

Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve

Trail Guide

In 1921, Marshall Field III purchased 1,750 acres of Lloyd Neck land to create one large estate. He named the land after its Matinecock Indian name, Caumsett, which means “place by a sharp rock.”

Mr. Field created a self-sufficient English-style estate as a combination country club, hunting preserve and home complete with its own water and electrical supply. Most of the buildings on the estate were designed by architect John Russell Pope, who had designed the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C. When the estate was finished, it had facilities for most sports except golf. During its peak, more than one hundred people were employed at Caumsett, tending to the extensive gardens, polo ponies, cattle herd, and, of course, the family and their numerous guests.

Acquired by New York State in 1961, Caumsett State Historic Park’s extensive forests, meadows and waterways provide habitats for a variety of flora and fauna. The diversity of the park’s environment and its limited access to vehicles make it one of Long Island’s best places for relaxation and enjoyment of nature. Hiking, bird watching, nature photography, nature study and fishing are among the many activities visitors may pursue. Guided nature tours are led throughout the park focusing on many aspects of the Caumsett environment and Long Island in general.

This booklet takes you on a 4-mile journey through Caumsett’s woodlands, open meadows, freshwater pond and, ultimately, to Long Island Sound. You will look into the past and read how some of America’s wealthiest people lived and played on what was once called “The Gold Coast.” The roads are mainly flat, though the road to Long Island Sound is steep and can be difficult. There are, however, a number of benches along the road for rest stops. At a normal walking pace, with occasional stops to read the booklet or look at things, the full walk will take about 2 hours. There are no restrooms or drinking fountains between the Park Office and the Master’s Garage comfort station. During warm sunny weather, portions of the walk become extremely hot. Please drink liberal amounts of water and stop to rest when necessary. Restrooms are available at the Park Office area as well as in the Master’s Garage.

This booklet is not an identification guide to every plant and animal found in the park, nor is it a detailed historic piece. Instead, it is intended to highlight some of the interesting, natural and historic features of the park. If you find that you have more questions, please stop at the Information Kiosk or the Park Office. Check out our website at: www.caumsettfoundation.org

Finally, as much as we hope this booklet will enhance your park experience, remember that the park is a beautiful and wondrous place at any time of year. Spend most of your time here looking, listening and just enjoying the surroundings. You are sure to discover more about Caumsett State Historic Park by walking slowly and keeping your eyes and ears open.

#1 The Farm Group & Cobblestone Road



The polo stable 1934

Our journey begins by the Visitors’ (Information) Kiosk located at the edge of the road. Feel free to spend a few moments at the kiosk’s exhibits before continuing on.

The buildings of the farm group were designed by architect Alfred Hopkins. Completed in 1923, the Caumsett Farms' Dairy was home to Marshall Field III's prize-winning herd of Guernsey cattle. The Caumsett herd, consisting of up to 100 cows and bulls, was renowned for its production of milk with a high-butterfat content, and set several records. Each of the estate's residential staff (± 85 people) received several quarts or more of fresh milk from the farm daily. The remainder was marketed in Huntington Village. The herd was sold in 1957, about one year after Marshall Field III's death, to Mr. Henry C. Vernier of High Meadow Farms. The Dairy Complex, undergoing restoration by the Caumsett Foundation, is currently used by Park Administration for offices, workshops, and storage. In its day, the Complex included the Estate Manager's office, as well as a men's and women's dormitory that housed 15 dairy employees. Please make note of the stone marker behind the main barn that commemorates six of Caumsett Farms' prize-winning cows.

The dairy was part of a larger farm group that included the bullpens (still located behind the barns), stables and chicken coops. Some of the original buildings have been removed. Walk up the cobblestone road through the farm group, then take the dirt road to the connection with the Main Drive by the Equestrian Center.

#2 The Living Fence

If left alone, land environments on Long Island eventually grow into forests. This fence line has been uncut for nearly two decades and has grown into a dense thicket of vines and small trees. The common tree in the fencerow is Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), which has unusually shaped leaves and is often called "The Mitten Tree." Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) also does very well in this type of environment and grows heavily along the fence. Farmers would often encourage the growth of these "living fences" – they are good windbreaks and provide shade for livestock. Wild fencerows are also excellent havens for wildlife, including chipmunks, squirrels and rabbits. Many species of birds that take shelter within the thickets feed on the berries and seeds found here.

