

HISTORIC *Preservation* BULLETIN

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Natural & Historic Resources • Historic Preservation Office

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION

THE *Landscape* PROFESSION

By Eric Baratta, Program Associate, Historic Preservation Office

THE practice of landscape design in the United States evolved over a period of four hundred and some years. It may well have started with the designers of the kitchen and flower gardens of early Colonial settlers, whose gardens negotiated culinary and medicinal utility with well-organized schemes of plant beds in an attempt to harness the wild bounties of the North American landscape. For most of the first two centuries of the nation's history, landscape design was more a domestic tradition and leisurely pursuit than a profession, as both the gentleman farmer and the urban kitchen gardener utilized the gardening techniques brought

over from their European homelands in organizing the parcels of land they had acquired in the new continent.



Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr.

With the industrial revolution in the 19th century, the field of landscape architecture grew from projects of private necessity and preference to include those of public welfare, as European design aesthetics were imported and tempered with an evolving progressive social theory, most notably and eloquently proposed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., who, with his (and architect Calvert Vaux's) 'Greensward' plan for Central Park in 1858, is considered to be the



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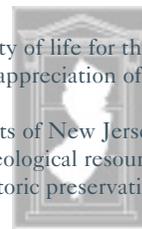


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THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE...

is committed to enhancing the quality of life for the residents of New Jersey through the preservation and appreciation of our collective past.

Our mission is to assist the residents of New Jersey in identifying, preserving, protecting and sustaining our historic and archaeological resources through the implementation of the state's historic preservation program.





Branch Brook Park, Newark. Part of the Essex County Park System

father of American Landscape Architecture. The profession developed in both public and private sectors, as the industrial revolution brought riches to the industrial magnates, resulting in elaborate private estate and garden designs in the lands around major cities. At the same time, the industrial revolution created population booms within urban centers as workers flocked to the major cities, stretching the dense urban fabric beyond its healthful capacity. This necessitated the creation of new urban parks in and just outside of the major industrial cities to serve the health and well being of this expanding urban public. Counties responded to the demands for new public open space, as well. New Jersey's Essex County created the nation's first county park system in 1895, enlisting the aid of the prestigious Olmsted Firm to design the new parks. In addition to the new public parks, landscape architects were called upon to design cemeteries, estate grounds, roadways, government and institutional campus plans, and many other types of outdoor spaces, serving both public and private clients in a wide variety of styles and scales.

By 1900, landscape architects had coalesced and formed the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), an organization created to establish and advance professional landscape design practice. Through the ASLA, the profession developed through the 20th century, forming an identity discrete from the established trades of architects, planners, and engineers. Early leaders in the ASLA who gave the new organization an instant credibility included Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and John Charles Olmsted, respectively the son and nephew of F.L. Olmsted, Sr., Nathan Franklin Barrett, Beatrix Ferrand, Samuel Parsons, Jr., Ossian Cole Simonds and Downing Vaux. The ASLA grew with the profession in the 20th century, expanding in size, diversity and influence, having by the end

of the century some 15,000 members. Its organizational influence is widespread; the ASLA provides accreditation to professional training programs, establishes standards for professional licensure, and exerts organizational weight in public policy lobbying.

The early 20th century also saw the creation of the National Park Service, as landscape design and conservation became a federal mandate for the good of a national public. In the National Park Service, landscape architects found themselves in roles of design, conservation and stewardship. Landscape architects were not only given the task of designing the roads, bridges and other built park features, but were also given a central role in developing the interpretive and conservation plans required of national parks, mediating the roles of nature and culture in the park. Today's national parks provide us with a rich history of landscape architecture's philosophy and practice alongside the natural splendors for which they are so well known.



Beatrix Jones Farrand

Landscape Preservation:

ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSES

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE DESIGN & HISTORIC PRESERVATION

From the earliest colonial garden designers to the large, modern-day landscape architecture firms whose projects might include parking lots and corporate campuses, the same basic goals drive the landscape design process: the making of an outdoor space that is useful and beautiful. Over the years notions of utility and beauty in the designed landscape have shifted alongside changes in technology, culture, economics, and aesthetic principles. This gives the practice of landscape composition a history in many ways analogous to that of architectural history – its material, spatial and representational qualities evolved to meet the needs and reflect the tastes of a changing society.

Landscape architecture is a reflection of how we choose to view and use the world around us. It is, in effect, an environmental document that records the historic meeting ground of culture and nature. In it we can read how space is made for leisure and recreation, memorialization of our dead, political, artistic and social expression, and any number of other public and private uses. As such, the study of historic landscapes is valuable not only to garden and landscape historians, but to countless other fields as well, including anthropologists, archeologists, art historians, ethnographers, folklore specialists, sociologists and interested members of the general public.

Recognition of the history and value of historic landscapes has been relatively slow when compared to the architectural historic preservation movement. Since the late 1970's, however, much work has been done in both

public and private sectors to establish landscape architecture preservation as a recognized, standardized, and significant historic preservation goal. Early historic landscape preservation efforts often centered on architectural celebrities such as Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's gentleman-farmer estate in Virginia, where the significance of the mansion is generally considered secondary to the overall site design of the estate. In examples such as Monticello, or, in Peapack, NJ's Blairsdon, the landscape surrounding an architecturally significant building moves beyond being simply background or decoration, but is, rather, an equal partner in creating the identity and significance of the historic property. Many former estate landscapes are now preserved as public parks, as is the case with Princeton Township's Marquand Park, made from a Victorian landscape garden, with the park headquarters located in the estate's mansion, Guernsey Hall, designed by John Notman.

