made a considerable improvement, as Lucretia had commented in 1893: "It will make the western outlook much pleasanter with the barns, fence and house out of the way...."[79] The view looking into the property from Mentor Avenue must have been improved by 1899, because the lane and ground would have been healed from the disturbances of construction in 1893-4.

Vegetation. A number of contemporary photographs of the front of the house show trees, some of which have also been documented through historic maps (see figures 48, 48a, 49, 49a, 50, 50a). Black Walnut, Spruce, Mulberry, Maple, Gum, Apple, Peach, Oaks, and Beech were all present in the front or southern portion of the property, around the house. These were significant in their quality. We assume that the large Sycamore and Beech at the center of the present property and the Maples along the lane were also present.

Forsythia and Spirea around the campaign house and the shrubs which were located around the main residence, contributed to the graciousness of the residential landscape and are indications of its continuing metamorphosis. Foundation planting at this time was reasonably sparse, unless one considers the vines, which had begun to grow on trellises attached to the porches. Low beds adjacent to the house may have enhanced foundation plantings. The porch, incidentally, also contributed to the increased privatization of the landscape by providing screening.

There continued to be a vegetable garden on the property, but photographic evidence of its exact location during these years has not surfaced. It was not located immediately to the east of the house, however, since several photographs indicate that this portion of the landscape was in lawn, giving veracity to "Lawnfield" the name given to the property by members of the press during the 1880 campaign. Roses were grown at Lawnfield, in at least one location during this period. There was a crescent rose garden near where the windmill/tower was built, probably in a sunny location to the south.[80] It is assumed that crop lands, pasture, and

79. LRG to Abram Garfield, May 2, 1892, LRG Collection, Cont. 2, LC.

80. LRG to Abram Garfield, 4/22/1894, LRG Collection, Cont. #3, LC and HNG to LRG 3/30/1900, JRG

fields were still active at the farm, primarily in its northernmost part, under the management of "Uncle Joe" Rudolph.

Drainage and Engineering Structures. Two notable engineering structures were present at Lawnfield during this era: the "gas-works" and the windmill/tower which also served as a pumphouse. The fact of their presence as well as the quality of their design and construction adds credence to the notion of the elevation in status of the family. The gas storage tank and building were certainly an unusual feature to be found on a farm at this time.

The ram system was probably abandoned by the end of this period, but the drainage ditches along the lane were not, as mentioned before. These were also important aspects of the drainage systems which operated at the farm. Unfortunately, there is little documentary evidence of their size, complexity, and function during this era.

Walls, Fences, and Hedges. The structures which defined and divided the landscape continued to be typical of a farm of this period. Many which had been built under President Garfield's supervision probably survived, most notably the white picket fence and gates along Mentor Avenue. There was no significant change in the fences at the front of the property from the previous period. There is no evidence of dramatic change in the type of fencing used in the agricultural areas, although it is certain that farm workers were kept busy during the years of active construction (1893-4), relocating pens and other restraining devices for animals, all to the rear of the residence. It is likely that the board fences separating the Garfield property from the old Dilly place were removed or relocated when that property was purchased and the structures removed in advance of the construction of Hollycroft.

Structures and Buildings. The building activity at the site during this period was both active and significant, in terms of the changing landscape. In addition to providing more open spaces for plantings at the front of the property, the new structures began to indicate a change in lifestyle which would later be reflected in plantings and landscape design. The buildings which influenced this were the new library wing, the carriage house, gasworks, and windmill/tower. In addition, a children's playhouse was constructed sometime before August of 1899.[81]

The barns at the rear of the property, along with the more mundane structures, began to be less visible in the forefront of the property. Nonetheless, the agricultural activity was certainly as active as in the previous era. A new incubator was installed at the farm (location unknown), sometime before the spring of 1893, indicating that it was probably during this time period that extensive poultry and egg production took place.[82]

Other Features. A tennis court was also present at this time, indicative of a long family interest in recreation at Mentor. Its exact location is unknown, but an undated sketch appears to place it near the windmill/tower (see figure 5). The 1924 survey also shows a tennis court (see figure 50a) near Hollycroft. Perhaps archeological investigation may help determine whether or not this feature may have existed (at one time) within the confines of the present

81. LRG to Belle Mason, 8/24/1899, HAG papers, Box 22, LC

82. LRG to Abram Garfield, 4/28/1893, LRG Collection, Cont. #2, LC

boundaries. In any case, it is certain that the family pursued tennis, croquet, and other recreational pursuits in the landscape at Lawnfield during this period.

As in the era of President Garfield's influence, site furnishings were minimal, or utilitarian and no artificial ponds or lakes were present. Outdoor gas lighting was in use during this time period, and a gaslight was present in the front yard, near the entrance.[83]

The "Estate" (1900-1935)

The development of country estates in the Lake County area had begun well before it was documented in a publication by Thomas A. Knight of Cleveland. He characterized this type of establishment: " The term country estate has grown to have very wide meaning. So wide, in fact, that it will cover five acres just as nicely as it will cover 5,000 acres...." What distinguished the estate from just another farm, according to Knight, was its "feature." "Were the author to define Country Estate," he continued, "his definition would be: A feature surrounded by a large body of land.... The estate was originally a tract of land and at best, a farm, until it obtained its feature. It then entered a class of its own and became the country estate." Examples of features, according to Knight, might include a rustic bridge, a miniature lake, a unique pergola, or a large piazza.[84]

As early as January of 1900, the Garfield women: Lucretia, Helen (the wife of James R.), Molly (now married to Joseph Stanley-Brown), and Belle (the wife of Harry) began to confer in letters and in person about the idea of having a landscape consultant come to Lawnfield to make recommendations. Their approach to retaining a designer was, as usual, well-orchestrated. It continued through the processes of inquiry, investigation and finally, selection. Their choice was a landscape architect from Pittsburgh.[85]

Although dubbed a "landscape gardener" by the Garfield women, J. Wilkinson Elliott was listed in the Pittsburgh City Directory of 1900-01 as a landscape architect, an unusually early date for such a distinction (see appendix D for more information about Elliott). He was formally retained in late March of 1900 and was asked to prepare several general plans. As Helen pointed out to her mother-in-law, "the combined properties are so large that we need a broad approach to the project."[86] He probably prepared several – one of them has survived, although which is uncertain (see figures 49 and 49a). This plan shows a combined design for Hollycroft and Lawnfield properties, however,the home of Harry and Belle Garfield, Eastlawn, which was on property owned by her mother, Mrs. Mason, is not included. It may be that, since the former property was owned by Lucretia and the latter by Harry's mother-in-law, separate drawings (and separate billings) were prepared. In counseling her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Garfield suggested that Elliott make a "birds-eye plan on a large

83. Paul Newman, *Lawnfield Historic Structure Report*, Photo HP-20, p. 224.

84. Thomas A. Knight, *The Country Estates of Cleveland Men*, Cleveland, 1903, pp. 6,8.

85. Letter from Helen B. to Lucretia G, March 14, 1900, JRG Collection, Box 26, LC

86. Ibid.

sheet and colored," and stated, "This can, and should be framed to be hung somewhere so as to be always available."[87]

By the end of March the women were still receiving testimonials to Elliott's skills and his "artistic ability." Helen's Chicago friends reported great satisfaction from his work (and that of his father before him) on several properties in and around Lake Forest, Illinois.[88] On the last day of March, Elliott asked for a survey and was given one of an unnamed earlier date, which probably located trees. Unfortunately, this survey document has not been discovered so far.

Elliott completed his work sometime in the spring of 1900. The commission must have been interesting for J. Wilkinson Elliott, as all of the women made very concrete suggestions and countered his recommendations with good advise. In April of 1901 Helen Garfield wrote to her mother-in-law that the grounds were beautiful and that the "stone posts have added such character to the grounds." In this same letter Helen Garfield speaks of the men wanting a brick walk from the laundry door to the barn. "But that is the only want that I have heard of."[89] In a letter of 1900, Helen told Lucretia, about Winter, the new gardener, and how satisfied Mrs. Garfield would be with his ingenuity and initiative. Later, Winter was referred to as a horticulturist. He eventually served as the farm manager, as well.[90] This process continued. Mrs. Garfield, Helen, and the other women consulted Winter regarding the installation of (mostly) perennials and annuals within the various plots designed by Elliott. This endured for many years and not only affected Lawnfield, but Hollycroft (James & Helen's home) and the Mason property as well.[91]

In newspaper articles of 1900, the *Lake County Herald*, (a Painesville paper) commented: "A number of improvements are being made in the beautiful ground of 'Lawnfield', the home of President Garfield's widow.... New drives have been laid out and a double hedge of lilacs and spirea extend the whole length ... [to] the John Newell property." This hedge tied together the three major family groups then sharing the site: "Hollycroft" the home of James R. and Helen N. Garfield, "Lawnfield," and the Aldrich farm recently purchased by Harry and Belle Garfield with her mother, Mrs. Mason [92].

A year later, in 1901, this improvement was expounded upon and other new additions recorded: "A double line of shrubs has been planted all along in front of the three Garfield places with a slight wire fence and iron posts in front as a protection and beautiful square, white stone pillars have just been placed each side of every gateway, greatly adding to the beauty of the ample grounds."[93]

87. LRG to Helen Garfield, March 4, 1900, JRG Collection, Box 26, LC

88. Helen Garfield to LRG, March 24, 1900, JRG Collection Box 26, LC

89. Helen Garfield to LRG, April 12, 1901, JRG collection, Box 26, LC

90. Helen Garfield to LRG, March 28, 1900, JRG Collection, Box 26, LC

91, Helen Garfield to LRG, March 10, 1901, & LRG to Helen G., March 12, 1901, JRG Collection, Box

92. *Lake County Herald*, August 10, 1900

93. *Lake County Herald*, May 3, 1901

These newspaper articles give word pictures which in many cases match the landscape recommendations included in Elliott's plan. There are no photographs or drawings from the era immediately preceding 1900, which might indicate that the drive alignment, footpaths, and shrub beds had been previously installed. In fact, landscape elements such as fence posts, as well as massive planting of both trees and shrubs on the lower section of the farm all tend to indicate a unified designed landscape. Although we believe that much of Elliott's plan was fulfilled, several grand schemes shown on Elliott's drawing, the greenhouse and parterre garden opposite the chicken run, for example, may not have been fully installed.

There is no doubt that the scheme of drives and paths was a reflection of Elliott's clients' interests. A sketch by Helen Garfield (redrawn for this publication), was included in a letter to Lucretia (see figure 4).

Furthering the thesis of the creation of a country estate, Elliott's plan defined extensive screening of the house, the campaign office, the carriage barn, gas storage building, and the projected formal gardens from Mentor Avenue (see figures 49 and 49a). Unlike the inviting ambience which prevailed during the campaign period, there was now an exclusivity about the property.

Much evidence points to the notion that Elliott's work was accepted and installed to the financial limits of the Garfield family. In order to implement his concepts, more detailed documentation would have been made available to Mrs. Garfield for contractors' use, for example, details on the stone piers. Unfortunately no such material has surfaced to date.

The Elliott plan is very much a product of his age. It demonstrates the curvilinear alignment of shapes suggested by Andrew Jackson Downing in his treatise on the Victorian Gardens, the eclectic formality of an English Garden, as well as formal walks, planting beds, greenhouse, and potting shed.

The 1924 survey, (Figure 50a) when overlaid on Elliott's plan substantiates that tree locations proposed by him had indeed been planted. The system employed by Elliott for discriminating between existing and proposed plantings appears to have been as follows: No annotation *or* a tree type and caliper dimension identified existing plant material; a coded number represented a proposed plant location. There did not seem to be a code for existing trees to be felled and we know that, through comparative overlays, Elliott *did* recommend major removals.

Many of these varieties survive to this day. Because the proposed varieties are indicated on the map by a numerical code, it is impossible to know what they might have been. However, by comparing them with the 1924 survey, it is possible in part, to determine which varieties were planted. Naturally the American Elms and Chestnuts are gone because of the Elm disease and the blight. A preponderance of Maples, Beech, and Oaks were specified. It is interesting to note that a few Maples lining the lane generated a design for an allée. Some of these survive to the present time.

To summarize, the J. Wilkinson Elliott plan is (as far as we know) the only professionally designed scheme for a unified landscape at Lawnfield. A considerable amount of the evidence of landscape material and what was formerly the James R. Garfield estate has been eradicated

by the building of tract homes and the diminution of the original holdings, as well as the attrition of time.

In addition to the aforementioned landscape improvements in the vicinity of the house, the Bureau of Forestry provided a detailed plan in 1904[94] which recommended planting of a variety of hardwood trees; White Ash, Locust, Basswood, and a cover crop of Sugar Maple north of the railroad tracks. The report pointed out existing stands and their content, such as White Oak, Shagbark Hickory, Beech, Ironwood, etc. The recommendation went on to state that within 50 years the trees would be of sufficient size to be harvested for industry.[95]

There is no evidence that Mrs. Garfield purchased the seedlings and had them planted in the tracts suggested – the USDA vertical air photograph of 1936 shows this area as being open fields (see figure 6). However, the harvest time for the suggested plantings would have been just around that time (1936) or even later for certain varieties.

On December 2, 1905, Willadean Nurseries sent a bill to H. P. Winter (manager of the farm) for: Twenty pounds of American White Ash, ten pounds Black Locust, twenty pounds of Sugar Maple, and ten pounds of American Linden, all seeds. Rather than plant the recommended seedlings, in keeping with Gardner's report, Mrs. Garfield seems to have purchased very large quantities of seed to start the trees in a garden. Apparently they were not able to grow in that environment or were not attended to and the plan was abandoned.[96]

In the 1924 survey, we find a note calling out a very definite tree line along the entire ancient shore line of 15" caliper hard Maples. This indicates that some kind of effort was made to propagate trees for the future (see figures 50 and 50a).

The old lane, which felt the tread of hundreds of pilgrims' feet during the campaign, had taken on a bucolic quality of its own. Hedgerows planted on either side of this artery had by this time, matured, giving the lane a confined and picturesque appearance. Land forms also contributed to the configuration of the lane. A case in point is the alignment of the lane as it approached the ancient shore line, turned west and proceeded along the top of the escarpment toward the west edge of the property and then north, probably through or near the ram lot to the railroad tracks. The exact location of this portion of the lane is not known. This must have been a very dramatic drive, for in the latter part of the nineteenth century, the escarpment was covered with new hardwoods. By 1924, (see figure 50a) this was an established woods. A minor lane, almost a trace, traveled north from the barnyard area to the ancient shore line, its destination being a private dump for the farm (also Figure 50a).

Although a prominent feature in the landscape, the lane was also utilitarian – meant to carry farm machinery and wagons and as such was to some extent water bound – its surface was in part impervious to rain or snow melt, possibly gravel or other similar material. The berms which are visible in some of the historic photographs, hedges planted on top, could very well

94. "Recommendation for Forest Planting upon the Garfield Farm (Lawnfield) at Mentor, Lake Cty,

95. Ibid.

96. Invoices addressed to LRG on October 5, 1905 and December 2, 1905 in LRG Collection, Box 101,

conceal open ditches behind – the berm being merely the overburden removed from the ditch. Today, the remnant of the lane which exists on the truncated property has reverted to grass and broken asphalt.

There is very strong evidence contained on the 1924 survey that the extensive orchard expansion envisioned by J. Wilkinson Elliott had been realized, to some extent. The configuration of hedges surrounding the orchard and the placement of remaining trees in the far northern reaches of that hedged enclosure indicates that the expansion was carried out. This would have placed Mrs. Garfield in the fruit business as orchards of that size most certainly would have been considered a commercial venture. All told, more than 240 fruit trees could have been bearing in that orchard (see figure 49 and 49a).

The Garfields grew an amazing variety of fruit, flowers, and vegetables. From the middle 1880s until the farm passed out of production (by approximately 1918), they were able to market most of the produce grown. In one case they were able to sell to the prestigious nursery, Storr's & Harrison, $200 worth of mature Spirea! [97]

In 1906, for example, seeds were purchased for the following: Mignonette Machet; Ageratum Swanley Blue; Alyssum Little Gem; Cosmos Early Mixed; Gourds, Dipper Shaped and Hercules Club; Helianthus Chripanth Flower; Gourds, Serpent Shaped; Helianthus Cucumeri Folius; Poppy, Shirley X; Poppy, Peony Flower; Petunia, the Finest Hybrid; Phlox, Drummondi Gfla Scarlet; Salpiglossis, Grand Hybrid X; Salvia, Splendens Bonfire; Scabions, Tall L. Yellow.

Vegetable seed ordered in the same year included: Beet, Crosby's Imp.; Cabbage, Jersey Wakefield; Cabbage, Late Flat Dutch; Cauliflower, Liv's Earliest; Carrot, Chantenay; Cucumber, White Spine; M. Melon, Emerald Gem; M. Melon, Rocky Ford; M. Melon, Tip top; Onion, Southport Yellow Globe; Salsify, Mam/sandwich Island; Squash, Hubbard; Squash, Yellow Bush; Spinach, Viroflay; Parsnip, Hollow Crown; Peas, Gradus; Peas, MacLean's Advancers.[98]

It is interesting to note that the Garfields were especially fond of "vegetable oysters" – known as Salsify. This crop could be harvested for about 3 months of the year and if packed in sand, was fresh for 12 months. A favorite recipe of the time was to cook the Salsify with a cream sauce and use it as a sandwich spread. Another asked that the peeled root be mixed with egg and butter, made into patties, and lightly cooked on a skillet. They tasted much like fried oysters.

