



Edna St. Vincent Millay House,
"Steepletop",
Austerlitz, New York

NPS Photo 1971



Edna St. Vincent Millay ~~House~~, *Property*
X Steepletop, X

Austerlitz, New York

NPS Photo 1971



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" Steepletop",

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"Steepletop" Edna St. Vincent Millay House, Austerlitz, New York

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Edna St. Vincent Millay House,

(Barn)

"Steepletop";

Austerlitz, New York

NPS Photo 1971



Steepletop

Detail: Milkey's Study, Books

Examples of deteriorated bindings on upper shelf



Steeple top

Exterior

March 2001



Steepletop

Millay's dresser with the poet's personal belongings "as she left them," typical of intact historic display conditions at Steepletop

SILENCE



Steepletop

Millay's Study

Lack of proper climate control has led to condensation, mildew on books, followed by desiccation from forced-air heating in winter. Also note damaged upholstery in foreground



Steepletop

"Bar" Garden with pergola at right.

Many period photos document lost treillage
and planting scheme of this "exterior room", a
hub of informal summer entertaining at
Steepletop



Steepletop

Living Room

Millay's chair, portrait of her husband (l);
'mermaid' allegory of Millay and husband in pool
at Steepletop (r). Both paintings require surface
stabilization to prevent flaking and powdering
losses



Steepletop

Pool Garden

Designed by Millay, pool requires filtration and masonry repair to prevent collapse; removal of overgrowth preparatory to reinstatement of arbutus-defined "dressing rooms."



Steepletop

Chair from Millay's Writing Cabin

Note: Chair was removed from cabin after discovery of rodent damage, ca. 1990. Project plan includes on-site storage of cabin collections after treatment



Steepletop

Millay's shoes and boots (3 of
22 pairs). Note heavy encrustation
of white fungus on work boots (r).

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Steepletop

Millay's clothing, bedroom closet. Silk and velvet gowns, lace and feather hats deteriorated from improper support, Rlt instability. Linen gauze gown (3rd from r) was worn by Millay in portrait by Berenice Abbott.



Steepletop

Kitchen

Water damage to ceiling. In 1948, Better Homes and

Gardens remodeled Millay's kitchen for a feature article on efficient design. Source of water intrusion (roof) has been addressed; damage to ceiling requires treatment to prevent collapse



GLENA GIFFE
HONESTY & FAITH

Steepletop

Silk/linen velvet gown with crushed and lost pile, tarnished gold-braid trim. Hand-beading on "flapper" dresses and elaborate trims and embroidery currently leave many spectacular textiles too fragile for display