The recognition of historic districts has also played a role in the development of historic landscape preservation. In addition to historic buildings, the historic district includes among its resources streets, sidewalks, parks, gardens and street-tree plantings. By doing this, the historic district recognizes an historic environment that goes above and beyond its being simply a collection of architectural objects. That the historic district recognizes the historic context of place, in addition to its various physical attributes, makes it a particularly useful tool in historic landscape preservation.



Marquand Park in the Princeton Historic District

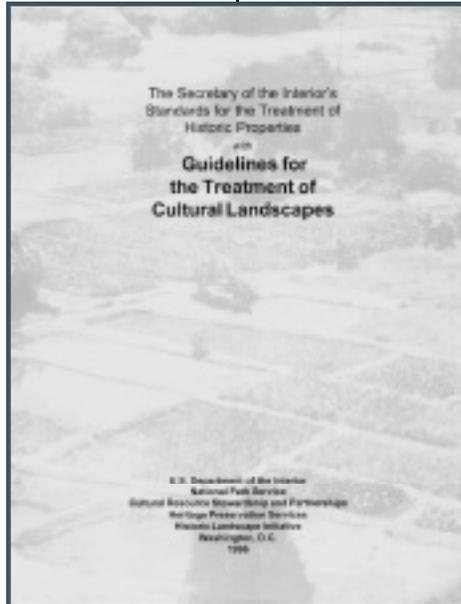
ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSES TO HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION

In the public arena, the National Park Service has been at the fore of developing a standardized methodology in approaching landscape preservation, with several publications devoted specifically to evaluating, documenting, and nominating historic landscapes to the National Register of Historic Places. These publications are valuable tools in planning the protection and treatment of an historic landscape, providing a sound intellectual and technical framework in approaching the preservation process. (A short-list of NPS landscape preservation related publications is included in this article.)

More recently, the National Park Service has created the Historic Landscape Initiative to respond specifically to landscape preservation issues through standards and guideline dissemination, partnerships with non-profit and professional organizations, universities, and federal, state and local governments, training symposia

and workshops, and site-specific technical assistance for significant properties and districts.

In the private sector, a number of national organizations have been formed to respond to the diverse challenges presented by historic landscape preservation. Some of these organizations are research-based, including the Library of American Landscape History, which publishes books about North American historic landscapes and practitioners, and The CATALOG of Landscape Records in the United States at Wave Hill, featuring a databank of information about the content and location of landscape-related records. The Cultural Landscape Foundation (CLF) is a not-for-profit foundation with a broader mandate of increasing public awareness of the importance of cultural landscapes, doing so with educational programs, technical assistance and training seminars, publications and interactive media.



HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION IN NEW JERSEY

In addition to the various national organizations dedicated towards landscape preservation, awareness of the value of the historic landscape is growing on the state, county and local levels, as well. The State of New Jersey is endowed with a rich variety of historic landscapes, created not only by its unique diversity in topographic and ecological features, but also from the influential Colonial roots of the state, and, significantly, its positioning between the industrial giants of New York and Philadelphia in the 19th and early 20th centuries. In density, accessibility, variety and importance, New Jersey's historic landscape collection has few rivals.

Locally, landscape preservation initiatives have come from a variety

of sources. Municipalities, historical societies, garden clubs, and churches are among many organizations that are using landscape restoration to reinstate an historic sense of place to the local environment. Such projects include community gardens, municipal parks and town squares, plazas, and parkways. Many local officials and citizens now realize the benefits of restoring the historic designed landscape, including the urban landscape, where restoration of the historic qualities of public space often results in higher property values, better pedestrian access to local merchants and municipal services, opportunities in tourism, and increased civic pride within the community itself.



Restoration of historic Morven's Garden, Princeton

Memorial Design:

FINN'S POINT NATIONAL CEMETERY

FORT MOTT, SALEM CITY, SALEM COUNTY



View of Union Monument (foreground) and Confederate Monument (obelisk, center in background). (Image from NJ State Historic Preservation Office)

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 1875 establishment of cemetery;
- 1879 construction of Union soldiers' monument;
- 1910 construction of Confederate soldiers' monument

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE FIGURES:

Cemetery designed by the Army Corps of Engineers

MAJOR FEATURES:

Confederate soldiers monument, Union soldiers monument

ASSOCIATED PRESERVATION ORGANIZATIONS:

National Park Service
(609) 877-5460 or (856) 935-3628
<http://www.nps.gov/nejc/webpage/marsites.html>

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE:

Finn's Point National Cemetery was created as a burial ground during the Civil War for captured Confederate soldiers who died during wartime imprisonment in Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island. In 1875, this burial ground was established as a national cemetery. The monument for the 135 Union soldiers who died in Fort Delaware was constructed in 1879 and placed in the southwest corner of the cemetery. Located in the northeast corner of the cemetery is the Confederate soldiers monument, an 85 foot tall granite obelisk. Inscribed on this monument are the names of some 2,500 Confederate soldier prisoners who were laid to rest in the cemetery. Many of these soldiers were captured during the battle of Gettysburg and this cemetery is the largest known burial ground of Confederate soldiers. Finn's Point National Cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the Fort Mott and Finn's Point National Cemetery Historic District.