#3 Scenic Road Design

The Main Drive was more than just a way to get to the Main House - it was an important part of the Caumsett experience. The transition from open, sunny fields to shady woodlands is sudden. The way the road curves and dips into the dark forest is a deliberate landscaping technique, used to create an air of mystery and a sense of anticipation about what lies ahead. As you travel on, you will begin to catch glimpses of the next landscape, framed by the woods alongside the road. This landscaping technique was pioneered by Frederick Law Olmsted in Central Park, and was passed on to his associates and sons, who designed Caumsett's grounds for Marshall Field III. This effect is used throughout the estate, especially on the approach to the Main House.

If you have the good fortune of being here in spring you will be treated to the annual daffodil show. Mr. Field's first wife, Evelyn, instructed Mr. Gillies to plant daffodils to cover soil left bare by construction. Gillies complied, planting some 250,000 bulbs around the estate, including a large grouping here. The remaining daffodils are descendants of those planted in 1926.

#4 Beech Tree Field



The centerpiece of this field, and one of the most popular destinations in the park, is the gigantic American Beech tree (*Fagus grandifolia*). Although there are no records of its planting, this tree was almost certainly placed here for its beauty. The tree shows the magnificent form trees can take when free of close competition with other trees. Note its full, round shape and low-hanging limbs. In a forest setting, trees often shed their lower branches

because they do not receive enough light. A close inspection reveals three considerable trunks growing close together. Whether this is a single tree with three trunks growing from common roots, or if it is three individual trees growing closely together is unclear. Unfortunately, over the years, this specimen has been damaged and defaced. Please refrain from climbing or cutting into the tree.

The other trees in the field, though large in their own right, are dwarfed by the Beech. They include a White Oak (*Quercus alba*) and Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*). From a distance you can distinguish between them from their foliage and from their differing bark. Black Oak leaves are a darker green than the White Oak, while the bark of the White Oak is lighter gray and shaggy looking. Although the oaks and the beech look very different, they are part of the same family of plants. One of the characteristics they share is that the dead leaves usually remain on the branches throughout the winter. During winter, if you look to the right of the American Beech tree, you may catch a glimpse of the two water towers beyond the trees bordering the field. These towers held a combined capacity of 175,000 gallons of water. Groundwater was pumped up into the towers from a well located 1.5 miles away; gravity did the work of supplying the estate's water needs.

#5 Gamekeeper's Cottage & Kennels



One of Marshall Field III's passions was hunting and Caumsett served as something of his private hunting club. The dirt road on the right leads to the location of the Gamekeeper's Cottage and dog kennels. The road on the left side leads to the site of the pheasant pens. The estate's gamekeeper, Douglas Marshall, was responsible for raising pheasants and training Field's hunting dogs. Mr. Marshall bred and housed about 5,000 ring-necked pheasants in the pens, the ruins of which are still visible along the dirt road to the left of the Main Drive. Further down that road are the water towers and the maze-like hunting area, where the pheasant hunts were held each fall. Several hundred birds were released into the woods the morning of the hunt and then men called "beaters" and their dogs flushed the pheasants out of the woods towards clearings where Field and his friends were stationed with their guns. At the end of the day, the hunters returned to the Main House for a pheasant dinner. Although hundreds of birds were shot during the hunts, many pheasants managed to escape the hunters' guns. Their descendants can occasionally still be seen roaming in the woods and fields of the park.

All that remains of the buildings in this area are some foundations and fence posts. Two long clearings mark the location of the outdoor part of the pheasant pens. The ruins are interesting to look at, but all of the buildings – the kennels, the Gamekeeper's Cottage and the pheasant pens – are gone. The building remnants are largely overgrown by the forest. For your safety, please do not explore the ruins or climb or walk on them.

#6 Forest View

This stretch of road allows us a glimpse of something rare for Long Island in the 21st Century. Namely, large stretches of relatively undisturbed forest. The forest area on the left (west) side of the road has been allowed to grow undisturbed for more than 100 years. While there was much clearing of the land for buildings, pastures and roads, a great deal of the property's forested areas were left alone. These mature woodlands are important havens for the park's diverse wildlife.

Looking into the forest you can see the “layered” look that is typical of the deciduous forest. The branches of the tallest trees meet to form a canopy that casts everything below in dense shade. Below this is an understory (or subcanopy), consisting of smaller trees. The understory includes trees that will eventually grow up into the canopy as well as small trees, like the Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), that reach a maximum height of 20 feet or so. The shrub layer, composed mostly of bushes that are about the height of a person, is obvious in this stretch of woods, and is dominated here by Maple Leafed Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*). Finally, there is the ground layer, home to wildflowers, and the place where everything in the forest ends up. Not comfortable with woods coming too close to the road, the planners and estate managers cut back the forest along either side of the road leaving a strip of mowed areas on either side of the drive. A number of trees were left standing and others were allowed to grow in order to keep the road shaded. Throughout the year these mowed strips are excellent places for observing wildflowers, such as pink wild geraniums and many violets in the spring and asters in late summer and fall.

