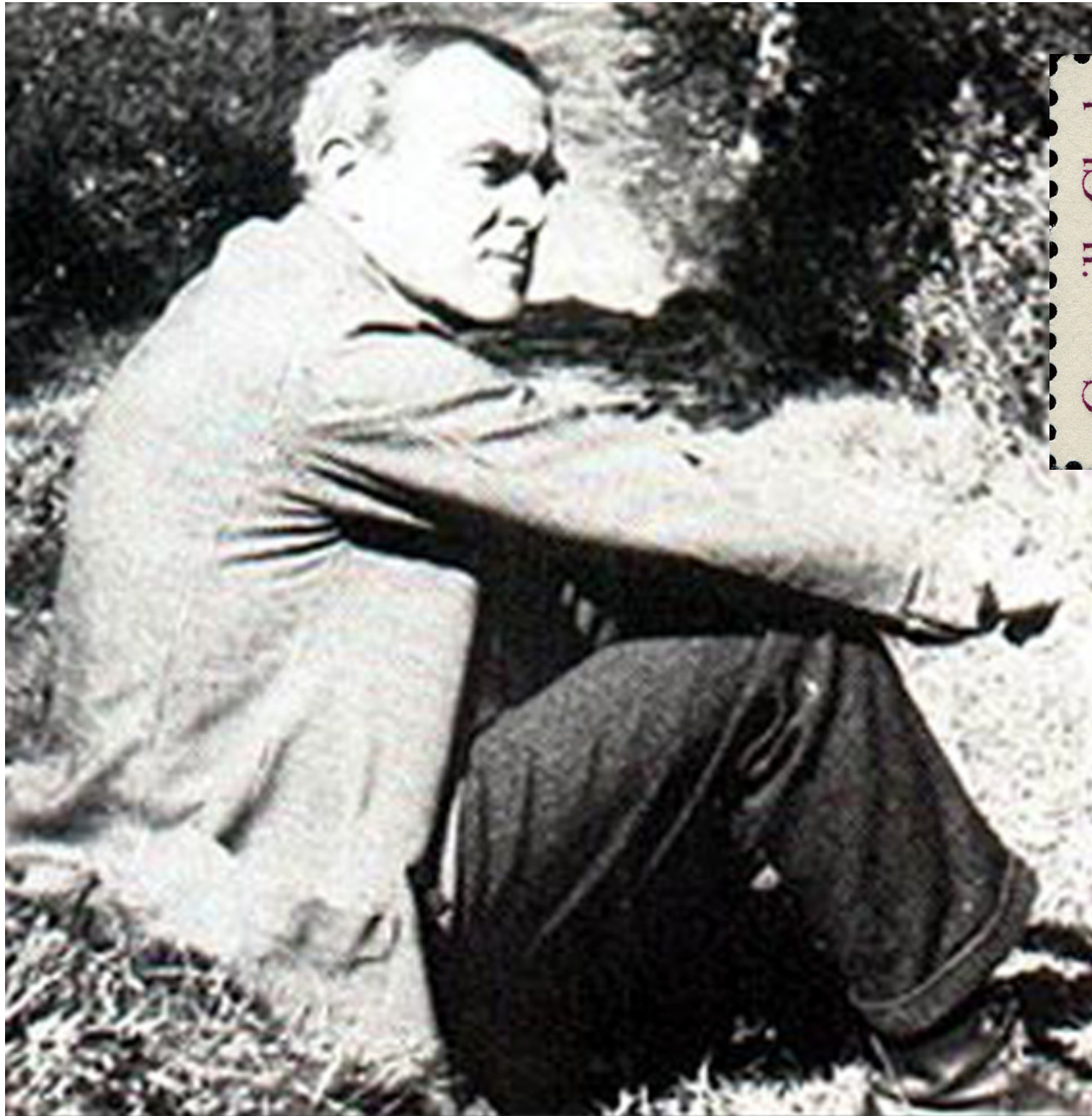


Grenville Clark

Lawyer (1882–1967)



Clark was a 1906 graduate of Harvard Law School, the founder of what became the firm of Root, Clark, Buckner & Ballantine, and the donor of Clark Botanic Garden in Albertson, Long Island.

He was also a lifelong agitator. Publicly unknown, he was widely influential among the nation's leadership on a broad range of public issues throughout his life. While generally describing himself as a conservative, Clark took time in the 1930s to found the American Bar Association's Civil Liberties Committee, claiming civil liberties support as a conservative cause aimed at resisting the excesses of government. He joined in drafting committee amicus briefs to the Supreme Court in defense of free speech and, in the flag salute cases, asserting an individual's right on conscientious grounds not to salute the flag.

Even before the U.S. entry into World War II, Clark was thinking about how to ensure postwar world peace. At the end of the war, immediately grasping the significance of nuclear weapons, Clark became one of the leaders of the world federalist movement. He and professor Louis B. Sohn of the Harvard Law School drafted, article by article, amendments to the United Nations Charter, which would have transformed it into a true world federal government, though limited in function to the suppression of war. The Clark-Sohn Book, *World Peace through World Law*, spelled out these changes in detail, with supporting explanations of all provisions.

Clark Botanic Garden would not exist were it not for his wife, Fanny Dwight Clark. She was the family engineer, architect, decorator, farmer, landscape designer, and, above all, garden designer and horticulturalist. After his wife died, Clark dedicated his property to be a twelve-acre horticultural living museum in 1966. He died in 1967, a Century member since 1923.