*Finn's Point National Cemetery is nestled in the former site of 17th century Fort Elsborg, a mile north of Fort Mott along the Delaware River shoreline.
(Image from NJ State Historic Preservation Office archive)*



Residential Garden Design:

SUNINGIVE GARDEN, WHITESBOG

BROWNS MILLS, BURLINGTON COUNTY

IMPORTANT DATES:

1923, construction of Suningive and surrounding gardens

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

FIGURES:

Elizabeth Coleman White (1871-1954)

MAJOR FEATURES:

Garden designed with natural, local planting materials

ASSOCIATED PRESERVATION

ORGANIZATIONS:

Whitesbog Preservation Trust
www.whitesbog.org
(609) 893-4646

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE:

Located within the cranberry farming Village of Whitesbog, Suningive was the residence of Elizabeth White, an early developer of cranberry and blueberry farming in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey. While Whitesbog Village is important in its own right in New Jersey's agricultural heritage, Elizabeth White's Suningive garden was an early example of "habitat gardening", drawing its forms and materials from locally existing plant species. In Suningive's garden, White organized the area surrounding the house into a series of spaces that illustrated her deep knowledge of and sensitivity to local ecological niches and in her design utilized remnants of the sites agricultural past. The garden's subtle use of traditional design elements, such as pathways, planting beds, and water features were secondary to the primary purpose of the garden: creating a sense of place reflective of the garden's natural and agricultural history. For more information on Suningive's historic garden design and Elizabeth White's design philosophy, refer to "Beauty in the Barrens" The American Gardener (the Journal of the American Horticultural Society), May-June 2000, pp36-42.



*White developed Suningive's pond garden to allow for experimentation with pond lilies (*Nymphaea odorata*), gold crest (*Lophiola americana*), orchids and a variety of other species. (Photo courtesy of Whitesbog Preservation Trust)*



1931 Aerial Photo showing the village of Whitesbog and Suningive in the bottom right corner of the photograph. A detail of Suningive (Inset). (Photo from NJ State Historic Preservation Office)

A 1930's Detail photo of Suningive garden, illustrating White's careful appointment of natural materials: a planting bed of local, native plants and a surrounding walk of pavers made from sectioned slices of tree trunks. (Photo courtesy of Whitesbog Preservation Trust)

Scenic Roadway Design:

WASHINGTON ROAD ELM ALLEE

WEST WINDSOR, MERCER COUNTY

IMPORTANT DATES:

Ca. 1925, original planting

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

FIGURES:

William Flemer II, President of Princeton Nurseries

MAJOR FEATURES:

Ulmus americana "Princeton" allee

ASSOCIATED PRESERVATION

ORGANIZATIONS:

Sensible Transportation Options Partnership (STOP)

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE:

Prior to the Dutch elm disease, which has destroyed over 100,000,000 trees since 1930, *Ulmus americana* was as common as it was revered in the American landscape. While most of New Jersey's American elms have long-since perished, the cultivar developed by Princeton Nurseries and planted along this section of Route 571 (Washington Road) in West Windsor Township have proven to be unusually disease resistant, with more than half of the original trees surviving the 70 plus years since their installation.

The original 1920's planting scheme was a product of the Roadway Beautiful Movement, created as a method of scenic improvement as well as an expression of civic pride. Since its creation, this roadway has become a favorite approach for generations of Princeton students and visitors. The Washington Road allee forms the most extensive elm-lined scenic roadway in central New Jersey and among the most important scenic roads in the state. The Washington Road Elm Allee is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



*Current photograph of the allee showing a section of Rt. 571, featuring the original Princeton Nurseries' *Ulmus americana* (American Elm) cultivar. The graceful elms form a sinuous cathedral of foliage in the summer, providing cooling shade and a rhythmic approach to Princeton.
(Photo by Eric Baratta)*

Public Park Design:

THE NEW JERSEY SECTION OF THE PALISADES INTERSTATE PARK

BERGEN COUNTY

IMPORTANT DATES:

1899, Establishment of Palisades Park Commission
1915, Improvement and completion of Henry Hudson Drive
1931, Construction of George Washington Bridge
1930's & 1940's, Park receives assistance from WPA, CCC and other Federal Works Administration projects.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

ARCHITECTS:

Nathan F. Barrett (1845-1919)

MAJOR FEATURES:

Henry Hudson Drive, shoreline recreational amenities, camping and hiking facilities, viewsheds, rustic-style built landscape features.

ASSOCIATED PRESERVATION

ORGANIZATIONS:

New Jersey Palisades Park Commission
www.njpalisades.org
(201) 768-1360

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE:

With sharp vertical drops of several hundreds of feet in many places, the Palisades defied wide-scale development for centuries despite being a stone's throw from New York City. In the final decades of the 19th century, however, these cliffs that had made the western edge of the Hudson so unusable were themselves the target of a quarrying industry racing to keep up with the concrete and asphalt demands of a rapidly expanding New York metropolis. From the quarryman's perspective, the Palisades' riverside location was perfect, as cliffs were blown to fragments along the river, loaded directly on to boats and taken across the river to construction sites in New York.

What the quarries probably didn't anticipate was the powerful public reaction to the Palisades demolition, which led to the formation of the Interstate Palisades Park Commission and a natural conservation program that was on par with national sites such as Yellowstone and Yosemite. Among the park's early commissioners was prominent landscape architect Nathan Franklin Barrett, who in 1903, was elected president of the ASLA.



