

Survivors

On the night of Nov. 9, 1938, the Nazis burned more than 200 synagogues, killed 91 Jews and deported more than 25,000 others to concentration camps. This Purim Megillah, rescued from the fires of Kristallnacht, tells just one of the stories ...

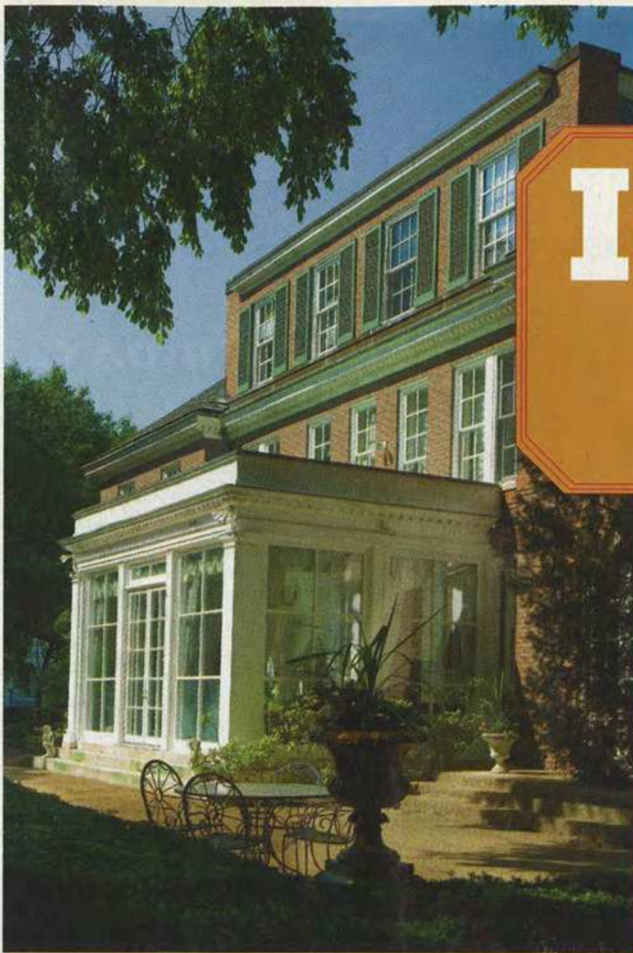
(LOOK INSIDE FOR MORE TALES OF SURVIVAL FROM THE NEW ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM)

NORTHSHORE



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ORREN PICKELL
200 TRI STATE INTL STE 200
LINCOLNSHIRE IL 60069-4421

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In Ferry Field

Billed as a Gatsby-esque manse from the golden age of North Shore country estates, architect Benjamin J. Marshall's "Lansdowne" masterpiece will open to the public this month as the Lake Forest Chapter of the Infant Welfare Society's 13th biennial Lake Forest Showhouse and Gardens.

TEXT BY SHERRY THOMAS

PHOTOS BY LINDA OYAMA BRYAN

Before the William J. Ferry estate was subdivided and platted, before Harry B. Clow, husband of Chicago map heiress Elizabeth F. McNally, purchased his 21,321 acres, the bluffs and ravines of "Lansdowne" were home to a wide-open polo ground known as Ferry Field. And it was here on this land that Gen. George Patton took respite from the Fort Sheridan cavalry with the Onwentsia polo ponies, where North Shore legends were born and architectural history was made.

Clow was running Rand McNally when he and Elizabeth hired the up-and-coming architectural firm of Marshall (as in Benjamin J. Marshall, architect of the Drake Hotel and the Cuneo mansion) and Fox to build their dream home, a 14,500-square-foot Georgian-style estate described in a 1916 publication (*Lake Forest: Art and History Edition*, American Communities Co., Chicago) as being "located on the grounds in such a way as to provide an unusually large open lawn on one side, and a close view of the lake on the other, characteristics which convey a fine impression of spaciousness."

Completed in 1911, the 24-room, 11-bedroom "Lansdowne" estate was a sight to behold — from a clay tennis court and a pool to a full basement with a Roman bath and wine cellar. Add a 5,000-square-foot (fully modernized) coach house, impeccable grounds and an unobstructed, panoramic view of Lake Michigan, and (as we said of the property in a real-estate story a few years ago) if you didn't know better, you'd think you were in Monaco.

With landscaping by legendary garden designer Jens Jensen,






“Lansdowne” was considered to be the last and largest intact private estate on the North Shore before going on the market in 2005 for \$25 million. Today, the great house is on the market for \$8.5 million, its expansive acreage having been divided and developed into seven luxury estates by Orren Pickell Designers & Builders.

On April 25, the Lake Bluff mansion will open to the public as the Lake Forest Chapter of the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago’s 13th biennial Lake Forest Showhouse and Gardens, featuring work by 36 of the area’s finest interior and landscape designers.

Tours will continue 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday through May 17. Tickets are \$30 when purchased online (\$25 each when purchasing four or more) or \$35 at the door. Proceeds from the event benefit the Angel

Harvey Infant Welfare Society of Chicago Community Health Center. For more information, go to www.lakeforestshowhouse.com or e-mail showhouse@aol.com.

Preview festivities start at 11 a.m. April 22 with a lecture by renowned interior design diva Charlotte Moss, founder of Charlotte Moss & Co., a home furnishings and interior design firm on Manhattan’s Upper East Side. Moss, who was interviewed by *North Shore* magazine for her book *The Winter House* in 2005, is slated to discuss “The Muse in Design: Great Women of Style” as she signs copies of her latest book, *A Flair for Living*. Tickets to the preview event (which includes admission to the showcase, light refreshments and the lecture) are \$55 by reservation only and are limited in number; the book will be available for purchase separately. 

The grounds of the “Lansdowne” mansion tell a story from a different era. They will be redesigned and enhanced by local landscapers, including Rocco Fiore and Craig Bergmann.