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A FOCUS ON CAMBRIDGE, MA

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The Pelham Map

"Plan of Boston in New England with its Environs" was published in London in 1777. The map depicts roads, houses, and many landscape features in Boston, Cambridge, and nearby towns.
news from the managing editor

Commencing with this issue, Perspectives will function as an archival resource to the NELDHA community. Each issue will have a theme that runs through and connects the feature articles.

The current issue focuses on landscape design and land use in Cambridge, Massachusetts, from an historical “Perspective.” As one of the oldest communities in the United States, Cambridge is rich in garden history. Included in this issue are: a history of Pre-Revolutionary gardens with Harvard connections; gardens that are known from the map made by Henry Pelham in 1777; two late-nineteenth century gardens of houses that are still lived in today; and a history of Mt. Auburn Cemetery, established 1831, the first rural cemetery in the country. A list of Cambridge institutions is also provided as a resource for the study of historical design.

After thirty years of dedicated leadership, John Furlong has announced that he will be stepping down as director of the Landscape Institute. His presence, happily, will be felt as he will continue as instructor at the LI.

The Annual Report has been submitted by President Heidi Kost-Gross. This document is required under the terms of NELDHA’s non-profit status and details all the many interesting activities sponsored by NELDHA over the past year.

This issue of Perspectives also serves as a lead-in to the next, which will delve further into the riches of the landscapes of Cambridge.

Future topics will be international garden trusts and preservation societies, interviews with prominent landscape personages, and any subject in which the membership expresses interest.

Big thank-yous to JoAnn Robinson, former Editor of Perspectives, Karen Falb, Features Editor, and President Heidi Kost-Gross for gifts of time, patience, information, and energy.

Fran Gustman

We invite our readers to contribute to the new Commentary column under their own bylines. We ask only that articles be relevant to the NELDHA community, either for professional edification or networking. We look forward to covering alumni news, literary writing, and opinions. We particularly enjoy hearing of trips taken in this country or more distant places, such as the September study-tour in Italy led by Marie Stella and sponsored by the Landscape Institute. This column replaces “Dirt Diva” and “From the Grapevine.”

We look forward to receiving many exciting and provocative submissions.
The Hidden Gardens of Harvard

Patterns of Land Use
in the West End of Cambridge
Part I, 1630-1900

Paige Jarvis Mercer

Elmwood, now the residence of Harvard's President, exemplifies the spaciousness of the former Tory estates of Cambridge.

Apthorp House, residence of the Master of Adams House at Harvard, has its original courtyard and terrace. It is dwarfed by Randolph Hall, one of the first private dormitories, to the right in the photo.
The private gardens of Harvard University exemplify the history of land use in the West End of Cambridge. Three of the earliest Cambridge gardens are those of Craigie-Vassall, Elmwood, and Apthorp House. The three houses number among the finest that survive from the pre-Revolutionary era. Their gardens helped establish a pattern of grand gardens at Harvard.

Early Cambridge
The histories of Harvard University and the city of Cambridge are inextricably intertwined. Newtowne, as Cambridge was originally called, was founded in 1630 between the tidal marshes on the north side of the winding Charles River, Fresh Pond to the north, and Watertown to the west. With a more strategic location than Boston, also settled in 1630, Newtowne was chosen as the first capital of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Harvard College, the first American institution of higher learning, was incorporated in 1636 in the new capital. In 1638, the colony’s governing courts moved to Boston. At the same time, the town’s name was changed to Cambridge in honor of John Harvard’s alma mater, Cambridge University in England. His bequest to Harvard in 1639 was honored by naming the institution after him.

In the early seventeenth century, Cambridge followed a medieval style of land allotments assigned on a grid of streets. A pallysadoe, or fence of wooden palings, surrounded the town. Each owner was assigned fields beyond the pallysadoe. A large parcel, or common, was set aside for public use, such as drilling militia and pasturing cattle. The original layout still exists as Mount Auburn, Kennedy, Holyoke and Dunster streets, and the common is now a public park.

Cambridge Country Estates of the 18th Century
By the eighteenth century the pallysadoe had been removed, and many farms were established outside the town core. Merchants and government officials with primary homes in Boston began to establish country estates along the Charles River, buying up small farms and building new mansions to serve as their summer residences. Land with a view of the Charles River was greatly esteemed, for it was visible proof of a man’s wealth, political power, and connection to the crown.

The three most important estates were the Craigie-Vassall, Elmwood, and Apthorp, with beautiful Georgian houses, as well as significant pre-revolutionary gardens. The Revolution ended the aristocratic life style of the Tories. Their houses and lands were confiscated and, during the New England campaign years of 1775 and 1776, turned over to the use of the Provincial Army. After the war, almost without exception, each estate was sold to and restored by a new owner.

Craigie-Vassall
John Vassall built a fine high-Georgian mansion in 1759. His was the largest estate on Tory Row, combining ten lots to bring its total acreage to eighty-seven. As Vassall was a Loyalist, his estate was confiscated in 1775 to become the headquarters for the Provincial troops and George Washington’s temporary home.

After the war, Andrew Craigie, Apothecary General to the Northern Army and an entrepreneur who made and lost a fortune on speculation, acquired the estate. He entertained lavishly and it is said that Talleyrand was a guest at his house [see Ed. Note]. Craigie added to the estate, bringing the total acreage to one hundred forty and built a summerhouse on Observation Hill.1

After Craigie’s death, much of the land was sold off as subdivisions for workers’ houses; the bogger section ultimately became the site of the Cambridge Skating Club. His widow, who retained the house, rented rooms to young professors or students at Harvard. When Henry Wadsworth Longfellow first visited Mrs. Craigie to rent rooms on a summer afternoon in 1837, he wrote in his journal that “he could see the waters of the Charles River gleaming in the meadows.”

Longfellow reported that Mrs. Craigie was “an eccentric who loved flowers, cats and a man other than her husband.”2 She dressed in a white turban and flowing caftan. “When the canker-worms came spinning down from the elm trees, she would sit by the open window and let them crawl over her white turban. She refused to have the trees protected from them and said, ‘Why, Sir, they have as good a right to live as we.’”

When Mrs. Craigie died in 1841, Joseph Worcester, a geographer and fellow tenant of Longfellow, took over the house. He was very fond of gardening and took pride in his pears and “wing-necked” squash. Longfellow lamented that Worcester cut down the elm trees in front of the house, which had been ravaged by canker worms: “[T]hus fell those magnificent elms which signalized the place and under whose shadow Washington had walked.”

In 1843, Nathan Appleton bought the house as a wedding present for his daughter, Fanny, and her new husband, Longfellow. Included in the purchase were five acres around the house and four in front to maintain the river view. Longfellow immediately replaced his beloved elms, repaired the house and built a new stable. He transplanted
The terracing and stone steps of the Longfellow House at 103 Brattle Street date from 1759 when the house was built by John Vassall. Longfellow’s formal garden is to the right rear.