Quarrying in the late 19th century destroyed large portions of the Palisades escarpment, as vegetation quickly vanished and the cliff suffered wide scale erosion, as depicted in this 1896 photo of Carpenter's Quarry. Though the cliffs were located in New Jersey, early efforts to save the Palisades came from New York City residents, who had long enjoyed seeing the verdant cliffs from across the Hudson River.

(Image courtesy of New Jersey Palisades Park Commission)



Viewsheds within and outside of the park are important elements in the park's recreational design. Spectacular views of the New York City skyline became a park attraction at the park's beginning and remain so to this day. (Photo by Eric Baratta)

Public Park Design continued

Along with natural conservation, recreation soon became a primary function of the park, as beaches, bath houses, docks, hiking trails, and campgrounds were developed to accommodate visitors from New York and New Jersey, alike. With the Great Depression, the park became a primary resource for nearby families as an affordable and easily accessible vacation spot – whether be it for a day canoe trip across the Hudson or a week’s vacation in the campgrounds. Because of its important social and recreational value to New York’s urban population, and surrounding suburbs, the park received numerous efforts by the Civilian Conservation Corps, Works Progress Administration and other Federal Works Administration projects. Much of the ‘rustic’ style park infrastructure was constructed during this phase of the park’s history.

The park remains to this day a tribute to early efforts in natural conservation and an excellent example of early 20th century park architecture and craftsmanship. The Palisades Interstate Park is a National Historic Landmark.



Bloomer’s Beach in the early 1930’s. The Palisades Park offered a wilderness vacation to New York’s working class, urban populations at affordable prices and just a short ferry ride across the Hudson River. (Image Courtesy of New Jersey Palisades Park Commission)



The Palisades Park’s Henry Hudson Drive remains today much as it was built in the early part of the 20th century. Today’s drivers wind along the outside of the Palisades cliffs at Model-T speeds, enjoying the drive’s alpine woodland setting and glimpses through to the Hudson River Valley, hundreds of feet below. Well-built rustic-style landscape features have weathered the decades and collaborate with the drives ‘natural’ siting. (Photo by Eric Baratta)

In the 1930’s Palisades Park was a recipient of numerous efforts by Federal Works Administration projects.

WPA workers help a crane place a ‘rustic-style’ boulder guardrail along Henry Hudson Drive in the photo above. (Image courtesy of New Jersey Palisades Park Commission)



Rural Cemetery Design:

HARLEIGH CEMETERY

CAMDEN, CAMDEN COUNTY

IMPORTANT DATES:

1885, Establishment of Cemetery
1890, Construction of Walt Whitman's Tomb

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

ARCHITECTS:

George E. Rhedemeyer(1860-1917), with architect
Thomas Stephens [cemetery gates and buildings](1863-
1953)

MAJOR FEATURES:

Walt Whitman's Tomb, curvilinear path system, lakes,
miscellaneous crypts and tombstones, entrance gates and fence,
associated buildings

ASSOCIATED PRESERVATION

ORGANIZATIONS:

Harleigh Cemetery

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE:

Set within the City of Camden alongside Cooper River Park, Harleigh Cemetery was designed as a "park lawn cemetery," a variation of the rural cemetery style made popular in the early parts of the 19th century. Similar to Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia, Mt. Auburn in Massachusetts and Pere LaChaise in Paris, Harleigh Cemetery offered a free plot to a prominent person (Walt Whitman) to attract other buyers. To escape the visual monotony of other rural cemeteries, the cemetery prevented the duplication of funerary monuments, resulting in a city of the dead more architecturally diverse than any city of the living. Complementing the architectural richness of the cemetery's funerary ornament was a prolific variety of tree species, featuring a mixture of deciduous and evergreen, native and exotic tree species.



*Trees and lawn converge around a reflecting-lake, linking sanctified ground with heavenly sky in the heart of the cemetery. This photograph from the 1920's shows a meticulous level of maintenance.
(Image from NJ State Historic Preservation Office)*



Curving pathways accommodate the trees and accentuate the undulating topography of Harleigh Cemetery. American rural cemeteries created an idyllic final resting place for the dead and a soothing and oftentimes recreational space for the living. Early rural cemeteries foreshadowed the public park movement of the mid-19th century, offering urban residents a pastoral escape from the noise, pollution and pace of the city.

(Photo by Eric Baratta)



A photograph from the 1920's depicting an array of tree species, forms and textures. While the cemetery offered eternal serenity for the dead, carefully designed paths and planting schemes ensured invigorating landscape variety and moments of surprise to its living visitors.

(Image from NJ State Historic Preservation Office)

THE SHPO

In acknowledging the importance of preserving the State's landscape heritage, the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office is conducting a survey of designed historic landscapes within New Jersey. This inventory seeks to compile historic sites that are the work of significant landscape practitioners and represent significant styles and traditions in the history of landscape architecture as represented in works within the state. Given the rich cultural history and natural diversity of New Jersey, the inventory will include a wide range of designed landscapes, varying in scale, style, function and reputation. Of particular interest are sites that have been designed by women and minorities, and also those that reflect qualities of design significance but may not be well known on a statewide or national basis. All entries in the survey should possess a degree of integrity where the major components of original design are still evident.