Lucretia Garfield had received in a transfer from her five children (Garfield died intestate and the property reverted to the heirs) property which amounted to 156.9 acres. In her later years, Mrs. Garfield spent less and less time at the farm, nonetheless, she exerted influence on its day-to-day operations. Wherever she might be travelling, she received regular reports from members of her family and managers of the sales in poultry (eggs and fryers), dairy (milk and butter), strawberries (more than nine varieties were purchased for the 1905 growing season alone), melons, peas, beans, gourds, and a large number of other vegetables, not to mention

97. Lucretia G. to Helen G. March 12, 1901, JRG Collection, Box 20, Library of Congress

98. Invoices from: R. & J. Fardquar & Co., Boston Massachusetts, March 20, 1906 and The Livingston

the peaches, pears, apples, and cherries from their extensive orchards. A good Sugar Bush at Lawnfield produced Maple syrup.[99]

The farm was maintained in much this fashion until 1908 when Mrs. Garfield sold 87.34 acres, which included all of the land north of the Lake Shore and Southern Railroad: This left a remainder of 67.35 acres which was held until the Western Reserve Historical Society assumed the immediate property around the main house in 1936. Mrs. Garfield passed away in 1918.

After Mrs. Garfield's death, the children became the logical new owners of Lawnfield. The only child to remain a full-time resident/neighbor was James R. Garfield and his wife who returned to Hollycroft in later years. Without maintenance and the careful day-to-day attention devoted to the buildings and fields, the farm very quickly presented various upkeep problems. Solutions to these problems were often reached through telephonic or mail conferences. Repairs were made or not made on the basis of these conferences and the funds available. Joseph Stanley-Brown recommended a renovation in order to rent the house, but this was never acted upon. Ultimately the repairs and maintenance necessary at Lawnfield became a family burden. The Rudolph's were permitted to stay on at the house and we know very little of what became of the landscape.

It was not until 1924 that James R. Garfield commissioned a detailed survey which would be a prelude to the later disposition of the property. Many proposals were made by members of the family and others were presented with little reaction. One of the more serious of these proposals was for the demolition of the house, a decision which, happily, was not implemented.

By the 1930s each of the families had to submit a sizeable contribution to keep the house operating. In 1935 the family negotiated with the Western Reserve Historical Society to make a gift of Lawnfield to that organization. The Garfield's donated a .779-acre tract of land along with the house and the campaign office; later donations and purchases were made to create the present configuration of approximately 7.8 acres (see figure 53).

Significant Landscape Features during the "Estate" Period

The entire period which has been discussed in the previous section, is too long a time frame for discussion of significant features of the landscape, thus, the following brief synopsis will concentrate on a few years when it may have been at its peak. For these purposes (and for later treatment analysis) the years 1900-1903 have been chosen.

Four types of landscape features can be considered especially significant for this era: Circulation Systems; Spatial Relationships; Landscape Dividers; and Views and Vistas. However, as mentioned previously, it was the integration of these elements into a conscious whole, satisfying the needs and desires of the joint families, which identifies it as the work of an experienced designer.

99. According to the Farm Account Book, Dairy Report, 1906, 8371 pounds of milk were produced. A

Circulation – Roads, Walks, and Transportation Systems. A key landscape feature developed by Elliott for the Garfield compound was the curvilinear road and drive system. The old entry drive was replaced by a joint, formal entry west of Lawnfield, which served both the old house and Hollycroft. Within the compound, drives connected all three entities, and provided access to the carriage barn for each. The unifying impact of this circulation system is most obvious in the survey of 1924 (Figure 50a). The surviving Elliott plan shows limited pedestrian walks – an entrance off of Mentor Avenue, and a "short-cut" across the main oval from Lawnfield toward Hollycroft. Later evidence indicates that there was a direct walk to the barn and an additional Mentor Avenue entrance, with access to both the front and rear of the house (see figure 50a).

The old lane was still present at the site, but it now was framed (toward the north) by extensive hedges. Elliott incorporated this prominent and practical drive into his scheme, its straight alignment provided a contrast to the gently curving roads at the front of the properties; typically, this reinforced the difference between the areas of residential/recreational and farm activities. For unknown reasons, by 1924 the configuration of the lane, particularly as it passed around the new carriage barn and the chicken yard (see figure 50), jogged, first slightly west, then east. This may have been a change necessitated by a mistake in the survey on which the earlier Elliott plan was based, or it may have been a later revision.

Spatial Relationships. While the previous era saw the beginning of segregation of farm and residential activities, during the years after 1900, visual screenings of hedge material further isolated such elements as the more mundane barns, the poultry yard, garden, barn yard, sheds,and fields.

Relationships of the main dwellings were defined with expanses of open lawns; between Eastlawn and Lawnfield (on the Mentor Avenue frontage), and between Lawnfield and Hollycroft, in an area south of the house and north of the enlarged, redesigned oval drive. Eastlawn and Lawnfield each had oval drives, the former being considerable smaller than the latter. These features provided similar spacial relationships between the two buildings and their main entrances on respectively the east and west perimeters of the part of the property nearest Mentor Avenue. The numerous curved and oval portions of the circulation system provided irregular, yet defined planting areas which the landscape gardener exploited to their fullest (see figure 20).

Landscape Dividers. Hedges appeared (or were expanded) and fences were changed during the development of the "estate." Most notably, the former picket fence along Mentor Avenue was replaced by a wire fence, made nearly invisible by a double hedge of lilac and spirea. This dramatic change, further screened the compound from Mentor Avenue and from passersby. As mentioned before, the board fence on the property line between Lawnfield and Eastlawn was removed.

Punctuating the drives and walks, and in contrast to the hedge screening, were four (or possibly six) pairs of cut, laid, quarry-faced stone piers. These elements were key to the controlled plan of entry and not only demarcated the access roads and walks, but served as a unifying visual symbol of the compound. Area newspapers remarked upon them when they were first installed. Among members of the family, Helen Garfield in particular, extolled their beauty. For an estate, they were imposing, but not

ostentatious – in good taste, as could be expected of the Garfields. Further, they recalled, on the perimeter of the front property, materials which were found in the improvements within the property, in particular the library and tower base.

Other dividers which have been enhanced or planted during this period include the extensive hedges along the "lane," in front of the poultry yard, and surrounding the orchard area by the tenant house (see figures 49a and 50a).

Views and Vistas. At this stage of the landscape development, views from Mentor Avenue have been all but obscured. Thus, by design, the views and vistas are primarily internal (except where a passerby might catch a glimpse (see figure 20). Within the compound, views of great beauty must have abounded. (Figure'S 26, 27 & 28 give one an idea). The extensive fruit trees, when in bloom must have been spectacular. At many junctures throughout the property, plantations of perennials and annuals would have been visible, from within Lawnfield, or from one of the several drives.

During this period, a plantation of trees covered the escarpment. As these matured, they would have provided an additional backdrop, even a baffle to the views from the main house.

Vegetation. As was mentioned in the previous discussion, extensive plantings were made during this era. The large caliper trees along the lane were supplemented by additional specimens, an allée of street trees along Mentor Avenue, further enhanced the screen effect of the new fence and hedge, additional orchard trees were planted and varieties were located, especially, along the drive from Mentor Avenue to Hollycroft.

Flowers, shrubs, and other similar plants were placed in designed beds of irregular, graceful shapes at junctures of paths, and other places. Foundation plantings were not, however, typical. Several large trees which are present at the site today would have been in the landscape at this time (see figure 37). The Weeping European Beech which is a dramatic feature of the site today, was a fraction of its height in 1906 (see figure 23).

Farm crops remained much the same as before, although the sale of the acreage north of the railroad may have meant a reduction in pasturage or feed grown at the site. The 1924 survey provides the location for the large vegetable garden at this time, north of Eastlawn, and east of the barns. Vegetables were grown for all of the families who occupied the site, and for the servants and farm workers.

Land Use. While the development of the "estate," naturally emphasized the residential and recreational aspects of the landscape, it must not be forgotten that the Mentor farm remained a viable agricultural enterprise until the second decade of the 20th century. Thus, while visually subordinated, the "working farm" was still an economic priority for Lucretia Garfield, and for the other family members as long as they remained on the property.

Other Landscape Features. At least one gas lamp was located near the rear of the house (see figure 20), and a second was present at the front. As in the previous eras, site furnishings, sculpture, and signage were minimal or non-existent. The natural feature of the escarpment, of course remains, but tree maturation may have obscured it from view.

Lawnfield Becomes a Museum (1936-Present)

The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* published a lengthy description by a visitor, September 20, 1936, which gives a vivid picture of the historic scene as it appeared at this time:

> We walked across the wide lawn from the old Corning home. Stately trees, well-spaced, shade it.... First, we walked back on the path to the chicken yard and barn. Good healthy chickens gathered under shade trees at the corner.... We went along the hedged and fenced lane, big old orchard on the left, on the right large garden with grape arbor near the center, such as one would see on a good farm 50 years ago. Way down the lane we turned its shady corner, and through a wide opening in the trees [These were the hard Maples planted at the turn of the century and were of 15" diameter in 1924. It must have been a nice grove, ed.] saw over lowland the New York Central [once the Lake Shore Railroad]. Then Mr. Dodge and myself went out the long brick path to the house of James R. Garfield. We passed noble trees spaced in parklike grounds.[100]

Of course, he described only the greatly reduced property which would become the nucleus of today's National Historic Site. Beginning in the late 1940s, property sales to developers removed the Hollycroft portion from the heir's control. Thus, today, the stone pillars of the "estate" era incongruously frame the driveway to a 1950s ranch-style dwelling. Later, a church was built on land to the east of the main residence.

During the 1940s the Western Reserve Historical Society raised funds through membership drives and other events to help provide maintenance and support for the property. An appeal was made to the legislature for additional funds, a portion of which would be devoted to landscaping the grounds. The money did not come from the state all at one time but was received on a drawn-out basis. In 1943, landscaping was relegated to expenditures of $800 – not an uncommon occurrence in low-budget situations. Additional monies were extended for resurfacing the drive, enlarging the parking facilities and tree work.

The present drive was located during this era, probably for convenience of visitors to the house. Installed in 1944, the drive was extended to the north, c.1950 and a small parking area constructed. At this time, access to the carriage barn was from a separate drive located west of the museum entrance road (see figure 51). The present parking lot and connection to the carriage barn was completed c.1970.[101] For a period of time a cabin, representing the original birthplace of James Garfield, was located on the site. Additionally, at least one structure presently on the site was "temporarily" located within the confines of the property.

In July of 1941 Mr. Beamer, superintendent, offered a prize of free admission to Lawnfield for anyone who could identify at least 10 species of trees on the ground. A local landscape architect and nurseryman then prepared an inventory which included a number of trees and shrubs for the property (see figure 51 for a map generated during this period).

100. Ronald W. Johnson, *Historic Resource Study* ... p. 165.

101. Paul Newman, *Historic Structure Report*, pp. 30-33

Most of the landscape additions and changes made to the smaller, reduced parcel, now known as Lawnfield are in place today, having been planted through the auspices of a local garden club and other volunteers. Several memorial artifacts are also located at the site at the present time, dating from this period, and from activities which occurred in the 1970s. A detailed description can be found in the section on Existing Conditions.

Fences which delineate the borders of the site have undergone several changes. A three-rail fence, somewhat similar to the earliest (Dickey era) fence, was built on the Mentor Avenue frontage sometime between 1936 and 1951 (see figure 36). At a later date, a picket gate was added. Other contemporary picket fencing demarks property boundaries.

Most of the changes which occurred to the property at this time, while important for protecting it and assuring its future, cannot be considered significant as historic landscape elements. The later additions do not fall within a time period to be considered historically significant, nor have they gained such significance in their own right. Earlier changes for the most part, represent an effort to replicate an earlier era and thus they cannot be said to have achieved inherent importance.

SECTION III: FIELD SURVEY DATA

EXISTING CONDITIONS

If it were not for the sign and the memorial flagstaff, one could easily pass up or down Mentor Avenue without particularly noticing the Garfield site. The house is set back from the street as are its neighbors. It is not particularly larger than other dwellings. Today the crowded landscape bears little resemblance to the environment of farms and estates which flourished here from 1870 to the mid-1920s.

A painted board fence separates the property from Mentor Avenue. This fence supplants a stone post and wire fence of the "estate" period and a picket fence and gates which were installed by James A. Garfield. The stone gate posts, very visible today, give access to nothing. Those now located on the neighbor to the west's property are an awkward anachronism. Nonetheless, these stone posts aid in interpretation as the origin of the Elliott driveway. Today the house and its few remaining outbuildings are owned by the National Park Service and managed by the Western Reserve Historical Society.

Acreage and Topography

Since the Garfields bought the property in 1876, it has seen many structural and site changes. Acreage was increased from 115 to more than 160, then decreased and stabilized at 67. Now the property is listed as 7.8 acres. Outbuildings were moved, removed, new buildings erected, demolished, and several major renovations were conducted at the main house.

The present grounds are relatively flat. Topographic changes were more dramatic when the farm contained more acreage (see figure 2). Conversely, topography as shown on a recent survey indicates no more than five feet grade difference takes place over the entire site.

Ambient Conditions, Roads, and Circulation

Many trees dot the area around the presidential house. A few are specimens. Almost all are mature and a number in various stages of decline. Today, the very name of the property, Lawnfield, does not seem to be terribly relevant. Except for an open lawn east of the house, the summer canopy provided by these mature trees does not allow the sun to penetrate to any degree. The trees planted at various eras of development of the property are, perforce, at various stages of growth. In addition, replacement of trees and the planting of trees in non-traditional locations has obscured much of the landscape motif which was at one time evident at Lawnfield.

Autos and buses pass up and down a drive to a asphalt, chip-sealed parking lot. At certain times of the day the turn off Mentor Avenue into the present drive can be quite difficult. The traffic on Mentor Avenue is ostensibly regulated to a 35-mile per hour speed limit. There are stoplights at Sharon Lee Street on the East and Garfield (Hollycroft) on the West, one block in either direction from the entrance to Lawnfield. The lights are not coordinated so that it is possible for drivers attempting a left hand turn to wait for a number of minutes. We have

noticed this especially in the case of school bus drivers who, with their valuable cargo, are loathe to make a dangerous turn.

Most guests proceed directly to the house from the parking lot. The staff also parks in this lot. Visitor attention is directed naturally and through signage to the main house and its ancillary structure, the campaign office. Once visitors have seen the house and heard its interpretation, they are urged to look at "the rest of the site," which, from a visitor's perspective includes: the grounds, the carriage barn, the gas storage building, the remains of the pumphouse, and views of several other outbuildings which they are not permitted to approach. It is the intention of the National Park Service to restore the site and some of the buildings to a period ranging between the years 1886-1904. This, of course, includes the memorial library, the outbuildings noted above, the interpretation of the farm, and its appurtenances from the standpoint of the site acreage as available today. Livestock and crop fields, naturally will not be attempted.

President Garfield's biographers have painted a descriptive picture of their subject's well developed agrarian interests, his enthusiasm for farm life, and the whetting of his children's interest in such endeavors. His own journals and letters of that period reveal that this "gentleman farmer" was compelled by an intense interest in the functional aspects of his farm. In his absence, he eagerly sought information from his managers about the progress of events. The sites of most of these concerns, orchards, crops, and fields, are no longer part of the property.

Buildings, Structures, and Objects

The main house and its development has been thoroughly described in other documents (see Paul Newman, *Lawnfield Historic Structure Report* and Ronald W. Johnson, *Historic Resource Study*). Outbuildings which were considered part of the farm complex are within the province of this report and should be restored as planned.

The carriage barn, the largest of the outbuildings, with its attached gas storage building, is practically unchanged since its erection in 1893. It is an eclectic, Dutch colonial revival estate building. However, some minor exterior changes have occurred: A single shed dormer, for example, was added and eyebrow windows have been removed. A watering trough and hitching post have been added to the area surrounding the barn and an addition now adorns the rear of the structure. This building is well within walking distance of the main house.

A gas well-head is visible on the lawn a few yards from the carriage house entrance.

The pumphouse (it has been referred to variously as a wellhouse, windmill, and water tower) is a contained ruin. The original Richardsonian-inspired masonry ground floor, temporarily roofed, remains at the site. The interior of this building is interesting because it represents a solution to water procurement problems which preoccupied the former owners. A Meyers shallow well pump is mounted on a stone plinth over the well. It is driven by a GE motor and is of the demand type, i.e., as the system water pressure drops, the pump is energized to bring up additional water. The manufacturers have informed us that this pump (of the "g"

series) was manufactured from 1939 until 1955.[102] Heavy demands for livestock, poultry, and garden irrigation caused the farm residents to place pressure tanks in the lower section of the pumphouse. This system was probably installed to serve the balance of the Garfield property after the Western Reserve connected the main house to Mentor Township water c. 1939.

The campaign office is located near its original position at the northeastern corner of the Memorial Library. It is currently a part of the site interpretation. The rear or visitor-inaccessible portions of the site contain a segment of the so-called New England barn, a granary, a shed, and ruin. On the other side of the lane there is a non-contributing shotgun house which has been temporarily placed on the site. The nineteenth-century tenant house is also situated facing the lane. On the east side of the lane in this vicinity can be found foundations for the chicken houses and a small brick foundation.

Aside from the formerly mentioned driveway and parking field, the only remaining circulation on the property is the lane as it now seems to originate at the carriage barn and goes north to the northern property boundary. The upper thirty or forty yards identify it only through mowing. Recently a rough-sawn natural wood picket fence has been installed along the north property line and down the two flanking boundary lines to the Mentor Avenue board fence.

Among the objects located at the site, an approximately thirty-inch high incised granite cylinder, surmounted by a sundial has been placed behind the campaign office – a contemporary, inappropriate installation. A paved memorial area west of the port cochere contains a contemporary plinth, the National Historic Landmark bronze tablet for the registration of the house and a marble bas relief of Garfield's profile. Just south of this is a flagstaff and a bronze plate on a stone plinth in the ground. The bas relief was executed in the mid-1880s. The Marble has lost its polish and has begun a deterioration which will lead to its destruction. It faces the southern sun and is subject to snow and rain. The relief itself is cracked.

Vegetation

The Garfield Garden Club has been installing and maintaining plants and shrubs at the peripheries and foundation of the house and in the small boxwood-framed enclosure west of the house for a number of years.