The garden of Alice Longfellow, designed by Ellen Biddle Shipman in 1925, is shown after its recent restoration.

large specimen trees with varying success. The linden avenue in the back of the property was planted in 1843. The grounds were laid out, fruit trees planted, and an acacia hedge added in 1844. The trelliswork by the flower garden was part of an old covered walk to theouthouse, and the gateway was brought over from the College yard. In 1845, Longfellow imported a number of evergreens from England, including cedar-of-Lebanon and Himalayan, Norway, Helvetican, and Oregon pines. He continued the gravel walk around the house and set out a hedge of sweetbriar and barberry, as well as a grove of little pine and hemlock. He "made the flower garden, laying it out in the form of a lyre, built the rustic seat in the old apple tree, and set out the roses under the library window." A plan for the garden at the time of Longfellow’s death in 1882 shows elm, catalpa, lilac, chestnut, ash, sugar maple, honey locust, and American linden, with the only surviving evergreen tree being a spruce in the back. The formal garden had a parterre border of boxwood.

The four-acre meadow between the old mansion and the Charles River was laid out in 1887 by Charles Eliot as a memorial to the poet. It was given to the city of Cambridge as Longfellow Park with the stipulation that the site remained always open. In 1888, the Longfellow children divided up the estate, leaving Alice, the oldest, in the house with responsibility for its upkeep. In 1904, Alice Longfellow hired Martha Brooks Hutcheson to restore the formal garden to its former glory; she was also to create a garden room for Alice with trellises, arbor, fencing, and a shrub border. In 1925, Alice hired Ellen Shipman to restore the plantings in the formal garden, especially the boxwood.

The property is now under the supervision of the National Park Service, which has recently restored the house and gardens. The 1992 “plan of existing conditions” documents lilac, elm, linden, maple, honey locust, oak, pine, hemlock, yew, and rhododendron. In Alice’s Garden, mock orange, barberry, daylily, and other perennials have been added, as well as clematis over the latticework.

Elmwood

In 1767, Thomas Oliver, a plantation owner from Antigua, built The Homestead, a yellow and white, three-story house. Oliver Wendell Holmes described Elmwood as a “square-fronted edifice that stands back from the vulgar highway with folded arms.” The house was surrounded by ninety-eight acres of broad fields and had a fine view of the Charles River.

Thomas Oliver and his family were driven off the estate in September 1774 by a mob of four thousand, who objected to his role as crown-appointed Lieutenant Governor. The Olivers sailed for England during the evacuation of Boston in March, 1776. During the spring campaign, the estate was the headquarters of Benedict Arnold, housing sixty in tents in the meadows. After the Battle of Bunker Hill, the Provincial Army used the house as a hospital.

In 1787, Elbridge Gerry (who served as Governor of Massachusetts, Ambassador to France, and Vice President under James Madison) bought the estate. Elbridge Gerry’s stay in the house did not go any more smoothly than Oliver’s. While Gerry was in France, mobs harassed his wife. He died in 1818, and Mrs. Gerry then sold the house to the Reverend Charles Lowell for funds with which to pay her husband’s debts.

Reverend Lowell named the estate Elmwood “for the English elms that stood like sturdy islanders guarding the grounds.” His son, the poet and Harvard professor, James Russell Lowell, was born, raised, and died there, and claimed that he was happy nowhere else. In his essay, “My Garden Acquaintances,” James Russell Lowell paints a bucolic picture, writing lovingly about his natural surroundings: the goldfinch stealing lettuce seeds, a turtle dove in the...
mulberry tree near the house, bobolinks in the meadows, a black walnut at the bottom of the garden, a “cornel bush” (probably a Cornelian cherry, **Cornus mas**) at the edge of the raspberries, a tall white lilac twenty feet from his bedroom window, an apple tree in full bloom, pears, cherries, the pine walk, buttonwood, the fibrous honeysuckle bark, the crumblify cliff of a gravel pit near the river, robins, jays, catbirds, finches, and “the dead limbs of our elms, which I spare to that end, bring us the flicker every summer... digging little holes through the bark.”

Lowell’s heirs laid out Trail Street in 1892 and subdivided much of the property but held onto the house until the twentieth century. In 1925, they sold Elmwood and nine acres to Kingsley Porter, authority on Romanesque art and Harvard professor.

The property remained with the Porters until Mrs. Porter died in 1962. Porter’s will stipulated that the house go to Harvard upon his widow’s death. Since 1971, Elmwood has been the President’s residence.

Elmwood and its grounds have served Harvard well. Thomas Oliver and Elbridge Gerry had hosted afternoon garden parties for Harvard students. There James Russell Lowell held his Dante classes and Kingsley Porter entertained his students every Sunday afternoon for tea.

Today Elmwood is still painted its original deep yellow. Photos show that its style of plantings has remained relatively unchanged, minus its wonderful elms. In the 1990s, the driveway circle with its rhododendron, pine, and a magnificent viburnum — covered with red berries in late summer — was made into a perennial garden encircled by boxwood.

**Apthorpe House**

Built in 1761 for the Reverend East Apthorp, Apthorpe House is architecturally distinct in the late Georgian style. Apthorpe’s six-acre estate enjoyed terraces and gardens leading down to the Charles River.

East Apthorpe was the first Anglican missionary to Cambridge and first rector of the new Christ Church. Disapproving Congregationalists in Cambridge called the house the “Bishop’s Palace” and viewed its ornamentation and interior elegance as symbolic of British influence and the rising popularity of the Anglican Church. By 1764, Apthorpe and his family had left for a parish near London, and the estate was sold to another Tory, John Borland.

Borland, who bought the house and three acres in 1765, added a third floor to accommodate his twelve children. In 1770, Borland’s land ran between Brattle Street (Massachusetts Avenue), Back Lane (Mount Auburn Street), and Crooked Lane (Holyoke Street) towards what is now Central Square. The land was comprised of woodland, swamp and pasture.

After his family fled in the evacuation of Tories from Boston in March of 1775, Borland shared his house with General Israel Putnam and his staff. On June 17, Borland fell off a ladder while coming down from the roof, where he had perched to watch the Battle of Bunker Hill. He later died of his injuries. A year and a half later, the defeated English general Burgoyne and his staff were lodged at Apthorpe House.

Following the Revolution, Apthorpe House ended up on the wrong side of the tracks. The Cambridge real-estate boom of the late eighteenth century had begun with the construction of the West Boston Bridge (now the Longfellow Bridge) in 1793, prompting the subdivision of many estates into lots for shops and homes. The Apthorpe property, in the center of town, also lost land to construction. By 1803, two new streets, Linden and Plympton, ran from Harvard Yard through Apthorpe property to the Charles River.