#7 To the Bathhouse...



This path will take you down to the seashore at the now-demolished Master’s Bathhouse. It is approximately 1/2 mile to the seashore, and will likely add 40 minutes or so to your journey. With the exception of this part of the trail, the road to the bathhouse is flat. If time is short or you’re not up for the climb back up the road, you may skip to #13 in the guide book and proceed to the Main House. Come back again when you have more time, for the trip is well worth it.

#8 Forest Floor

The gray-green coating on the rocks of the retaining wall on your right are lichens. Lichens (part plant, part fungus) illustrate the concept of mutualism—two associated organisms that benefit each other. In this case, the fungus provides important nutrients and minerals that are used by the plant (algae) to produce sugars. The sugars are then shared with the fungus and provide it with nutrients. Lichens are also known as pioneer organisms because of their ability to grow on bare rock. They are an important part of soil formation and help improve soil conditions, which allow other types of plants to become established.

The road cutting and retaining wall allows you to look at the forest floor up close, without having to get your knees dirty. The forest floor is the recycling center of the forest. Dead leaves, branches and limbs, animal wastes and remains – all this comes to rest on the floor of the forest. Invisible bacteria and microbes, fungi and small invertebrates (i.e. animals without backbones) begin to decompose these items, releasing valuable nutrients back into the soil. This recycling process enables the soil to sustain the forest.

The steep slope on this hillside is carpeted with different mosses. Mosses are simple plants that need cool, moist environments in which to grow. Under the right condition, they raise their small spore capsules into the air like miniature flagpoles and release millions of microscopic spores into the air. If the spores land in a suitable environment, the spores will germinate and form the next generation of moss.

#9 Triangle Field

This field was cleared for just such a purpose. Up the hill to the right is a sheer stone wall that leads to the Sunken Garden, Long Garden and Boxwood Garden on the west side of the Main House. Off of the Boxwood Garden is the Rock Garden, which leads down to the Fresh Water Pond. The Sunken Garden was commissioned by Audrey

Field (Mr. Field's second wife) and was terraced down to the bottom of the field. During its prime, one could stand on the terrace and look out over the clearing to Long Island Sound and Roosevelt Cove. For safety reasons the area is now closed.

#10 The Fresh Water Pond



The Fresh Water Pond with Long Island Sound in the Background

The Fresh Water Pond dates back to the arrival of the earliest settlers of Lloyd Neck and is shown on maps dated from 1685. When Field constructed Caumsett the existing pond was drained and dynamited, a series of drains and aerators was installed, and trout were stocked for sport fishing. The concrete structure in the woods to the right is a remnant of the circulation system. The pond today is home to a rich variety of aquatic life, including Largemouth Bass, Bluegill Sunfish, frogs, both Spring Peepers and Bullfrogs, Eastern Painted Turtles and a large number of waterfowl.

There are two sections of the pond separated by a low rock dam. The section in front of you is only about 2 feet deep; however, the bottom is covered with a thick, gooey mud that is an additional two feet or so deep. The mud is the result of years of accumulating sediment from runoff and debris from the surrounding trees. The mud is home to an astounding variety of benthic (bottom-dwelling) animals, notably immature dragonflies, damselflies, beetles, leeches, snails and aquatic worms. The shore on this side of the pond is lined with Tupelo/Black Gum trees (*Nyssa sylvatica*). The leaves of the Tupelo are among the first to change color in autumn. In late September and early October, this side of the pond comes ablaze with the brilliant scarlet of its leaves.

If you follow the gravel drive to the southern shore of the pond you will see the dam. Here the pond opens up and the water is sunny, clear and deep (up to 15 feet at its deepest). The bottom of the large part of the pond is mostly sandy, lacking the thick muddy layer of the smaller section. In summer the air above the pond is filled with many iridescent dragonflies. Geese, ducks and gulls seek safety near the center of the pond, while Barn, Tree and Rough-winged Swallows swoop back and forth above the water, catching flying insects. You can often surprise a large Great Blue Heron, Snow-White or Great Egret hunting fish in the shallows if you are quiet and move slowly. Please, no swimming or fishing.

