Fowler Garden Landscape Rehabilitation
Madison Lewis Woodlands

February 2018

Prepared for
Village of Warwick
Warwick, New York

Prepared by
HERITAGE LANDSCAPES LLC
Preservation Landscape Architects & Planners
Charlotte, Vermont & Norwalk, Connecticut

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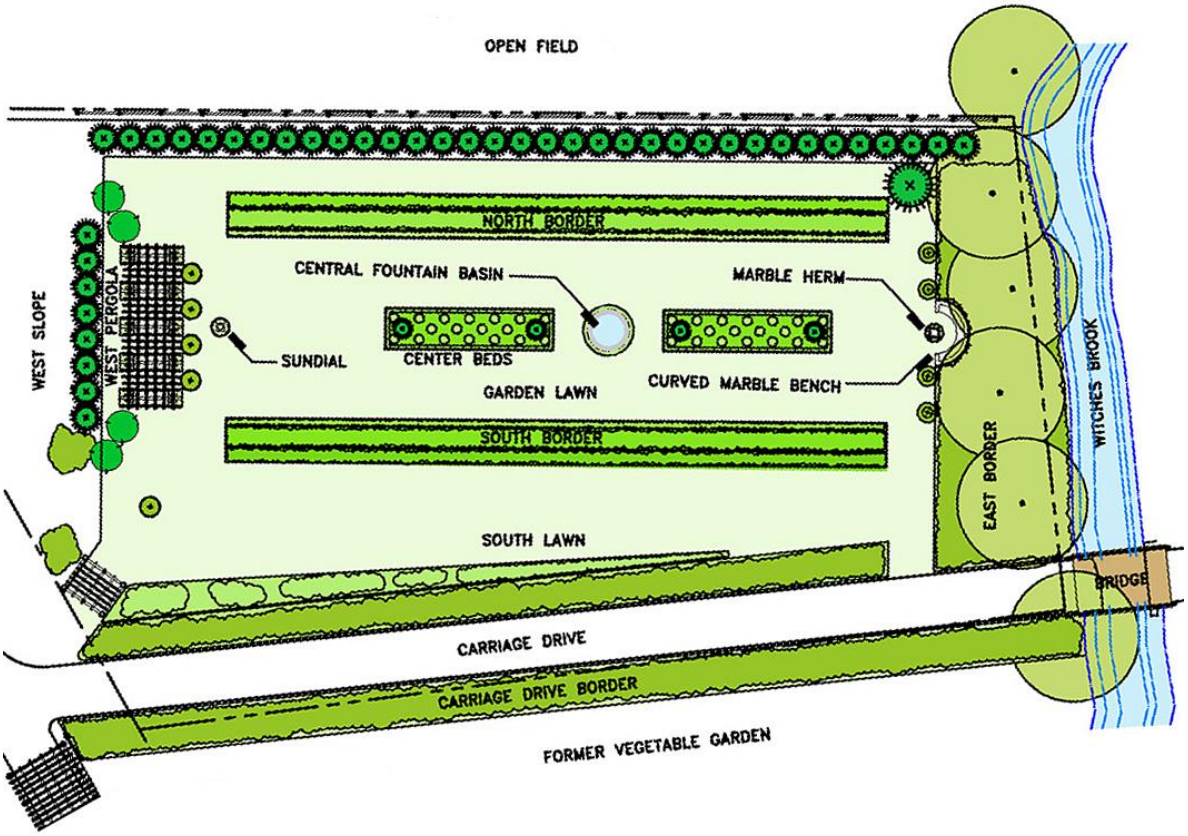

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Cover Photograph: 1910 view east along the Carriage Drive showing historic location of garden arched entry and columned pergola. Courtesy Steve Gross.

Inside Cover Plan: Detail of Fowler Garden 1910 Plan. Heritage Landscapes, 2018.

