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History of Post-Morrow

The Post-Morrow Foundation, Inc. is located in the Hamlet of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York. Its principal office is at 16 Bay Road, Brookhaven, NY 11719.

Conceived by Thomas and Elisabeth Post Morrow and established in 1969, the Foundation is dedicated to the preservation of the rural countryside character of the Hamlet and the surrounding areas. Through the acquisition of properties, either by gift or purchase, the Foundation seeks to establish a nature preserve and sanctuary for the benefit and enjoyment of the immediate community. The preservation of Beaver Dam Creek, where the Foundation owns over 60 acres, is a priority.

The Post and Morrow families have had a long tradition of philanthropy in the community. James H. Post purchased the land along Carman's River, now known as Squassux Landing, which was later donated to the Brookhaven Village Association for use as a marina. The land upon which the Brookhaven Free Library is situated was another gift. Elisabeth Post Morrow continued the tradition of her father by donating various gifts to community groups, mostly anonymously. It was the hope of the Morrows that this legacy be continued through the establishment of the Post-Morrow Foundation, Inc.

Post-Morrow Foundation **NEWSLETTER**

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To Save A Creek

For the last several years, the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex and the Post-Morrow Foundation, along with several partners, have struggled mightily against the deprivations of development, to restore a wetland area at the mouth of Beaver Dam Creek in Brookhaven.

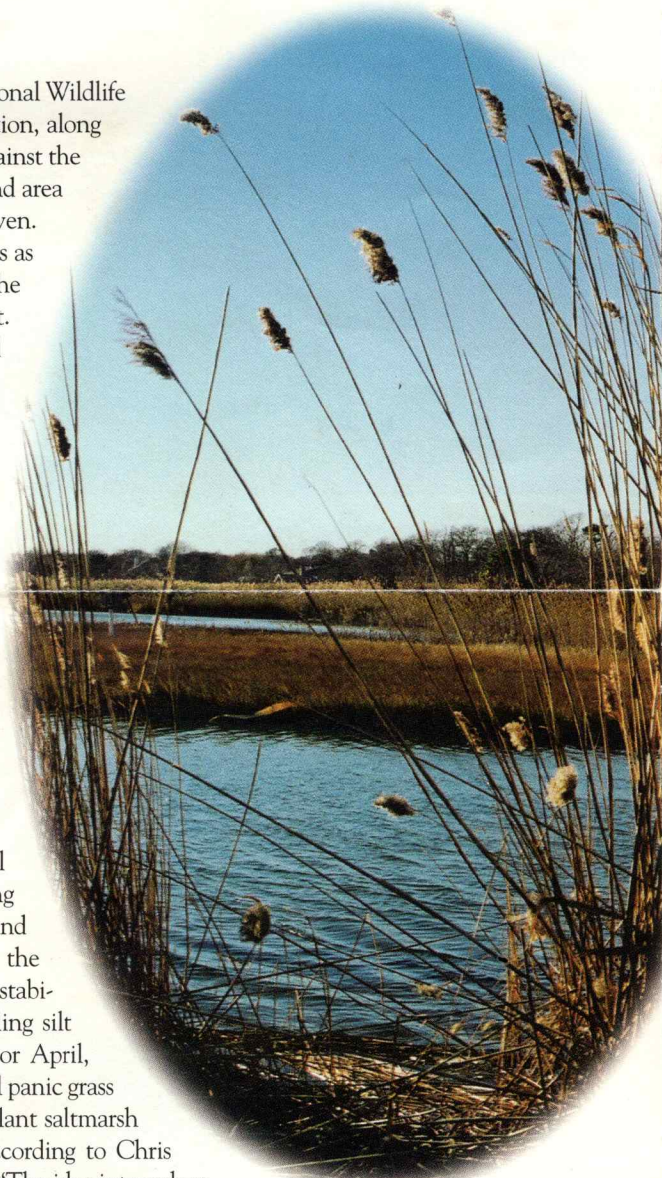
Recently, their work has begun to show results as they announced the successful completion of the first phase of the wetland restoration project. Removing dredge spoils from a ten-acre wetland site on Post-Morrow Foundation property just west of Clover Lane, the project directors hope to ultimately provide a much needed wildlife habitat, aid in local mosquito control efforts by providing access for fish that eat mosquito larvae, serve as a natural waterway filtering system and flood prevention zone, and improve the natural aesthetics of Beaver Dam Creek.