The attention of the Garden Club was at one time also directed to the Cornelian Cherry copse east of the campaign office. Recently they have asked to be relieved of this duty.

A representative list of plants put in by these volunteers as foundation planting or close to the house includes: Periwinkle, Shasta Daisy, Hosta, Impatiens, English Ivy, Iris, Pachysandra, Blue Bells, Salvia, Nicotina, Peony, Lily of the Valley, Candy Tuft, Wild Raspberry, Geranium, Lobellia, Sweet Woodruff. Of the shrubs Hydrangea, Rose of Sharon Crataegus, Arbor Vitae, Wisteria, Spirea, Forsythia, and a very hardy species of Boxwood. Trees include some of the

102. Ref: Telephone conversation with Mr. Cloyd McNaull, Meyers Pump Co., January 7, 1991.

smaller ornamentals, such as the Dogwood and Redbuds. These displays at various times of the year are vivid and memorable. The level of maintenance is quite high.

Vegetation at the remainder of the site includes a number of escapees, such as Shasta Daisies, Pachysandra, English, and Boston Ivy. The rear of the site (north) contains shrubs, many of which are perennial throw-backs to earlier periods: Burdock, Barberry, Forsythia, Staghorn Sumac, Osage Orange. They are randomly dispersed in and around the northern outbuildings and the large sprout area on the eastern perimeter.

The sprout area which abuts the east property line for more than two/thirds of its length, beginning at the pumphouse ruin and continuing to the northern boundary fence, consists of young saplings and trees: Maple species, Apple, Swamp Elms, Mulberry, Ash, and Beech. The floor of this wood is covered with leaf mold, dead fall, grass patches and some weeds, there is very little understory. A considerable amount of slash has been thrown into the upper periphery of this lot. Formerly this ground comprised portions of the "new" orchard, the poultry run, and a vegetable garden.

The lawns are well-maintained and fairly weed-free on the South side of the residence and in portions of the east lawn. The remainder of the turfed areas are thin and weedy. We see Dandelion, Ground Nasturtium, and some of James Garfield's loathed Dock. (The President conducted a determined campaign in 1880 to eliminate dock from the farm.) The northern portion of the site contains a combination of Bluegrass, Fescues, Orchard Grass, some White Clover, Foxtail, and weeds which the managers of the farm during the turn of the century would not have tolerated. However, a mowed perimeter around the New England barn looks quite natural for the era of restoration.

The trees have always been one of the winning points of Lawnfield. History tells us that the family was most conscious of the benefits afforded by trees on the property. We know very little about trees that existed there prior to Garfield's occupancy, a photograph shows several Black Locust and some evergreens. These are indigenous, but were not propagated by the Garfields. It has been possible for us to annotate a 1991 survey with the names of trees, many of which grew on the property more than one hundred years ago (see figure 53). Chief among these, naturally, are the specimen Sycamore and European Beech which grow to the rear of the house. Other noteworthy species include Black Walnut, Cherry, Dogwood, Shagbark Hickory and Mulberry, Pin Oaks, Red Oaks, White Oaks, Silver and Sugar Maples, Viburnum, Yellow Buckeye, Ailanthus, Cornelian Cherry, Box Elder, Redbud, Arbor Vitae, Crab Apple, Blue Norway, and White Spruce plus many more.

Generally, the trees at Lawnfield can be considered to be matured, or past maturity. Frankly, many of the trees within public visitation areas, constitute a danger from falling limbs or from the tree itself. The trees are, in many cases, aphid-infected, some have scale and some show evidence of various borers. These consultants made sample corings of a number of trees on the property – a randomly selected Silver Maple, for example, demonstrated that it had survived for 85 years until our tree auger struck rotten core wood, adding perhaps twenty-five years to the age of the tree. The largest Maple in the sprout area north of the pumphouse proved to be 36 years old. The large pendulous, European Beech which is located in front of the campaign office was shown to be 89±3 years. This particular tree constitutes a structural threat to the house because of overhanging branches and the amount of detritus and moisture it is depositing. Visually, for some, it obscures a great deal of the facade of the campaign

office. In a historic photograph circa 1903, it is shown as a nice little bush (see figure 33). The planters could not have had a concept of the size which would be attained by this specimen.

Views

The impression one perceives today when standing in the middle of the Lawnfield property, is of a landscape which is highly suburban in character. Subdivision backyards abut the new picket fence. (Such a fence would have been inappropriate during the Garfield era when east and west property lines were marked by board and/or wire fences. A church sideyard parking lot is visible to the east, the sound of lawn mowers, children playing, barking dogs, and backyard cookouts, can easily be detected. The ambient noise level is probably not at odds with the 1900 scene, when a visitor maintained that it was unusually high – trolleys clanked up and down Mentor Avenue, with screeching wheels and ringing bells; trains roared across the tracks north of the site; animals lowed and bellowed, dogs barked, and the Garfield children and grandchildren were boisterous in their play on the lawns. Today, however, the chief distraction at the site is the sound of vehicular traffic on Mentor Avenue. And, as mentioned previously, the visual appearance of the landscape is greatly changed.

The house is protected by two fire hydrants along the Mentor Avenue sidewalk, an internal light standard, and two in the street. The house and the entry sign are illuminated after dark.

SECTION IV: ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ANALYSIS OF SELECTED TREATMENT ALTERNATES

Two alternate treatment plans have been prepared for this report. They represent roughly, two of the four periods of significance which have been discussed earlier. Previously, an extensive analysis of several options was undertaken, which included the two presented here. One of the options considered was to retain the existing landscape at Lawnfield, more or less intact. However, upon further discussion with members of the National Park Service Denver Service Center and the Regional Historical Landscape Architect, it was determined that such an option would not fulfill the purposes of this report. In the same vein, the related era associated with the 1936-1970 influence of the historical societies, was also considered. However, due to a lack of significance, it was not considered an appropriate option for treatment.

There is ample evidence to suggest the presence of a historic landscape which existed over several important eras of time. Many aspects of this landscape development could be said to meet one or more of the Secretary's Criteria for inclusion in the National Register. Therefore, recommendations for an appropriate treatment of the historic landscape, which reflect one or more of its significant historical periods, are the responsibility of this report.

The historic period (1876-1885) which reflects the most direct influence of President Garfield, was considered as a potential era for historic landscape treatment. However, this time period is overlaid with later significant material. Further, serious disturbance of much of the sub-surface fabric must have occurred during the extensive construction and planting activity of 1885, 1893 and 1900, thus reducing the potential for accurate investigative results. A minimum amount of extant fabric from this period remains. In addition, a lack of accurate documentation has indicated that a restoration treatment to the Presidential era would not be justified.

The question of integrity must arise, of course in any discussion of a historic landscape which has undergone dramatic changes in property size. This problem vexes many historic properties - especially those whose sites and grounds were developed during the period of the great country estates. Dramatic changes in population density and a surge to the suburbs have invariably robbed such properties of their impressive grounds. In the case of Lawnfield, however, we believe that enough key landscape features survive, (or that such changes are reversible) to plead for historic landscape integrity.

Selection of Preferred Treatment Plan

Following extensive discussion of the various alternatives, and of the two treatment options which were developed for this report, representatives of the National Park Service Denver Service Center, the Midwest Regional Office, local and area management teams, and consultants met. The 1886-1899 era was selected as the preferred period of significance and the treatment plan for rehabilitation to this era was upgraded to include necessary contemporary parking, paths, and interpretive facilities. This era was selected because it bore a closer association with the farm of the James Garfield period and because it would better

serve interpretive needs. Incorporated in this plan was a new road near the eastern property line which would give access to the new parking area. This road location and alignment was deemed necessary by management for the administration of the site and reflects previous decisions established in the General Management Plan which was completed in 1986. The selected treatment plan which is included as figure 54 and for which a cost estimate has been provided (appendix F) reflects these additional elements. The treatment plan for the 1900-1903 option was not upgraded, except with regard to the new access road. The type of treatment selected (Protection or Stabilization, Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration, or Reconstruction) has been based on current landscape treatment guidelines as defined in *Draft Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*, Preservation Assistance Division, Technical Preservation Services Branch, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, May 1992. These guidelines are in the review process.

Finally, the treatment plans which are presented in this section, and shown in figures 54 and 55, are intended to be implemented in a long-term phased plan of development. No tree which can be considered a specimen, nor which is of a stature to have achieved significance in its own right would be destroyed. Rather, such specimens would be allowed to remain until they began to deteriorate, at which time they would be removed and not replaced. Further, landscape development can and should be conceived over a long period of time, and thus extremely long-term phasing can be appropriate.

THE 1886-1899 TRANSITION PERIOD

The Integrity of Significant Landscape Features

As previously discussed, the historic landscape of the period of transition (especially from 1894-1899) was characterized by the presence of structures such as the new carriage barn, library wing, and engineering structures such as the windmill/tower, and gasworks. These structures remain today and retain integrity with regard to their association with the period of significance, their design, feeling, and workmanship.

Although it was a landscape in transition, with an increasing percent of the total property being taken up by residential and recreational activities, the use of the land as a working farm was an important feature of its significance. Today, with the extreme reduction in acreage (from more than 150 acres to 7.8), the degree of integrity of the land use is minimal. However, there are still farm structures intact, and others may be deduced from archeological investigation to posit at least an impression of this use.

Drainage, and other topographical features, including the presence (or at least visibility) of the old escarpment have vanished from the property, and cannot be interpreted or reclaimed. Walls, fences, and hedges which were characteristic of the 1880s and 1890s have all disappeared (although the appearance of some of the fences is illustrated in historic photographs). Replacement picket and board fences are of contemporary fabric. Farm fencing of the era is no longer present, although archeological investigation may discover evidence of its configuration.

The spatial relationships which developed at this time, involving a related group of agricultural buildings and a more separated residential area, can be discerned today, but the degree of integrity is not high, in part because the setting in which this occurred has changed.

The views within the property could be restored to some degree, although the presence of dense housing adjacent to the site precludes the expansiveness which was characteristic of "Lawnfield" during this era.

The farm garden, fields, and crops, are not present although vestiges could be resurrected. However, vegetative materials survive: several trees can be documented to this period, two can be definitely attributed to 1894 or earlier. Seven additional trees have been documented, five of which have not survived and an additional seventeen (plus or minus) trees have been identified which may date to this era. The foundation plantings which are presently around the house date from the 1970s and thus are contemporary. It is probable that activities immediately around the house have disturbed fragile evidence of previous plantings. Roses which were grown at the site during the 1890s, may possibly be deduced, since their roots can be retained in the soil.

The front circulation system which was prominent during this era, a single entry drive with an oval at port cochere entrance to the residence has been replaced by a gravel drive and parking lot, installed after 1939, which, from available documentation, does not conform to the original configuration. Evidence of the location and metal of the original drive may be obscured, because of the disturbance of the overlaid, later driveway which is partially contiguous. The "historic" lane, however, which is the extension of this central drive as it wends north through the agricultural area, is reasonably discernable, and much of it may be intact under the surface. Several large caliper trees which mark the western edge of this lane, are flourishing today. The feeling which this lane infers, and its association with the Garfield era contribute to its significance.

Documentation, including correspondence by family members and photographic evidence, is adequate. While exact placement of some elements is difficult to determine, we know, for example, that the old locusts at the front of the property existed at this time (except for one which was damaged by wind in November of 1893).[103] We can surmise that a picket fence similar to one present in 1888 still existed at the site. It is known that chickens were being raised on site, along with other livestock [104] and that "two or three hundred bushes and trees" were planted early in 1894, along with a new asparagus bed, [105] although where these improvements might have taken place within the complex remains a mystery. The general location of a rose-bed, is also identified, as Lucretia recommends locating the new well and tower "back by the rose bed."[106]

Unfortunately, the only graphic documentation presently available, is a survey of 1895. The document is incomplete, however, it does show structures, some fences, and some trees. In

103. LRG to Abram Garfield, 11/26/93, LRG Papers, Container 2, Library of Congress, MSS Division

104. LRG to Abram 4/28/93, LRG Papers, Box 2, Library of Congress, MSS Division

105. LRG to Abram 4/19/94, LRG Papers, Container #3, Library of Congress, MSS Division

106. LRG to Abram Garfield 4/22/1894, LRG Papers Container #3, Library of Congress, MSS Division

its periphery it stations power poles running parallel to the railroad. For the purpose of analysis and planning, This document has been used of necessity, but with reservations.

The Treatment Plan – (1886-1899)

Both treatment plans recommend rehabilitation of the landscape, [107] with the replacement of missing materials, based on information derived from photographs, archeological evidence, and other reliable documentation. In order to accommodate the adaptive use of the site as a museum, the area necessitated for parking, should be designed with minimal impact to key distinguishing historic features. Wherever possible, historic roads, lanes, and features would be maintained and/or stabilized for contemporary functions.

The construction of the driveways, the lane, the poultry yard fence and buildings, the addition of the ice house and privy, and the felling of many major trees would be somewhat complex. It must be remembered that within this treatment, the highly regarded European Weeping Beech would not be replaced, in a long-term plan for the landscape, since according to borings it is 89±3 years of age.

Costs could be extensive. However, any such endeavor should be sensitively phased over a long period of time, with each phase accomplished without placing undue hardship on the management of the site.

Maintenance of ornamental trees would not be a serious problem as there were fewer on the site at this time. However, maintenance for the extensive orchards may be a concern. It may be possible to phase installation of such elements to avoid such difficulties.

Description of the Treatment Plan – 1886-1899 (See figure 54.)

The existing driveway and parking lot must be removed, in order to bring a new alignment in from Mentor Avenue. This is the second drive configuration prior to 1900. This thirteen-foot wide road has been envisioned to have a gravel surface. Additionally, it will bear two shoulders of six foot each of stabilized turf. This drive, which in its present form is somewhat fragile, will have to carry bus and truck traffic for deliveries, the handicapped, etc. The stabilized shoulders will provide passing space and could, in case of large crowds, accommodate parallel parking.

Since only this single entry lane existed during the 1886-1899 era, and further, since the configuration of this lane can be reasonably determined from historic documents, current landscape treatment guidelines indicate that it would be the preferred entry in a landscape restoration or rehabilitation treatment. However, the General Management Plan indicated that an additional road would be required, and thus, it is shown as a modern addition to the site.

The references and graphic data for the existence of walks and paths is minimal for this era other than a flagstone rear entry walk and references to a walk between the campaign house

107. See Ward Jandl, *DRAFT Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*, Washington DC, Preservation Assistance Division, Technical Preservation Services Branch, National Park Service, May 1992 for a detailed description of the five types of treatments: Protection and Stabilization, Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration and Reconstruction.

and the main residence. The trails shown on the drawing, including a connection between the campaign office and the main residence, are all contemporary configurations. These are dictated by interpretative and management goals, as well as the requirements of ADA standards. They should be paved, with either a chip-seal surface which is tinted (through aggregate selection) to provide a more compatible color and to distinguish them from historic circulation, or comprised of pre-cast, colored paving blocks. The latter of a color to match the surface in the visitor's center court.

The buildings which currently exist on the site are to be restored or stabilized, except for the shotgun building at the north of the site, which will be removed. The ice house is shown north of the campaign house. During this period an additional building was located in a close position, ostensibly a privy. We recommend interpretation of the form of these structures in plan outline on the ground.

Of the living trees presently on the site, approximately 13 or 14 should be removed at this time. An arborist has recommended that a number of the trees be taken down immediately for reasons of safety, the remainder are weed-varieties.[108] Additionally, it is recommended that approximately 30 living trees be allowed to decline and to die out for removal. The primary reason for this is that the trees are located in areas which were either treeless or bore another specific type of vegetation during this period. Three or four trees, which are historically significant, should be replaced at the present time. Sixty-five trees have been recommended for installation. These are for the most part fruit trees; fast-growing, they will provide a nicely balanced vegetation cover for the future. Additionally plantations of some thirty-odd shrubs have been recommended which can be tentatively identified from the inspection of contemporary photo images.

Areas where lawn is specified should be seeded, or in some cases overseeded, to bring back this important element of "Lawnfield." A simple orchard grass has been specified for the stands of fruit trees. Two unassigned fields to the north will be planted to pasture grass.

The location of nine wayside exhibits is shown on the treatment plan. These locations have been suggested by the Division of Wayside Exhibits, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center, and will be reflected in a plan generated by that Division. Further, portions of the site which can be considered barrier-free for all but the severely handicapped have been indicated with the appropriate signage. It is recommended that an electric golf cart be on hand for severely handicapped use.

The existing stockade fences on the north, east, and west are inappropriate, however they represent a significant investment of local funds and time and thus should remain until they need replacement. At management's suggestion, however, a non-historic, environmental vegetative screening zone has been designed to help protect the visual experience within the historic property. This contemporary zone will be marked by an organic mulch, which will subtly but clearly establish that this protective zone is not part of the historic landscape. President Garfield's paling fence and gates are shown across the entire Mentor Avenue frontage. Other internal fences, if required for security or privacy should be board fences as have been illustrated in this report.

108. Fred J. Robinson, *Hazardous Tree Condition Report, James A. Garfield National Historic Site, "Lawnfield,"* August, 1992

The northeastern corner of the sprout land has been designated as a maintenance and service area, and screened by a similar screening zone as the balance of the property. The plan shows a small area for mulching, landscape storage, and historic rehabilitation work in progress. This also provides a backdrop for the northern side of the parking lot. Large portions of the area will be cleared to accommodate the new parking lot and collection terrace at the carriage house. A mesh fence has been used to define the poultry yard and contain the parking area, thus preserving part of the form of this historic feature.

The parking lot in the location illustrated, is contained within the poultry yard boundary. It is situated within the sprout land, and has access to the carriage house/ visitors' center, with a minimal impact on the historic landscape. Thus, it is the preferred location for this historic period (see "Parking Studies").