Given the substantial quantity of possible sites statewide and limited project resources, the database does not currently include sites designed by the Olmsted Firm, which have been adequately documented in recent surveys, nor will it include cultural landscapes, city/suburb/community

SITE NAME	TYPE OF DESIGN	SIGNIFICANT DATES	SIGNIFICANT FEATURES
James Rose residence	designer's residence	1930's	Integration of built environment & designed landscape features
Yorkship Square	town square		War memorial, Col. Revival surrounding buildings, lawns
Mount Pleasant Cemetery	rural cemetery	1840's	serpentine pathways, associated buildings, monuments
Lake Carnegie Historic District	artificial lake	c. 1904-1905+	boathouse, bridge, associated plantings
Marquand Park	estate/park	1846	
Shadowland	estate/park	1902 onwards	estate community, French garden features, pond
Fairleigh Dickinson	estate campus		
Craftsman Farms	community design		craftsman gardens
Blairsdon	community design		Entrance allee and reflecting pool, Italianate water terrace, statuary and garden furniture, various fountains, garden buildings
Whitesbog	garden	1920's	native species garden

INVENTORY

planning projects and battlefields. It is likely that future projects will be directed at collecting these historic landscape types. Typical designs to be included are, among others, estate and residential designs, cemeteries, golf courses, parks and other recreational landscapes, monumental spaces, gardens and arboreta, corporate and industrial landscapes, hospital and campus plans, parkways, drives, trails, and squares, plazas, and other designed public open spaces. It is hoped that this inventory will be available on the SHPO's website soon.

To make suggestions on inventory additions, please write or FAX:

**HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PROJECT COORDINATOR, HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, PO BOX 404, TRENTON, NJ 08625-0404,
FAX: (609) 984-0578.**

YOU CAN FIND A COMPLETE LISTING OF THE SHPO INVENTORY ON OUR WEBSITE AT: www.state.nj.us/dep/hpo

DESIGNERS	TOWN/CITY	NJ COUNTY	NJ SHPO FILE AVAILABILITY
James Rose	Ridgewood Borough	Bergen	National Register
	Camden	Camden	
Horace Baldwin and others	Newark City	Essex	National Register
	Princeton Township	Mercer	National Register
John Notman	Princeton Township	Mercer	Unavailable
Original Firm of Olmsted	West Long Branch Borough	Monmouth	National Register
McKim, Mead & White: F.L. Olmsted; J.C. Olmsted	Florham Park	Morris	SHPO Opinion File
	Parsippany Troy Hills	Morris	National Register
Carrere & Hastings: mansion siting and immediate architectural surrounds. James Leal Greenleaf: surrounding landscape.	Peapack Gladstone	Somerset	Unavailable
Elizabeth White	Pemberton	Burlington (and Ocean County)	National Register



An aerial view of the cemetery from the 1920's, illustrating the curvilinear path system that characterizes the rural cemetery developed in the 19th century. Other features drawing from the landscape gardening tradition are the tree and shrub clusters, massed in picturesque groupings, rolling topography, and lakes, which were fed by the nearby Cooper River. (Image from NJ State Historic Preservation Office)

Estate Design:

BLAIRSDEN

PEAPACK, SOMERSET COUNTY

IMPORTANT DATES:

1898-1903, construction of estate
1903+ construction of additional garden and site features

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

ARCHITECTS:

James Leal Greenleaf (1857-1933), with architect
Thomas Hastings(1860-1929).

MAJOR FEATURES:

Entrance allee, statuary and reflecting pool; south facade terraces, stairs and orangery; Italianate fountain and rill cascade; carriage drive; "Norman" style wall; terraced rose garden complex; vistas to Ravine Lake and surrounding countryside; entrance drive pavilion; numerous garden structures and associated outbuildings.

ASSOCIATED PRESERVATION

ORGANIZATIONS:

Blairsden Association
(908)234-2400

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE:

Constructed between 1898 and 1903, Blairsden was built as the country estate of C. Ledyard Blair, a railroad magnate, banker, stock exchange tycoon and avid sportsman. Blairsden represents the grandeur attained in the Country Place Era, its chateau and formal garden features designed by architects Carrere & Hastings and surrounding grounds designed by landscape architect James Leal Greenleaf. Aside from the spectacular views to and from the estate, Blairsden was a fully functioning resort, offering its inhabitants numerous gardens, tennis courts, a private boathouse on Ravine Lake, and a well-developed system of bridle paths. A working farm was also part of the estate grounds.