#11 Bathhouse Road

The dense woods along either side of this path are an example of well-developed woodland. To the left, the woods are mainly a mix of oak and hickory. On the right-hand side, where the land is flatter and slightly damper owing to the proximity of the pond, wet ground trees and shrubs like Red Maple, Pepperbush and Black Gum/Tupelo begin to dominate. This stretch of woodlands is extremely rich in bird life, particularly during the spring and fall warbler migration. At location #11 is a large Paulownia tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*), also known as the Princess tree. Native to Asia, a number of Paulownias were planted around the estate for their beauty. Each spring the tree bears spikes of light purple flowers that grace the canopy before most trees have fully leafed out. The dried seed pods remain on the tree until the following spring. This Paulownia tree is also notable for the thick growth of Poison Ivy climbing up its trunk. The vine's fibrous brown rootlets are used to cling to the tree's trunk and enable the Poison Ivy to grow well up into the host tree. In winter the vines look like hairy rope.

#12 Master's Bathhouse Area

This area is rich in historic as well as natural diversity. The Master's Bathhouse was one of several recreation centers on the estate. The Fields enjoyed swimming either in Long Island Sound or in the in-ground swimming pool in front of the bathhouse. This area also has a number of interesting natural features, including the seashore and a vernal pond. The following sections deal with each of these areas in detail.

Tennis Courts



The outdoor tennis courts, now long gone, stood in the area to the left of the road. The surroundings of the courts were moderately landscaped at Field's direction. Some of the original plantings, mainly cedars, Japanese Yew (*Taxus*), Forsythia and Rugose Rose remain visible. Along with a few fence posts, over the years, the courts have become overgrown with vines, including Bittersweet, Poison Ivy, small trees and shrubs. The vines and dense thickets provide fine nesting areas for Gray Catbirds; listen for their mewling, cat-like calls throughout the summer.

Master's Bathhouse & Seashore

The Master's Bathhouse was a small, shingled building that stood at the top of the rise overlooking Long Island Sound. It featured men's and ladies' changing rooms and showers, a functioning kitchen and a lounge with a fireplace. In front of the bathhouse was an in-ground pool filled with filtered saltwater. To protect the bathhouse, a stone jetty was constructed on the beach to minimize erosion and the bluff was shored up with fill and rubble. The foundation of the building is once again clearly visible from the beach.

The rocky north shore of Long Island was formed from the deposits left by two separate glaciers and the subsequent erosion of those deposits over thousands of years. Most of the randomly scattered boulders along the beach (especially farther to the west) simply fell to the beach as rain, wind, and gravity removed the surrounding soil. Here at the bathhouse, however, the rocks piled out in the water were deliberately placed to minimize beach erosion. A second jetty is visible to the right (east). The jetties trap moving sand, which is deposited in the area in between them. During low tide, the sand bar becomes visible and was presumably the main bathing area for the Fields and their guests. Beyond the eastern jetty (out of sight from the Master's Bathhouse), Field had a row of changing rooms erected for the use of his employees.

Vernal Pond

Just southeast of the bathhouse (across from the circular driveway with the 2-mile marker) is a patch of dense, rough vegetation, screened along its western edge by a thick growth of young trees. This is the Vernal (pertaining to spring) Pond. In the spring, this low-lying ground collects water, which can be as much as four or five inches deep. Most of the plants here are adapted to wet conditions. On damp days and nights in March and April, the Vernal Pond is the site of mass mating of Spring Peepers (*Hyla crucifer*), small tree frogs with big voices. The male frog's mating call, a high-pitched "peep peep peep" is deafening, as hundreds of males gather in the area. Despite the numbers, the peepers are remarkably difficult to find, as they hide among the clumps of grass and in the low shrubs. The water in the Vernal Pond typically dries up by mid-summer, which gives the frogs' young tadpoles ample time to reach adulthood and leave the water for the nearby forest.

The Spring Peepers, along with fellow park amphibians like the Bullfrog (*Rana catesbiana*) and Red-backed Salamander (*Plethodon cinereus*), are often indicators of environmental quality. Amphibians are very sensitive to

toxic chemicals in the environment, and have suffered as a result of pollutants in many parts of the country. These animals are an important part of the ecosystem, here and outside the Park. Please respect this particular habitat.

#13 The Main House & Surroundings



After two and one-half years of construction, the Fields moved into the Main House in December, 1925. The building, designed by John Russell Pope, had 108 rooms, 13 fireplaces and 3 massive, coal-fired furnaces. Twenty-two people were employed full-time in the house when it first opened, living in the large servants' wing on the east end of the house. The interior of the house was richly furnished and decorated with a heavy English and European influence. Despite the time and expense in building and maintaining the house and grounds, Caumsett was essentially a part-time residence for the Field family. In addition to Caumsett, the Fields maintained homes in New York City, Chicago, Maine and South Carolina (a plantation of 13,000 acres).