Interpretive concerns with the 1886-1899 treatment center primarily on the presence at the site (or nearby) of the limestone piers which were not installed until 1900-1901. These features, which visibly marked the boundaries of the landscape during the estate period, contribute to the historic significance of that era (and are part of the designed landscape) and thus, should not be demolished.

The rehabilitation plan which is included with this report has retained the limestone piers, although no specific mention of their purpose or presence is indicated. Since the full evolution of the landscape will be interpreted through an exhibit now planned for inclusion in the main house, this feature, its original purpose and the system of paths and drives with which it once communicated will be fully explained.

THE 1900-1903 "ESTATE" PERIOD

The significant elements of historic landscape development from this era did not occur, necessarily, nor did they culminate in the year 1903. Rather, they were begun in 1900-1901, shortly after Elliott's plan was accepted and they continued for some time thereafter. An examination of the 1924 survey indicates that a considerable amount of the material had survived until that date. Major changes, *did* occur in the residence porch in 1904, however, they had little or no significant impact on the designed landscape. To be compatible with plans for the restoration of the main residence, a date prior to 1904, has been selected for this alternate.

As previously mentioned, the plan developed during this era is, as far as we know, the only professionally designed landscape scheme for Lawnfield and its attendant properties. In addition, the landscape plantings and other features which were installed also represented the "last significant change" which occurred at the site. (Other changes followed later, but they are not historically significant).

Integrity of the Significant Landscape Features

The landscape design envisioned by J. Wilkinson Elliott was reflective of its period, representing a good example of the Downing/Olmstedian design thesis – curvilinear paths, drives, planting beds, a formal parterre and orchard, utilitarian features such as lanes, animal

yards, and agricultural buildings artfully screened. In addition, the plan represents the fulfillment of Lucretia Garfield's efforts to create a complex which encompassed the homes of the next Garfield generation. Her satisfaction is evident in correspondence of February, 1900: "Mrs. Mason's purchase of the Aldrich place simplifies our problem a good deal, and I think we may now proceed on a substantial basis [with plans for the landscape design]."[109]

Many of the characteristic elements of the plan, most specifically, the paths and drives which were typical of the Olmstedian design, are not presently apparent at the site. However, initial, shallow sub-surface probing has indicated that they may exist throughout much of the existing property, merely overgrown a few inches below grade.

Also contributing to the integrity of the design are the limestone pylons which were considered important enough to be mentioned in two documents: a newspaper article and a booklet, both of the 1900-1903 period. In addition, Helen Garfield, writing to her mother in 1900, was enthusiastic about this feature. Today they are a confusing, but extremely obvious element at the site and adjacent property.

Other elements whose workmanship and materials contribute to the integrity of the site include the stone base of the windmill/tower as well as one of the relocated barns and, the "new" carriage barn and gasworks. The remaining barn maintains integrity because of its association with the James A. Garfield era as well.

Vegetative materials which contribute to the integrity of the site include approximately fifty trees which were either on the site before 1900 or installed as a result of Elliott's plan (the bulk of which were from the latter). The same injunction can be repeated relative to the custom of planting a new tree in the location of a deceased one. This easily could have happened. However, a horticulturist has stated that most of the surviving trees, especially those that form the alleé on the lane, could easily be 90-100 years old. Elliott's plan specified additional trees. If they were planted, they have not survived.

Members of the investigative team have performed non-destructive probing at numerous locations throughout the property and have discovered evidence of road metal for the drives and foundations for some of the paths. As mentioned above, additional archeology may confirm these locations but may also aid in the discovery of beds or walks within the parterre garden and other plant beds which might have been installed throughout the property.

As with any treatment at Lawnfield, the extreme reduction of the size of the property has created problems. One of the key landscape features of the 1900 plan, the system of curvilinear roads, has been cropped, by the present-day perimeters of the property. The Elliott design attempted to unify three properties, thus when it was subdivided, this road system was truncated. In the opinion of these researchers, while much of the circulation system has been lost, its intent and purpose could still be demonstrated.

The views within the property, at present, do not reflect those during historic times, although this is reversible. The view from Mentor Avenue has not been retained, because of the loss of street trees, hedges and the wire fence, primarily in later years.

---

109. LRG to Helen N. Garfield, 2/18/1900, JRG Collection, Container 26, Library of Congress, MSS Division

The portion of the farm which was dedicated to agricultural activities between 1900 and 1903, is much the same as in the previous era, and thus the integrity is also similar. Although ruins, several sheds and buildings can be restored.

The 1900-1903 treatment would also provide a demonstration of the historic context of Cleveland's Industrial and Commercial development during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, as it was demonstrated by the country homes in the Lake County/Mentor area. During the early part of this century, the Garfield family combined estate was prototypical of this genre. As shown in historic documents, several other estates within the area are remarkably similar.

The 1900-1903 treatment would not be consistent with an attempt to interpret the site as it appeared during President Garfield's time. However, because of the large number of significant structures erected after his death, and the addition to the main residence, such an interpretation of the landscape is not an option. As mentioned earlier, the 1900-1903 treatment alternative would be especially consistent with a theme which takes into account the ongoing evolution of the site, especially as it relates to the wishes and lifestyles of Garfield's widow, his sons, and daughters and their contributions to the social and political life of the region and the nation.

The chief documentation, naturally, is Elliott's plan, dated June, 1900. This is complete and well-detailed with regard to most elements. Abundant photographic evidence has been preserved. In addition, we have been able to find letters as well as bills of sale dating to the 1900-1904 period which verify the intent of the heirs to have the plan made and to implement its installation, albeit over a period of time. The initial investigation has indicated that Elliott certainly attained regional significance as a noted landscape architect in Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania and other states. In addition, he was a regular contributor (see appendix D) to national magazines such as *Gardening* and *Country Life in America.* Further investigation (which is not within the scope of this project) may also reveal additional works and evidence of his stature.

The Treatment Plan (1900-1903)

This plan recommends a rehabilitation, with limited intrusions for adaptive use requirements. Information for the plan is based on exact evidence, or contingent upon confirmation through archeological investigation.

The treatment plan demonstrates that the system of roads and paths could be restored, and that an interpretation could be achieved by bringing back these roads, demonstrating where they once led and the landscape's role in the Garfield family's development of the site as a living legacy. This landscape achieves significance for its ability to demonstrate the aspirations and accomplishments of the Garfield second generation, in particular, James R.'s political activities which, during this decade, elevated him to a cabinet position in Theodore Roosevelt's administration. In addition, it is suggested that investigations be made with neighboring owners to protect the other remaining piers, with a possible easement, if it seems feasible.

There is no entry within the configuration of the historic roads and paths which would remain from the Elliott plan, nonetheless, the accommodation of visitor needs is primary for the survival of the property and for its current function and use. Therefore, the construction of a modern access road (sympathetic to but different from the historic roads, in materials and design), which parallels the eastern property border and leads to a parking area within the, now screened poultry yard, would be required. In order to implement the 1900-1903 plan and maintain management needs, it would be a necessity, and would as shown, represent the option least destructive of historic fabric.

If the Elliott landscape (or the 1886-1899 alternate) were to be restored as part of the rehabilitation program at Lawnfield, certain contemporary additions, such as the commemorative tablet, sun dial, sign and flagstaff, would have to be removed or consolidated within a contemporary designed area. The picket fence (a modern addition) would be replaced by a lilac/spirea hedge bordered by a near-invisible wire fence. In addition, the planting of trees, perennial and annual beds, shrubs and the parterre/orchard would be extensive. However, as suggested for the other options, such plantings could be phased over a period of time, with the management team developing priorities for rehabilitation which were appropriate to the needs and budget of the project. Maintenance would be a concern which would require careful planning.

Description of the Plan – 1900-1903 (See figure 55.)

In the estimation of the investigative team, the site would function better than it does today, especially when the new entry and parking area are installed, since it would help provide a focus for entry to the side or mid-rear of the existing property (i.e., behind the house), rather than the present, front-entry concentration. Thus, if some minimal screening were provided (as it was in 1901-3), the visitor would be more logically guided to the new driveway. A tantalizing view of the house would be available from Mentor Avenue, but a confusing double entry would *not* be implied.

As the visitor moves around the site, to view the various aspects of the buildings and landscape, it would be possible, within the somewhat sheltered aspect of the front (or south) lawn, to logically describe other James A. Garfield-related aspects of the historic themes of the property, such as the campaign office and the front porch.

The reconstruction of the upper story and the windmill on the water tower/pump- house will enhance the interpretation of landscape features for this period. (Reconstruction of this feature would also serve the same purpose for the 1886-1899 era). The strikingly designed structure certainly qualified as the type of "feature" Mr. Knight described as essential for the country estate. This element will help establish and define the "estate" period of Lawnfield's landscape history in a dramatic way for visitors.

Of concern is the pendulous European Beech, which was planted during the period, and thus should remain (see figure 23). Beech trees are extremely sensitive to changes in the ground, far exceeding their drip line. Even heavy machinery operating around these trees can put them into decline; changes in the hydrostatic pressure in the vicinity can kill them. Lowering grade as is intended, may contribute to the death of this specimen.

Pruning of a pendulous-shaped tree like a Willow, Spruce or Beech may so upset its characteristic appearance that it may be preferable to remove the present specimen and plant a young tree in its stead – ideally a "clone." The possibility of propagating a new generation of this tree from the existing parent should be explored.

The large Maple at the southeast corner of the two porches has been a witness to activities at Lawnfield since the 1870s. It too should be allowed to decline (a process already begun) and a young substitute replanted (with a scheduled replacement planned when this tree attains maturity). Its extensive roots are, in part, responsible for the heaving of tiles on the South porch. Undoubtedly changes in grade level will negatively affect this tree as well, which is in decline. Other affected trees would be the Redbud in the small garden plot north of the house, the Dogwood west of the house, and several of the Cornelian Cherries east of the campaign office.

The east side of the porch of the campaign office could be the site of an unobtrusive hydraulic handicapped lift. The north side of the main house has never really provided a good setting for foundation planting. Often moist and always shady, very few varieties will grow in these conditions.

The rear of the house would be a departure point for a walkway which would connect the main residence with the carriage barn. The historic surface could have been gravel, which is not recommended for the handicapped. An alternative which would be sensitive to the historic environment might be brick. The location is well established through probings conducted by members of this firm and by its location as depicted on the 1924 survey. It is five feet wide, which should be adequate for a wheelchair. This would bring the carriage house within the purview of the handicapped. The exterior of the gas storage building could be observed from the path, or from the exit drive from the new parking area. We would suggest that an opportunity be provided to view a portion of the interior of the building from the outside through the open door. A glass insert and protective rails would allow for visitor safety.

Planting around these two buildings should be compatible (in height, width, and opacity of the specimens) with the motif established by the reconstructed apple orchard. There is no reason why visitors may not be allowed into the ground floor of the restored pumphouse. Presently there is an interpretative sign at the exterior of the building which is inaccurate.

It is likely that a clay tennis court was once situated slightly to the south and west of the pumphouse. It was built at an unknown date and could be reconstructed (see diagram, figure 5).

Some form of interpretive markers should be placed at the original position of the barns in the southwest portion of the site. This location may be affirmed in part through archeological discovery of the historic well. They should also be placed at the second and third positions for the barns. The remainder of the outbuildings should still receive landscape treatment, possibly grass, mowed perhaps four times during the growing season. The removal of weeds and sprout growth around them and the restoration of the avenue of Maples and hedges on either side of the lane as it passes between these buildings is recommended. The 1924 survey gives the location for hedgerows in this area as holdovers from the Elliott plan of 1900, which is indicative of the system of hedgerows for the historic lane.

This then, would comprise the circulation for the restored site. Surfaces should be as described above and the lane and the now-closed driveway should be chip-sealed in such a way as to replicate the crushed stone appearance seen in so many historic photographs. In this plan we have selected the alignment drawn by Elliott. On the 1924 survey there is a slight jog in this road from the entrance to the carriage barn north and extending to a point opposite the edge of the poultry yard. Since the road metal was gravel, it is likely that the shift could have developed, through informal means. The surface of the new parking area access drive should not attempt to imitate the replicated surfaces. There was never a driveway in the location shown and therefore nothing historic should be implied. We recommend that the hedge-lined orchard of Cherry and Peach trees be re-established according to the Elliott plan, west of the lane to run from the tenant house to the present northern boundary line. Young trees of the same species (as specified) should be planted as replacements for those used in the 1900 planting plan.

Ornamental planting beds should be confined to the periphery of the house and lower drives, since these can be photographically and graphically documented for the period of restoration (see figure 20). There is no proof of any ornamental planting in the vicinity of the agricultural outbuildings (with the exception of the garden near the tenant house). However, in addition to the orchards, there was a large vegetable garden north of the carriage house adjacent to the old barnyard, northeast of the projected parking area. Replacement of this feature is not feasible, given the requirements for parking and maintenance and the reduced overall size of the property.

The trees to the left of the present driveway are appropriate to the site, if one is to champion the design work of J. Wilkinson Elliott. This group includes a Ginkgo Biloba, some Maples, and a Beech. The trees between the carriage house and the residence are the result of vernacular planting, professional planning (Elliott) and a certain amount of volunteerism. Among them one is able to find row trees, copses, spirals – a crazy-quilt of landscape material. Additionally, there is a preponderance of the Silver and Sugar Maples. Many of the trees in this area require attention (and have for some time) and in the very near future, harvesting. A long range re-planting plan would envision the establishment of a small hardening-off area. Part of the area of the present sprout land could be adaptively used for this purpose as part of the rehabilitative plan.

A great deal of emotionalism accompanies any suggestion for wholesale removal of living trees. Many of the trees that we recommend for removal in our planting plan (see figure 55) are either badly disfigured through repeated loss of limbs and decay or are not located in appropriate positions (according to the Elliott plan). These trees do not contribute to the historic appearance.

ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Whichever treatment alternate is chosen, further archeological investigation of landscape elements would be required to confirm such features and provide additional data. Two pre-archeological drawings have been prepared from research, to indicate possible locations of important features within the two respective treatment plans (see figures 56 and 57).

Possible Methods for Archeological Investigations

Research cannot be considered complete for the two treatment alternates currently under analysis, until archeological investigation has been undertaken. Of the two drawings (Figure 54 & Figure 55), one should be selected for implementation. The pre-archeological drawings which follow have been prepared from historic documents, research, the overlay treatment and from field observations.

Several methods of archeological identification and retrieval are suggested: 1) Use of a steel probe to sense sub-surface texture, resistance, moisture, etc. These probes would be a means of identifying areas for 2) Shovel or slit trench examination which could reveal items such as post-molds, masonry or timber foundations, root stock, azonal deposition of soils and to a limited extent, fossil/pollen depositions, arboreal, herbs, legumes and grasses naturally, we would expect that the archaeologists would widen and deepen trenches where required to reveal, for example, enough of the foundations or bearings of a site feature or structure to confirm configuration.

It is suggested that, for each option, a large trench be excavated in the northern end of the sprout land, as a standard for stratigraphy. It is hoped that this pit will be dug deep enough to expose primordial clay and exhibit well-developed profiles moving upward toward the surface. This trench should help the field investigators in their examination of other pits and shovel probes throughout the site, to possibly recognize for example, little or no profile, transported soils and episodic fill.

It is anticipated that a contract containing specifications will be issued by the National Park Service to historical archeological investigators. Experience in landscape archeology, pollen analysis, paleobotanical research and in the identification of plant taxa remains would be highly desireable.

Naturally, the contractors would be informed of the sensitive nature of the site. The contractors would determine the nature and depth of all underground utilities before probing or digging. All evidence should be incorporated onto the investigator's records for transferral to the pre-archeological drawings. This material could then be incorporated onto the restoration documents. It is important that while the archaeologists are undertaking their work a system of regular communication be established with representatives of the National Park Service to assure that, as information is revealed, it can be quickly transmitted to consultants.

Treatment Alternate – 1886-1899. Specifics related to the archeological investigation for this option will be as follows:

A) Steel probes and shovel probes in the vicinity of the windmill, primarily to reveal root stock for apple trees. Some of these could be very old.

B) Probes and resultant trenches as a means to expose a gas line from the gas holding building to the windmill and from the gasholder to the gas well.

C) Probes and trenches for coop and chicken yards, material such as poultry mesh, footings for coops, incubator equipment, gravel, water, feed dishes and post-molds.

D) Trenches to reveal footings and foundations, masonry or timber for the large barn and attendant sheds at the rear of the property.

E) Probes and trenches to locate the historic lane, its road metal, fossil soils, relocated soils and lateral ditches.

F) Excavations to locate root stock for an orchard; peach, cherry and apple predominated.

G) Evidence of a formal drive making union with the historic lane. Masonry or gravel walks, zonal soils, horticultural artifacts associated with annual and perennial gardens.

H) Cross-sections for the driveway as in "E" above.

J) Steel and shovel probes for the location of root stock for annual and perennial plants and for any pollen profiles in this general area.

Treatment Alternate – 1900-1903. Specifics related to the archeological investigation for this option will be as follows:

A) For clay, mesh, roots, post-molds, compacted sub-soils and artifactual material related to a tennis court or rose garden.

B) Probes and resultant trenches as a means to expose a gas line from the gas holding building to the windmill or gas light standards.

C) Probes and trenches for coop and chicken yards, material such as poultry mesh, footings for coops, incubator equipment, gravel, water and feed dishes and post-molds.

D) Trenches to reveal footings and foundations, masonry or timber for the large barn and attendant sheds at the rear of the property.

E) Probes and trenches to locate the historic lane, its road metal, fossil soils, relocated soils and lateral ditches.

F) Excavations to locate root stock for an orchard, cherry and apple predominate. Also for roots of ligustrum or spirea (hedge material).

G) Probes and trenches to locate evidence of a parterre garden, for masonry, gravel or sand walks, transported soils, annual and perennial root stocks and pollens. For unusual humus accumulations and for arboreal root remains, possibly ash or maple.

H) For evidence of footpaths; masonry, gravel or bituminous pavement.

J) For remains of masonry, bituminous material or gravel driveway and remains of a shallow water well.