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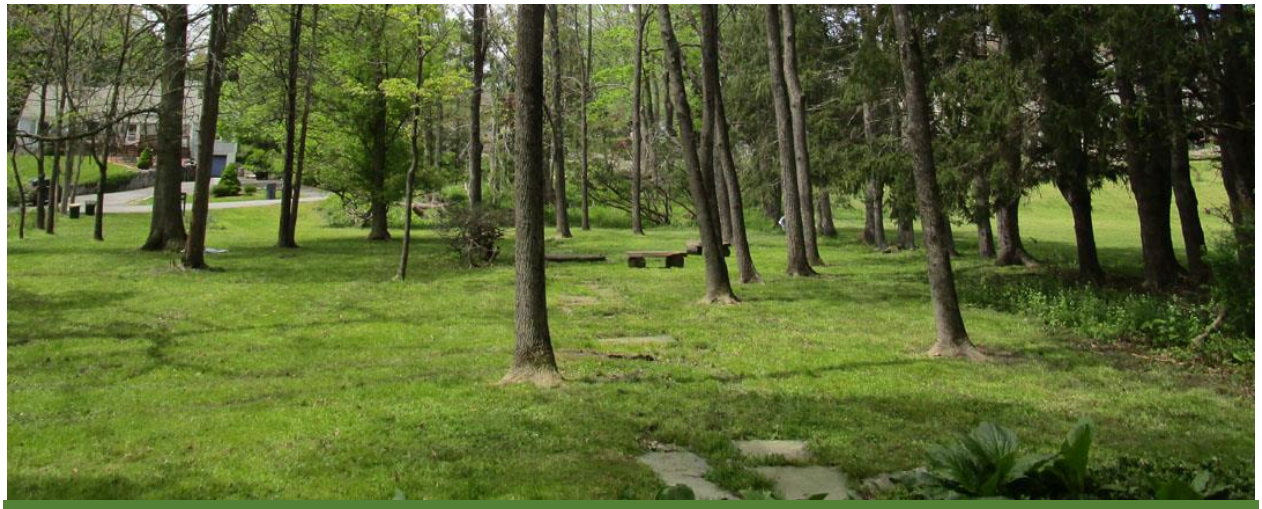

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Fowler Garden Rehabilitation
MADISON LEWIS WOODLANDS

Part 1: Garden Approach, Methods, 1910 Character and Plan, and Existing Landscape and Plan

A. INTRODUCTION TO FOWLER GARDEN LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION TREATMENT

The Fowler Garden Rehabilitation efforts in this report were sparked by the community desire to recapture this important historic garden for the enjoyment of Warwick Village citizens and their visitors. Given that this is a historic garden, with some evidence of its origins and specific features remaining, the project pursues a preservation approach that will respect the remaining evidence while directing collaborative efforts to return a garden to the community in a useable and enjoyable form. The approach seeks to rebuild the garden in its spatial form, scale and details. This work employs historic documentation to recapture the character and features of the Fowler Garden to the full degree that this important evidence supports. The documentation is less than complete, however careful study does provide enough evidence to discern the layout of the garden beds and lawns, the edge definition, and planting character and scale, as well as details of important objects, including the marble herme sculpture, marble bench, and pergola columns. For plant materials analysis of photographs provides the form, scale and, in several cases, the species of the historic plants.

Additionally, as this is to be a community garden for public use, paths, seating, deer fence protection, and maintenance are imperatives that must be integrated. As this work addresses suitable new uses, shifting form private estate garden to public garden, the preservation treatment approach is Rehabilitation. Simply stated, Rehabilitation respects the historic remaining character and details, conveying its historical values and suiting the work to a compatible contemporary use.

The current project follows on from the Madison Lewis Woodlands Cultural Landscape Report, prepared by Heritage Landscapes for the Village of Warwick, in 2008. That detailed report addressed the remaining 14 acres of the former 38-acre Fowler property, to include the former

Fowler Garden area, as well as the Madison Lewis Woodlands and the Colonial Avenue drive and tree allee. That report is foundational to the current work addressing the Fowler Garden as it gathered historical documentation, developed a thorough chronology, cataloged existing character and historical remains, and recommended preservation treatment interventions to preserve, stabilized and rehabilitate this public landscape for enhanced community uses. That 2008 report recommended a modest approach to the garden area suggesting that