By 1950 the Fields' needs had changed, and the costs of maintaining Caumsett were increasing. Ruth Field (Field's third wife) decided to have the house remodeled. Two sections of the Main House, one from each end, were removed, including the living room and master bedroom suite from the west wing, and the servants' quarters from the east wing. The interiors were altered, with the pantry, kitchens and dining rooms being moved. When the renovations were completed, the house contained "just" 64 rooms. Approximately 40 rooms were removed from the house, which reduced operating costs and taxes. According to Mrs. Field, the remodeling was done primarily because the house "...was just too big, period."

The grounds around the Main House are still magnificent, and show many of the features with which the estate was designed. The north side of the house has a spectacular view down to the Fresh Water Pond and Long Island Sound. Some 40,000 cubic yards of earth were moved around to enhance the hill and create the panorama we have today. It is surely one of the best views on Long Island.

#14 The Gardens

On the west side of the Main House are the Boxwood and Long Gardens. This area was designed by the famed landscape architecture firm founded by Frederick Law Olmsted, with substantial input from Evelyn Field, Mr. Field's first wife. A walk through the Long Garden today offers just a hint of the former splendor of the garden. Several statues filled the niches in the brick wall that ran along the garden. To your right is the entrance to the Rock Garden. The stones used to create this garden were moved from various locations on the estate. In spring the apple trees in the garden bloom beautifully, and at the end of the Long Garden is the gate that leads to the Sunken Garden.

The Front Lawn

Scattered around the immense front lawn are several gigantic Littleleaf Lindens (*Tilia cordata*). These lindens, the two Red Maples on the north side of the house, and several large trees near the Dairy were transplanted to the estate from other locations on Long Island after they were fully grown. One tree measured 78 feet tall when moved. Another was so large that it had to be transported to the estate on a barge. These trees were probably a minimum of 50 years old when moved, which would make them more than 125 today.

#15 Garage, Tennis Courts & Dinham's Cottage

The Service Drive for the first half mile beyond the Main House includes two remaining buildings and the remnants of two additional buildings. The remaining buildings are the 10-car garage, built in 1925 which is now converted into a public restroom facility, and Dinham's cottage, built in 1939. The lost structures included an indoor tennis court building and an additional cottage, located between the garage and Dinham's cottage, which was used by Field's head mechanic. The residence was a cottage similar in style to the one next door. It occupied the flat meadow area next to Dinham's cottage. The indoor tennis court building was on the right side of the road as you leave the Main House. The driveway to the tennis courts, though overgrown, is still visible, as are portions of the building's foundation. This building had, in addition to the lighted tennis courts, an attached building with men's and ladies' changing rooms, a kitchen and an apartment.

The heavy plantings of Rhododendron and Mountain Laurels in the woods here are not only beautiful, especially in late spring and early summer when in flower, but functional as well. The dense, evergreen shrubs are a visual barrier, shielding the drive and "pleasure areas" of the grounds from the service areas on the east side of the house.

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Invaders

Prior to colonization, the forest in this area was mostly undisturbed. The Native Americans in the area undoubtedly cleared land for settlements, hunted and probably burned some of the forest. Because of their small numbers, the impacts were most likely small. With the arrival of European settlers, however, that changed. More demands were made on the forest as the population grew, and the need for homes, agricultural land, firewood and lumber increased. One of the unexpected side effects of human activity, which is of great concern to scientists, is the impact of invasive vegetation growing along this next mile of roadway.

Invasive species are aggressive plants or animals that push out native (that is, those which occur here naturally) species. The invaders here, mostly wild grape and Oriental bittersweet vines, grow rapidly up into the surrounding trees and shrubs. Their leaves hang over the branches of the host plant, and actually 'steal' the sunlight needed for growth. This can, and often does, lead to the death of the host plant and also prevents new trees and shrubs from growing. They not only kill host plants. The invasives grow so quickly and in such numbers that they can prevent other things from growing. The lack of diversity in plant life can lead to a lack of diversity in animal life. The invasive plants become established in areas that have been disturbed, either from human activity such as road and home

building, or from natural tree falls. The vines often take on unusual and grotesque shapes as they crawl over the surrounding plants.