K) For transported soils, roots, relative to ligustrum or spirea hedges.

L) For footings of outbuildings.

PARKING STUDIES

Studies were conducted exploring five parking location options, for each of the two treatment alternate plans. Possible positive and negative considerations are listed below. Obviously, any such large intrusion in the site may negatively impact material which may be present below the surface. However, such facilities are necessary to manage the numbers of visitors anticipated. See figures 58, 58a, and 58b which include a plan showing all five locations studied and plans of the two preferred locations (3 and 4) superimposed on the 1990 survey.

Location 1

20 Parking Spaces
Only works with 1894 access road

Positives

Negatives
- Negative visual impact of cars/buses
- Relationship to visitors' Center entrance
- Disturbs "historic" trees
- Vehicular/pedestrian conflict
- Difficult bus access and storage

Location 2

17 Parking spaces
Works with either access road

Positives
- Relationship to Visitor's Center entrance

Negatives
- 1894 access road limits interpretation opportunities of "historic" lane
- Drop-off areas
  -Difficult to achieve with 1894 access road
  -Negatively impacts chicken yard with 1894 access road
- Pedestrian/vehicular conflict (more severe with 1894 access road)
- Vehicles penetrate the full depth of the site
- Affects the orchard in the 1904 plan (Elliott)

Location 3

31 Parking Spaces
Works with either access road

Positives
- 1904 access road preserves the integrity of the "historic" lane
- 1904 access road preserves most of the poultry yard
- Relationship to Visitors Center entrance

Negatives
- 1894 access road limits interpretive opportunities of "historic" lane.
- 1894 access road presents a severe pedestrian/ vehicular conflict
- 350' + from parking to Visitors Center entrance
- Affects the barn complex in the 1904 plan

Location 4

33 Parking spaces
Works with either access road

Positives
- Relationship to Visitors Center
- Close to visitors' Center
- 1904 access road preserves the integrity of the "historic" lane
- Parking is located entirely within historic poultry yard (Preserves the limits of the yard)
- 1904 access road provides no pedestrian/vehicular conflict
- Can be well screened (visually) from the rest of the site

Negatives
- 1894 access road limits interpretive opportunities of "historic lane
- 1894 access road presents a severe pedestrian/vehicular conflict
- Parking occupies most of the area of the "historic" poultry yard

Location 5

23 Parking Spaces
Works only with 1904 access road

Positives
- No pedestrian/vehicular conflict
- Can be visually screened from the rest of the site
- Preserves the integrity of the 'historic' lane
- Preserves the "historic" poultry yard
- Close to Visitors Center

Negatives
- Difficult bus parking
- Relationship to Visitors Center entrance

SECTION V: ILLUSTRATIONS AND MAPS

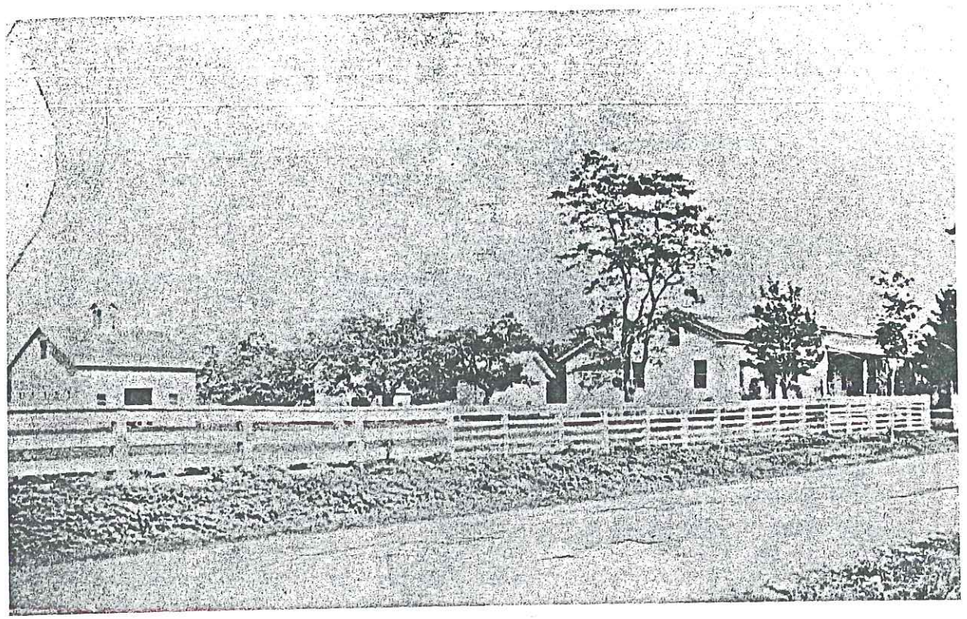


Figure 1: Circa 1877 photograph of the Dickey farm house shortly after it was purchased by General Garfield. Several of the Black Locusts were still alive in the 1950s.

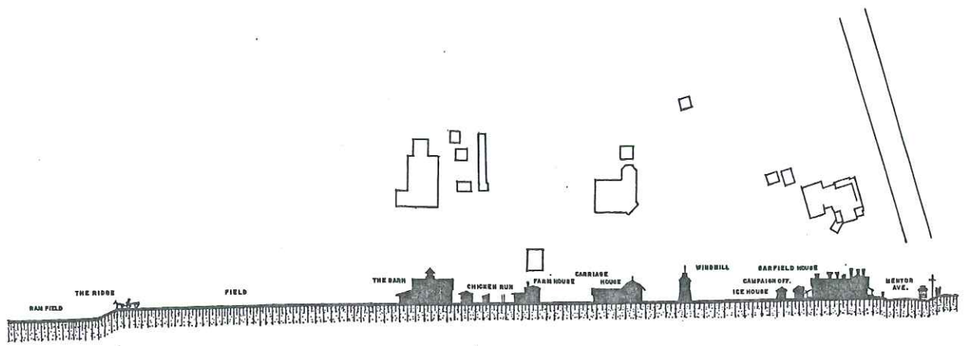
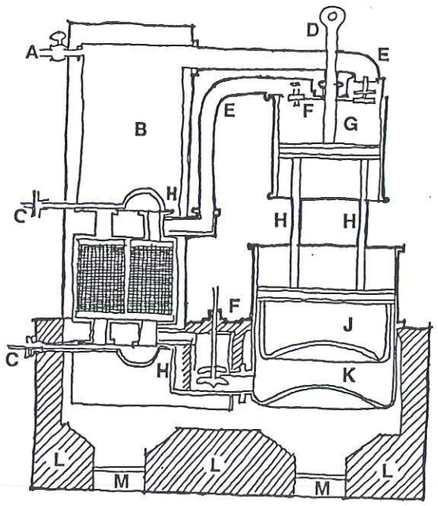
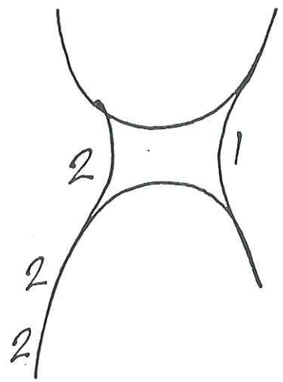


Figure. 2: A plan and profile diagram of the farm as it may have appeared in the late 19th/early 20th century. The vertical is exaggerated. (Drawing by The Westerly Group, Inc., based on 1924 survey, Figure 50a.)



A. Petcock
B. Receiver
C. Valve links
D. Connecting rod
E. Pipes
F. Valves
G. Supply cylinder
H. Piston
J. Working cylinder
K. Expansion heater
L. Fire brick
M. Heat sources

Figure 3: A diagram of an engine which was developed by the inventor John Ericsson in the 1870s. Ericsson was consumed with perfecting this machine and worked on it until the time of his death in 1888 at age 86.



On the 10th of March, 1901 ... "Winter asks me about your work – will it trouble you too much to let me know how much of the planting you want done this spring? I will name it in the lots and you can specify it. 1) The orchard side of the turn to the barn, 2) Is the continuation of the work I did going to the road [street] 3) Is the planting around the office which is a small matter not exceeding ten dollars. 4) The few shrubs called for outside the bathroom and kitchen windows. 5) The evergreen hedge around the chicken yard, Winter seemed to have a rather vague idea as to these and you had not told me definitely as I did not feel like authorizing him to go ahead: He wants to order want [sic] as soon as possible so as to have a good selection of plants. He has put in some splendid trees this year and the grounds are so much improved."

Figure 4: A diagram made by Helen Garfield and included in a letter to her mother-in-law, Lucretia Garfield.

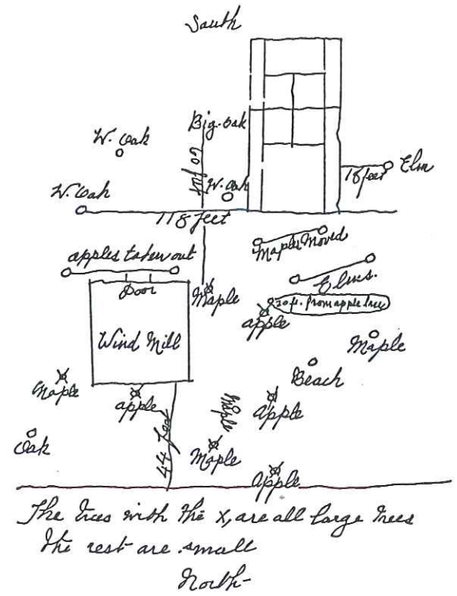


Figure 5: A sketch memo from Lucretia Garfield to an unknown person. It implies the existence of and approximate location for a clay court at Lawnfield (probably c. 1894 or later).

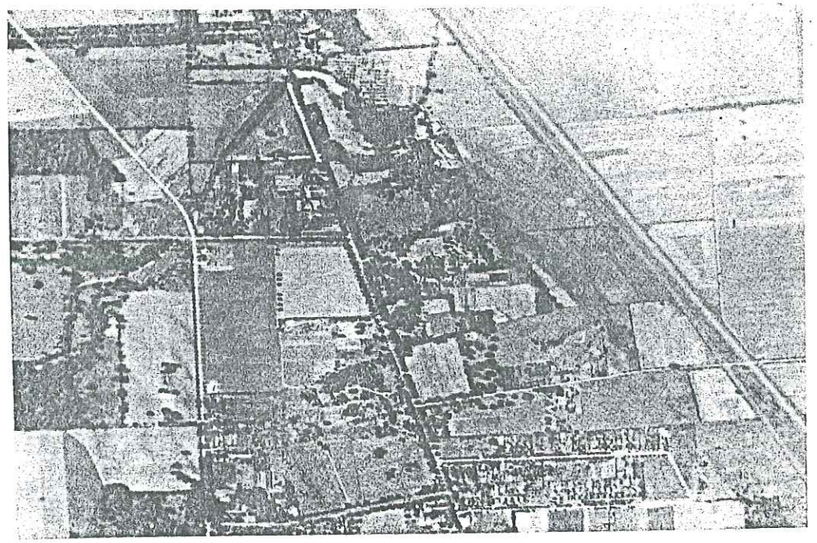


Figure 6: USDA Vertical Air Photo, 1937, clearly depicts tree lined streets but additionally demonstrates that over 65% of land use was agricultural, wood lots or commercial size orchards.

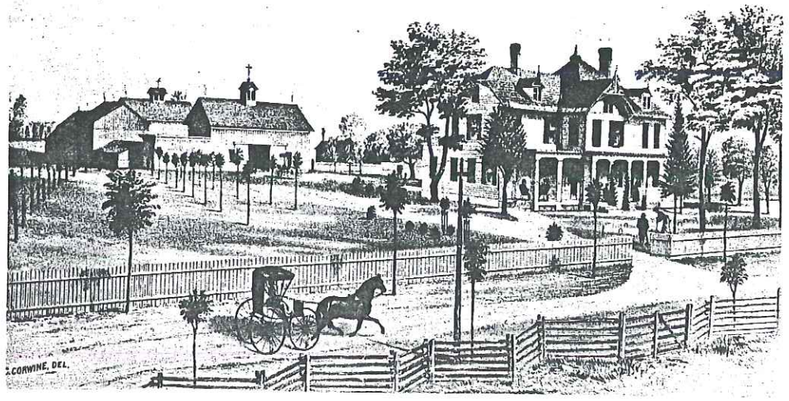


Figure 7: Lawnfield, 1880, L.C. Corwine, delineator, "Residence of the house of James A. Garfield, Mentor, Ohio." Evidence of inaccuracies which could be found in Atlas drawings is the condition of the old Dickey fence on the south side of Mentor Avenue, contrasted with its true condition shown in Figure 9.

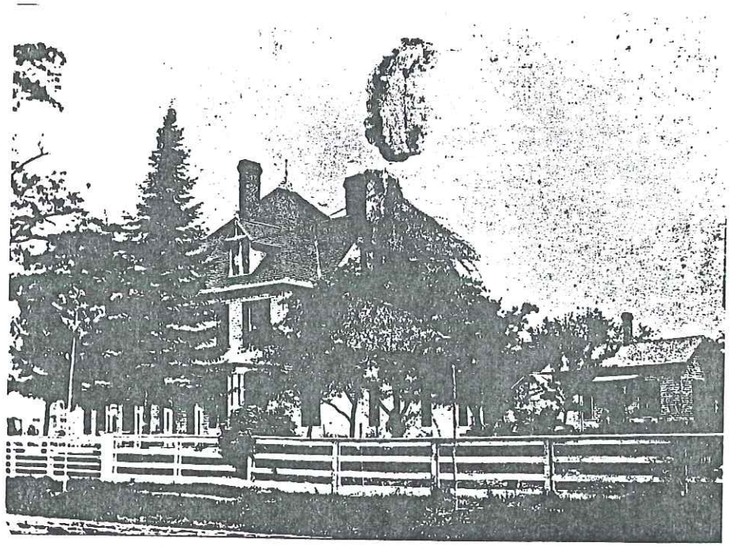


Figure 8: A damaged glass negative, c.1880 or earlier, but valuable as it portrays the only graphic evidence that we have for a garden on the east side of the house. Later, after the Library was built this area was relegated to recreation and minor foundation planting.

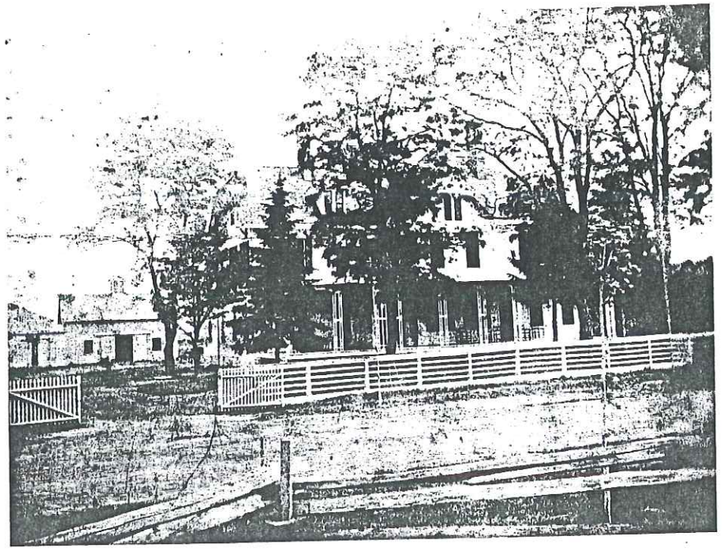


Figure 9: Lawnfield, c. spring/summer 1880, west and south sides. Note the development of the barn complex. Picket gates survived until the next fence change which converted the front fence to pickets. Photo: Lake County Historical Society.

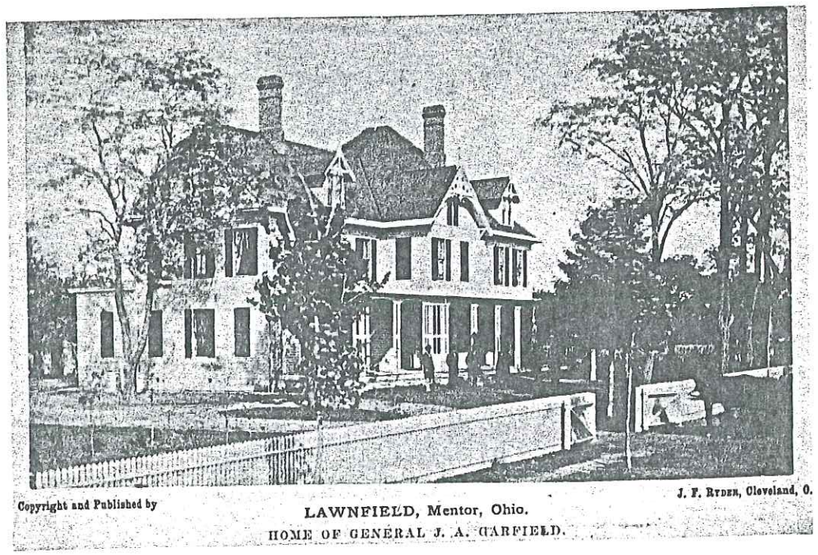


Figure 10: Classic photograph of 1880 shows the Presidential candidate and visitors in the front yard of Lawnfield. Evident are the new picket fence, four large Black Locust trees and a Maple at the end of the porch. The latter is the only tree of this group which has survived. Also evident are young plant materials south of the circular drive, possibly fruit trees.

