Spencer Trask.
New York.

New York February 1900

To the Trustees of Pine Garde

Dear Sirs

We propose to lean to you by Will the estate of Saddo, together with the Residuary Estate of Spencer Trask & Katrina Trask, subject only to a life use thereof of some one person in case we may hereafter designate such one - Saddo we are glad to believe has come to be a source of fruitful help & inspiration to many, and especially to those gifted with creative power & who have had the impulse to use it for their fellow-men

This feeling has been not only the reflex of our enthusiasm who love the place but the almost universal verdict of all who have come within its fates - Poets Artists Sculptors Musicians have said that they could work here as nowhere else & have found at Gadsó the inspiration for some of their best work; they have woven around Gadsó legend & romance so that it has become far more than an estate and in its varied power upon men & women far more than a home

We trust that long - very long - after we shall be gone the ideals which have become traditional at

Gadso and an deep in its very
Fabric shall be presernd as a
living & practical Force which We
Venture to hope may flow from
Year to Year

Since God in His infinite
Wisdom has seen fit to take all
our Children to a larger place
We Cannot brlieve it right that We
Should limit the possession of
Gadso to any one individual or
Family, & therefore notwithstanding
our Love for our immediate Kin — as an
Expression of which We have made
other provision — We shall not
Lease Gadso to any one of them
Except possibly for a life use

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In order to insure for Gadso
a larger influence and a more
sure & permanent Continuance of
the aims & ideals which we have
held for it & in the hope that it
may Continue as a practical force
in the World for all time
We desire to found here a permanent
Home which shall come from
time to time for Rest & Refreshment
Authors painters Sculptors Musicians
and other artists both men & women
few in number & chosen for Creative
Gifts & Deeds & not less for the
power & the will & the purpose to
make these Gifts useful to the World

Those who in working for their Art
have not laid up material possessions

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for themselves & those who starting
in life are making a brave fight
to guard and augment the sacred
fire within them — and meantime
Earn their bread by labors prosaic
and oppressive — are so often
unable to obtain the rest and
refreshment so sadly needed.

It is such as these whom We
would have enjoy the hospitality
of Saratoga their sole Qualification
being that they have done, are
doing or give promise of doing
good & Earnest work.

We do not intend this as a home
for those who would lead a life of
Ease or for those who in the common
parlance are "in want"

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We hope that Gadso will not minister to the mere material Comfort or advantage of men or women Except as it shall promote their helpfulness in the domain of Creative work

We do not here Set forth in more detail the manner & way in which we desire Gadso & the endowment which in trust may go with it, to be used

We desire that there shall rest with you as a Board of Trustees (whose number you may deem wise to increase, as also to change your Corporate name to The Trustees of Gadso) the legal Custody & Business Control of the Entire property both real & personal

You are to fill all vacancies
in your own Board - to be yourselves
Members of the Corporation and to
add such other members as you
shall deem proper, to adopt and
from time to time amend by-laws
and rules of administration,
to yourselves determine the use of
the property whether by general
regulation so far as you deem
such regulation necessary or in
specific detail, from time to time,
and in all other matters to
exercise general Committee power,
- availing yourselves however
so far as you shall deem it
to be practicable and helpful

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of the advice of an Advisory Committee. You shall yourselves appoint such Committee.

It should consist of men who fairly represent the field of intellectual and aesthetic activity in which we hope that Gadso shall be a Continuing and permanent force

Such a Committee might well be chosen from among the persons who served for the time, by

The Bishop of the Diocese of Albany in the Protestant Episcopal Church

The Rector of Bethesda Church (Epis.) in the Village of Saratoga

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The President of the National Academy
of Design in the City of New York

The President of the Architectural League
The President of the Sculpture Society
The President of the National Arts Club
The President of the Century Association
The President of the Author's Club
All in the City of New York

The Dean or Head Professor in the Department of Music in Columbia University

The President of the National Institute
of Arts & Letters

The Presidents of Princeton (my alma mater)
Harvard & Columbia Universities

and other persons occupying like
and representative positions

(Jan 19 02) The President of the Carnegie Institute Washington D.C.

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We have named two persons occupying Certain Ecclesiastical positions but not with any intention or wish on our part to give Ecclesiastical Character to the work at Yaddo but because of their Especial associations with Saratoga and because the occupants of those places are likely to be men of wide and Earnest Sympathy with the Kind of purposes which we hope may make the Supreme Law at Yaddo

It is our wish that no Narrowness of personal, Sectarian, Aesthetic, or intellectual Sympathy shall limit or distort its usefulness or even make of it a Kind of benefaction

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other than we have intended

With the above Explanation of our plan & desires and in full Confidence that you will carry out and Ratify this hope of ours We dear Sirs thank you Can in words Express we Leave Yadso to You & Your Successors

Spencer Trask

Katrina Trask.