Vines are not all bad, however. The fruit of grape and bittersweet are food for a number of animals, especially birds, and the dense tangles provide cover and protection from predators. All in all, however, this type of growth can eat into a forest and lower the overall diversity of its flora and fauna.

#16 Polo Fields & Meadows

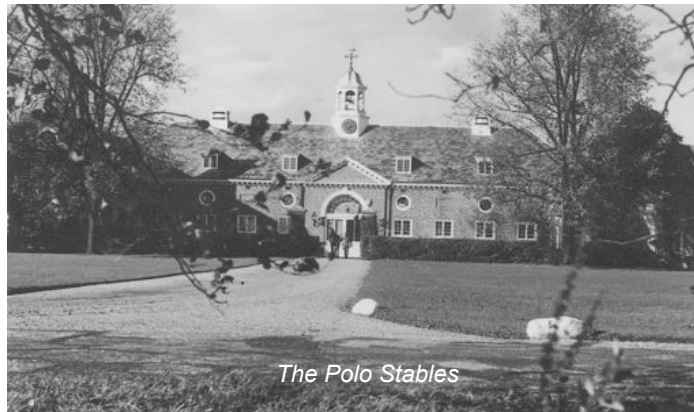
There are several side views into the meadows from the road. Note the differences between those meadows that are allowed to grow wild and those that are maintained as a close-cropped lawn. Park management allows many of the fields to grow wild. These meadows are mowed once or twice a year and develop a beautiful growth of tall grass and wildflowers. Summer wildflowers in the meadows include Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirsuta*).

In the fall various species of Goldenrods (*Solidago*) dominate. These meadows are important havens for insects like spiders, and small mammals such as shrews and voles. Many birds, including Red-winged Blackbirds, Sparrows and Meadowlarks, take advantage of the thick cover and abundant plant and animal food in the meadows. The polo fields are quite different from the wildflower meadows. The grass is kept short for the benefit of horse and rider. In the winter large flocks of Canadian geese feed on the grass; in the spring they are joined by Killdeer.

#17 Conifer Grove

Along the road are two species of coniferous (cone bearing) trees. Which is which? The Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) has long, soft needles that attach to the branch in bundles of five. Its branches spread straight out from the tree trunk. The Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) has short, sharp needles that attach to the branch individually. Spruce branches droop towards the ground. Both trees are important to wildlife; the evergreen branches give shelter in the winter and the seeds found in the cones are food for many animals.

#18 Polo Stables & Crossroads



Like the Main House, the Polo Stables were designed by architect John Russell Pope in the same style. The building has stalls for 16 horses. The stables were ornamented with a matching pair of working fountains and a clock tower. Apartments in the building were home to several staff who worked in the stables. Riding was an important part of life at Caumsett. The Polo Stables and fields are now operated by Lloyd Harbor Equestrian Center, a private concessionaire and are not open to the public.

The small, white house to the side of the stables is currently the residence of Caumsett's Park Manager. During Marshall Field's time, this house was occupied by two families that lived on the estate, including the head groom of the Polo Stables. Please respect the privacy of the family and stay on the road here.

Crossroads

Although Marshall Field III treated his employees well, proper etiquette required most of the estate's employees to remain separate and out of sight from the family and their guests, including on the roads. The road you have followed from the Main House thus far, and which continues straight ahead, is called the Service Drive, and was used by employees and deliverymen. To the right and left is the Main Drive, used by the Fields and their company. To the left it passes between the Winter and Summer Cottages and out the estate's Main Entry Gate. To the right it meanders up to the Main House.

The tree immediately to the right is a Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*). In September and October, one must be wary when standing next to this tree since it frequently drops its large, heavy walnuts to the ground! Once the thick, green husks are split open, the nuts inside are eagerly eaten (or buried) by the park's squirrels.

#19 Summer Cottage & Henry Lloyd Manor House

Further to the left, out in the field beyond the road, is an overgrown Boxwood Garden that was part of the landscape of the Summer Cottage. The Summer Cottage was built in 1939 to provide extra space for guests. Ruth Field, Mr. Field's third and last wife, moved to the Summer Cottage in 1961 after selling the bulk of the estate to the Long Island State Parks and Recreation Commission. She moved out of Caumsett for good in 1966. The Summer Cottage is now used as an environmental and outdoor educational facility by the Nassau County Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

If you take the road to the right, you will come to the original, entry gate of the estate. Located here are the Henry Lloyd Manor House, barn and "Daffodil Hill." Lloyd Manor, built in 1711, and sometimes called the 1711 House, is being restored and operated by the Lloyd Harbor Historical Society. "Daffodil Hill" is so named because it was one of the sites extensively planted with daffodils by Mr. Gillies. In the spring, more than 75 years later, the daffodils still put on a dazzling show.

