

MAMIE L. CROSBY



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Plan for Farm Yard

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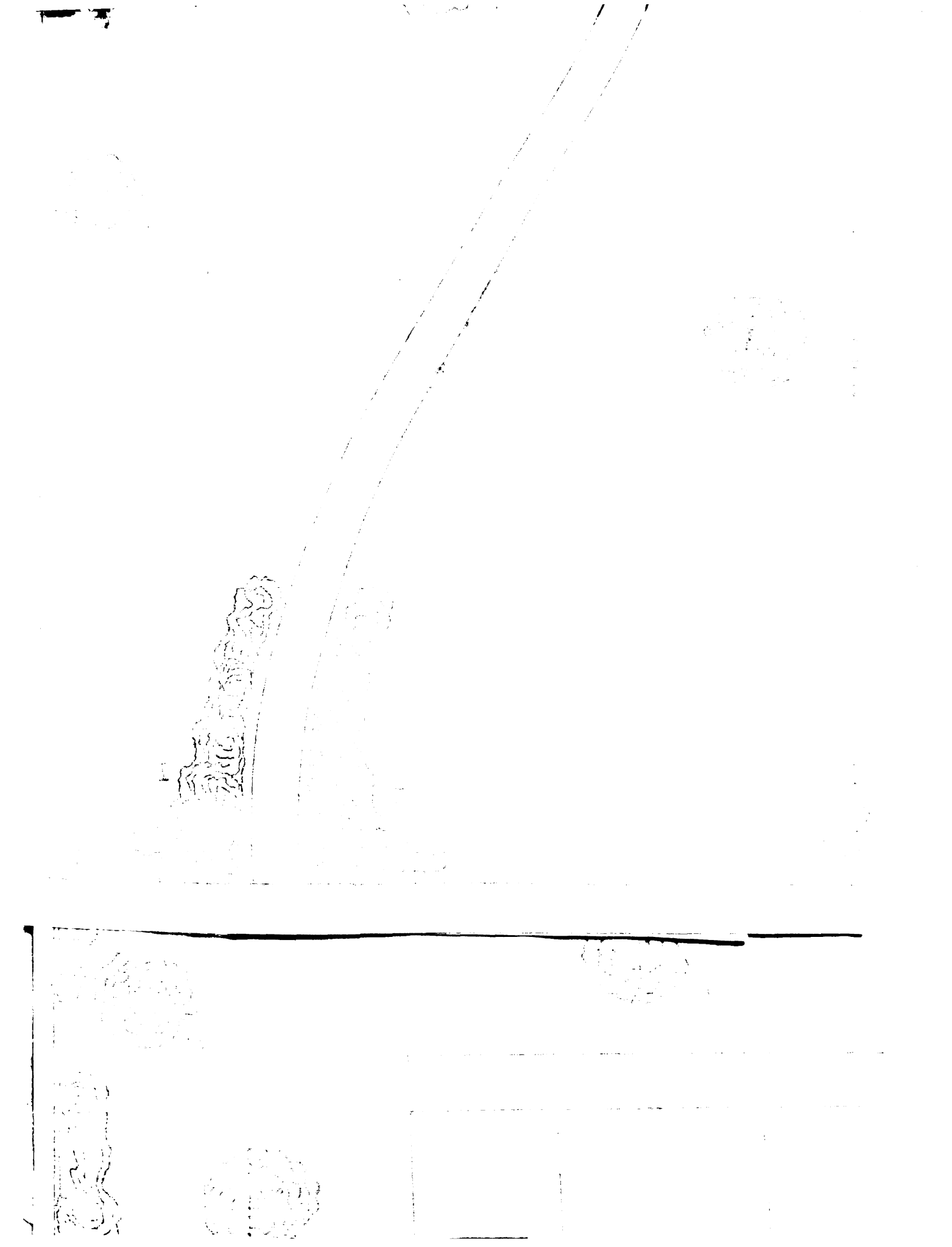
PLAN FOR FARM YARD.