The first phase of the project consisted of removing soil and fill which had been placed on top of a tidal wetland decades ago, and transporting it in Suffolk County DPW dump trucks to Smith Point County Park for use in a beach nourishment project. The next phase of the project, currently being completed, will include restoring tidal flow to the area, refining the contour of the site, removing a culvert, and installing an osprey nesting platform. During the winter, the Fish and Wildlife Service intends to stabilize and vegetate the remaining spoil by installing silt fencing and using organic matting. In March or April, they will seed the spoil site with Atlantic Coastal panic grass and switchgrass. In early spring, they will also plant saltmarsh cordgrass plugs in the restored marsh area. According to Chris Pickerell of the Cornell Cooperative Extension, "The idea is to reduce phragmites, a common reed which is very invasive and chokes the habitat, and replace it with spartina, a cord grass which is a more typical marsh species."

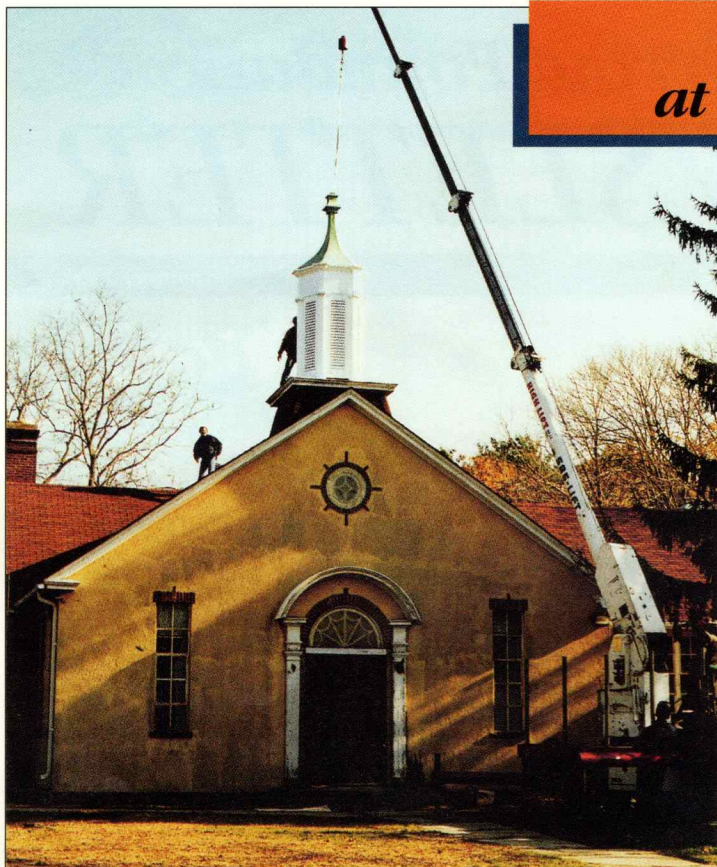
The Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex and the Post-Morrow Foundation have completed the first portion of the project in cooperation with the following agencies: the Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Suffolk County Vector Control, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Cornell University Suffolk County Cooperative Extension, and Ducks Unlimited. Funding for the project was provided by the Post-Morrow Foundation, the Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, and the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

The Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex, operating under the aegis of the U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, consists of nine refuge units located in Suffolk and Nassau Counties and comprises over 6,000 acres of uplands and wetlands, representing over fifty distinct habitat

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Cupola Crowned at Old Brookhaven School



Recently a crowd gathered on a frosty Sunday afternoon in Brookhaven hamlet to celebrate the return of the cupola to the Old Brookhaven School. It's the kind of event that brings out a crowd in Brookhaven, where folks tend to be interested in historical matters, for this particular architectural feature has been much traveled.

A few years ago, the Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Society was looking for a structure to put on top of the Brown Museum in order to step the mast of the Gil Smith boat that was to reside there. They asked the South Country School District if they could rescue the deteriorating cupola from the old Brookhaven Annex, and the district ceded it to them.