#20 The Winter Cottage

Along with some of the servants' quarters near the Farm group, the Winter Cottage was the first residence to be completed on the estate in 1923, and was used by the Fields until the completion of the Main House in 1925. The building, like most on the estate, was designed by famed architect, John Russell Pope. Note the sundial on the face of the chimney. The Winter Cottage's grounds were designed by Marian Coffin, a well-regarded landscape architect of the day. The design for the building and grounds was very naturalistic—designed to blend with the natural surroundings. The intricate plantings included 150 rhododendrons, cedars, boxwoods, hemlocks and heather.

The Clark House

At the far end of the field to your left is the former site of the Clark House, home to John Spencer Clark. Clark was the estate manager for Marshall Field III. He also ran the Dairy Complex. The two-story house had a commanding view of the waters of Lloyd Harbor. Unfortunately the house was destroyed by fire, though portions of its foundations are still visible. From here you may also see the remains of the greenhouses' foundations.

The Walled Garden



On your left you will see a brick wall that surrounds the Walled Garden. Enter the south gate across from the farm group. Under the supervision of George Gillies, the head gardener, this 4-acre garden supplied fresh fruit, vegetables, herbs, and flowers for the Fields' dinner table, and fresh flowers to beautify the houses of the estate from the 1920s to the 1950s. A group of 10 greenhouses stood behind the garden and also kept the estate well-provided with flowers and fruit throughout the year. A cottage behind the garden was home to the estate's head gardener and his family.

Louise Gillies, George's wife, recalled the bean poles along the south wall of the garden and the honeydews, so beloved by Mr. Field, in the greenhouse. Some of the estate workers' families remember the delicious cherries that grew in the area surrounding the Walled Garden. Flowers also were cultivated to be shown in various horticultural

shows in the New York-Metropolitan area. Many of the flowers were prized specimens or estate hybrid varieties. Notice the three statues, originally purchased by the Fields, which accent the beauty of the plantings.

Beyond the wall to the east side of the garden (an area not open to the public and deemed unsafe), through the gate, you can catch a glimpse of the Fields' greenhouses. Dangerously neglected and in disrepair, the greenhouses are examples that the price of neglect is oblivion, destruction, and decay.

After many years of decay, the Walled Garden has been restored through a cooperative project between the Caumsett Foundation and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Stop and sit on one of the beautiful teak benches. The fountain, with a boxwood garden centerpiece, attracts many species of birds that frequent the park. A cultural arts series of programs is presented in the Walled Garden during the summer months. A schedule of events is posted in the kiosk, the last stop before the completion of this walk.

Finally...The Visitors' Kiosk

As you return to the parking area, be sure to stop at the kiosk put up by the Caumsett Foundation for some further information on programs, permits for fishing or upcoming events. Remember that there is far more to see and do here – there's the salt marsh, more beaches with magnificent views, fields and forests to explore, a saltwater fishing area, bike riding and educational programs. Also, you can get updated information on events and programs as well as this trail guide with correlating photographs at: www.caumsettfoundation.org.

We hope that you've enjoyed your guided walk through the park and that you will come back again and again.

The Caumsett Foundation

The Caumsett Foundation, founded in 1995 by a group of local citizens, has been recognized as a model "friends group." To this day, the Foundation has no paid employees. It works closely with New York State Parks and the community toward a common mission: **to support and enhance Caumsett State Historic Park as a unique and historic environment. We are dedicated to education, low-impact recreation, historic and environmental preservation and conservation of the scenic value, natural heritage and cultural history of the former Marshall Field III estate.**

The Foundation's projects, done in conjunction with New York State Parks, have been broad and extensive. We have transformed the Walled Garden from four overgrown acres of weeds and brambles to a place of serene beauty for quiet contemplation or for a spirited theatrical performance. We have meticulously restored the historic Dairy Barn Complex, which was almost beyond repair and have replaced the roof on the Polo Stable, the park's most architecturally significant building. We sponsor hands-on educational programs and a cultural arts series in the spring and summer months for families and children. While much has been accomplished, there is much more to do. We pledge to continue our work to enhance this magnificent park not only for current visitors, but also for generations to come. Our thanks to the many community members who give so generously of their time, effort and financial support to the Caumsett Foundation.

We hope you enjoyed your guided tour of the park and will consider becoming a member of the Caumsett Foundation, which made this Trail Guide available to you. Members are invited to several annual events such as the Annual Spring Egg Hunt, the Summer Cultural Art Series, members-only events, and an invitation to the Foundation's Annual Fall Benefit.