In the planting of farm yards there seems to be a large field for improvement in this country. Quite frequently one sees farmyards of small extent or those crowded into the highway, this trouble having arisen through thoughtlessness of the needs of the farm home, and the fact has been overlooked, - that the proper setting of the home is of the highest importance. The arrangement and finishing of the site on which the house was built was taken up as an afterthought and a yard, wretched in plan and planting was the result. As we go about studying residence sites in all parts of the country we find that ninety-nine out of every hundred failures are to be traced to the fact that the gardener did not understand the composition as a whole and to the lack of the appreciation of the fundamental principles of landscape gardening. The object of this thesis is the application of the first principles of landscape gardening in the construction and planting of a farm yard.

The specifications for the yard are:-

A level yard in Elbridge, Michigan, owned by Mrs. Crosby, 10 rods by 16 rods, fronting the north. House 32.5 feet by 47.5 feet, placed 97.5 feet from the highway and 30 feet from the west line of the yard, and connected with the highway by a four foot gravel walk.

The country^{home} should have a thoroughly rural air. The owner has hardly the choice of any other place and to give a



was used.

One of the principal elements in the formation of a natural landscape is open lawns. Waugh says- "They should be as large and as little interrupted as circumstances will allow." For this reason, generally speaking, nearly all of the interior of this landscape plan was devoted to an open lawn, which was divided by the planting of trees into a main lawn in front and northeast of the house, and subordinate lawns at the sides and rear of the house. At the rear of the house a tennis court was laid out on the lawn. The extreme rear of the yard is devoted to a kitchen garden and an old fashioned flower garden, each being 80.5 feet by 41.25 feet.

Naturalness, harmony, and variety in a landscape composition are secured by the judicious choice and arrangement of trees and shrubs. "A building with its smooth surface and rectangular lines rising abruptly out of the lawn gives a distinct note of disharmony." To overcome this and make the house seem a part of the ground, a part of the composition and to bring the house and grounds into closest harmony vines and shrubs are used together in this composition. On the east and west sides of the house, Virginia creeper is used; on the front piazza, clematis paniculata; and on the back piazza, Hall's honeysuckle. Mixed shrubbery is grouped along the walls and massed in the angles of the house.

The trees and shrubs are selected and arranged singly or in groups according to their conformability with the house or central point of the composition. Those in the foreground, except those next to the highway and boundaries, are small in stature. Here, in order to make an opening for vistas and to

avoid obstructing the view from the house, the single specimens of the trees are used. The shrubs are planted in groups by the walk and the side fences. The trees and shrubs used are as follows:

