

7-1-2006

Hedge

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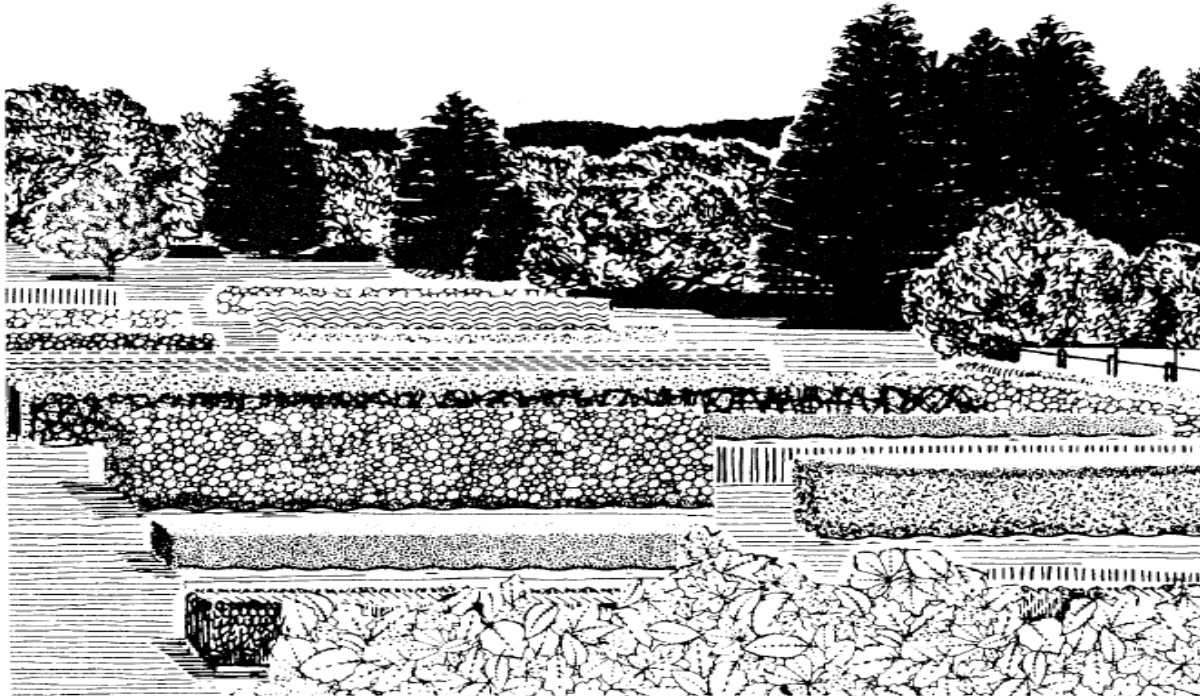
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Hedge



Purposes and Uses of Hedges

- Form a barrier or division
- Mark boundaries
- Provide privacy
- Background to garden displays
- Give design emphasis
- Separate one area from another where desirable