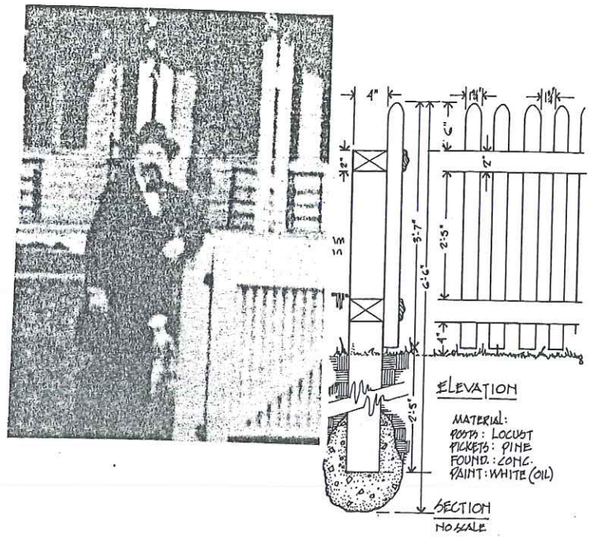
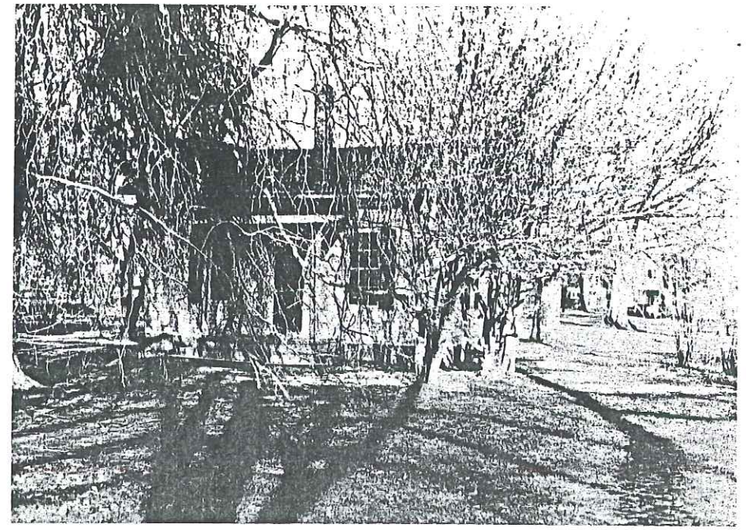


Figure 11: A reconstruction of the picket fence shown in figure 10. This fence took its style from an earlier gate which existed along with a board fence.



Figure 12: Political Cartoon of 1880 by Currier and Ives, showing an idealized Garfield. Photo: Ohio Historical Society, Columbus.



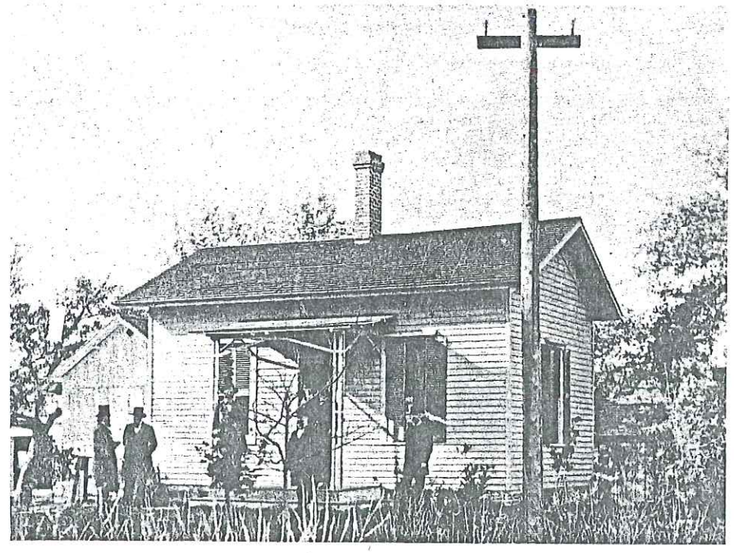


Figure 13: Campaign Office, c. 1880 and 1900. Historic photograph (bottom) shows the Office/Library as it was used by the Presidential nominee as a campaign office in the 1880's. The 1991 view (top) has been taken from the same position on the east lawn. The branches of the weeping Beech tree and the Cornelian Cherry obscure the building from the front of the property. Photo: The Westerly Group, Inc. (top) and Lake County Historical Society (bottom).

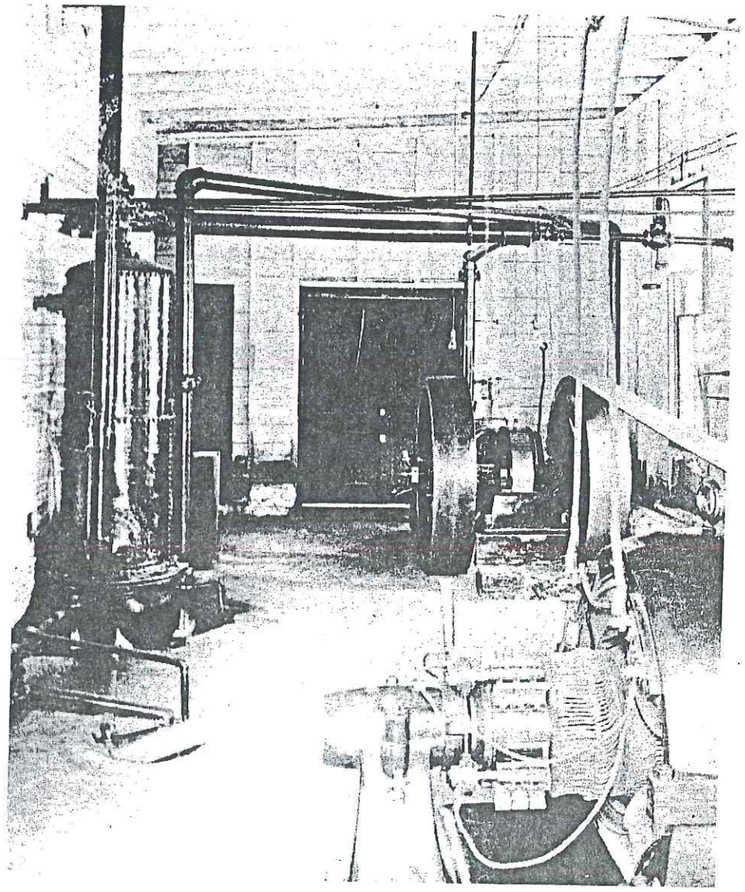


Figure 14: A horizontal slide valve, stationary engine of the Porter-Allen type. This model is equipped with a fly wheel and belt pulley. This particular engine was located on the working farm of the agricultural periodical "The Epitomist", in Spencer, Indiana in the late 19th Century. Photo: The Westerly Group, Inc.

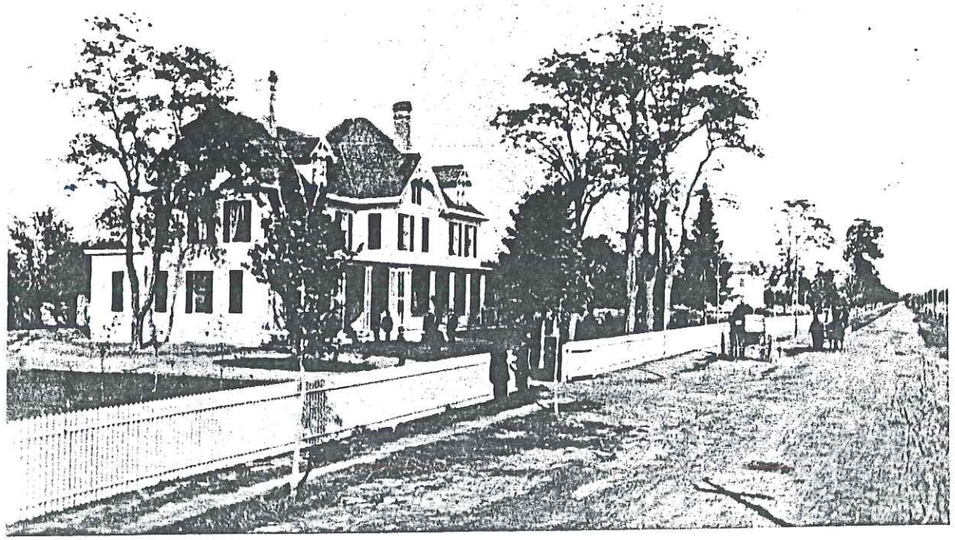
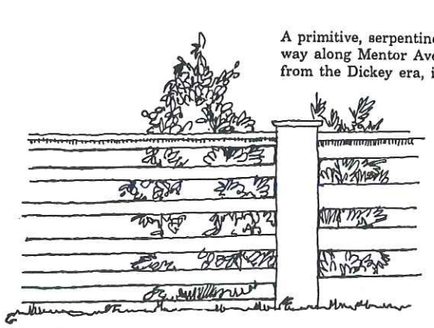


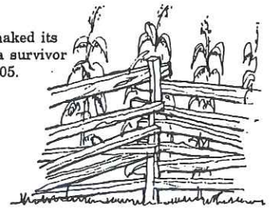


Figure 15: Mentor Avenue, c. 1880 and 1900. Taken approximately a quarter of a century apart, these two photographs, (above c. 1880; below c. 1900) looking east along Mentor Avenue, demonstrate how Lawnfield's front yard had become a small forest. Except for the trolley tracks and the addition of telephone poles on the north side and power poles on the south side, the road looks about the same. Photos: Lake County Historical Society.

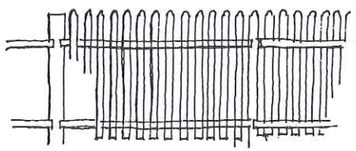


The Dickey fence along Mentor Avenue until 1880. The boards must have been moved as the fence appeared to be in good condition. This fence was replicated during the era of WRHS occupation. Portions of it remain.

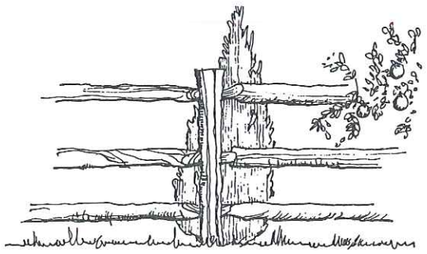
A primitive, serpentine rail and board fence snaked its way along Mentor Avenue on the south side, a survivor from the Dickey era, it was taken down by 1905.



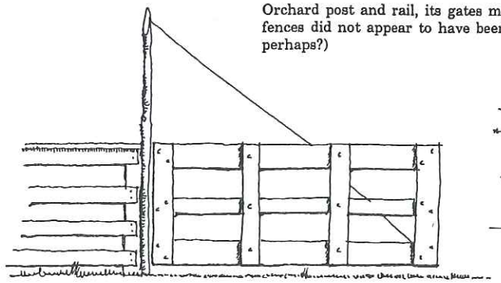
The "gleaming white" fence posts of the early 20th Century were part of the Elliott-designed plan and co-existed with a metal post and wire fence, which was almost invisible with plant material behind it.



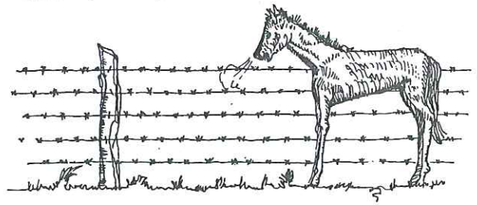
By 1880, President Garfield had erected a fine picket fence along the Mentor Avenue property line. It stood for 20 odd years.



Orchard post and rail, its gates made of milled lumber, these fences did not appear to have been painted (creosoted, perhaps?)



Stout fences and gates were used for many of the fields, this one intersecting the lane as it heads north and south.



There were barbed wire fences at Lawnfield. The colt must have run away in order to scratch himself on the wire. (JAG to his sons (at school) from Mentor, Oct. 31, 1880) No prudent farmer would keep horses behind barbed wire.

Figure 16: Fences found at Lawnfield (several eras).

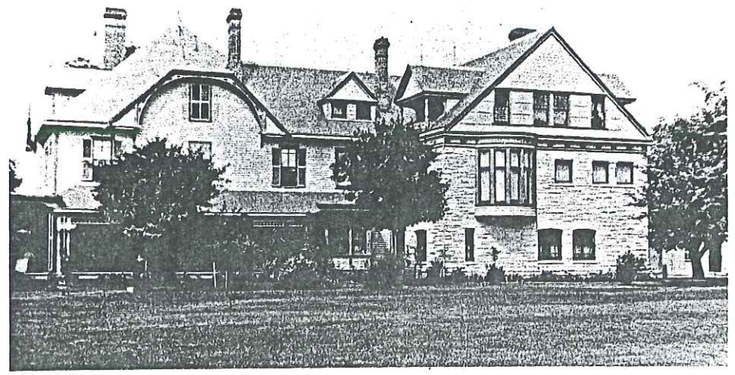


Figure 17: Lawnfield, c. 1888, east side. Photo: Western Reserve Historical Society.

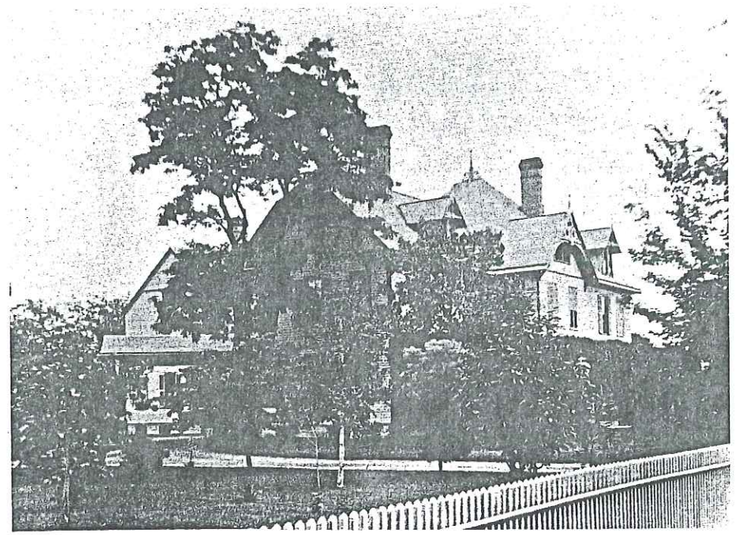


Figure 18: Lawnfield, c. 1888, west and south sides. Photo: Western Reserve Historical Society.

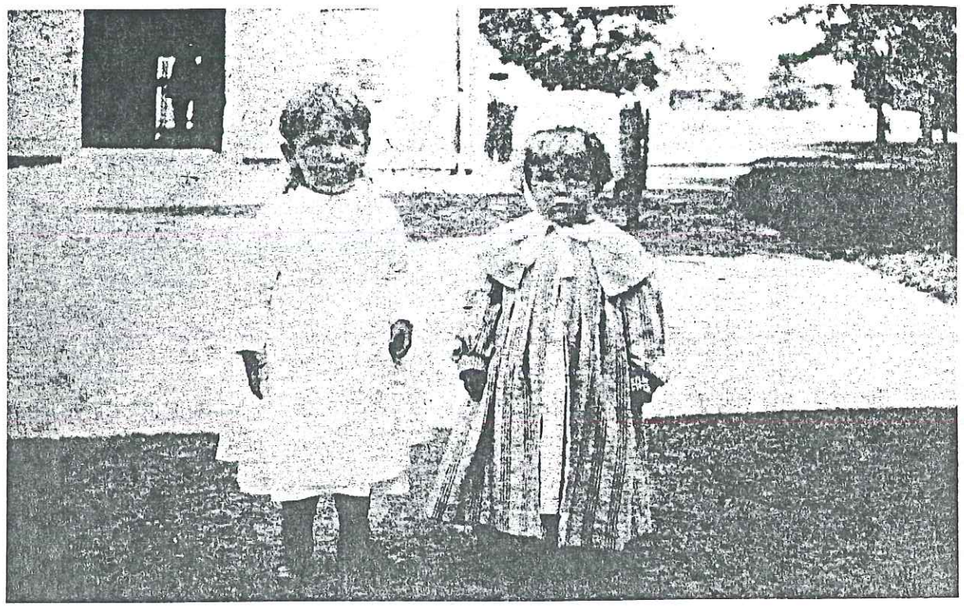
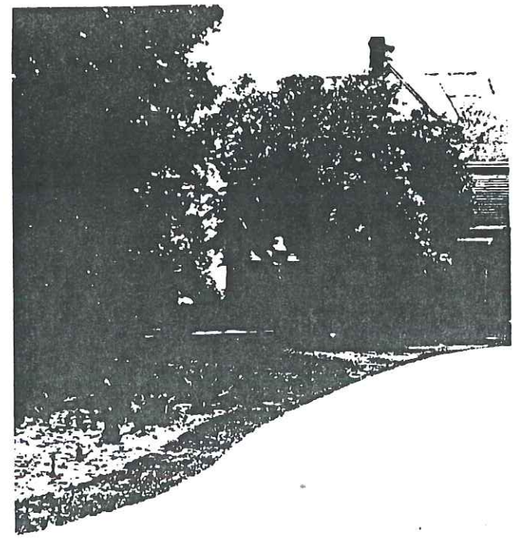


Figure 19: Rudolph Stanley-Brown and James Garfield, c. 1892, in the yard at Lawnfield looking north. Background left: the barn, later relocated to the rear of the property. Background right: the tenant house. Photo: Lake County Historical Society.



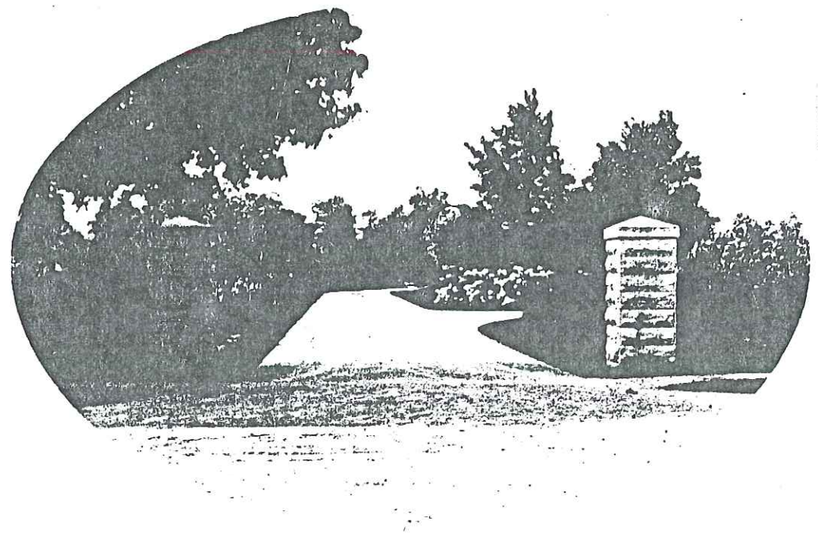


Figure 20: Two views of Lawnfield from c. 1903. Above, the drive approaching the house from the north. Notice the formal planting beds at the left with the Yucca Filemantosa in bloom. The oval view below was taken from Mentor Avenue and depicts the gravel drive (now off site) as it approached the house. Both of these images agree very closely with the 1900 plan by the landscape architect J. Wilkinson Elliott. Photos: Lake County Historical Society.