The Fowler Garden and larger Madison Lewis Woodlands are valued historic and open space resources of the Village of Warwick. Over time, the context of the site has changed as the surrounding lands, once a part of the Fowler Estate, were developed for residential lots. However, the remaining 14-acre historic property exhibits notable historical continuity with Fowler era character and features preset, with an evolved landscape. During the Belair estate historic period, the natural character of the woodlands was augmented through the additions of drives, paths, bridges, arbors and native and exotic plantings. Under the ownership of the Garden Club of Orange for four decades, the 14-acre Madison Lewis Woodlands served the Village of Warwick as a place for public recreation and an educational resource. Since ownership of the woodlands transferred to the Village in 2004, management and use of the site has been focused on the passive use of the woodlands trails east of Witches Brook and site of former Italianate Garden that was overshadowed by a volunteer successional growth walnut trees and tall spruce trees that were trimmed historically along one garden border. While the garden no longer offers a garden like appearance, 14 years of limited management have, to a good degree, retained the value of the woodlands resource and is widely recognized by the Village and its residents as a local cultural and natural resource. The intent of this project report is to guide the collaborative Warwick leadership., organizations and citizens to rehabilitate this garden, relying principally on local resources and volunteer efforts, for the benefit of the whole community.

This proposed rehabilitation treatment of the Fowler Garden at the Madison Lewis Woodland will serve as a framework in directing the spatial organization of the garden, Fowler era elements to remain or be re-instituted, plantings in the character and style of the late nineteenth century Italian garden using a mix of traditional plant materials, address deer browsing, provide paving for contemporary use with materials that are durable and can be maintained into the future and plan for replacement garden elements as part of this or future projects.

B. HISTORIC FOWLER GARDEN REHABILITATION APPROACH AND METHODS

B1. Preservation Approach

The approach to the Madison Lewis Woodland Fowler Garden Rehabilitation employs designed historic landscape guidance that directs research and assessment of documentation, understanding of current landscape character and identification of historic features remaining, and plan development that protects remaining character-defining features while bringing forward a historic documentation-based treatment. Rehabilitation as a treatment also addresses the incorporation of

contemporary and future uses, in this case a change from private garden to public one, as historic character is recaptured. The primary objective of the Fowler Garden Rehabilitation is to recapture the character of the garden, overall spatial organization, visual relationships, mass and scale, and details to the full degree possible based on historic documentation.

Heritage Landscapes reviewed the 2008 Madison Lewis Woodlands Cultural Landscape Report and undertook field investigation to map the current landscape and understand the existing conditions. Focused study began with careful assessment of the historic documentation of the formal gardens, and the broader Fowler estate imagery, to glean details identifying its historic character. This historical data forms the basis for developing the proposed historic garden rehabilitation treatment plan, that will be carried forward to implementation through the collaboration of the Village of Warwick, Garden Club of Orange and Duchess Counties, Warwick Valley Gardeners and Warwick in Bloom.

Field investigation and notes were used to create a base map capturing the landscape today and to be used as a base for the garden rehabilitation treatment plan. Heritage Landscapes staff has met with representatives of the Village and volunteer garden committee members to discuss the goals and objectives of the treatment plan that identify contemporary needs, management considerations and funding opportunities such as grants, private fund raising, volunteer efforts and contributions of municipal staffing and material resources.

B.2 Project Process Overview

The process of project efforts engaged the community as well as the historic documentation and the existing landscape. The flow of tasks included

- Initial meeting and site walk with the Warwick Village, Garden Club of Orange and Duchess Counties, Warwick Valley Gardeners, Warwick in Bloom to discuss and refine the project goals and objectives, refine the project work and structure the desired approach for rebuilding of this historic garden in a manner that can be cared for and managed into the future.

- Review the prior CLR report focusing on garden images and the limited additional information provided by the Village, in obtaining a detailed understanding of the formal garden space and planted materials.

- Undertake field investigation using existing mapping and aerial photography that was available from the Village to document the existing conditions, identify extant features of the historic garden and create an existing base plan of the garden area as the basis for rehabilitation treatment recommendations.

- Develop sketch garden rehabilitation studies for review that recapture the historic character while accommodating proposed uses and management.

- Review of the garden rehabilitation studies in a project partners workshop work session, presenting and discussing the overall findings from historic document review, on site reconnaissance, and preliminary design concepts for garden area treatment recommendations, and receiving inputs on final garden rehabilitation plan direction.

- Provide a pre-final plans and concise report for review and comment, that incorporate comments and direction provided by the project partners.