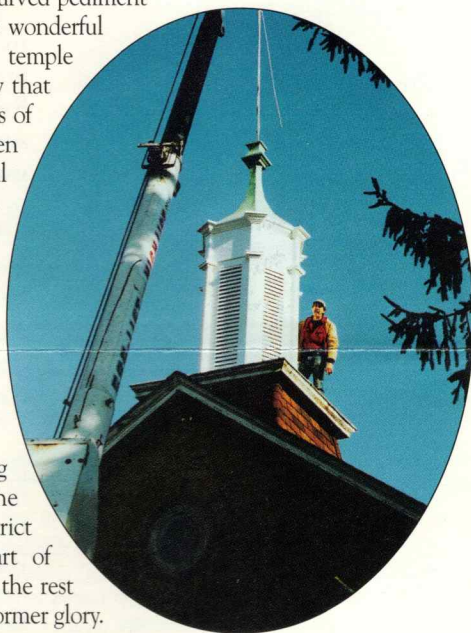
It seemed to many puzzled Brookhaven residents that the cupola had suddenly vanished from its place atop the Old Brookhaven School, built in

1927 and considered to be an integral part of the community and the Fire Place Historic District.

Members of the Brookhaven Village Association and the Post-Morrow Foundation began looking into the mystery. Shortly, they found the cupola was in the possession of the Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Society, and a series of long and delicate negotiations ensued, including the South Country School District. Finally, the four organizations came to an agreement. The Brookhaven Village Association and the Post-Morrow Foundation commissioned two local craftsmen, Steve Rant and Edmund Laviano, to restore the cupola at their workshop on Newey Lane in Brookhaven.

At the crowning ceremony, Tom Williams said, "This school, seventy years old, speaks to us of a tiny community where education was very important. The residents built a beautiful school for their children in 1927. It shows they valued their children and their education. The architect added a few classical elements, like the curved pediment over the front door and the wonderful cupola, based on a Greek temple design. These elements show that culture and the ancient roots of civilization have always been respected here. It's wonderful that in this village, which is now more than 250 years old, a partnership was formed to save this building. It shows everyone that we have always cared about, and we will continue to care for, these landmarks of community history."

A week after the crowning ceremony, residents in the South Country School District approved a bond issue, part of which is intended to restore the rest of the school building to its former glory.



Herb Garden Update

Karen Rowley and Dava Stravinsky, co-chairpersons of the Long Island unit of the Herb Society of America, report that the herb garden located on the grounds of the Post-Morrow Foundation is proceeding according to plan. Assisted by garden designer Kathy Fleming, they have planted over 100 different kinds of bulbs characterized by Karen Rowley as "deer resistant, drought tolerant, beautiful, and fragrant." An herb called Lavandin Grosso has been planted around a water fountain that used to belong to Elisabeth Post Morrow. Some of the other varieties of herbs



are golden sage, purple sage, different kinds of thyme, cat mint, yarrow, lambs ears, agastache, and artemesia.

This last fall, the brick walk was installed by Gold Star Mason Arts of Holtsville. According to Rowley, the committee has chronicled the development of the herb garden with a series of photographs. Rowley said,

"We're really pleased with the results so far, but we're not done yet."

The local unit of the Herb Society of America will hold a garden dedication on May 9, 1998 at 11:00 a.m.

A Note from the Directors

Collaboration and partnership are important concepts in today's world of foundations and not-for-profit organizations. The Post-Morrow Foundation has formed several partnerships which have been very productive for our community. In this issue of our newsletter, several partnerships are featured.

Partners in Wildlife is a program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and has been of benefit to us here in the Hamlet. Last year the Foundation worked together with the Brookhaven Village Association to assist the Wertheim Refuge in fencing their property along Beaver Dam Road. This year we were able to start a project to restore wetlands along Beaver Dam Creek with our friends at Wertheim. Pat Martinkovic, the Long Island Regional Director for U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and her staff have worked closely with us and provided great assistance to this important project.

The restoration of the cupola at the Old Brookhaven School was a cooperative venture among the Foundation, the Brookhaven Village Association, the South Country School District, and the Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Society which resulted in saving an important architectural feature of our community.