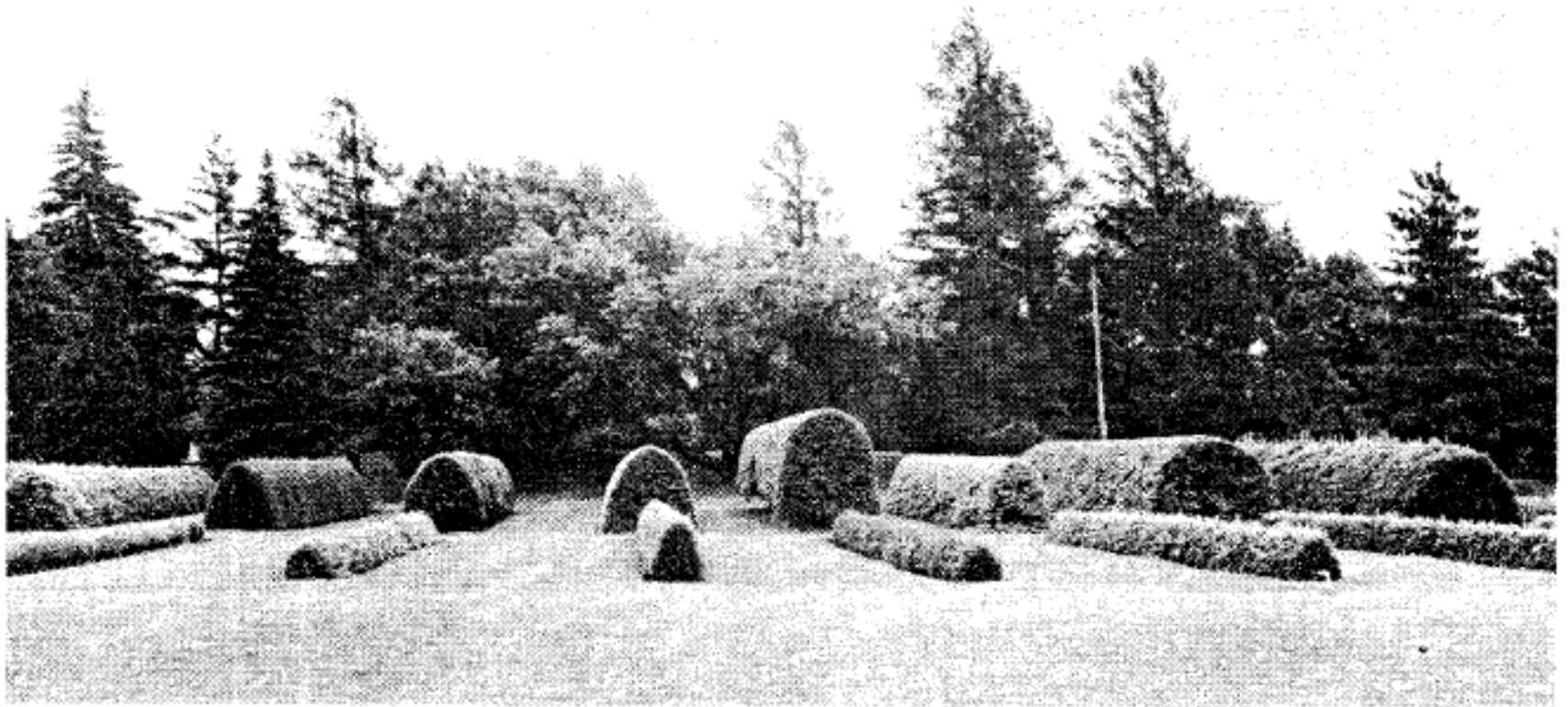


Figure 1 Hedges may be of many sizes and shapes.

General Guidelines

- End hedge in fixed object such as a building or a mass planting
- Screen an unattractive view
- Emphasize color of plantings against green of clipped hedge
- Alter apparent dimensions of property
- Outline or give character to flower beds
- Use flowering shrubs, requiring less pruning but more space, for color