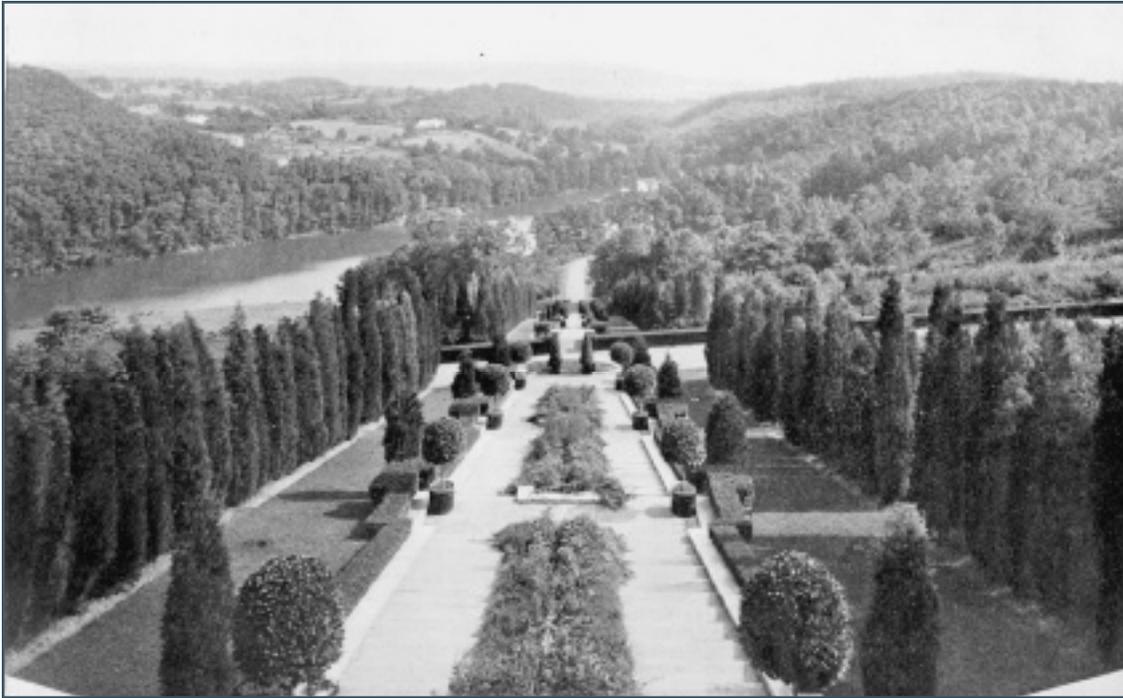
An early 20th century view of Blairsden showing the chateausque mansion's spectacular mountain-top siting. The mansion's grand south facade extends into the landscape through a series of terraces and stairways. Above the orangery, in the center of the photograph, the main terrace overlooks an axial vista towards Ravine Lake at the base of the mountain. Towards the bottom of the picture, one of the estate's two carriage drives approaches in serpentine curves, through James L. Greenleaf's planted hillside forest of evergreen and flowering trees.



A winding carriage drive, bounded on one side by a wooded hillside, by Ravine Lake on the other. Horse riding was a favorite activity of Blairsdén's creator C. Ledyard Blair, a member of America's turn of the century industrial aristocracy. Many of the estate's roads and paths and views were designed to accentuate equestrian travel. (Photo by Eric Baratta)



Double rows of mature Sugar Maples line the entrance drive to the Blairsdén mansion, as a 300 foot reflecting pool (dry in this picture) divides the space in two. (Photo by Eric Baratta)



*Two views of the Italianate, axial approach to the mansion, looking from atop the terrace on the mansion's south elevation. **ABOVE**, a view from 1903: Cedars gathered from the local landscape were transplanted to frame the vista. Topiary, fountains, water channels and pebble mosaic paths intersect the carriage drive at the base of the slope. The carriage drive enters from the right side of the photograph. At left is seen Ravine Lake, created only a few years earlier. **BELOW**, the same view today: while the cedars have vanished, the shrubs have outgrown their sharp architectural form, and the lake is obscured by encroaching woodlands, the mosaic paths and watercourses remain, preserving a tantalizing hint of the former grandeur of this landscape feature. (Photo by Eric Baratta)*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PUBLICATIONS

The following publications are available through the National Park Service to assist in formulating landscape preservation strategies and evaluating and nominating landscapes for inclusion on the National Register. Please contact the National Park Service for a full and updated listing of available publications.

NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETINS, INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION:

- * National Register Bulletin 18: *How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*
- * National Register Bulletin 30: *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*
- * National Register Bulletin 38: *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties*
- * National Register Bulletin 40: *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields*
- * National Register Bulletin 41: *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries*

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PRESERVATION BRIEFS:

- * National Park Service Preservation Brief 36: *Protecting Cultural Landscapes: Planning, Treatment and Management of Historic Landscapes*

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE INITIATIVE, HERITAGE PRESERVATION SERVICES:

- * Caring for the Past: Protecting Cultural Landscapes (Publications Catalog).
- * Vineyard, An Occasional Record of the National Park Service Historic Landscape Initiative
- * The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes

OTHER NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PUBLICATIONS:

- * America's Landscape Legacy, Brochure, Preservation Assistance Division, 1992.
- * Case Studies in Landscape Preservation, Preservation Assistance Division in Cooperation with the Alliance for Landscape Preservation, 1995.
- * Cultural Landscapes Bibliography: An Annotated Bibliography of Resources in the National Park System, Park Historic Architecture Division, 1992.
- * Historic Landscape Directory; A Source Book of Agencies, Organizations, and Institutions Providing Information on Historic Landscape Preservation, Preservation Assistance Division, 1991.
- * Making Educated Decisions: A Landscape Preservation Bibliography, Preservation Assistance Division, 1993 (ISBN:0-16-045145-0).
- * The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, 1992.

Also see: *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*. Edited by Charles Birnbaum and Robin Karson. New York: McGraw Hill, 2000.

PUBLICATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED BY VISITING THE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE INITIATIVE WEBSITE AT:

http://www2.cr.nps.gov/hli/hlicat_1.htm#order

OR THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE AT:

<http://www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/pubs/NPSpub.htm>

OR CALLING THE GPO DIRECTLY AT
202-512-1800 (7:30am-4:30pm EST)

**OR THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE DIVISION**
(424) Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

INTERNET SITES

THE FOLLOWING IS A SELECTION OF
LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS WITH WEBSITES:

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BOTANICAL GARDENS AND ARBORETA	http://www.aabga.org/
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS	http://www.asla.org/
CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	http://www.cr.nps.gov/crm/
FREDERICK LAW OLNSTED NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE	http://www.nps.gov/frla/
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE INITIATIVE	http://www2.cr.nps.gov/hli/
INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL LANDSCAPE STUDIES	http://www.icls.harvard.edu/current.htm
JAMES ROSE CENTER	http://www.jamesrosecenter.org
SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM-SOS	http://americanart.sioedu/study/
THE ALLIANCE FOR HISTORIC LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION	http://www.ahlp.org/
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS	http://www.asla.org
THE CATALOG OF RECORDS AT WAVE HILL	http://www.wavehill.org
THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE FOUNDATION	http://www.tclf.org
THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA	http://www.gcamerica.org/
THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY	http://www.gardenconservancy.org/
THE LAND TRUST ALLIANCE	http://www.lta.org/
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OLMSTED PARKS	http://aaa.uoregon.edu/~naop/
THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION	http://www.nationaltrust.org
THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND	http://www.igc.apc.org/tpl/

! Speak Out !

About Saving New Jersey's Past

The New Jersey Historic Preservation Office and Preservation New Jersey invite you to express your ideas regarding successful preservation initiatives that make New Jersey a great place to live. You are also encouraged to identify challenges that you feel conflict with advancing state-wide historic preservation objectives.

**Don't miss this opportunity
to be heard.**

The purpose of the meetings is to gather information for the New Jersey Historic Preservation Plan (NJHPP) which is designed to guide historic preservation planning and decision-making statewide. The current NJHPP has been in place since 1996 and will be revised by 2002. Revisions to the New Jersey Historic Preservation Plan will build upon the earlier plan and map new directions and strategies to accomplish a broad vision for historic preservation in the state. The discussion draft New Jersey Historic Preservation Plan is expected to be complete by October 2001 and the final will be ready in the winter of 2002.

The meetings are at the following times and locations:

Northwestern New Jersey

Saturday, April 7, 2001, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Spring House Restaurant, 144 Spring Street
Newton

Northeastern New Jersey

Tuesday, April 10, 2001, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Paterson (Rogers Locomotive Works) Museum
2 Market Street
Paterson

Central New Jersey

Tuesday, April 17, 2001, 6:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.
Monmouth County Library System Headquarters
125 Symmes Drive
Manalapan

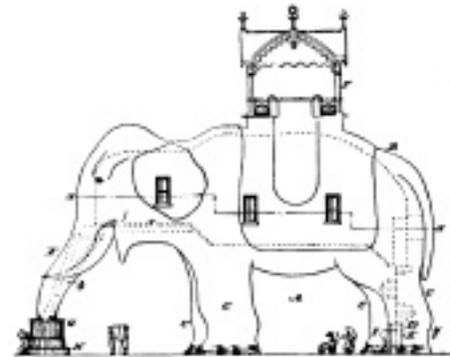
An RSVP is not required.



*Rogers Erecting Shop
Paterson, NJ*



Ceiling Detail



*Lucy the Elephant Pavilion
Margate, NJ*

For further information regarding the meetings and New Jersey's Historic Preservation Plan visit our website at

www.state.nj.us/dep/hpo

or contact

Mr. Terry Karschner 609-984-0545 or e-mail at NJHPO@dep.state.nj.us

Save the Date!

May 5, 2001

Monmouth University
West Long Branch, Monmouth County

Registration \$35.00

For more information please visit our website at:

WWW.STATE.NJ.US/DEP/HPO

...Historic Places

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RICK DARKE

Landscape and garden consultant and author of

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- ◆ Tools and techniques for landscape preservation
- ◆ Using archaeology to restore the landscape

REGISTRATION FORM

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The 2001 Historic Preservation Office Conference



REVOLUTIONARY WAR INITIATIVES FOCUS ON PRESERVING NEW JERSEY'S HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

By Amy Cradic, Communications Coordinator, Division of Parks & Forestry

FROM 1775 TO 1783,

New Jersey played center stage to a series of events crucial to the nation's struggle for independence. Pivotal battles were fought at Trenton, Princeton and Monmouth. Policy was made and speeches, including General George Washington's farewell orders, were written.

Although few may be aware of it, more Revolutionary War battles and skirmishes took place in New Jersey than in any other state and, more remarkably, much of the state's landscape over which Washington's Army traveled en route from battle to battle remains open space.

Realizing the opportunity and potential to preserve and interpret this unusual wealth of history and natural resources, Congress recently authorized the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the feasibility of establishing New Jersey's first National Heritage Area – Crossroads of the American Revolution. Morristown National Historical Park, a unit of the National Park Service, is spearheading the study through a cooperative agreement with the Delaware & Raritan Greenway, a private nonprofit organization operating in central New Jersey.

Since 1984, Congress has designated 23 national heritage

areas. Each area is organized through voluntary partnerships between the National Park Service and local governments, organizations and individuals aimed at maximizing resource protection, public appreciation, education and recreational opportunities, and citizen involvement.

A heritage area is defined as an identifiable region with a strong sense of place, where the settled landscape tells a story about the generations of people who have lived there. It is a living landscape recognized for its important history, natural processes, cultural traditions, and economic and social forces that have influenced the area's human settlement and shaped its landscape.

