



# Gardens of Eden: Long Island's Early Twentieth-Century Planned Communities

*Robert B. MacKay*

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## **Historical profiles of the major planned communities of early twentieth-century Long Island.**

Edited by SPLIA's former director, Dr. Robert B. MacKay, *Gardens of Eden* is an exploration of a distinct type of suburban development that proliferated across the region before zoning regulations were developed to manage land use in New York City and its environs. While the onset of suburbia on Long Island is often believed to be a post-World War II phenomena, it actually began a half century earlier when greater affluence, improved railroad service, and new methods of financing made the dream of country living a greater reality for a growing urban middle class. Luminaries such as Grosvenor Atterbury, Charles W. Leavitt Jr., and Frederick Law Olmsted designed dozens of high-end, carefully conceived communities on New York's Long Island. Touted as an antidote to the complexities of urban living, these "residential parks" were characterized by significant investment in landscaping and infrastructure and employed concepts introduced by the Garden City movement in England.

*Gardens of Eden* covers the history and development of more than twenty of these remarkable communities and the colorful, at times unscrupulous personalities behind them?like Plandome, designed "for teachers only," and the Metropolitan Museum's Munsey Park, where all the streets were named for artists?with writings from their most knowledgeable historians. Other featured communities include: Garden City, Forest Hills Gardens, Long Beach, Great Neck Estates, Brightwaters, Montauk Beach, Prospect Park South in Brooklyn, and many more.

### **About the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities**

SPLIA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to understanding, celebrating, and preserving Long Island's cultural heritage. Founded in 1948, SPLIA engages its mission through a variety of activities that include interpreting historic houses, creating exhibitions and educational programs, providing preservation advisory services, and publishing works that explore the history of architecture and design on Long Island. 300 illustrations

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#### **Terrie Delgadillo:**

This Gardens of Eden: Long Island's Early Twentieth-Century Planned Communities is great publication for you because the content and that is full of information for you who have always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it data accurately using great arrange word or we can say no rambling sentences included. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only gives you straight forward sentences but challenging core information with wonderful delivering sentences. Having Gardens of Eden: Long Island's Early Twentieth-Century Planned Communities in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, information in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no guide that offer you world inside ten or fifteen small right but this book already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. busy do you still doubt that?

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