Later owners included Apthorpe descendants in the family line of architect Charles Bulfinch. In 1813, Susan Apthorpe Bulfinch wrote to the daughter of East Apthorpe: “[Apthorpe House] is a very good and elegant house, delightfully situated, commanding an extensive view of the river and surrounding country, well cultivated as far as the eye can reach.” During this period, Apthorpe House had elaborately terraced gardens and an orchard. It was again at the center of Cambridge social life.

In 1898, descendants of the Apthorp family built Randolph Hall, a privately owned dormitory for Harvard students on the estate grounds, which included a gym and tennis court. Apthorpe House and Randolph Hall were purchased by Harvard in 1916, and incorporated into the Adams House dormitory complex, completed in 1931. Today Apthorpe House is the residence of the master of Adams House.  

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1. Now the site of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, 60 Garden Street.
2. Longfellow may have been referring to Mrs. Craigie’s good friend, William Dandridge Peck, Massachusetts Professor of Natural History at Harvard College and director of the Harvard Botanical Garden.
3. Current plant names are in parentheses: cedar-of-Lebanon (**Cedrus libani**); Himalayan pine (**Pinus wallichiana**); Norway pine (red pine, **Pinus resinosa**); Helvetian pine (Swiss stone pine, **Pinus cembra**); Oregon pine (Douglas fir, **Pseudotsuga menziesii**).

**Note:** The framework for this article was provided by Paige Jarvis Mercer’s Independent Project in Landscape History for the Radcliffe Seminars, entitled *An Overview of the Hidden Gardens of Harvard: The History of Patterns of Land Use in the West End of Cambridge from 1600-2000*, as Examplified by the Private Gardens of Harvard University.

**Editor’s Note:** Charles-Maurice Talleyrand-Perigord, French diplomat and traveler in the Colonies, strongly influenced the success of the American Revolution.

Ms. Mercer received her Graduate Certificate in Landscape Design in 1993 and her Graduate Certificate in Landscape Design History in 2000, both from the Radcliffe Seminars.

In the Fall issue of Perspectives, Paige Jarvis Mercer will lay out the theory, history, and design of Harvard’s hidden gardens of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
Produced during the Revolutionary War in 1777 by Henry Pelham, the map entitled “A Plan of Boston in New England with its Environ” is both beautiful and informative (cover illustration). The large map, 122 cm by 79 cm, is engraved on two sheets. Its subtitle, “With the MILITARY WORKS Constructed in these Places in the Years 1775 and 1776,” explains its purpose as an aid to the British war effort.2

Landscape historians have found the map invaluable for understanding contemporaneous garden designs around Boston. In this period, many merchants and politically influential families continued the English custom of developing country estates for income and as summer residences. Among the forts, batteries, and redoubts, both British and "rebel," the map shows mansions, barns, and gardens, including Governor Shirley’s in Roxbury and Isaac Royall’s in Medford. Of particular interest to this study are five estates strung along the north side of “The Road to Watertown,” or Tory Row, now known as Brattle Street, in Cambridge. Owned originally by two families related through marriage, the property was developed between 1758 and 1767.

Comparison of the five estates reveals mid-eighteenth century conventions for siting mansions, barns, and gardens. The mansions face south to take advantage of solar energy. Each enjoys an unobstructed view of the lower salt marshes and the Charles River and is viewed in turn by passers-by on the road and river. Unlike most residences on the map, the five houses are set back generously from the road, allowing for a front courtyard. Barns are behind the houses but not on axis. Gardens have a geometric design reminiscent of gardens of the Italian Renaissance, Tudor England, or Colonial Williamsburg, placed on a side axis from the house so as to be seen from the road or on a direct axis from a center-back door. Axial gardens were meant to be viewed also from the upper floors of the house.

The oldest estate is labeled “Judge Lee” (photo, following page). Developed before the Lees bought the property in 1758, it has the simplest garden — three rectangular beds parallel to each other by the road. Most likely the garden served both as a kitchen garden and a pleasure garden.

The newest estate, that of “Lt. Govr. Oliver” (1767), has the most elaborate garden. Behind the house is a pleasure garden with parallel side beds, or hedges, enclosing a fashionable parterre. The four-square garden in front of the barn is most likely a kitchen garden, as is the garden west of the “Col. Vassall” property.

Although the map depicts garden layouts, plant material must be conjectured.

A section of Pelham's map shows five Cambridge estates facing south toward the marshes and the Charles River. Harvard College is represented at lower edge, middle.

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from letters of the period and estate accounts. One can presume that beds were edged in boxwood and contained mixtures of vegetables, strawberries, fruit trees, and favorite flowering annuals and perennials. Tree symbols show orchards and trees lining fields and roads.

Historians are intrigued by Henry Pelham's incorporation of so much landscape detail into a map ostensibly published for use by the British military. Most contemporary war maps were published by William Faden of London and paid for by the British government, but Pelham's map was published and financed privately by its creator, allowing him control over the content and artistic features. Other maps also include roads, houses, fields, and even trees, but Pelham's map shows the estates' mansions and gardens at a larger scale than the layouts of Cambridge (see map, previous page).

The area around Boston was much changed by the war. On January 27, 1776, Pelham writes to his older half brother, the artist John Singleton Copley, in London, "An hundred places you might be brought and you not know where you were, I doubt you would know the town at all... The very hills seem to have altered their form." By including more "military works," Pelham preserved details of notable landscapes and townscapes as they had existed before the war.

Aged 28 in 1777 when the map was published, Pelham may have hoped to secure his future in England by demonstrating his artistic and mapping skills and by dedicating the map to Lord Germain, then Secretary of War. If so, he succeeded in this goal, receiving commissions for miniatures and portraits in London both during and after the war. Later he established a career in cartography and landscape management. In 1779, he was commissioned to make large, detailed maps of County Clare and County Kerry in Ireland. In the late 1780s, he began to work for Lord Landsdowne in Ireland. He died in 1806, the result of a boating accident that occurred while he was supervising the construction of a tower on an island in the Kenmare River.

During the first years of the war, the five Cambridge mansions were used by the Continental Army as officer headquarters, hospitals, and prisons. In the Federal period, the houses were renovated, new barns built, and new gardens created. The acreage was reduced to the size of suburban residential lots in the late nineteenth century.

Today the mansions command attention as historic focal points in Cambridge's Brattle Street Historic District. The estate of Colonel Vassall is now the Longfellow National Historic Site at 105 Brattle Street. Judge Sewall's house, radically altered in 1869, was moved to 149 Brattle Street and is privately owned. Judge Lee's mansion at 159 Brattle Street is the headquarters of the Cambridge Historical Society and is known as the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House. The Fairwater house, privately owned, is at 175 Brattle Street. And the "Lt. Govr. Oliver" house at 33 Elmwood Avenue is owned by Harvard University. The Colonel Vassall and Judge Lee houses and their grounds and gardens are open to the public.