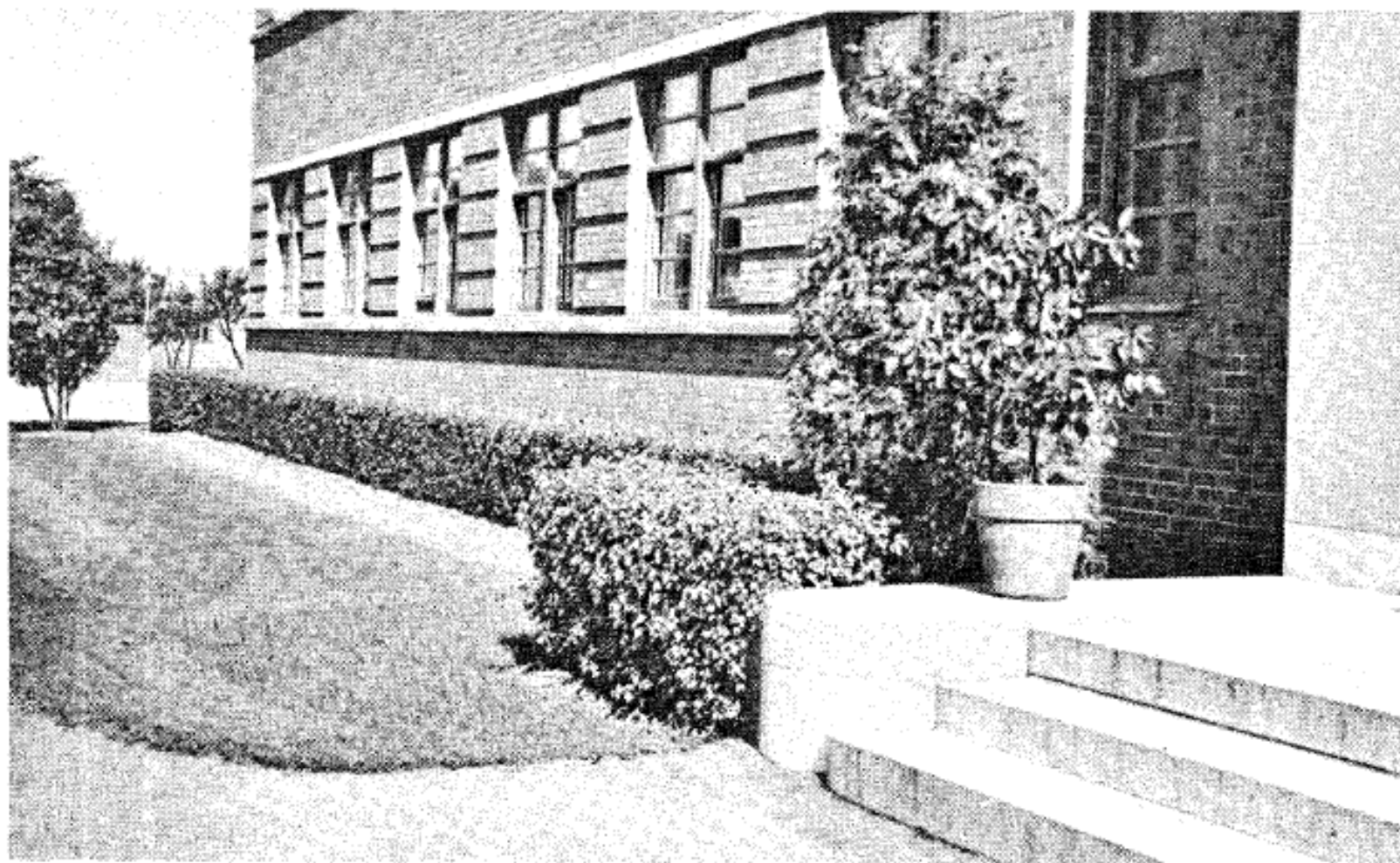


Figure 2 Clipped hedges are suitable as accents for long, low buildings.

Hedge Selection

- Evergreen or deciduous
- Height at maturity
- Texture and Color of plants
- Casual or Formal Look
- Type of Soil
- Amount of Light
- Neighborhood Animals
- Rate of Growth