The Long Island Chapter of the Herb Society of America has completed the first phase of their garden on the Foundation property. This lovely garden will be a community resource for years to come, as well as a quiet place to visit and contemplate the picturesque surroundings of the Foundation headquarters.

Other partnerships will serve to assist us here at the Foundation as we develop our programs in years to come. We are very grateful to the many organizations and individuals who are working with us to achieve our goals of preserving the beauty of Brookhaven and the surrounding area.

Continued from front cover

types. Close to 300 species of birds and almost all the mammals, reptiles, and amphibians which occur on Long Island can be found in the complex, which is known for its concentration of waterbirds as well as migrating raptors, breeding osprey, shorebirds, and forest interior birds. Two waterfowl species of special concern in the Atlantic flyway are the black duck and the Atlantic brant. Thirty-three species of waterfowl winter on Long Island. Sixty to seventy percent of all the ducks and all of the Atlantic brant wintering in New York State are on Long Island. Over fifteen species of federal/state designated endangered or threatened species are found in the complex. Over 300,000 people visit the complex annually for wildlife observation, bird watching, environmental education, photography, angling, and boating.

Clearly, habitat restoration is a matter of ultimate importance, not only for the wildlife, but for society as well. ♦



Celebrating the completion of the first phase of the wetland restoration project in Brookhaven are Faith McCutcheon, Post-Morrow Foundation trustee; Ed Lynch, director, Suffolk County Public Works Department; Tom Williams, vice-president, treasurer, and director, Post-Morrow; Bruce Wallace, president and director, Post-Morrow; Patricia Martinkovich, project director, Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Frank Phillips, DEC; Lou Chiarella, N.Y. State DEC; Bob Parris, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Dominick Ninivaggi, superintendent, Department of Public Works; Chris Pickerell, Cornell Cooperative Extension; and Thomas Iwanejko, biologist, Department of Public Works.

Season's Greetings from Post-Morrow

For well over a century, many artists have found Brookhaven Hamlet a quiet and sympathetic place to work. The beauty of the landscape has inspired such artists as Frederick Kost, Alice Boughton, and George Tooker, among others. Many contemporary artists still find our community a congenial place in which to live and work.

For the last three years, the Post-Morrow Foundation has invited a local artist to submit work for our annual greeting card. Pictured below are the first three in the series: "Mexican Gardens," 1985, by Malcolm Morley, as it appeared on the Post-Morrow greeting in 1995; "Winter Cardinals" by Dennis Puleston, painted for the Foundation in 1996; and Kate Madsen's "Beach Grass," 1994, was sent to residents this holiday season.

We look forward to continuing the Brookhaven artists series in 1998 and in years to come.



Dennis Puleston: Winter Cardinals



Malcolm Morley: Mexican Gardens



Kate Madsen: Beach Grass



Post-Morrow Foundation, Inc.

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The Post-Morrow Foundation Newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Donations and Grants

In addition to its land preservation program, the Post-Morrow Foundation has made a number of donations and grants. The Foundation's philanthropic activities have included St. James' Episcopal Church, the Brookhaven Free Library, the Methodist Church in Bellport, and the Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Hospice, now located in the Hamlet of Brookhaven. In addition, the Foundation provided matching funds with the community and the fire department to assist in the restoration of the Memorial Park and Cannon at the intersection of Fireplace Neck and South Country Roads.

Thank you for your support

Your contribution is important to us in showing community support and allowing us to preserve the Hamlet. Please return the form below, along with your gift, to: The Post-Morrow Foundation, Inc. We will mail you an acknowledgement for tax purposes.

Historic memorabilia wanted

Do you or someone you know have old photographs, postcards, or other memorabilia of Brookhaven/Southaven? The Post-Morrow Foundation, in conjunction with the Brookhaven Free Library, the Fire Place Literary Club, and the Brookhaven Village Association, has dedicated a section of its headquarters at 16 Bay Road for historical material related to Brookhaven Hamlet and its environs. This collection will be available to the public in the future. If you have or know about any appropriate material, please call 286-0686.

Editor: **Chuck Anderson**

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