1 Henry Pelham was the half brother of John Singleton Copley and the model for Copley's painting, "Boy with a Squirrel."
2 The earliest extant map of the series is owned by the British Library and was engraved June 1, 1777. Other copies are dated June 2, 1777. (The American War of Independence, 1775-1783, The British Museum Publications, Ltd., p. 62.) Original copies are owned by Harvard University and Boston Public Library.
3 Four estates had newly built houses and barns, but the Lees expanded an older mansion that dated back to 1684. The garden was first developed by the Hoopers (1684-1733) and the Cornelius Waldos (1733-1758).
4 In the upper left corner of the map is a reproduction of the pass issued to Pelham in August 1775, which gave him authority to visit the front lines in Boston and Charlestown to gather information for the map. Details of the surrounding towns would have come from earlier maps and the papers of Pelham and Tories who found refuge in Boston during the winter of 1775-76, including the owners of the five estates.
5 Two other maps useful for comparing details are the "Plan of the City of New York in North America" by

Continued on following page
Two Significant Gardens in Old Cambridge
Jill Sinclair

1 Highland Street

Located at 1 Highland Street is one of the few gardens in Cambridge designed by noted landscape architect Charles Eliot.

Son of the president of Harvard, Eliot apprenticed briefly under Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., in the early 1880s, before traveling in Europe to further study the designed landscape. Upon his return to America, he was instrumental in setting up two organizations to acquire open land in metropolitan Boston and to make the land accessible to the public. The first organization was the Trustees of Public Reservations, incorporated in 1891. The second was the state Metropolitan Park Commission, which was to create “such public open spaces as may best promote the health and happiness of the inhabitants of the metropolitan district.” Having done so much to protect important landscapes, Eliot was persuaded to rejoin the Olmsted firm in 1893 as a designer and planner. He continued to support the Metropolitan Commission as it developed thousands of acres of open space.

In 1894, during one of the busiest periods of Eliot’s short career, just after he rejoined the Olmsted firm, he was approached to help lay out a small garden for the new house planned by James Atkins Noyes at 1 Highland Street in Cambridge. Noyes and his wife, Constance Winsor, had bought land on the corner of Sparks and the new Highland Street, formerly an apple orchard, with two very large, old elm trees on the Sparks Street boundary. Choosing Eliot, seemingly because they were acquaintances at Harvard, Noyes asked for straightforward help in trimming the elms and laying out paths and planting.

Eliot became personally involved. He visited the site at least once and was clearly influential in its design, though others may have worked on the details. Perhaps he was pleased that the owners had approached him while the house was being designed so that the exterior space (including utility areas such as a clothes yard) could be considered at the same time. The site was supplemented by the purchase of the adjoining lot about 1896.

The garden reflects Eliot’s approach to landscape design for suburban houses. He was not a fan of the Victorian passion for showy ornamental flowers and individual specimens. He preferred structural compositions with year-round interest that complemented the house and allowed the lot to appear larger. Along these lines, his garden designs specified a “mass of foliage” close to the house, which was to connect the building and the grounds gradually and gently, in a style that has become known as

1 Highland Street. The house and garden in 1902. Penelope Noyes and her friends stand in front of the house. The aged elm trees are to the far right.

Pelham map, continued from previous page

B. Ratzer (1766 and 1767) and “Plan of the Town of Newport with its Environ” (1777) by C. J. Sauthier, published by the British Library in 1775, both from The American War of Independence, 1775-1783.

Pelham was in charge of Copley’s estate during Copley’s absence in 1771, and again from 1774 through summer 1776. The estate was located on Beacon Street in Boston, where the Somerset Club is today.

The town of Kenmare in County Kerry was part of Landsdowne’s holdings and was designed and developed by him during the late 1700s. Landsdowne, previously known as the Earl of Sherburne, was Prime Minister of Britain in 1782 and 1783, at the end of the Revolutionary War, and presented at the signing of the Treaty of Paris. The town of Sherborn, Massachusetts, west of Boston on the bank of the Charles River, was named for the Earl of Sherburne in 1768.

Although the flower and shrub borders of these houses are of later design, the eighteenth century siting of the houses and front courtyards remains intact. The Longfellow back garden has been recently rehabilitated. The colonial revival parterre garden was designed by Martha Brookes Hutchinson in 1904 and 1905 from an 1847 plan. A later planting plan was done in 1925 by Ellen Biddle Shipman. Of interest at the Hooper-Lee-Nichols house are models of five Brattle Street Tory estates constructed by Rupert Lillie in 1940. The properties of Judges Lee and Colonel John Vassall are among the models and are based on the Pelham map.

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foundation planting. He aimed for an expanse of unbroken lawn to provide a sense of breadth, specifically advising Noyes against planting large trees in the lawn, and kept the size of trees and shrubs proportional to the house and lot. He included cutleaf birches and a tulip tree, which is still standing.

After Constance Winsor Noyes died in 1895, in her early thirties, the garden became very much a place for the couple’s only child, Penelope, to play. It included a decorative summerhouse designed by architect William Pitt Preble Longfellow (assigned incorrectly on the National Register of Historic Places to Eliot) [see Ed. Note]. Penelope had very fond memories of the garden, recalling the swing, sandbox, bike rack, the bronze sundial that was commissioned from London, and the vast old elms. One elm was removed by the Olmsted firm in 1910, but one hundred-fifty years later, in 1969, the other was still standing. Two pin oaks were planted “when they and I were seven years old,” she said. It is perhaps emblematic of the low stature of landscape architects at that time that Penelope recalled Eliot only as the Harvard president’s son who advised her father on a few trees and shrubs.

In 1897, after Eliot’s untimely death from meningitis at the age of thirty-seven, the Olmsted firm continued its long and productive relationship with Noyes, providing plans and planting lists. In 1907, following interior alterations, elements of the garden were redesigned. The new design included removal of the piazza adjacent to the original kitchen door. There are hints in the Olmsted project files that Noyes was not the easiest of clients, but in 1913, he expressed himself as “very much pleased” with the appearance of the grounds. The grounds today still display the spirit of Eliot’s original design.

71 Appleton Street

As well as being one of the most architecturally significant buildings in Cambridge, the William Cook House at 71 Appleton Street today boasts an important garden.

The land around the property was developed in a rather haphazard way after the house was built. An early sketch, circa 1874, shows the grounds as almost entirely lawn, with a solitary tree and some shrubbery to the side. The house was completely open to the street, as was common before automobile traffic and increased development fostered the desire for greater privacy. The grounds were gradually planted until, by the 1970s, photographs show a mass of mature trees and shrubs amid somewhat unkempt undergrowth.