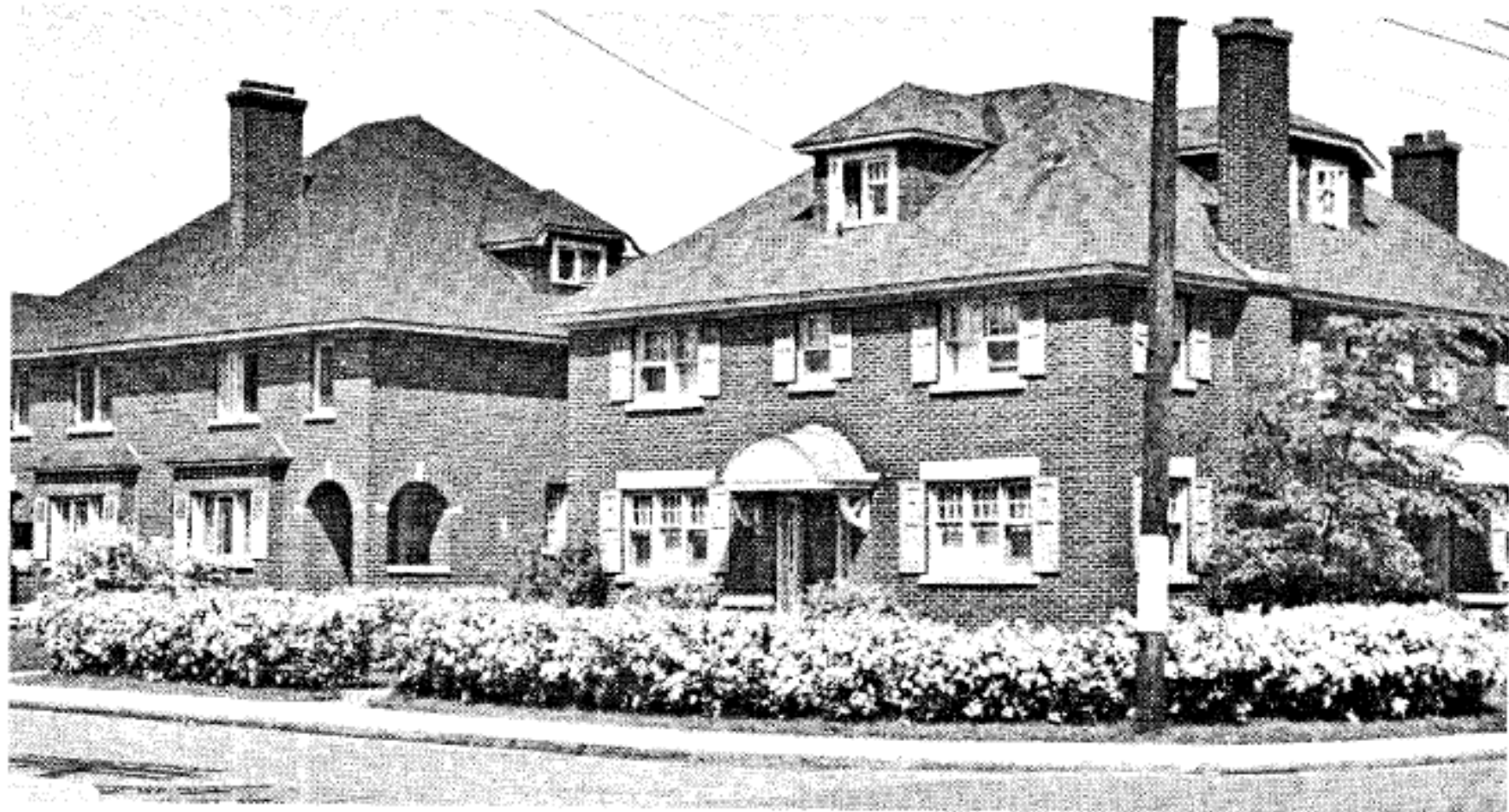
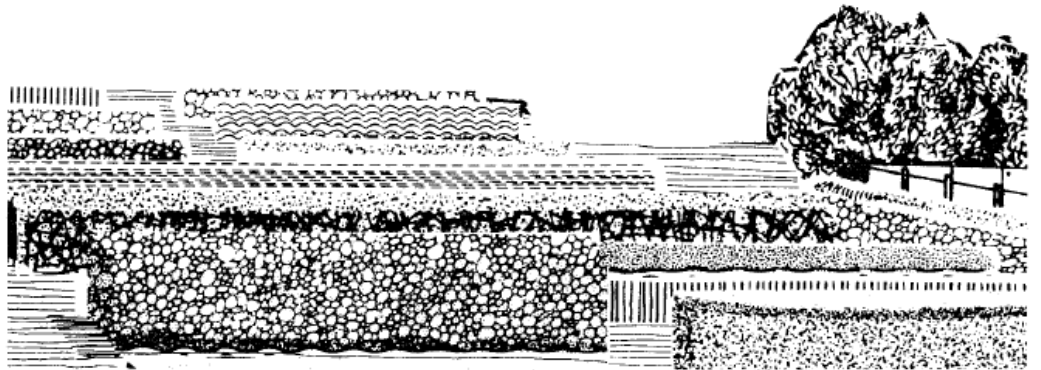


Figure 3 Flowering hedges are more informal.