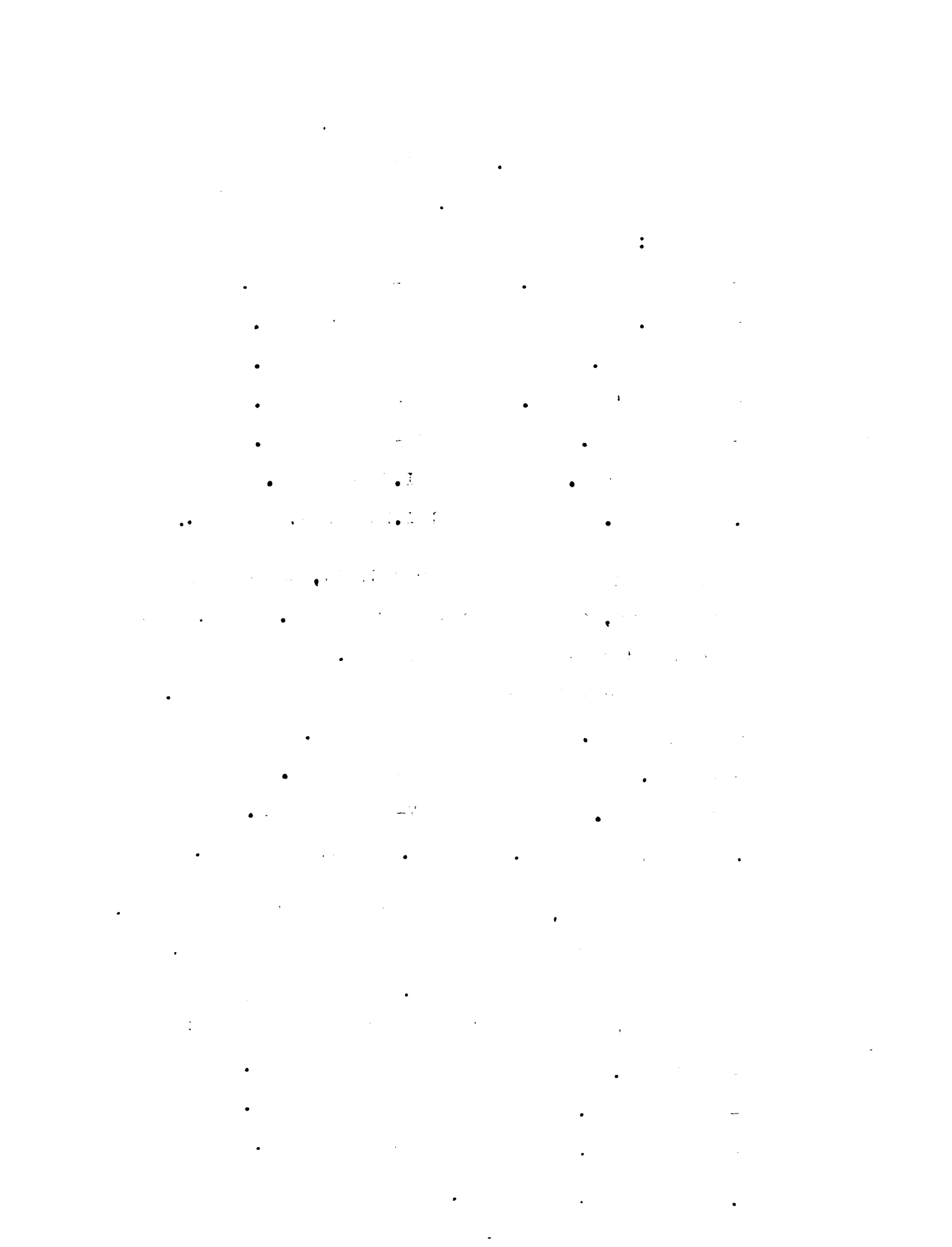
- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1-Schwedler's Maple. | 2-American Elm. |
| 3-Red Bud. | 4-Sugar Maple. |
| 5-Japan Maple. | 6-Sugar Maple. |
| 7-Schwedler's Maple. | 8-White Thorn. |
| 9-Norway Maple. | 11-Sugar Maple. |
| 12-White Dogwood. | I.June Roses. |
| II.June Roses. | III. De Htzias (assorted). |

The planting of the middle ground. is, especially at the east of the house, confined to the boundaries. Here, too, the single trees and grouped shrubs are used. Following are the names of the trees and shrubs used in the middle ground.

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10-Norway Maple. | 13-Red Bud. |
| 14-Pin Oak. | 15-Red Maple. |
| 16-Sugar Maple. | 17-American Elm. |
| IV.Weigela ¹ , (assorted). | V.Spirea ² , (assorted). |

In the background, mostly large types of trees are used. At the southeast of the yard is a group of large maples, in front of which are groups of lilacs. The remainder of the trees and shrubs used in the background are as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 18-Red Maple. | 19-American Elm. |
| 20-American Elm. | 21-American Elm. |
| 22-American Elm. | 23-Sugar Maple. |
| VI.Honeysuckles, (assorted). | |
| VII.Syringas (assorted) | |



VIII.Lilacs, (assorted).

IX.Lilacs, (assorted).

XI.Spirea

The kitchen and old fashioned flower garden are separated from each other and the rest of the yard by a hedge of Japan Quince. The flower garden is bordered by groups of mixed shrubbery and the kitchen garden by berry bushes.

The yard is surrounded by a stone fence covered with Virginia creeper.

In conclusion, it must be remembered that unity, harmony, fitness and utility, and the object of the farmyard must be kept constantly in view throughout the whole work, and that the resources and excellences of the farmyard should be utilized in forming a beautiful composition.

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