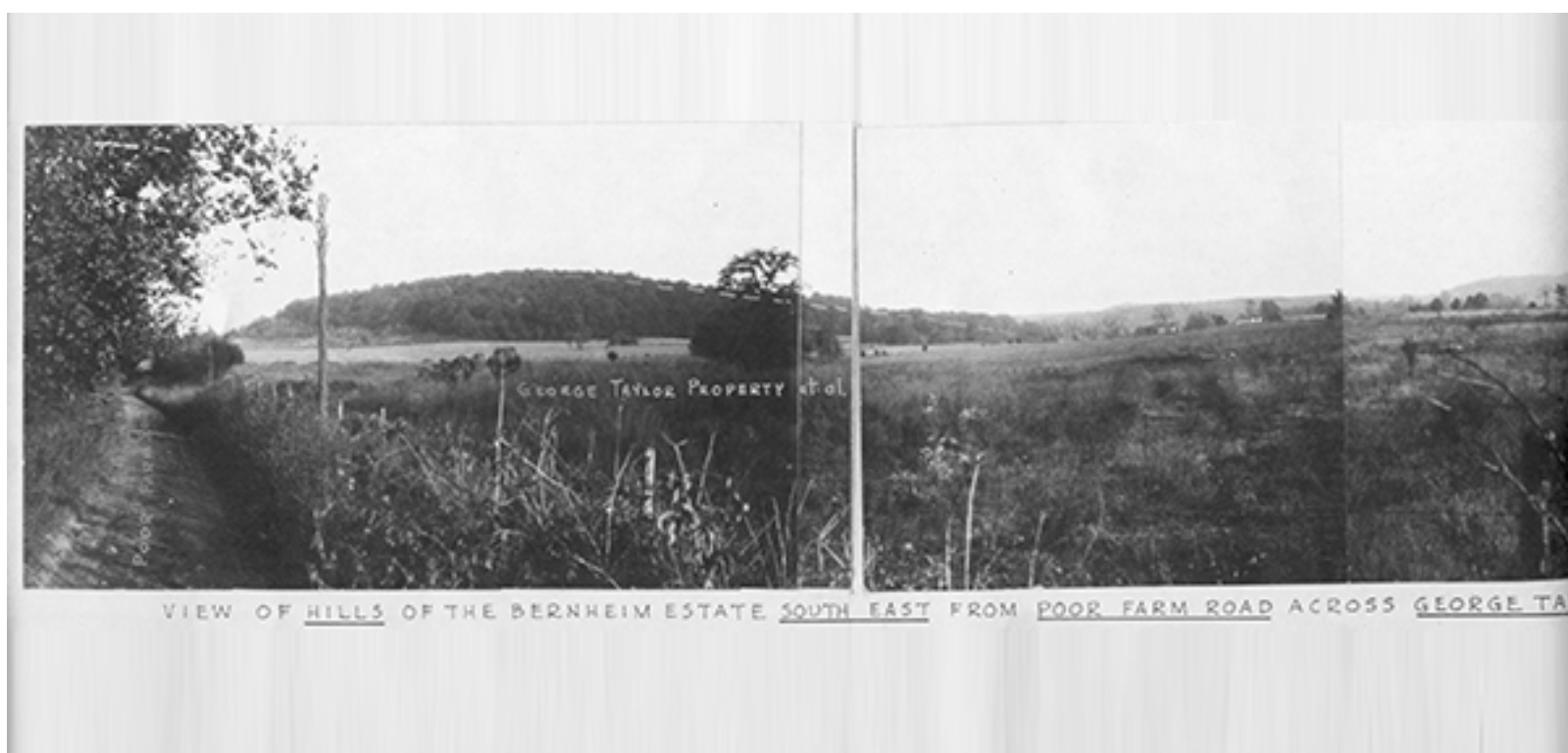


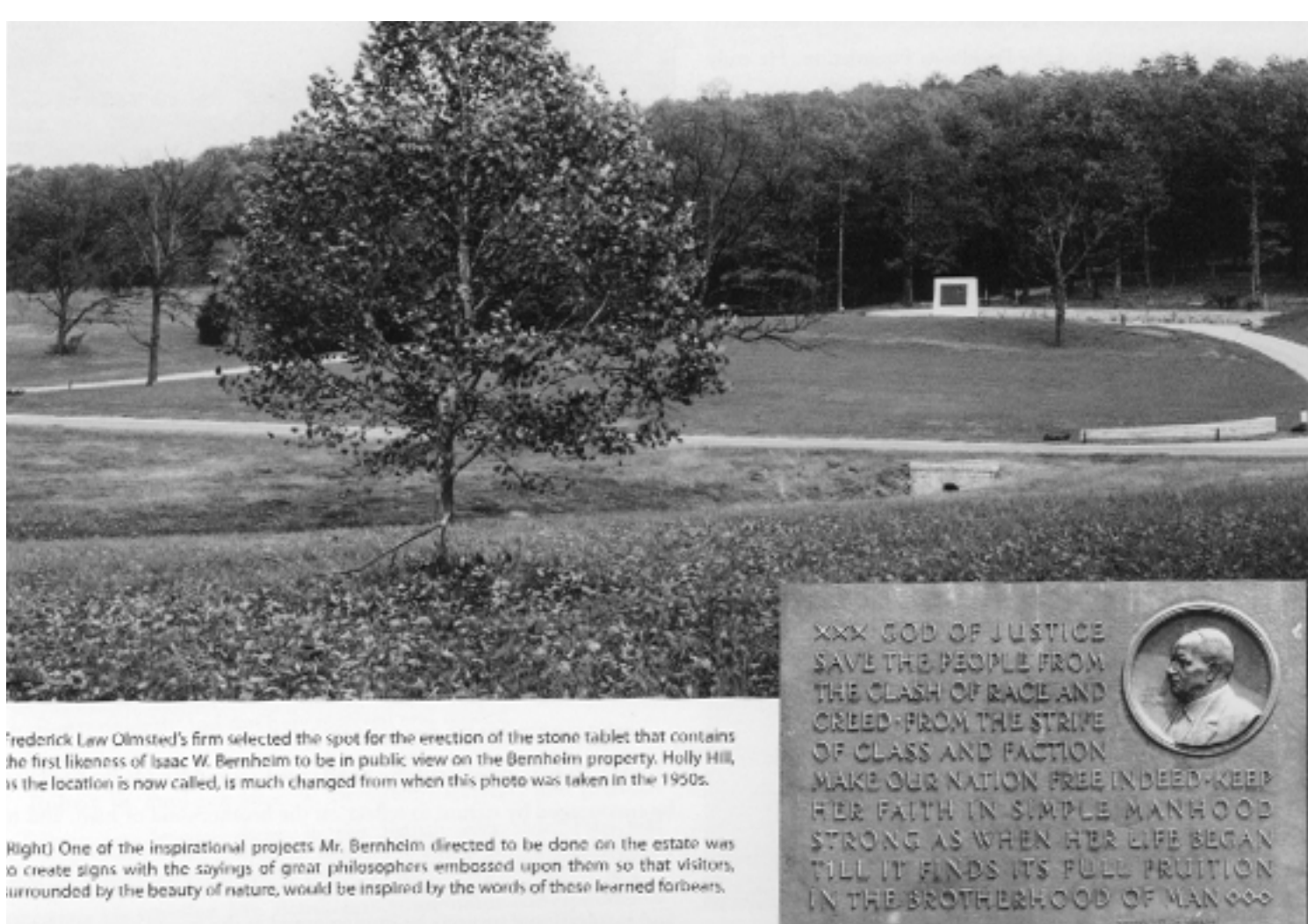


## Tom Block

**TOM BLOCK** was born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1948. His father, Louis T. Block, began several philanthropic organizations and his mother, Susan Shott Block, held a Master's Degree in early childhood education. Through his father, Tom is descended from Isaac Wolfe Bernheim, who founded I.W. Harper Bourbon and Bernheim Forest.



While studying at American University in Washington D.C., Tom continued learning about his ancestor and the research forest that Bernheim founded. After college, Block worked on Capitol Hill, then turned to a career in banking. A casual visit to Bernheim Forest in 2000 led to an invitation for Tom to join the Board of Trustees.



After retiring as Head of Global Government Relations at JP Morgan Chase in 2008, Tom moved to Louisville and took a more active role on the board. Today Tom is the President of the Board of Trustees at the Forest.

*This was my new passion in retirement, and it's been rewarding--better than I can really articulate to learn about the natural world. As I told some of my friends flippantly, rather than worrying about hostile takeovers, I'm now focused on invasive plants and it's just opened my eyes to a whole new world...I think really there's no Jewish smog, there's no Jewish global warning, there's no Jewish answer to that, but I think we have an institution founded by a Jew that wants to be a leader in thinking about issues of nature and sustainability. So it's Jewish through its heritage.*

Tom says that his involvement at the Forest is highly rewarding, exciting, and just as interesting as his previous position at JP Morgan Chase. He organizes events there, specifically aimed to bring in people for nature and arts. He also organizes events for his synagogue in Louisville to come to the Forest.