Planting Your Hedge

- Time of Year
- Plant Size
- Placement
- Spacing
- Setting the Plants



Planting--Time

- Time of Year
 - Deciduous—spring before buds or
October after leaves have fallen
 - Evergreens—May or September
 - Cedar or arborvitae—may be moved
at almost any time if well-watered

Planting--Size

- Plant size
 - Deciduous:
 - 2 years old grown from seed
 - Cuttings cut back at end of first season's growth
 - (Tall, spindly plants should be cut to ground)
 - Evergreens:
 - Four-year-old seedlings, no trimming

Note: May use larger plants if they are bushy to the ground

Planting--Location

- Placement
 - On property line if common project between two neighbors
 - 75-100 cm inside line if one owner's property
 - Check city laws governing set-backs

Planting--Preparation

- Soil Preparation

- Trench 40-50 cm deep and 50-60 wide
- Topsoil on one side, subsoil on other side
- 5-10 cm layer thoroughly rotted barnyard leaf mold or manure in bottom of trench
- Turn manure or mold into subsoil with fork
- Cover with 5-10 cm topsoil before planting
- String line 15 cm to one side of hedge center

Planting--Spacing

- Single-row or staggered double row planting more satisfactory
 - Single row more satisfactory
 - Staggered double row sometimes used takes many more plants and is harder to trim causing higher mortality and difficult replacement
- Distance varies with kind and ultimate height
 - 50 cm apart for 100-200 cm height
 - 15-20 cm apart for pyramidal plants
 - 75-100 cm for taller hedges, particularly screens and windbreaks

Planting—setting plants

- Set slightly deeper than formerly growing
- Space evenly, using a guide
- Space same distance from string
- Gently shake up and down to loosen soil
- Prevent fine roots from drying
- Cover with wet material while planting, placing one at a time in trench
- Cover roots after whole row is placed with topsoil
- Soak ground thoroughly
- Fill with remainder of earth, leaving ridge to facilitate watering

Trimming Your Hedge

- At time of planting
 - Cut back to a point 5-10 cm above base of past season's growth
 - Repeat following year if dense growth to ground is desired
 - Never cut conifers past young tips
- Trim or Clip when smooth, dense surface is desired
 - Use shears or electric clippers
 - Distinct difference from thinning or pruning

