



Beatrix Farrand Society

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Bronze phoenix bibcock, on the restoration list at Garland Farm.

Write Now!

Contribute to the BFS Newsletter and aspire to a Pulitzer Prize.

Contact the editor:

Editor@BeatrixFarrand.org

Pressley Associates Wins CLR Contract

by Judith B. Tankard

After deliberating over final proposals from five prestigious Northeast firms, we are delighted to announce that the contract for the Garland Farm Cultural Landscape Report has been awarded to Pressley Associates of Cambridge, Massachusetts. This firm has an outstanding record in researching and restoring both public and private historic properties nationwide as well as practical experience with Maine's historic landscapes. Lauren Meier, who is part of the team working on this project, said in a recent interview: "We are honored and delighted to join the Beatrix Farrand Society as it undertakes the next phase of work on Garland Farm. As Farrand's only extant residence, Garland Farm joins a small, but distinctive list of nationally significant residential properties associated with important artists and designers, including the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, and Daniel Chester French's Chesterwood. All are deeply personal properties that provide insight into the aesthetic sensibilities of each individual. Garland Farm is particularly important as the home of one of a small band of pioneering female landscape architects and clearly deserves the national recognition and thorough analysis the Cultural Landscape Report will provide."

The study, which is projected to take one year, will be the base upon which garden restoration will begin in 2007. Phase 1 will consist of a site history, including a detailed narrative chronology documenting the development of the property. The firm will consult historic documents and materials held at Garland Farm, the Smithsonian Institution, and local repositories as well as published writings by and about Beatrix Farrand. During the research phase, the firm will document existing conditions, including field checking plant material and inventorying existing features and structures. Pressley Associates will present their findings to the board this Fall. Phase 2 will include oral history interviews, analysis of integrity, a statement of significance, a plan dating from 1959, and a framework for treatment. Final presentations to the board are scheduled for January 2007.

The team consists of firm principal Marion Pressley, FASLA, whose projects include master plans for four of Frederick Law Olmsted's Emerald Necklace Parks in Boston as well as numerous private residences. Lauren Meier, ASLA, founder of the National Park Service's Historic Landscape Initiative, prepared the CLR for the Longfellow National Historic Site in Cambridge, Massachusetts, renowned for its gardens by Ellen Shipman and Martha Brookes Hutcheson. She also wrote the National Register nomination for Acadia National Park and an assessment of the Motor Road at Acadia. Gary Paul Forst, ASLA, who brings to the project his expertise in horticulture, worked with Marion on the rehabilitation plan for the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in Cornish, New Hampshire, and Jill Sinclair, an independent historic landscape preservationist and a recent graduate of Harvard's Landscape Institute, will provide technical writing and research skills. For a firm profile and information on specific projects, visit www.pressleyinc.com cont. p. 2

Annual Meeting: Sunday, July 30

The third Annual Meeting of the Beatrix Farrand Society will be Sunday, July 30, at 2:30 PM, at Garland Farm. Members and their guests are welcome. Members and the public are invited to a lecture, entitled "From Munstead Wood to the Maine Woods" by garden historian Judith Tankard, to follow business meeting at 3:30.

Restoration/Repairs:

2005

- ✓ Critical Tree Support/Pruning
- ✓ Restoration Shrub Pruning
- ✓ Greenhouse Foundation
- ✓ Gallery Railings
- ✓ Library Shelving Installation

2006

- Cultural Landscape Report
- ✓ Exterior Painting (orig. color)
- ✓ Greenhouse Reglazing
- ✓ Greenhouse Bench Restoration
- ✓ Reglazing doors & windows
- Critical Tree Work--Part II
- Restore Rear Garden Fence
- Front Path Restoration
- Field Nursery Preparation
- Field Parking Grading
- Glass Porch Restoration
- BF Bathroom Restoration
- Re-roof Barn

We eagerly look forward to the results of the CLR which will not only focus on restoration priorities for the gardens, but also provide recommendations for converting Garland Farm to the educational center that the BFS envisions there. Funding for the CLR was made possible in part by the Barksdale-Dabney-Henry Fund of the Baltimore Community Foundation, to whom we are most grateful. Our sincere thanks go to BFS board member Diane Kostial McGuire and the others who served as screeners for the application and selection process.

**Garland Farm Docent Program Launched**

Please consider volunteering as a docent at Garland Farm this summer. The program, under the direction of committee chairman Emily Fuchs, was launched in early June to prepare for the visiting convention delegates from the Maine State Garden Federation, June 13-15. Garland Farm will only be open by arranged visits, and acting as a guide is an excellent way to help the public learn more about Mrs. Farrand and her life here in Maine. If you are interested in participating, please contact Emily Fuchs at [207-276-5034](tel:207-276-5034). She can also be reached at VP@BeatrixFarrand.org



This wood fence panel, in the rear of the Terrace Garden, was originally a cornice molding at 'Chiltern,' the Bar Harbor home of Mrs. Farrand's great friends and clients Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Scott. She salvaged them when the house was razed, and used them in a fence at Reef Point. She brought them here in 1955.

**Book of the Month...**

Books are pouring in for the Garland Farm Library. Another rare tome, Inigo Triggs' classic *The Art of Garden Design in Italy* (1906), has been donated by an anonymous bibliophile. If you are thinning or downsizing your library, please keep Garland Farm in mind as a place where inspiring books will be long used and widely appreciated.