- Finalize the Madison Lewis Woodlands Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Recommended Treatment Plan and report.

B.3 Fowler Garden Historic Character Definition

Heritage Landscapes objective to recapture the character-defining features of the garden targeting overall character, spatial organization, visual relationships, mass and scale, based on historic documentation and field investigation to develop an appropriate treatment recommendation plan follows federal guidance throughout the project tasks in understanding the similarities and difference between the historic and existing character to structure treatment recommendations. From this multi-level foundation, strategies for landscape preservation treatment 7are presented that respect the historic character and unique identity as a part of the historic Belair Estate Formal Garden while addressing current issues and needs and envisioning a dynamic future for the landscape.

Federal guidance defines the character-defining features of a landscape.[1] Character-defining features of the garden were considered as a series of interrelated, specific aspects of the cultural landscape for the garden rehabilitation. They include:

- *Spatial Organization, Land Patterns, Land Use & Visual Relationships* – These features address the three-dimensional organization and patterns of spaces in the landscape, land uses, and visual relationships, shaped by both cultural and natural features; the uses of the land and the views and visual relationships that organize the landscape as defined by topography, vegetation, circulation, built elements, and often a combination of these character-defining features to create the overall patterns of the landscape. At the Fowler Garden, the organization of the basically rectangular space, edged by trees, road, the pergola and Witches Brook, as well as the features and details within that space recorded in historic images address garden character.

- *Topography & Natural Systems* – Topography is the shape of the ground plane and its height or depth. Topography occurs in relation to natural systems and as a result of human manipulation. Natural systems include landforms, watershed systems, climate, surface and underground flows, and their effects. The public road entry to the garden area to the northwest is situated within a valley between the two slopes. The garden is positioned in a relatively level area with the Witches Brook, at a lower grade to the east margin.

- *Vegetation* – Vegetation can include groups of plants, individual plants, agricultural fields, planting beds, formal or informal tree groves, woodland, meadow, or turf. Today limited historic garden vegetation remains, with notably the remnant of the north evergreen screen, now grown up. The historic garden character was communicated by the annual. perennial, vine, shrub ad tree plantings that adorned the space in the early twentieth century.

- *Circulation* – Circulation features may include roads, drives, trails, paths, and parking areas individually sited or linked to form a network or system. Alignment, width, surface, edge treatment, and materials contribute to the character of circulation features. Historic vehicular circulation moved along the Carriage Drive and across the Witches Brook bridge.

- *Water Features* – Features of water systems may be aesthetic as well as functional components of the landscape. Water features may include fountains, pools, cascades, irrigation systems, streams, ponds, lakes, and aqueducts. The natural brook that crossed the estate historically remains in the landscape today, as does the round fountain basin as a focal element of the garden. The pond constructed during estate improvement remains on an adjacent private property, although it can be seen from certain vantages.

- *Structures* – Landscape structures are non-habitable constructed features such as pavilions or features such as walls, bridges, arbors, terraces, steps, and fences. Structures for the Fowler Garden era, now missing, include the rustic cedar log entry arbor, the refined pergola with stone or cast columns and the wooden bridge that crosses the brook.

- *Site Furnishings & Objects* – Sculptural objects and site furnishings including benches, lighting, signa, are small-scale features in the landscape. Historically the sculptural elements within the Fowler Garden were character-defining. The views show what appears to be a marble herm, which is a classical sculpted bust above a simple column that tapers downward to a quadrangular base, and a marble semi-circular bench framing that piece, as focal objects.

Heritage Landscapes approached treatment recommendations for the Fowler Garden at Madison Lewis Woodlands Cultural Landscape Report in accordance with federal guidance for cultural landscape preservation. Relevant professional guidance includes the following: *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*, *National Park Service Cultural Resource Management Guideline 28, National Register Bulletin 18: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*, *National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*, *NPS Preservation Brief 36 Protecting Cultural Landscapes*, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*, and *National Park Service Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management.*