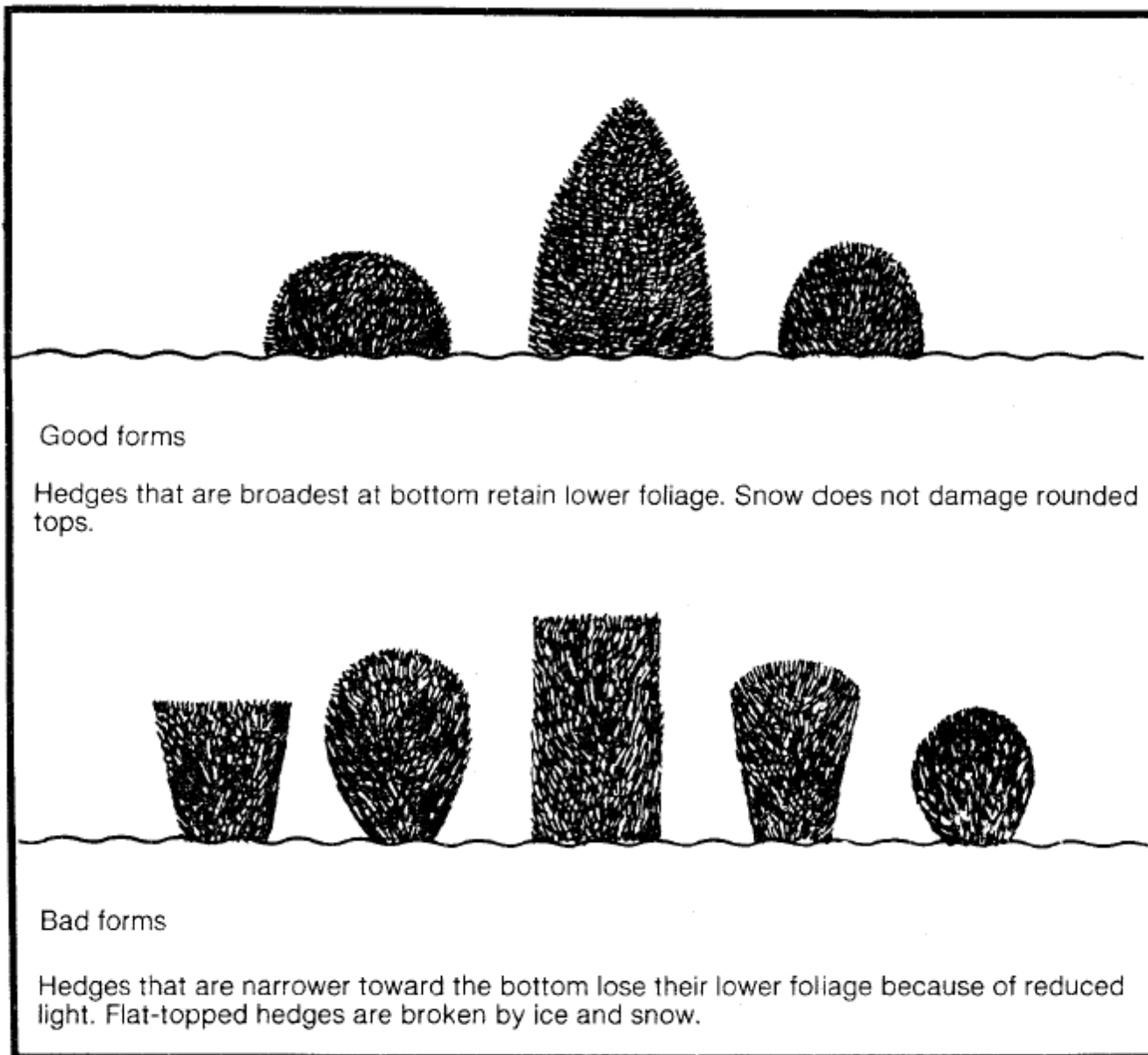


Figure 4 Hedge shapes, correct and incorrect.

Later Trimming

- Yearly trim top and sides at least once a year until maturity
 - Rapid growth before trimming gives thick top and thin open sides
 - May be trimmed at almost any time of year except when wood is frozen or during hot, dry spell
- Fast growing shrubs may require twice or more yearly trims to keep them looking neat
- Evergreens vary as have later growth
 - Trim pine, spruce, hemlock middle of July
 - Trim Young pine with knife in mid-June
 - Cedar finished active growth in September

Trimming for Shape

- Shape
 - Round or pointed top preferable as flat tops may be broken by ice and snow
 - Sides trimmed to be wider at base than at top to keep lower foliage healthy
 - Cut back close to base of current season's growth when reaches maintenance height (grow only 3-5 cm in height and width yearly)
 - May be cut in topiary or buttress shapes