The property was bought in the late 1990s by renowned glass artists Andrew Magdanz and Susan Shapiro. On the advice of their first landscape designer, the couple cut down much of the mature planting. Regretting the impact, they then hired Michael Van Valkenburgh, internationally-known as a landscape architect, writer and lecturer, and chairman of Harvard’s Department of Landscape Architecture from 1991–1996. His diverse designs encompass the painstaking redesign of historic

Continued on following page

At 1 Highand Street, a view of the garden to the side of the house in 1902 shows the summerhouse designed by W.P.P. Longfellow. The play equipment is installed on the large expanse of lawn included by Eliot.

A view of the garden in 1992 shows the original design intact, backed by well-established trees and shrubs.

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Two Gardens, continued from previous page

Harvard Yard and the fun-filled and eclectic children’s playground at Teardrop Park in Manhattan.

Van Valkenburgh’s brief was to recreate something of the soft, carefree feel of the old landscape, with play spaces for the couple’s two sons and safe access for an elderly parent. The result shows Van Valkenburgh’s mastery of use of trees and shrubs, including spectacular witch-hazels, to create an almost dishevelled look — a perfect complement to the striking, rather stern house. There is seasonal breadth in the planting, with a focus on spring and autumn, as the clients are not usually in residence during the summer.

The designer levelled a large area near the house to provide a flat lawn for the boys’ play. Viewed from the existing brick terrace, the space offers openness and distance from the wild, dense planting around the borders. The change in topography preserves the sense of blowzy abandon. The edges of the garden now slope steeply down to the road and in combination with the lush planting conceal the lawn plinth from passers-by. Van Valkenburgh also redesigned the large semi-circular driveway leading onto Appleton Street, providing a safe, level surface while limiting the amount of paving.

Feeling he has successfully captured something of the pleasure of the old garden and having met the needs of its new owners, Van Valkenburgh views the garden at 71 Appleton Street as one of his firm’s finest residential projects.

Note: This article is a sneak peek from Jill Sinclair’s research for upcoming Building Old Cambridge (MIT Press), a revised edition of Survey of Architectural History in Cambridge (Vol. 4); Old Cambridge, by Bainbridge Bunting and Robert H. Nylander (MIT Press, 1973). The new book describes buildings, parks, and private gardens in the historic center of the city and was commissioned by the Cambridge Historical Commission. Jill has identified almost a hundred significant private gardens, of which about a dozen will be featured. Designers include members of the Olmsted firm, Fletcher Steele, Arthur Shurtleff, Ellen Biddle Shipman, Christopher Tunnard, Michael Van Valkenburgh, and Dan Kiley.

Editor’s Note: Designer of the summerhouse at 1 Highland Street, William Pitt Preble Longfellow (1836-1913) was the nephew of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. He was an architectural historian and author, director and lecturer for the School of Drawing and Painting at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Alexander Wadsworth Longfellow, Jr. (1854-1934), who designed the Noyes house, later eclipsed his older brother as a designer. Alexander founded the architectural firm Longfellow, Alden & Harlow in 1886. He designed Cambridge City Hall, the Brattle Theatre, Agassiz and Bertram Halls at Radcliffe, the elevated stations of the MBTA’s orange line (known then as the “architectural pride” of Boston), and the Hunnewell building of the Arnold Arboretum. He was one of the founders of the Boston Society of Arts and Crafts and a trustee of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Boston Athenaeum.

Jill Sinclair was awarded a Certificate in Landscape History from the Landscape Institute in 2005 and received the LI Faculty Prize for Outstanding Academic Achievement.

Perspectives, SUMMER 2007, p. 11
Mount Auburn Cemetery
Cambridge's National Historic Landmark at 175

Karen Forslund Falb

This year, Mount Auburn Cemetery celebrates its one hundred seventy-fifth anniversary. Long recognized for pioneering rural cemetery design, Mount Auburn was founded in 1831 at a time when Boston's graveyards were overfull and there were concerns for public health and burial aesthetics. In 2005, Mount Auburn Cemetery was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Department of the Interior, the only cultural landscape of Cambridge to be so honored.

Although it is located one mile west of Harvard Square and has a Cambridge address, 580 Mount Auburn Street, Mount Auburn was originally developed for residents of Boston and most of its one hundred seventy-five acres are in Watertown. However, since the imposing gates and the cluster of buildings near it are within city limits, Cambridge claims the historic site as its own.

Germane to the story of Mount Auburn are the challenges Boston faced during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Boston had outgrown its peninsula and had not yet started the landfill projects of various coves and the Back Bay. Development and immigration had transformed the once small and homogeneous community. A city system replaced town government in 1822. The fiftieth national anniversary, in 1826, was a time for reflection on the achievements of the young country. As Bostonians made donations toward memorials marking historical events, many became interested in honoring members of their own families in the same way. Added to this was a growing recognition of the natural process of death and a concomitant desire for burial places in more natural settings than churches and city centers.

In 1825, George Brimmer, a merchant concerned with the decrease in woodland and orchards around Cambridge, bought the cemetery's first seventy-two acres of glacially carved hills, vales, and ponds known as Stone's Woods or, as Harvard students called it, Sweet Auburn after a town in a poem by Oliver Goldsmith. At first Brimmer considered developing an estate similar to those on nearby Brattle Street, but eventually he became interested in preserving the land "for some public or appropriate use." That same year Jacob Bigelow, a physician and professor at Harvard, gathered a group of influential Bostonians with the idea of developing a rural cemetery by forming a voluntary nonsectarian association, similar to many that had already been established. In 1831, Henry A. S. Dearborn, a legislator and owner of a Roxbury estate, proposed financing the cemetery under the auspices of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society (1829), of which he was president. Soon after, George Brimmer agreed to sell his land at a loss for the project.

Henry Dearborn's first plan of Mount Auburn, 1831. Mount Auburn has the first picturesque layout of roads in a large American public landscape.

Only recently has Henry Dearborn received the recognition deserved for his master plan of the cemetery and its inclusion of commemorative memorials. Massachusetts Horticultural Society minutes record that he sent promptly to France and England for books and maps of landscapes with similar terrain; the Père Lachaise Cemetery (1804) in Paris, designed in the English picturesque style, was especially influential. He headed the crew molding the land and planting trees from his Roxbury estate's nursery and laid out the roads and lots with the help of civil engineer Alexander Wadsworth, nephew of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (see footnote page 11).

At first the horticultural society and the burial lot owners had mutual interests, such as the importance of trees in the cemetery. However, by 1834 cooperation had diminished to the point that Dearborn resigned and the horticultural society relinquished ownership of its experimental garden, thirty-two acres to the east of the entrance. The Massachusetts General Court created a new cemetery corporation in 1835.

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Judge Joseph Story took on the leadership, followed by Jacob Bigelow, who designed the Egyptian gate (1832, 1843), the Bigelow Chapel (1846, 1858), and the Washington Tower (1852).