C. CONTEMPORARY GARDEN ISSUES AND FINDINGS

Heritage Landscapes met with the Warwick Mayor, Department of Public Works Director and representatives of the Garden Club of Orange & Dutchess County, Warwick in Bloom, Warwick Valley Gardeners and the Warwick Historical Society. At this initial meeting topics addressed were project scope, goals and objectives as well as an informal dialogue while walking the former garden area. The meeting provided an opportunity for collaborators to discuss the project in an interactive working group. The outcome of this effort was a list of items and issues to aid in developing a rehabilitation plan that addresses the historic character of the Fowler Garden while accommodating contemporary uses and create a plan that creates a garden that is maintainable and manageable into the future. A summary of selected items discussed is as follows:

- The Fowler Garden setting is compromised from its historic context in part by the private ownership of the land parcels north, west and south of the garden. In particular, the southern border of invasive plant massing blocks views of the pond on the adjacent parcel and garden footprint may have been altered by land transfer. Possible future efforts identified include discussion with the neighbors to secure view sheds to the north and exploring the possibility of opening a view south toward the pond.

- Restoring garden furnishings that include the pergola, benches, fountain and bust will be an important part of rehabilitating the Garden. These garden features can be undertaken at any time and the current grant-funded planning effort is focused on developing a planting rehabilitation plan. The proposed plan will anticipate restoration of these elements and accommodate them within the planting plan. Accommodations for future garden feature restoration may include laying spare conduits for electrical and water supply to the central fountain basin and incorporating individual benches into the planting plan.

- Implementation and long-term care and stewardship of the garden was discussed and the necessity of a coordinated effort between the several garden clubs and the Village of Warwick was noted.

- The existing bluestone walk between the former pergola and curved bench is not evident in historic images. No information has been located as to when the bluestone walk was placed in the garden.

- Deer browsing pressure is high in this location and should be a factor in plant selection. Deer fencing was discussed as a possibility along with suggestions of alternate means to control deer by modifying browsing patterns.

- The group discussed methods for soliciting and acknowledging donations. Use of individual donor plaques was steered away from, suggesting preferred alternative such as a centralized donor plaque and an on-line donor list on the Village website.

- Limited maintenance access to the woodlands for small maintenance trucks or motorized carts via the adjacent 4-foot-wide foot bridge over Witches Brook was raised as a long-term management concern. A wider structure is desired, and the Village would like the garden rehabilitation plan to make accommodation for replacing the footbridge with a wider structure that can accommodate small maintenance vehicles.

- Water supply is a key factor in maintaining the garden. The existing water line at Robin Brae Drive can be tapped to support lawn hydrants and/or an automated irrigation system.

- The issue of parking at the garden was touched on briefly, in particular achieving handicapped access is an important goal.

Following the meeting, the Mayor's office reached out to known descendants of the Fowler family and published a notice requesting that anyone with relevant historic information and/or photographs of the former Fowler Belair estate contact the Village. The objective of this outreach was to supplement historic documentation gathered in 2008 for the *Madison Lewis Woodlands Cultural Landscape Report* completed by Heritage Landscapes. The outreach prove unfruitful and no further historic documentation was identified.

D. FOWLER GARDEN 1910 PERIOD PLAN

Heritage landscapes employed existing site mapping and careful study of historic photographic images, dated to circa 1910, to create a period plan representing the Fowler Garden during the early twentieth century. Included as **Plan 1: 1910 Plan**, this drawing illustrates the formal garden at that date with the details Heritage Landscapes studied in historic documentation (11" x 17" fold-out plan). The garden is located between the bottom of the west slope and Witches Brook at the east, with the historic carriage drive to the south, which led to the historic Colonial Avenue entry. Located south of this Italianate Garden and carriage drive, the large vegetable gardens and rustic wood arbor covered in dense vines, possibly grape were productive gardens, balancing the pleasure garden. The wide wood arbor framed a route that led to the ice house and pond in this area of the 38-acre Belair Estate. This area is now in private ownership.

The Italian Garden was designed with two spaces, a formal chamber at the north and a less formal chamber to the south. The formal chamber to the north was organized around a central east-west axis terminated at the west by a vine-covered pergola with stone or precast concrete fluted columns and to the east opposite, by a highly decorative carved white marble bench and sculpture. A sundial placed in front of the pergola was on axis with the central fountain basin and the composition of herm sculpture centered on a semi-circular bench, all aligning through the center of the garden- pergola, sundial. fountain, herm and bench. Between these elements the 8-foot diameter precast concrete fountain basin was the central feature flanked along the north and south by linear planting beds. These beds were planted with a selected mixture of perennials and annuals in rows.

