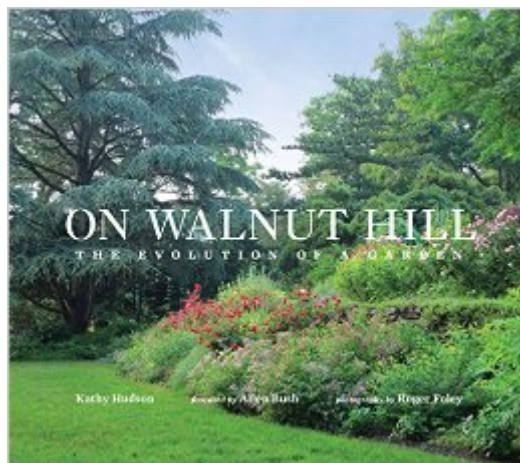


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On Walnut Hill - The Evolution Of A Garden



Synopsis

This is the story of a garden. It is also the story of a family in their garden. The garden began in 1969, when A.C. and Penney Hubbard moved to Walnut Hill in Ruxton, Maryland. Over nearly a half-century, passionate gardeners A.C. and Penney Hubbard collaborated with renowned plantsman, the late Kurt Bluemel, to transform a two-acre hillside into a horticultural masterpiece. Listed in the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens, the Hubbards' elegant garden has been featured in national and regional magazines and as a destination for prestigious national and regional garden tours. The new book *ON WALNUT HILL* features essays and text by noted garden writer Kathy Hudson and the images of award-winning photographer Roger Foley. Bluemel's fellow plantsman, Allen Bush, contributes a foreword. Featuring more than 270 pages filled with breathtaking photographs of the Hubbards' exquisite gardens, *ON WALNUT HILL* details this couple's passion and tireless efforts to create the ultimate living landscape.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kathy Hudson's *On Walnut Hill: The Evolution of a Garden* is one of those rare garden books that does far more than tell the story of a showcase garden. Hudson's spare prose, combined with award-winning landscape photographer Roger Foley's lush photos, paint a verbal and visual history of this spectacular garden, which utterly transformed a sunny hillside near Baltimore over the course of 46 years. It helped, of course, that the young couple who bought the house and grounds in 1969 -- and did all the work themselves for years -- was able, later, to fund what started as a

dawn-to-dusk, weekend hobby into what ultimately became their life's passion and work. It also helped that early on they began working with a European garden designer who was one of the pioneers advocating the replacement of staid, static rectangular patches of lawn and flower beds with sumptuous curvilinear sweeps of perennial plantings and ornamental grasses. Designer Kurt Bluemel laid out an overarching plan for A.C. and Penney Hubbard's sunny, two-acre site: an evergreen background, a middle ground of shrubs like rhododendrons, viburnums and azaleas, and a foreground of annuals and perennials. Just as important as the plantings, however, were Bluemel's stunning hardscape plans -- the low, dry-laid stone walls that curved throughout the property, and his meandering pathways, large enough for two people to walk side by side, conversing. A rock-lined fountain wall with multiple cascades of water, the rough, wide stone stairs that curve and twist up the hilly site, the seemingly random but perfectly placed stone accent pieces -- all add to the tamed wildness of the garden's appearance.

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