From its earliest years, Mount Auburn Cemetery was recognized as a designed landscape worth copying for cemeteries and public parks. Its monuments and landscapes — trees, ponds, winding roads, and picturesque views following one upon another — soothed grieving families and attracted sightseers. Mount Auburn, the highest point in the cemetery even before the commemorative Washington Tower was added, afforded a view of Boston to the east, and the hill was visible from Boston, marking the resting place of departed family members. By the mid-1840s, the many visitors and tourists could arrive at the gate by public transportation — horse-drawn omnibus or train from Boston.

Mount Auburn is still a working cemetery. Its concerns include the preservation of historic memorials and landscape, the need to keep up with burial trends, and the demand for burial space. It serves as a public park and as an important birding area. The nonprofit Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery offers programs, walks, and publications. A paperback revision of Blanche Linden-Ward's Silent City on a Hill: Landscapes of Memory and Boston's Mount Auburn Cemetery, is expected out this fall, which will include recent changes at the cemetery and more photographs.

1 Formerly called a graveyard or a burial ground, the term "cemetery" entered American vocabulary in 1831, with Mount Auburn Cemetery following the lead of the Cimetière du Père Lachaise (Père Lachaise Cemetery).
2 The Arnold Arboretum in Jamaica Plain is also a National Historic Landmark. In Cambridge, important designed cultural landscapes include Cambridge Common, Harvard College Yard, Fresh Pond Reservation, and the banks of the Charles River.
3 Two important memorials of this period were Plymouth Rock (1820) and the Bunker Hill Monument (1825-1843).
4 English romantic poetry and prose and Boston's Unitarian church movement greatly influenced ideas of appropriate burial sites.
5 Mount Auburn Memorial, I:1, 2. T.W. Harris, Discourse, 76-78.
6 See Chapter 8, Note 13 in Linden-Ward's Silent City on a Hill, p. 365. Henry Dearborn also spearheaded construction of the Bunker Hill Monument and founded and designed Forest Hills Cemetery in Jamaica Plain, Boston, in 1848, near the Arnold Arboretum.
7 Other rural cemeteries soon followed, including Laurel Hill Cemetery near Philadelphia, 1836, and Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York, 1838. By the early 1850s, Andrew Jackson Downing had advised President Millard Fillmore to convert the Washington Mall into a national park similar to Mount Auburn Cemetery.
8 The new edition of Silent City on a Hill will change the author's name and the subtitle to Blanche Linden, Silent City on a Hill: Picturesque Landscapes of Memory and Boston's Mount Auburn Cemetery (University of Massachusetts Press, 392 pages, 350 illustrations and photographs by Carol Betsch and Richard Cheek, $39.95).

Karen Forslund Folb received a Graduate Certificate in Landscape Design History in 2003 from the Landscape Institute, Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University. Her independent project, "From Colonial Farm to Colonial Revival Garden: The Hooper-Lee-Nichols House Property, at 159 Brattle Street, Cambridge," is a cultural landscape report on the oldest of the Tory Row houses, now the headquarters of the Cambridge Historical Society. A resident of Cambridge since 1967, she has been a volunteer at the Society for twenty years and is currently an Advisor.
Cambridge Archives
Resources for Research
Karen Forslund Falb

Cambridge Historical Society
159 Brattle Street
Telephone: 617-349-4252
archives@cambridgehistory.org

Brinkler Research Library
Open by appointment Tuesday, Thursday
Collections: books, maps, Proceedings journals, city directories and town reports, photos, drawings pertaining to the history of Cambridge

Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Telephone: 617-349-4683

CHC Research Library and Archives
Open by appointment Monday – Thursday
Collections: books, city maps, atlases, architectural inventory of all buildings, permit records, photos

The Cambridge Public Main Library
359 Broadway
Temporary address while under renovation: 449 Broadway
Telephone: 617-349-4040

The Cambridge Room and the Reference Room
Open Monday – Thursday, 9 pm – 9 pm; Friday – Saturday, 9 am – 6 pm; Sunday, 1 pm – 5 pm
Collections: books, city maps, annual reports, tax records, photos, slides; Cambridge Historical Society Proceedings; Cambridge Historical Commission Survey of Architectural History in Cambridge

Friends of the Cambridge Public Library
Telephone: 617-349-4040
Call for appointment


Contains photos, brief descriptions, and owners’ recollections of their design intents of forty-five contemporary, out-of-the-way, surprisingly diverse gardens that have been on garden tours 2000-2006. Gardens include those of Carol R. Johnson, Mark Cyr, Swanee Hunt and husband Charles Ansbacher, Cambridge Historical Society, Longfellow National Historic Site, and Cambridge Public Library. Frances Tenenbaum is garden editor for Houghton Mifflin and editor of Taylor’s Guides and Gardening at the Shore. Proceeds from the book and garden tours support the Cambridge Public Library system.
Harvard University

Frances Loeb Library
48 Quincy Street
Telephone: 617-495-9163
Open: Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 10 pm;
Saturday, 10 am – 6 pm; Sunday, noon – 8 pm
Collections: books, periodicals, maps, and visuals
pertaining to landscape architecture and architectu

Houghton Library
Location: next to the Widener and Pusey Libraries
Telephone: 617-495-2441
Open: Monday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm and Saturday,
9 am – 1 p.m., except University holidays
Collections: primary repository for Harvard’s rare
books and manuscripts of American, Continental, and
English history and literature

Harvard Map Collection
Pusey Library
Telephone: 617-495-2417
Open Monday – Friday, 10 am – 4:45 pm
Collections: maps, atlases, GIS software and maps

Baker Library
Location: Harvard Business School, Soldiers Field, Boston.
Major building at head of campus green
Telephone: 617-495-6040
Research assistance: Monday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm and
Saturday, 12 pm – 4 pm
Call ahead.
Collections: publications, books, documents, manuscripts,
photos and prints having to do with business, industry, and
agriculture, fifteenth through the twentieth centuries

HOLLIS (Harvard On-line Library Information System)
http://library.harvard.edu
On-line database of the Harvard University Libraries.
Contains over 9 million records for over 15 million books,
journals, manuscripts, government documents, maps, micro-
forms, music scores, sound recordings, visual materials, data
files. Updated continually.

OASIS (Online Archival Search Information System)
http://oasis.harvard.edu
On-line search information system for archival and manuscript
collections at Harvard. Details collections containing letters,
diaries, photographs, drawings, printed material, objects,

Schlesinger Library
Radcliffe Institute
10 Garden Street
Telephone: 617-496-8340
Open when Harvard College is in session, Monday through
Friday, 9:30 am – 5 pm, most Wednesday evenings until 8 pm
Collections: books, papers, diaries, photos, oral history
tapes pertaining to women’s lives and work

Historic Preservation Resources

The American Society of Landscape Architects
lists resources at:
www.asla.org/nonmembers/links.htm#sub11.