**Green Spaces, Green Places:
Exhibition of Panoramic Photographs
15 June to 4 August at the Blum Gallery, COA**

The Blum Gallery at the College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, is hosting a special reception on July 29 from 4 to 6PM to meet the artist, Esther Pullman. She recently exhibited her work at The Lyman Greenhouse at Wellesley College. This exhibition of a selection of remarkable panoramic photographs of greenhouses that Esther has been taking for a number of years opens on June 15 and closes on August 4. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10AM to 4PM and by special arrangement.


http://www.coa.edu/html/pressreleases_160.htm

Conference Report on 'Edith Wharton and the American Garden'

by Diane Kostial McGuire

'Edith Wharton and the American Garden,' the 2006 Garden Conference held at The Mount in Lenox in May, addressed Edith Wharton's achievements as a landscape designer and garden theorist and examined the significance of the landscape at The Mount in the history and development of the American garden. It also cast light on the relationship between Wharton and her niece Beatrix Jones, both in their collaborative efforts at The Mount and in Beatrix's later work which she undertook in California.

It has been heretofore assumed that Beatrix Jones was primarily responsible for most of the landscape design decisions at The Mount, whereas it now appears that their effort was truly collaborative. In many ways, Edith and Beatrix had parallel careers, one in the world of literature, the other in the art of landscape gardening, but there were many times when collaboration took place and one learned from the other.

Fortunately, there is a plan to publish the Conference papers, in which many tantalizing subjects are discussed and questioned, and the influence of Beatrix in Edith's development as landscape designer and garden theorist is acknowledged. In the meantime, a visit to the Mount with its newly restored gardens, and newly installed library, will be of enormous interest to members of the Beatrix Farrand Society. 

New Membership Forms Available

New forms (with updated membership categories) are available for renewals and new members on the new website: www.BeatrixFarrand.org
BFS Sec/Treas Howard Monroe hopes to synchronize membership renewals to spring with upcoming letters to members.

Questions?? E-mail info@BeatrixFarrand.org



"Wish List"...

Resources:

- Documents and photos of Beatrix Farrand designs
- Books with Beatrix Jones or Beatrix Farrand bookplates.
- Reference books in art, architecture, horticulture, design, planning, and botany.
- Personal correspondence, furnishings, and objects from Mrs. Farrand.
- Digitizing of Jekyll Microfilms

Equipment:(new /used)

- Fixed-bed Photocopier
- Large-screen Television
- Microfilm Reader
- Digital Camera
- Picnic Table
- Flat Files
- Greenhouse Oil Heater
- Dehumidifiers
- Slide/transparency scanner

Garden Tools:(new/used)

- Leaf Blower
- Rakes
- Lifting Forks
- Pruning Shears
- Crow Bars
- Ax and Hatchet
- Chainsaw
- Garden Cart
- Snow Blower
- Garden Cart
- ✓ Lawn Mower

And the flowers flew...
Floral demonstration and workshop by Boston area floral artist Pauline Runkle drew a capacity crowd at Garland Farm last summer.

Pauline (center, back-to) here directs participants in creating their own floral extravaganzas—with lush imported exotic flowers.



Save these Dates r

Coming BFS Attractions

Lectures and Workshops for Summer

• Wednesday, July 26, at 10:00 AM

Dr. William Cullina, chief plant propagator for the New England Wildflower Society, will speak on "Made in Maine: Native Plants Downeast."

• Sunday, July 30, 3:30 PM

Judith Tankard, author and garden historian, will present a talk entitled "From Munstead Wood to the Maine Woods: How the Jekyll Collection came to Reef Point.", following the Third Annual Meeting of the Beatrix Farrand Society. Reception and booksigning to follow the lecture.

• Saturday, August 19, at 10:30 AM

Jack Staub, author and garden designer, will present a lecture on "The Art of the Vegetable Garden, Past and Present". Booksigning to follow lecture. Mr. Staub will also orchestrate an afternoon hands-on workshop on bamboo trellis design and construction at 1 PM for a small group. A picnic lunch is available.

For more information, or to reserve tickets:

e-mail: VP@BeatrixFarrand.org, or telephone the Program Coordinator at (207) 276-5034.

Parking on adjacent Bayview Drive and in the adjacent Garland Farm field off Bayview Drive.

Bob Golden named to Advisory Council.

The Board is delighted to announce the addition of Bob Golden as an information technology advisor. He formerly served as executive assistant to the Director of the Museum of Glass and Ceramics, in Portland, ME, and as an analyst for a major Boston mutual fund company. He makes his home in Brownfield, ME, and is a strong Garland Farm volunteer and supporter. Welcome aboard, Bob!




Fix-It Day '06

Following on the success of Garland Farm Fix-It Day last August, another is planned for Wednesday August 16th. Lists of building and garden tasks are being accumulated for this day of community

support for Garland Farm. If you have an hour or more to spare, and want to join in this hive of activity, call the BFS line (207-288-0237) and leave your name and number as a volunteer.

The starting bell rings at 9 AM and will continue to be rung whenever a task on the chalkboard list is completed. A picnic/barbeque lunch will be served at noon, masterminded by our multi talented chef-caretaker Caroline Felkel.

If you're handy with tools, bring your favorites and show off your skills. All trades are welcome. Volunteer gardeners will find a wealth of worthwhile projects to tackle. Even bibliophiles have a niche--working to shelve and organize the new library collection. 

New Phone

at Garland Farm:

(207)288-0237

or

(207)288-0BFS