When famed writer M.F.K. Fisher moved into the new house she had built on her friend David Pleydell-Bouverie’s ranch, she was 63 and ready to downsize. But it was not to be a retirement home.

Beginning in the 1930s with “Serve it Forth,” Fisher was the first to write extravagantly about food as metaphor and memoir in a lush and literary way that earned her an elite spot among 20th-century writers. Her two decades in the two-room cottage in Glen Ellen was a fertile time. She wrote and published 13 books and entertained friends such as Julia Child, James Beard, Alice Waters, Herb Caen and Maya Angelou, typically over simple meals from her galley kitchen.

She called her bungalow “Last House.” Here she consorted with “Sister Age” as she called it, fiercely determined to continue writing despite debilitating arthritis and Parkinson’s disease, writing by dictation and even in her head.

“I’m not hungry anymore,” she told New York Times Magazine Food Columnist Molly O’Neill two years before she died, alluding to the inner cravings that drove her work.

“Yet this is the most creative time of my life.”

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The old house was like loving someone you’d been passionately about but just can’t live with anymore.”

Golden said. Westfield’s offer to allow Fisher to build a house not far from her own in Healds

“set in.”

difficult to navigate as arthritis were a lot to maintain and counting attic and basement,

She was totally incapable of running a bed and breakfast she loved the house, it was too

had left the nest and my moth had

During her middle years she shared took root and flourished.

At ease in the landscape, as if it

M.F.K. Fisher filled Last House with fresh flowers, paintings and objects with special meaning collected over a lifetime.

Fishel, who studies the cozy

“Sensual pleasures

"Writing was the way she

"It’s a message of the pan

"She loved that thing," Golden said. "She felt

"It’s a really important thing

"It’s another thing we all

"Writing was the way she

"The old house was like living with

"The fourth takeaway from

"It wasn’t a high rise but Fisher

"You need to be comfortable with

"Mary Fisher lived in Last House with fresh flowers, paintings and objects with special meaning collected over a lifetime."

JAMES FANUCCHI

Leslie Golden, a daughter, said the

"A contemporary photo at Last House shows the red bedflowers that Fisher lived with, many by her second husband, Dillwyn Parrish."