Click on Historic Preservation Resources for
links to the following:
NPS Historic Landscape Initiative
National Preservation Institute
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Preserve and Protect
Preservation Directory: Research Tools and
Marketing Resources for Historic Preservation
The Trust for Public Land

Longfellow National Historic Site
105 Brattle Street
Telephone: 617-876-4491
Longfellow NHS Archives and Historic Library
Open by appointment
Collections: combined libraries of Henry Wadsworth
Longfellow, Fanny Appleton Longfellow, their five children,
grandson Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Dana and the
American artist Washington Allston. Photos and prints,
including illustrated atlases of China, Africa, and Asia from the
1670s

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Roch Library
Rogers Building (Building 2-238), Massachusetts Avenue
Telephone: 617-258-5599
Open Monday – Thursday, 8:30 am – 11 pm; Friday,
8:30 am – 7 pm; Saturday, 1 pm – 6 pm; Sunday, 2 pm – 10 pm
Collections: books and journals pertaining to architecture,
urban planning, land use, regional planning and develop-
ment, Islamic art and architecture

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn Street
Telephone: 617-547-7105
Mount Auburn Cemetery Archives
Call for appointment
Collections: plans, photos, horticultural records of the
cemetery. Database of historical cemeteries modeled after
Mount Auburn

Perspectives. SUMMER 2007, p. 15
A Tribute to John Furlong
Karen Forslund Falb

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University announced in March that, after twenty-five years, John Furlong is stepping down as director of the landscape studies program. He will return to teaching and research projects following the hiring of a new director.

Furlong’s association with the landscape program is long and remarkable, starting forty years ago in 1968, when the Radcliffe Seminars in Landscape Design opened with four courses. His first roles were lecturer and advisor, to which he soon added instructor. In 1981, he became director, following in the footsteps of Diane Kostial McGuire, the founder of the program, and Bicci Pettit.

With his leadership the program underwent many changes, grew, and prospered. Women and men earned graduate certificates in landscape design, landscape history, and landscape preservation, and went on to have fulfilling professions.

A series of challenges began in 1999, when Radcliffe College became the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. In 2002, administrative responsibility for the program was transferred from the Radcliffe Institute to the Arnold Arboretum. In 2003, the program’s name was changed to the Landscape Institute. This past September, the program moved classrooms and offices from its home of twenty-five years at the Cronkhite Center, 6 Ash Street, Cambridge, to the newly renovated space at 29 Garden Street in Cambridge.

Throughout the years, John Furlong has remained a guiding light loved and respected for his teaching, mentoring, and career guidance; his enthusiasm for landscape studies; and his wisdom about the importance of landscape stewardship. We welcome the news that he will continue to teach and will remain part of the Landscape Institute.

Leadership Transition Planned for Landscape Institute

"We are committed to finding an individual who can provide the same exceptional dedication and leadership that have defined John Furlong’s contributions as director," states Richard Schulhof, Deputy Director of the Arnold Arboretum. "The Landscape Institute is at the center of a vibrant and involved community... It is our hope that members of the design community, both students and practitioners, will provide input to the search process."

Auerbach Associates, a Boston-based firm with experience in filling design education positions, was retained to assist in a national search for a new director, beginning early April. A position description is available. Nominations for director and thoughts on the future of the Landscape Institute can be sent to:

Richard Schulhof
Chair of the Search Committee
Richard_Schulhof@harvard.edu
617-524-1718, ext. 133

Perspectives, SUMMER 2007, p. 16
Les Brown, the motivational guru and author, once said:

“You cannot expect to achieve new goals or move beyond your present circumstances unless you change.”

We should all take this to heart, even if it is painful to do so.

The most important changes for our former Radcliffe Seminars Graduate Programs in Landscape Design and Landscape History came with its reincarnation as the Landscape Institute and its administrative move to the Arnold Arboretum. Its move to its new home at 29 Garden Street, Cambridge allows the LI to create yet another identity.

For us, the alumni and students, our distinctiveness as the Radcliffe student chapter of the Boston Society of Landscape Architects changed dramatically as the chapter evolved into a non-profit, tax-exempt membership organization. Seeking to embrace the entire landscape design community — landscape designers, historians, conservationists and preservationists — we became the New England Landscape Design and History Association. To our members and the public, in collaboration with the Landscape Institute and the Arnold Arboretum, NELDHA brings programs centered on ecologically sensitive, sustainable landscape planning and land stewardship.

Perspectives is NELDHA’s most scholarly endeavor. It reminds us that design education is based on a combination of Art and Science. It is with that in mind that this publication should be perused. Your input, comments, and contributions are most welcome.

The following Annual Report summarizes NELDHA’s programs. I am very proud and often humbled by the selfless contributions of time and expertise from NELDHA Board members. We invite all members to participate NELDHA's governance.

Heidi Kost-Gross

ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006
New England Landscape Design & History Association

OVERVIEW
The New England Landscape Design and History Association is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational corporation. NELDHA is a professional organization of landscape designers, landscape historians, conservationists, horticulturists, ecologists, preservation experts, and related experts.

NELDHA was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an independent educational organization and received its non-profit, tax-exempt status on June 1, 2004. Its annual programming and fiscal year starts September 1 and ends August 31, in accord with the Landscape Institute’s academic year. NELDHA’s programs are designed to advance member education and professional success.

The majority of NELDHA members are graduates and students of the Landscape Institute, Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, formerly known as the Radcliffe Seminars Graduate Programs in Landscape Design, Landscape History and Preservation Studies. These programs boast over 300 graduates worldwide.

For 35 years, the Radcliffe Seminars were an integral part of Radcliffe College, now the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University. With the creation of the Landscape Institute, NELDHA was founded as a professional organization to represent the interests of past, present, and future students. There are presently 196 members.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE EVENTS, 2005-2006

Design Networking: Co-Chairs Joan Popolo, Margaret Ann Rice
September: Tour — Viselaya Garden and Sculpture Exhibit, Carlisle, MA
October: Tour — The Stoneyard, Littleton, MA
November: Getting to the Root of It: A Soils Workshop for Landscape Designers
January: Canceled due to snow
February: Career Exploration Day — a professional planning exercise
May: Tour — Blithewold Spring Fair — visit to mansion and gardens.