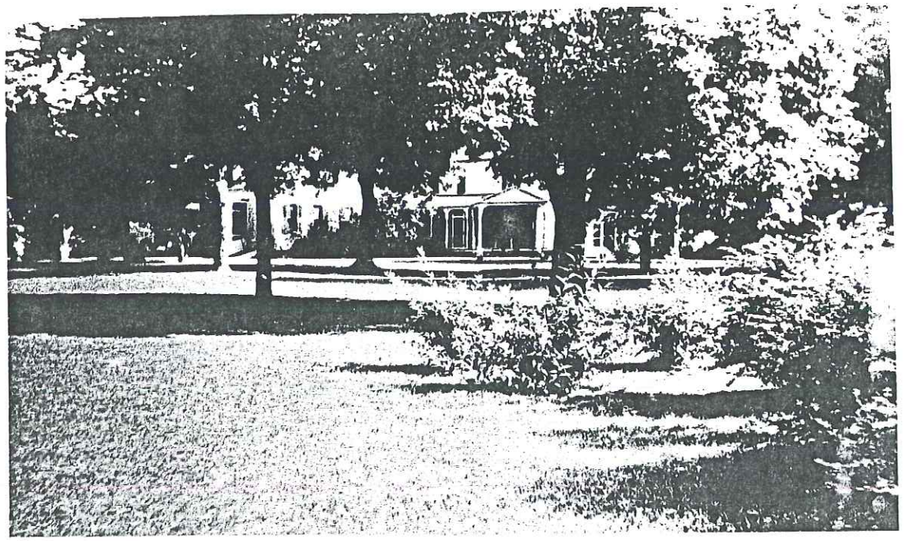


Figure 21: Lawnfield, c. 1900, north side. View from west looking directly into the port cochere, showing the development of recently planted shrubs. North porch and west porch (carriage porch) are screened. Photo: Lake County Historical Society.

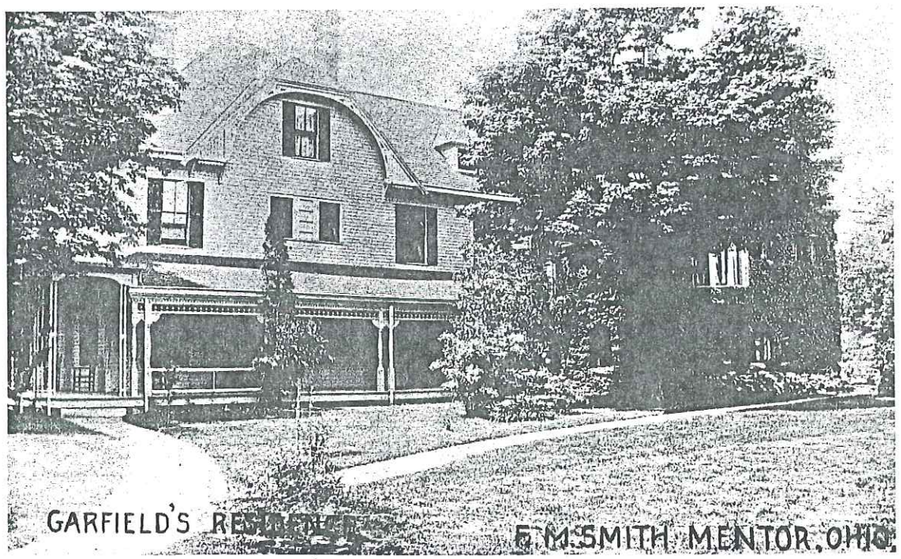


Figure 22: Lawnfield, c. 1903, east side. Note heavy ivy cover on the memorial library and new paths to the porch and campaign office. A spindly cedar, too close to the house was shortly removed. Photo by F. M. Smith, Mentor, Ohio. Lake County Historical Society.

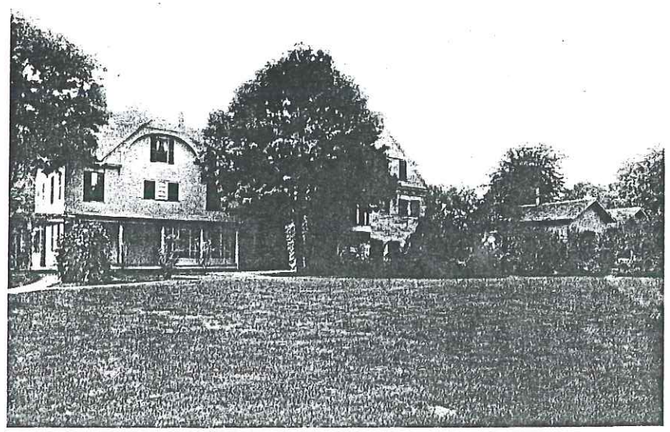


Figure 23: A 1906 photo showing the rapid development of the European Weeping Beech east of the library and the Cornelian Cherries screening the campaign house. Both are present at the site today. Photo: Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

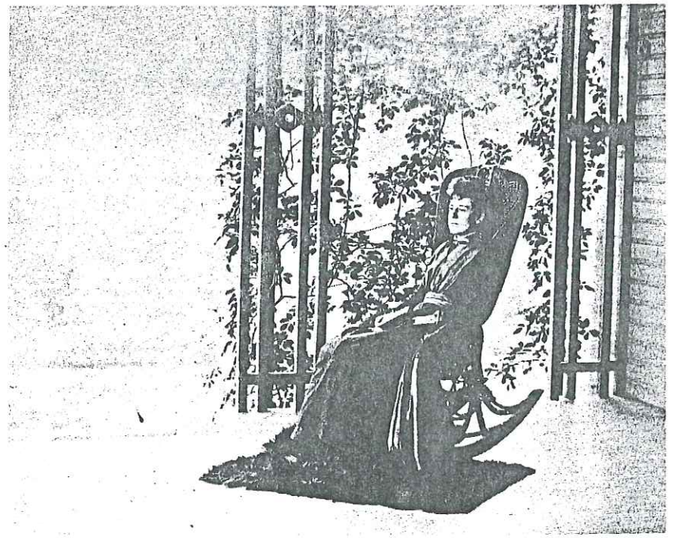


Figure 24: Mollie Garfield poses, c. 1885, on the front porch before a "wallpaper" of Clemenstra vines. A separate wire and post structure served as a trellis. Photo: Lake County Historical Society.

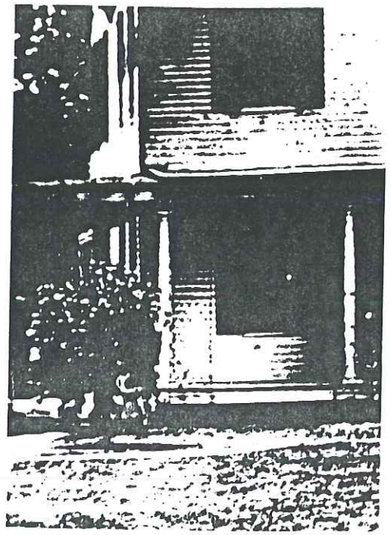


Figure 25: Trellis designed for the east porch (pergola). Except for the new vines, note the lack of foundation planting in this former garden area c. 1904 or later. Photo: Lawnfield Colleciton.



Figure 26: Edward Garfield, c. 1904, in the yard at Lawnfield. Background: playhouse (a former trolley car), background right: northwest corner of the house. Photo: Lake County Historical Society.

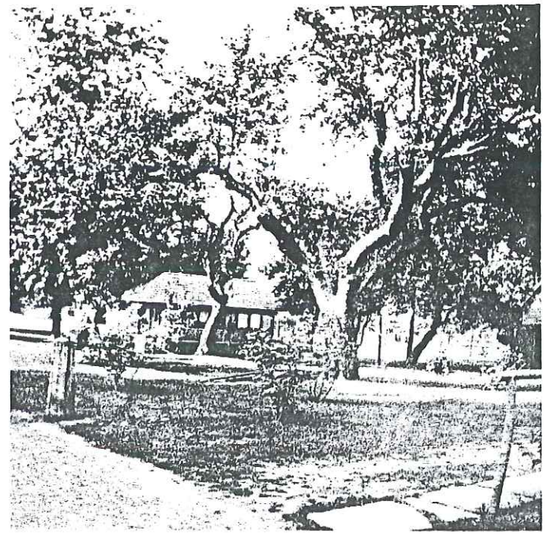


Figure 27: Playhouse of the Garfield grandchildren. Probably taken about 1908-10, according to the maturation of trees. Note the stepping stones in the lower right of the photo.



Figure 28: Lucretia Garfield surrounded by 13 of her grandchildren on the front lawn at Lawnfield, 1906. (Three more children were born later). Photo: Library of Congress, MSS Div.



Figure 29: Eastlawn, the home of Harry and Belle Mason Garfield and Belle's mother, to the east of Lawnfield, 1906. Photo: Library of Congress, MSS Division.

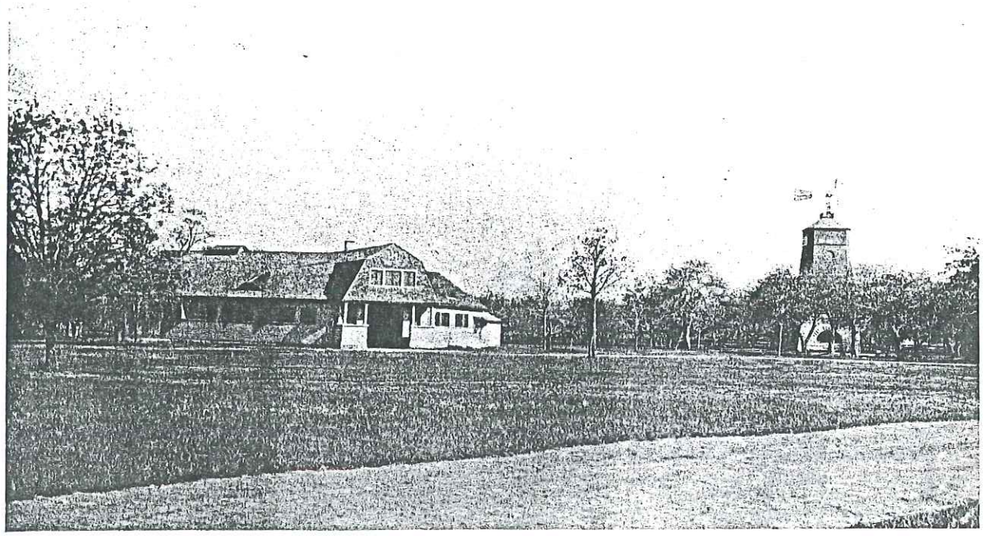




Figure 30: Wide angle view of the carriage house and the water tower/windmill circa 1896. Most of the trees in the right middle ground are part of the apple orchard. A historic board fence marking the east property line is visible behind the windmill. The trees in the center of the antique photo are maples which have matured in the 1991 view below. Branches at the extreme left could be of a European Beech which is one of the specimens at the site today. Photos: Lake County Historical Society (top) and The Westerly Group, Inc. (bottom).

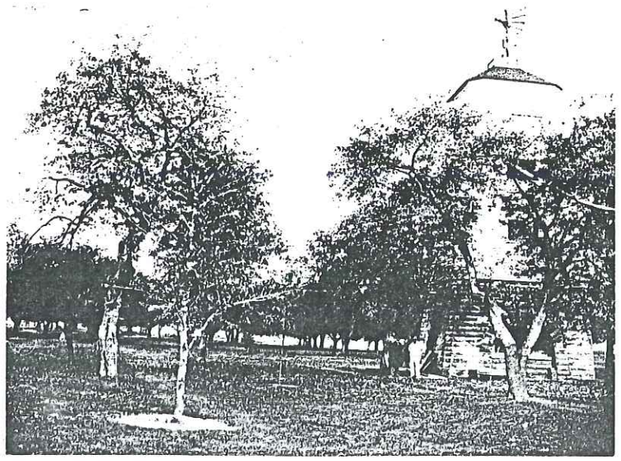


Figure 31: An historic photograph, c. 1894, of the windmill/tower and a portion of the orchard. The scale of the latter is evident even though it was one of the smaller orchards. A clay tennis court may have been to the right of the tower. Photo: Lake County Historical Society.

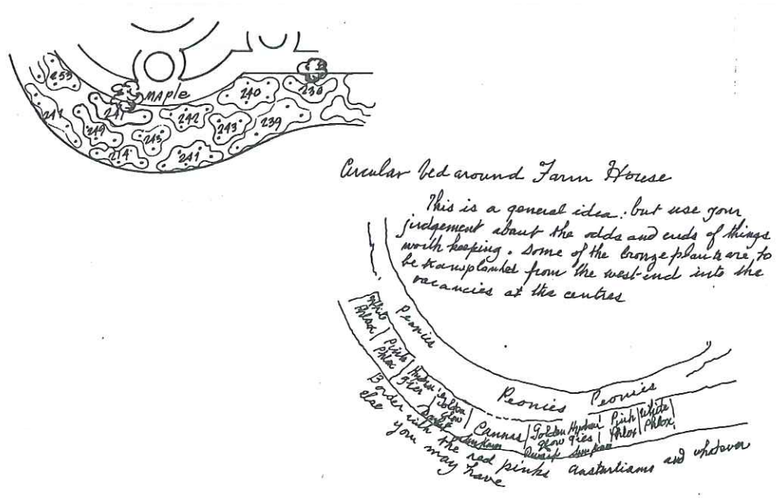


Figure 32: Cresent-shaped bed plantings. An example of Mrs. Garfield's attention to horticultural detail (bottom). The diagram is in her hand and is apparently an instruction to one of the staff or to her daughter-in-law, Helen Garfield, for the planting of flowers in a crescent shaped bed "around the Farm." (Date unknown) This would have been the tenant house, or "Frank's house" on the lane. Notice how its configuration agrees with the Elliott detail (top) (see figure 49a).



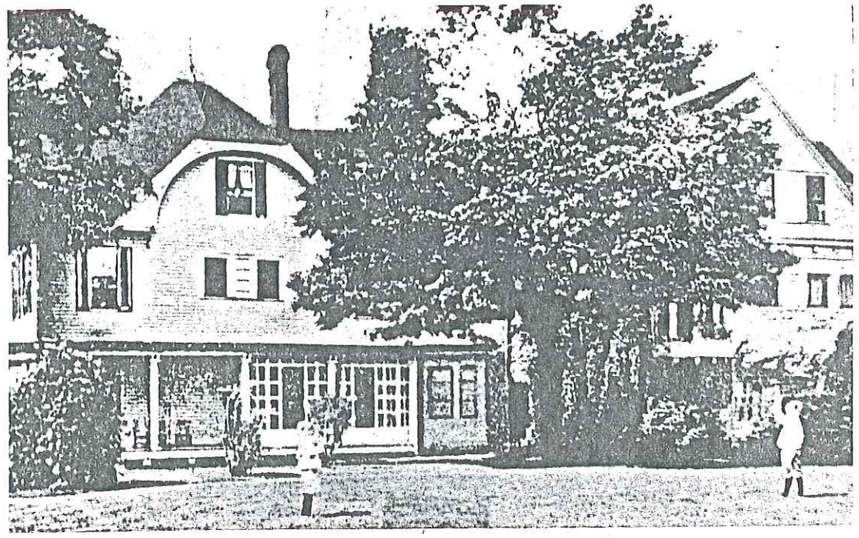


Figure 33: Lawnfield, east side, c. 1903 and 1991. A photograph of the east side of the house and the lawn, taken in 1991. This was the lawn used for many of the recreational pursuits of the Garfield household: tennis, croquet and the setting of so many of the formal photographs and "snapshots." The photograph below is from a 1903 postal card. Photos: The Westerly Group, Inc. (top) and Lake County Historical Society (bottom).

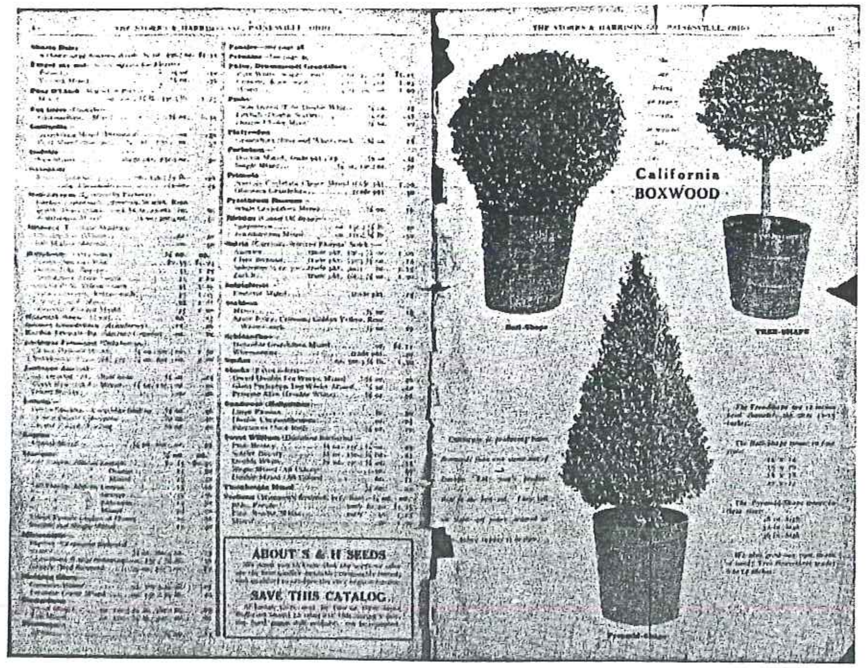




Figure 34: Cover and a page from the Storrs and Harrison catalogue of 1929. This company is mentioned several times in the journals and letters of JAG and LRG. Photos: The Westerly Group, Inc.