The Caumsett Foundation, Inc.
c/o Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve
25 Lloyd Harbor Road
Lloyd Neck, NY 11743

Membership Categories

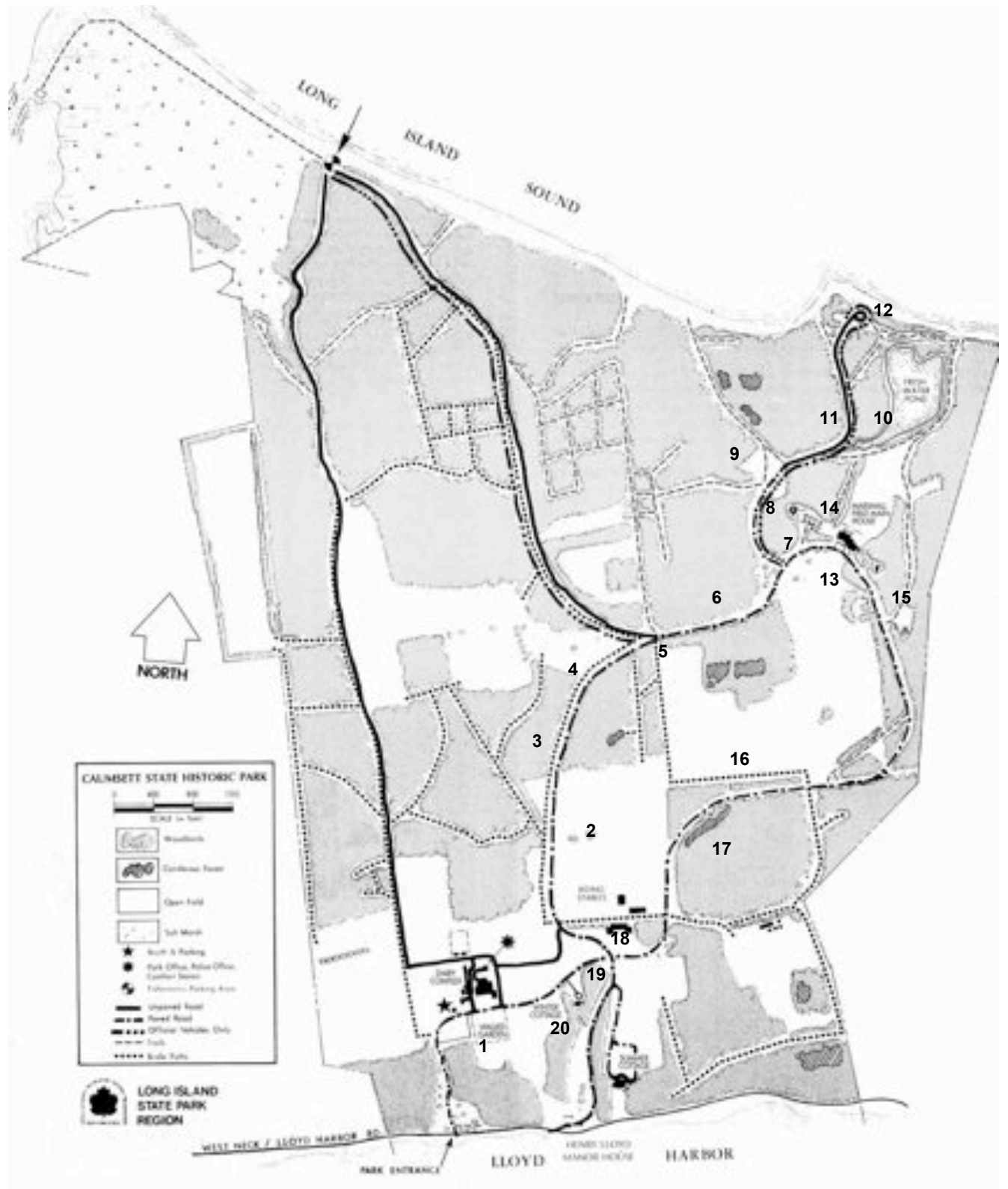
Basic Membership	\$40
Students and Senior Members	\$35
Family Membership	\$60
Supporting Membership*	\$150
Sustaining Membership**	\$300
Patron Membership**	\$500
Benefactor**	\$1000
Receives an Empire Passport for one(*) or two(**) cars that allows free parking to all New York State parks and historic sites.	

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Trail Guide Map