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Brown Bag Programs Co-Chairs Oonie Burley, Karin Stanley – trends and issues of interest to landscape professionals
October: John Furlong, “BE INSPIRED,” Italian Garden Transformations
December: Jim Brown, “BE MOTIVATED,” A New Cornish Garden
February: Rosamund Wallinger, Gertrude Jekyll: Her Legacy and Art. Sponsored jointly with History Networking Committee
April: Allyson Hayward, From Radcliffe to Real Life: The Quest for the Story of Norah Linsay. Sponsored jointly with History Networking Committee

Landscape History Networking Co-Chairs JoAnn Robinson, Ann Uppington, Karen Falb
September: Planning session
October: Tour – Phoebe Goodman, author; Boston’s South End Garden Squares
November: Mary Gregory, Research on Deeds and Land Ownership for the Lyman Properties connected with the Vale in Waltham. Also, introduction to the Milton Garden Club’s plans for restoration of the Spalding Estate Garden, designed by Fletcher Steele.
April: Allyson Hayward, From Radcliffe to Real Life: The Quest for the Story of Norah Linsay.
May: Tour – co-sponsored with the Milton Garden Club -- visits to its two Fletcher Steele Gardens, including the Spalding Estate Garden that the club is restoring.

Note: At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors in June 2006, it was decided that in 2006-07 the Brown Bag Programs would collaborate with Design Networking and the Landscape History Networking Committee in hosting three major lectures. These will be referred to as the NELDHA LEcTURE SERIES and will include tours, lectures and workshops. The Design Networking Committee will continue to host Career Exploration Day. The Landscape History Networking Committee will continue to host its monthly meetings.

Communications Chair Christine Gavin – assists in preparing public relations, and advertising materials
• Designed and printed invitations and posters for the Fall Tea and the Gertrude Jekyll lecture.
• Assisted in set-up, staffing and takedown of NELDHA exhibitions at the Women’s Show-September 2005 and of New England Grows - January 2006.
• Organized reprinting of NELDHA membership brochures and membership cards.

NELDHA Web Site Coordination and Communication – Chair Laurie Green-Colburn
NELDHA’s most vital asset for publicizing programs, goals, and professional objectives to the public and promoting its members via Find-A-Designer/Historian Web Listing. It is a popular site, as confirmed by Google ratings, and a successful vehicle for public and membership outreach. It requires current postings of news to retain interest.

Recommendations for keeping the web site current:
1. Front Page Identity: explain and showcase NELDHA’s role as an educational resource for the landscape design profession.
2. Home Page: easier visitor access to other parts of the site.
3. Home Page: add NELDHA leaf logo and mission statement; articles and images renewed more frequently and, when replaced, relocated to “Links” and/or “Special Features.”
4. An “About Us” should feature a selection of event photographs with captions.
5. Alias e-mail addresses: through info@neldha.org. Should be used for NELDHA-related business; bulk e-mails should be sent using alias e-addresses, through web site host fatcow.com. Individual members could request a NELDHA e-address.
6. Events listings: graphics should be archived when new content is received.
7. Advertising: remove from Front Page. Members’ advertising: add to Home Page of “Designer/Historian Listing.” Categories of advertising offered should be: Member, Corporate Sponsor, and Institutional. Corporate and Institutional sponsors of the Annual Resource Book should be represented on the Front Page under “Our Sponsors” link.
8. Events Calendar: created by HortResources, should continue to be accessed through the “Members Only” site.
9. Publicity of NELDHA-sponsored events past and present: all events accessible on public and the “Members Only” sections.

New Business 2006-07:
• Install program to make Bulletin Board more interactive.
• Edit designer listings at will. Renewal fees on a rolling schedule.
• Perspectives, Board Minutes, and By-Laws to be archived.
Membership enrollment and renewals will be on-line, relieving day-to-day responsibilities for the Membership Chair in order to permit focusing on increasing membership enrollment.

Membership Chair Judith Lipson-Rubin
198 members: 28 new, 5 corporate, 66 student, 98 full. 1 Landscape Institute instructor complimentary membership. Membership fees are determined upon application for membership. Memberships for those who join in the first three months of the year or in spring to take part in the Annual Dinner have traditionally been rolled over to the next fiscal year. Membership renewal mailings go out at the end of August, with frequent reminders thereafter. Yearly memberships close December 1. We hope to institute a revolving renewal process for better tracking and to avoid rollover.

Publications
Perspectives, a publication of scholarly essays, interviews and book reviews, was not published in 2005-06. In 2006-07, it will be published twice.

Annual Events
- Fall Tea: Held each year at the beginning of the membership year, the Tea features a distinguished speaker, frequently from the New England Design/History community. In November 2005, it was held at the Arnold Arboretum with speaker Patrick Chasse, Radcliffe/LI instructor, landscape architect and historian, founder of the Beatrix Farrand Society, and curator of landscapes at the Gardner Museum.
- Annual Meeting and Dinner: Held early spring, the Annual Meeting has as its centerpiece a speaker renowned in the landscape design profession or an allied field. In 2006, it was held in the living room of the Cronkhite Center (home of the Landscape Institute until September 1, 2006) with renowned environmental artist Jacqueline Brookner speaking.
- NELDHA Resource Book and Annual Report: Distributed at the annual meeting, the NELDHA Resource Book is an important membership benefit. Introduced in 2005, it is a reliable guide, updated annually, to high quality, experienced suppliers and professionals. Sponsors are assembled through recommendations from members and clients; the small fee provides corporate web linkage on the NELDHA web site under “Resources.” The NELDHA Resource Book is the organization’s only fundraiser and finances programming efforts.

Observations
Many NELDHA members run their own design firms, often reaching into the public domain by designing parks and public spaces. Others are employed by design firms, in related fields of the green industry, and in municipalities. Members emphasize sound landscape practices through good design and land stewardship.

The non-profit Community Outreach Group for Landscape Design (COGdesign), founded by the Radcliffe Seminars community, manages public service work throughout New England for NELDHA members, matching volunteer designers to projects for non-profit institutions.

Summary
NELDHA members are its legal constituents and stakeholders and are entitled to copies of the By-Laws and Articles of Organization. In 2007, the By-Laws and the Agendas and Minutes of monthly Board Meetings will be posted on the “Members Only” section of the web site to aid members in understanding the organization and its goals.

Much has been accomplished since NELDHA’s founding in 2004. Much more needs to be done, if NELDHA is to continue to earn the respect of professionals within the landscape design community. NELDHA’s Board of Directors is composed of hard-working volunteer members who are committed to the organization, which they consider vital to their profession. Please consider supporting NELDHA by joining the Board. An organization will grow and flourish only with the infusion of new energy. We welcome your ideas and your managerial skills!

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Kost-Gross, President
September 1, 2006
NELDHA'S MISSION IS TO FURTHER THE EDUCATION OF LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS AND LANDSCAPE HISTORIANS, TO PROMOTE THESE PROFESSIONS, AND TO COMMUNICATE TO THE PUBLIC NELDHA'S COMMITMENT TO LANDSCAPE DESIGN, LANDSCAPE HISTORY, CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION, AND STEWARDSHIP OF THE LAND.

The New England Landscape Design & History Association (NELDHA)

RESERVE THE DAY!

Thursday, November 15

NELDHA ANNUAL FALL TEA
Radcliffe Gymnasium