The proposed National Heritage Area will be defined, in part, by a series of connecting trails between Revolutionary War sites, including major sites at Morristown National Historical Park, Washington Crossing State Park, the Old Barracks of Trenton, Princeton Battlefield and Monmouth Battlefield State Parks. Along all trail routes, efforts will be made to identify and interpret the integration of open space, farming and Revolutionary War strategy through interpretive signs and educational materials available to trail users. Historic events and remaining structures will be incorporated into the main trail system, helping to bring the Revolutionary War story to life.

Although Green Acres is targeting significant Revolutionary War sites for acquisition and New Jersey's heritage area will include several public parks, many areas within its boundaries would remain in private ownership. Designation of a national heritage area does not involve federal regulation of private

property. A "management entity" is named by Congress to coordinate the partners' voluntary actions.

The National Park Service views each heritage area as a unique and ambitious experiment in conservation and tourism, providing a venue to celebrate an area's cultural and natural resources. As the main benefactor from this federal initiative, New Jersey has a two-fold interest in supporting and helping to establish the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area. A heritage area would elevate public awareness about the state's role in the American Revolutionary War while preserving a remarkable era of history, and through establishing its boundaries, it would provide further opportunity to preserve and acquire the state's culturally significant open space. Not only would New Jersey be ensuring the continued existence and care of its historic resources, but also the Revolutionary War landscape on which they still stand.

Over the next 18 months, public meetings are being organized by the Delaware and Raritan Greenway to seek public input and support for the heritage area initiative. For more information about the initiative or the public meetings and dates, contact Denise at 973-539-2016 ext. 201 or linda_mead@nps.gov.



REVOLUTIONARY WAR INITIATIVES IN NEW JERSEY



◆ **A SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY AND FEASIBILITY STUDY TO DETERMINE THE ELIGIBILITY OF A CROSSROADS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA IN CENTRAL NEW JERSEY** has been authorized by Congress under the direction of the National Park Service. A National Heritage Area designation could benefit New Jersey by providing federal assistance toward protection of open space and historic sites and landscapes associated with the American Revolution.

◆ **THE AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM (ABPP)** is a Federally funded program with the intent goals of identifying and assessing threats to Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 battle locations and associated historic properties. The ABPP has been designed to focus the attention of battlefield researchers to a standard methodology that will provide local planners, preservationists, and others with credible information.

◆ **THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION: A COMMEMORATIVE INITIATIVE** of the National Park Service intent is to use the 225th Anniversary of the American Revolution to enhance public understanding of the various meanings and enduring legacy of the Revolution. Goals include interpretation and education; communication; research; and resource protection.

◆ **THE WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU NATIONAL HERITAGE TRAIL** was authorized by Congress in January 24, 2001. The intent of the Act is to conduct a National Historic trail feasibility study of the Washington-Rochambeau Route. The 600 mile route extends from Rhode Island to Virginia and will potentially connect to the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage study area in New Jersey.

◆ **THE NEW JERSEY DEP, DIVISION OF PARKS AND FORESTRY'S REVOLUTIONARY WAR CAMPAIGN** is designed to promote public protection and appreciation for the rich historical resources associated with the time period. The campaign includes initiatives such as: a driving tour brochure and other promotional materials; special events, including a lecture series; and a statewide Revolutionary War orientation/ wayside exhibit program.

www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/parknj/revwar.html

◆ **THE NEW JERSEY DEP, GREEN ACRES PROGRAM, CROSSROAD OF THE REVOLUTION PROJECT AREA** is a landscape preservation/trail corridor project that will protect and link Revolutionary War sites including the major sites of Morristown National Historic Park, Washington's Crossing State Park, the Trenton Barracks, Princeton Battlefield State Park and Monmouth Battlefield State Park. In partnership with local government and non-profit groups, Green Acres mission is to create an interconnected system of open spaces to protect the sites and landscapes of the American Revolution in New Jersey.

www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/currentstate.html

◆ **THE GARDEN STATE PRESERVATION TRUST (GSPT)** was established in 1999 to oversee expenditures of funds generated for open space and farmland acquisition and historic preservation. Through the Green Acres Program, GSPT funding is being used to acquire significant Revolutionary War properties statewide.

◆ **THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION CELEBRATION COMMISSION** was established by Executive Order from the Governor for the purpose to plan, promote and coordinate commemorative programs and activities to celebrate the 225th Anniversary of the American Revolution from 2001 to 2008.

◆ **THE BATTLE OF TRENTON AND TEN CRUCIAL DAYS EVENTS** and Promotions planning is underway for the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Trenton, Washington Crossing the Delaware and the Battle of Princeton. Cultural Affairs and the NJHC are working with the City of Trenton, the Old Barracks, DEP's Division of Parks and Forestry, Office of Travel and Tourism, the Princeton Historic Society, the Pennsylvania Washington Crossing Historic Park and the National Park Service to promote the event and prepare a proposal for the 225th Commission.

◆ **THE WASHINGTON VICTORY TRAIL** was created by a resolution by New Jersey legislators requiring the Historical Commission and the NJ Department of Transportation to place signage along the 11-mile route that General George Washington and his troops walked from Washington's Crossing State Park to Trenton. A second resolution was introduced on Jan 22, 2001 to extend the route from Trenton to Princeton Battlefield.



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HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE



Natural & Historic Resources
Department of Environmental Protection

P.O. Box 404

Trenton, New Jersey 08625

TEL: (609) 984-0176

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