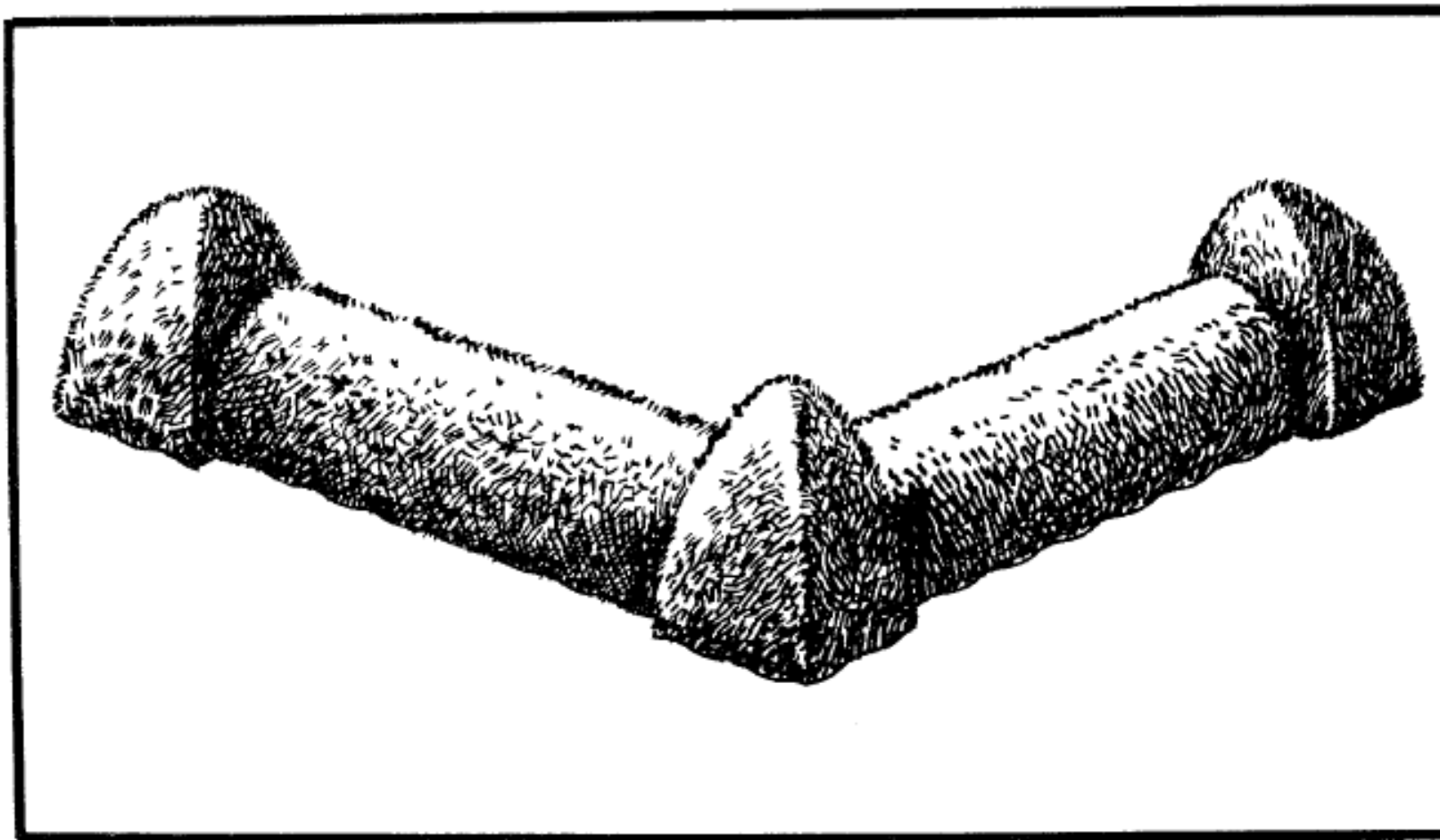


Figure 5 Diagram of a buttressed hedge.

Trimming Flowering Hedges

- Trim as soon as possible after flowering
- Use knife or secateurs, removing individual branches
- Thin only sufficient wood to prevent shrub from growing beyond bounds of uniform line
- Cut below laterals that have borne flowers, but above point at which new growth will provide next year's flowers

Trimming Neglected Hedges

- Cut back severely in early spring for revival in few years
- Use secateurs to remove all dead wood and cut back individual thick branches 50 cm or more below desired height
- Cut off younger wood on sides and top 15-25 cm below desired height
- This allows new growth to make dense surface

Trimming Neglected Evergreens

- Evergreens do not readily put out new foliage from old wood—will not recover well
- May try to cut out main leaders 30 cm below desired height for cedars, spruce, or yews
- Tie branches from sides together to fill gap
- In time, branches will stay in place and new shoots will gradually fill in space
- Slow process, wiser to remove hedge and plant new one

Feeding Hedges

- Further feeding necessary for continued health after planting
- Add organic mulches amended with general purpose chemical fertilizer and spread over ground beneath hedge
- One m cubed mulch and 2 kg fertilizer for 20 m of hedge
- Feed only every 2 or 3 years after established to prevent too rapid growth

Diseases and Insects

Arborvitae, cedars, birches, linden and lilacs
subject to attack by leaf-miners

- Hawthorns attacked by same insects as apple
- Lilac and honeysuckle when crowded or shaded develop mildew
- Spirea and Siberian elm suffer wood-rotting fungi at the base
- Siberian elm susceptible to Dutch elm disease

Disease and Pest Control

- Contact Sprays may control sucking insects such as aphid
- Stomach poisons may control biting insects
- Sprays will not cure fungus diseases but will prevent spread of disease
- Contact extension services for advice on identification and control of diseases and insects