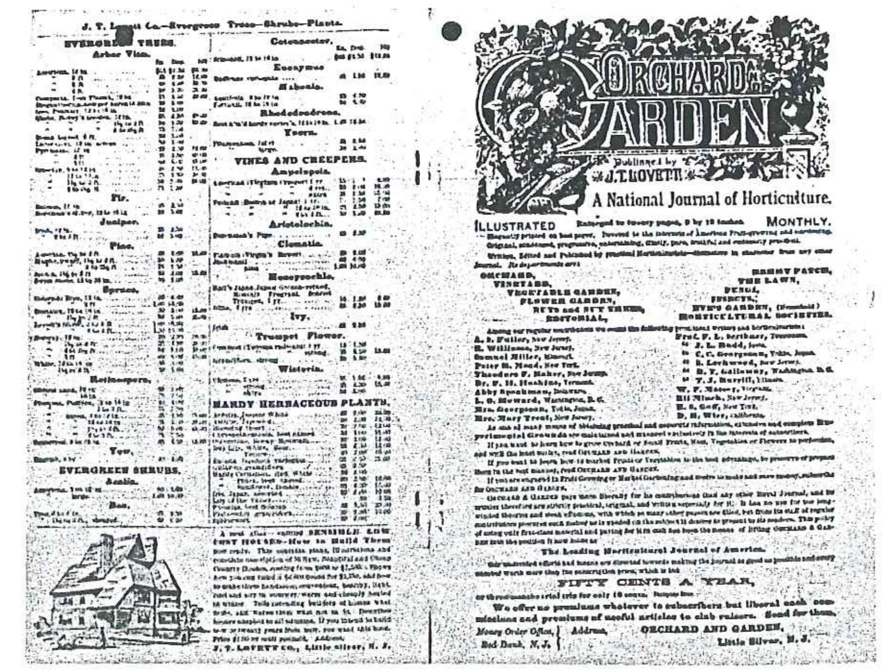




Figure 35: An 1881 issue of *Orchard and Garden*, a leading horticultural catalogue/journal of the period and a 1939 issue of the Storrs and Harrison catalogue. Some of the photos are in color, but the varieties obtainable remain much as they did in 1878. Photos: The Westerly Group, Inc.



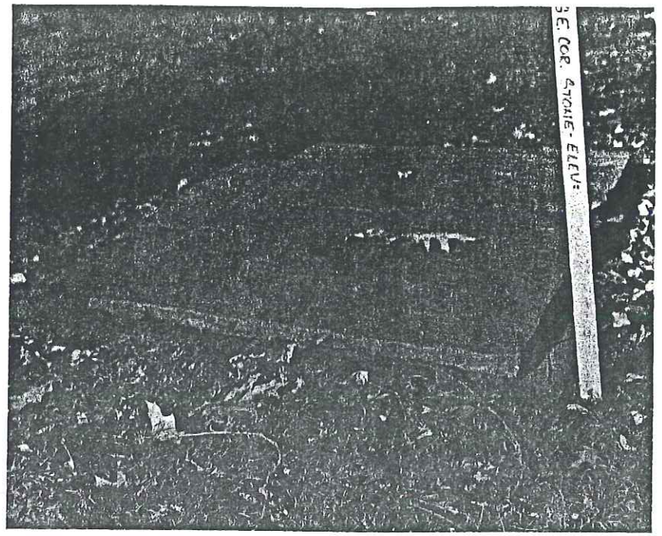
Figure 36: Lawnfield, c. 1936-51, east and south sides during the period when it became a museum. The three-rail board fence is an attempt to replicate a pre-Garfield fence. (See Figure 1) Note the barely discernable wire fence running east from the stone pier - a last vestige of the Elliott plan of 1900.



Figure 37: A specimen European Beech, located on the western edge of the present property. It has a caliper of 50" and could well be over 100 years old. Photo: The Westerly Group, Inc., 1991.



Figure 38: A large caliper Plane tree northwest of the house – a specimen. It is situated in an area which, on an historic map is referred to as the "lawn." The house and property in the background, beyond the fence, are located on a portion of the grounds which are no longer part of the property. Photo: The Westerly Group, Inc., 1991.



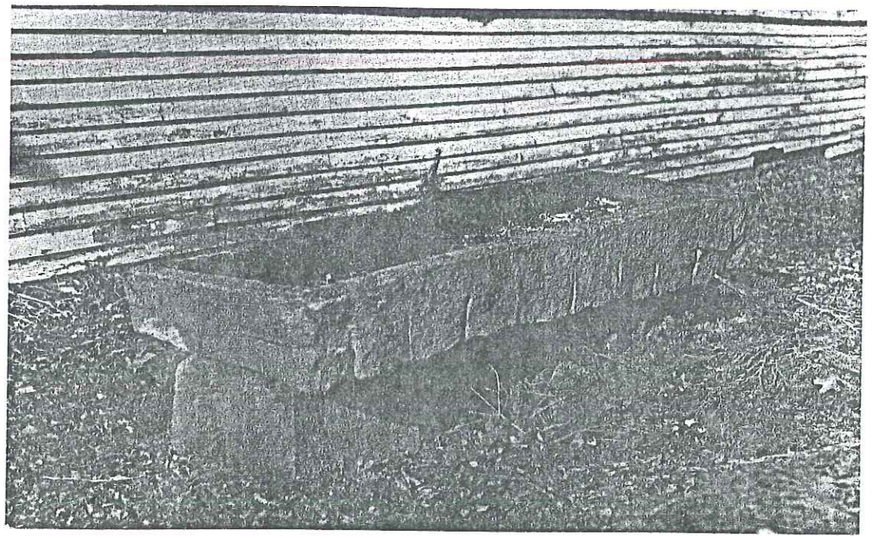
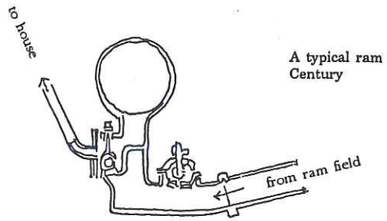
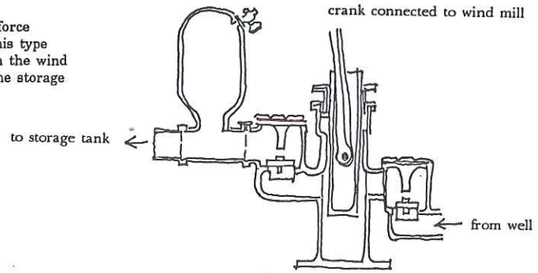


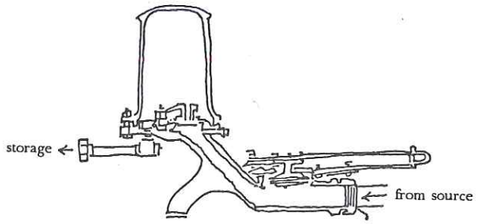
Figure 39: Limestone lid and watering trough. The upper photograph is of a limestone lid and surround of an alleged well, just north of the house. The interior of this pit is full of pipes. They run to and from the house, to the pumphouse to the carriage barn, the gas storage building and even in the general direction of the former location of the barns. It is more likely a utility man hole. The photo below is of a granite watering trough, adjacent to the carriage house. This feature was added sometime after 1900. Photos: The Westerly Group, Inc., 1991.

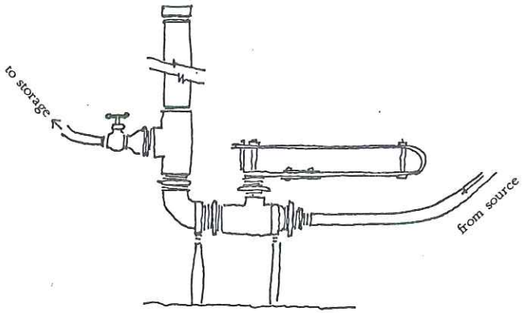


A typical ram of the late 19th Century

A turn of the Century force pump. A machine of this type could have been used in the wind mill to raise water to the storage tank.





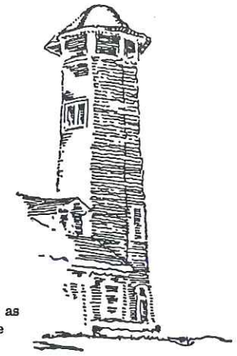


Two modern rams.

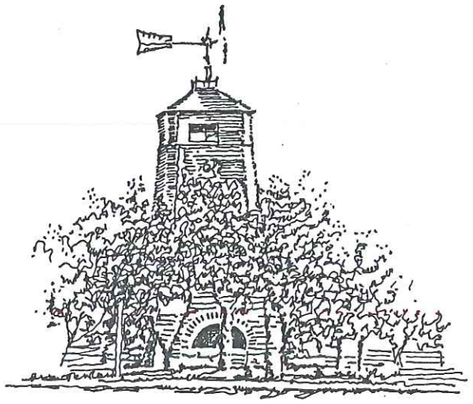
Figure 40: Drawings, tanks and windmills, c. 1903. All illustrations above have been drawn from photographs in Knight, Thomas A. *The Country Estates of Cleveland Men*, 1903. The various estates are located in the Lake County Region.



Leodoro Farms Octagon tank had a belvedere but no windmill.



Mr. E. W. Moore had a tank as part of the farm complex, the windmill was nearby.



Timber and stone, the Garfield machine must have been the envy of the neighborhood.



Colonel Pond had a tank which served to support the fan.

All illustrations above have been drawn from photographs in Knight, Thomas A. The Country Estates of Cleveland Men, 1903
The various estates are located in the Lake County Region.

Figure 41: Antique and modern rams, and a force pump. All illustrations above have been drawn from photographs in Knight, Thomas A. *The Country Estates of Cleveland Men*, 1903. The various estates are located in the Lake County Region.

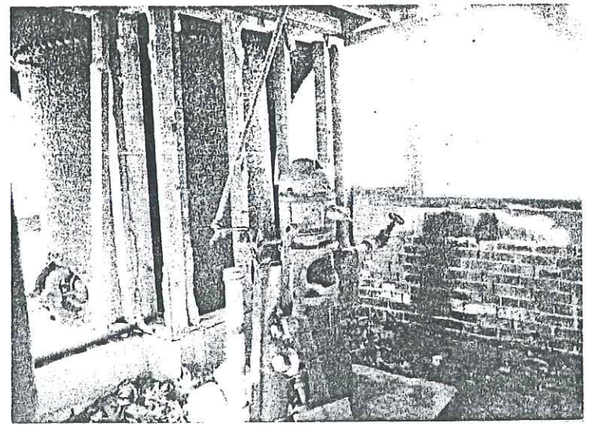


Figure 42: A view of the interior of the pumphouse as it appears today, showing the Myers shallow well pump mounted on a plinth directly over the well. The pump is driven by a General Electric Motor. A conduit and pressure switch box may be seen at the left of the pump. This mechanism, or its predecessor was capable of keeping the cistern in the house full, and could have been a source of supply for all of the domestic water required on the compound. The pressure tanks in the background were doubtless put in place after the supply tanks beneath the windmill were dismantled. The pump/motor arrangement shown above is a post-1939 force pump. This would have followed the hot air engine and windmill as prime movers for water. Photo: The Westerly Group, Inc.

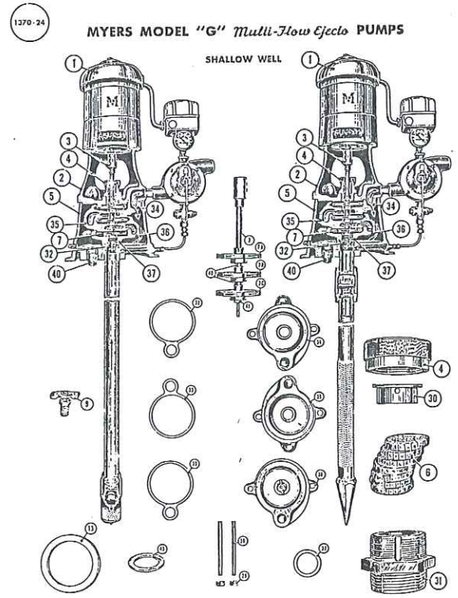


Figure 43: Two types of Myers Model "G" pumps. Illustrations: Myers Pump Company.

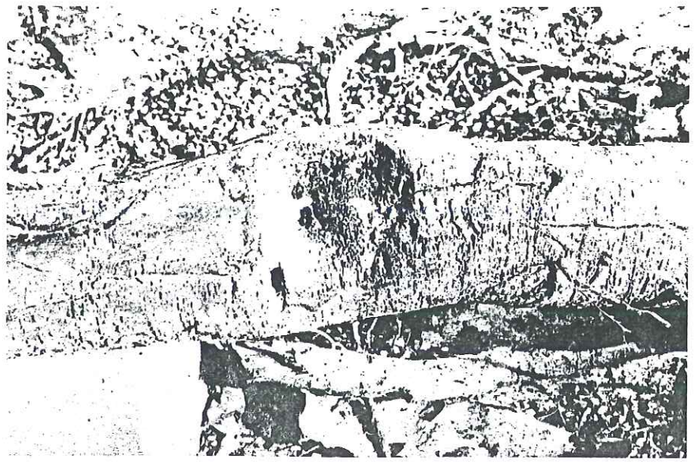


Figure 44: An 8" diameter Maple tree root, excavated from a test pit dug during the winter of 1991. The dent in the root is an impression created by an overlaying vitrified clay tile pipe which is a portion of the storm drain system from the house. The tree proved to be over 80 years old. The tile could be much older. Photo: The Westerly Group, Inc.

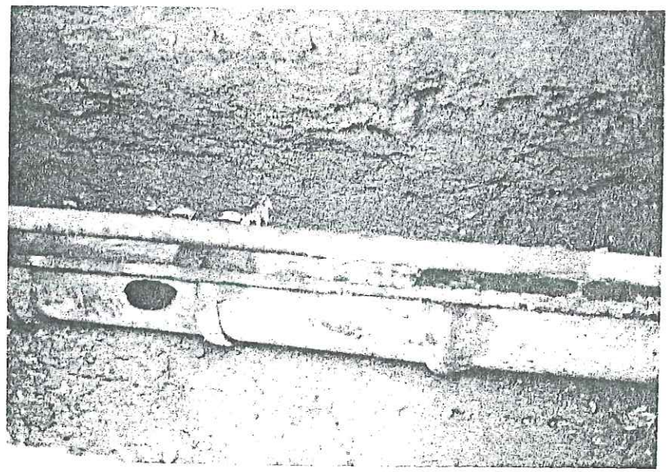


Figure 45: A photograph of an open test pit north of the Garfield house, taken in 1991. The largest conduit is an 8" diameter vitrified clay pipe. It is in sound condition. The smaller pipe on top is a 1 ½" water supply. The hole serves to admit a miniature television camera for inspection of the interior. This pipe has a downward slope, to the north. Photo: The Westerly Group, Inc.

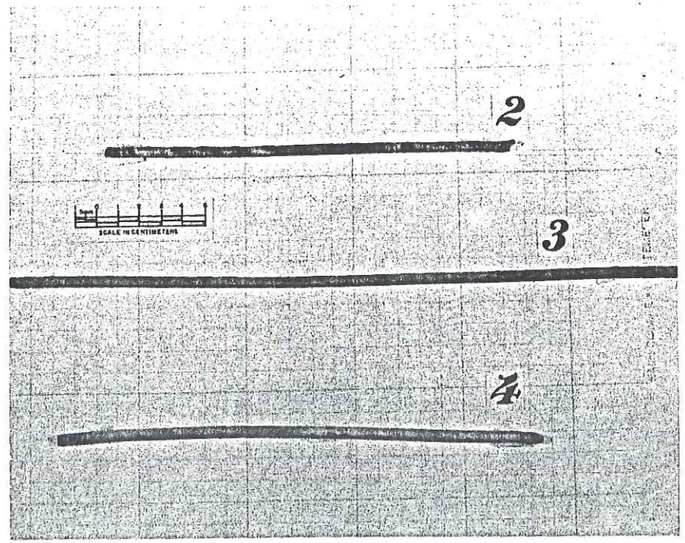


Figure 46: Tree cores from the Weeping European Beech off the north east corner of the Library (3), the Silver Maple on the back lawn (4) and from the largest Maple in the sprout area (2). 1991. Photo: The Westerly Group, Inc.

NOTES ABOUT THE HISTORIC MAPS: The authors have reproduced all of the historic maps available for the Garfield farm at Mentor. The original maps are at various scales and in many cases quite difficult to read. Annotations as to types of trees, tree calipers and spot grades are obscure. However, our primary aim has been to transcribe the maps onto translucent material so that they could be overlaid one above the other, chronologically, to check locations and longevity of trees, the relocation of buildings and the development of lanes and features. These drawings have, in some cases, been cropped to approximately conform to the present Lawnfield boundaries which also serves to make them larger and more easily read.

Three of the most important historic maps are shown in reduced scale in their entirety in addition to the large-scale, cropped versions. They have not been cropped but have been reduced to fit within the report format. The maps are: The partial site plan circa 1895 (possibly a telephone Co. R.O.W. drawing, it locates telephone poles along the RR R. O. W.); Landscape plan of J. Wilkinson Elliott, 1900; the 1924 Survey.