

ROCKPORT'S MAGIC PLACE

Lura Phillips, died in 1994, at the age of 94.

For over 40 years she fought to preserve Rockport's Millbrook Meadow. She left no stone unturned to collect donations—all to make improvements in what she called "Rockport's 'Magic Place'".

Lura was always working to make the Meadow better. Although she lived a very frugal life, she managed to save up money to leave a sizeable donation for the preservation of the Meadow.

When the new dam was completed in 2013, it became glaringly obvious that major improvements were needed in the Mill Pond and the little park that runs from the Mill Dam to Front Beach.

The Pond has been filling with sediment for years, and each year loses areas of clear water to the masses of invasive aquatic plants. The Meadow drains poorly, resulting in times each spring when part of it is underwater. The Mill Brook is cluttered with stones that have come loose and block the flow of water to the sea. Finally, several of the large trees in the Meadow have reached the end of their lives, and need to be replaced.

Lura left a Trust fund of over \$160,000 which was used to begin a restoration project that began in 2013 and is now completed.

Lura loved the Meadow, and protected it, and raised funds to keep it up.



Lura Phillips and Gunilla Caulfield, ca. 1988

Lura loved Rockport, and she loved the Meadow. Her money was used to help restore the Meadow and the Pond, to make it the Magic Place for future generations.