The garden was defined and separated from an open field at the north perimeter by a line of densely planted white spruce with wood post and rail fence along the outside edge. An somewhat linear, informal planting of willow trees and understory broadleaf evergreen shrubs and possibly deciduous flowering shrubs create a backdrop at the eastern border of the garden separating this formal landscape from the adjacent slope and Witches Brook. Four potted fig trees with pairs placed to either side of the semi-circular bench further define this edge of the garden.

The west end, opposite a line of four dwarf umbrella catalpa tree standards were centered on the bays of the vine covered pergola, adding a row of punctuating plants below pergola height to that composition. A single umbrella catalpa was centered on both the rustic cedar log arch and the refined pergola, relating to entry views and to views form the pergola. The pergola was draped in a mixture of wisteria and Dutchman's pipe vines, sown in views a very dense. A second line of white spruce to the west of the pergola provided a dark green backdrop to the ensemble. A pair of yew shrubs punctuated and farmed the structure to both sides.

Across the carriage drive, the south chamber of this historic garden was less formal, presenting a central lawn panel that shared the mixed perennial and annual border of the central chamber mixed planting of perennials, annuals and shrub materials separating it from the adjacent carriage drive. Both garden spaces were entered through rustic cedar wood arbors, covered with roses, porcelain berry and honeysuckle vines, two of which are invasive species.

Plan 1: 1910 Plan forms the basis for understanding the historic character and features of the Fowler era garden as valued component of the larger overall Belair Estate Landscape. Historic images informed the development of the 1910 period plan and the foundation for development of the treatment alternatives Studies A and B (See Figures 1.1 through 1.10).

E. 2017 FOWLER GARDEN LANDSCAPE

Landscape Report, and undertook a detailed field investigation to document the existing conditions of the former garden to build a base map for the garden rehabilitation treatment plan
Using the 2008 base information Heritage Landscapes staff undertook a detailed field investigation to document the landscape develop an updated base map. **Plan 2: 2017 Plan**, captures the current state of the one-half acre historic garden area, documenting the current landscape of the former Fowler Italianate Garden. The garden location is generally true to its historic location on the former grounds of the 38-acre Belair Estate with its organization and several garden features remaining from the original garden design. This includes rectilinear form, topography, the central fountain basin and line of white spruce at the north border (Figure 1.11). Changes have occurred over the last century, altering the character of the garden primarily through the significant loss of planting beds, flowering and ornamental plant materials and garden structures. The garden shape may be slightly narrower to the west where land was lost in the widening of Robin Brae Drive prior to the 1966 Garden Club ownership (Figure 1.12).

The existing landscape plan illustrates extant features and current character of the former garden to include a line of now-mature white spruce that depicted the former trimming line, two pairs of yew shrubs, that locate the pergola, and the circular fountain basin in what appears to be its original location (Figures 1.13 and 1.14). The 2017 plan also shows the evolution of the garden by including features that post-date the Fowler era garden, including the bluestone-paved walk and rectangular paved terrace area, located under the original turf surface of the pergola (Figure 1.14). The footprint of the garden at the time of Heritage Landscapes field study and mapping had a tree canopy cover of volunteer black walnut, silver maple, ash, and ailanthus that have self-seeded over several decades. Understory invasive brambles which engulfed the garden in 2008 were removed by the Village leaving a canopy that shades the garden area, dominated by a fairly large pin oak over the central lawn. In addition to the mix of deciduous trees are several mature evergreens that include white cedar, yews and white spruce trees are growing west of the former pergola. These materials, with selected ones remaining from the original garden plantings, are overgrown and misshapen with canopies raised and weakened over time by limited sunlight and invasive bramble cover.

Witches Brook along the east perimeter remains active although the willow trees are no longer on the west bank and the rustic wood bridge was replaced with a narrow timber pedestrian structure atop the historic stone footings (Figures 1.15 and 1.16). A small pollinator garden located just behind the wood Madison Lewis Woodland entry sign is a recent addition in the former garden in the approximate location of the historic rustic arbor marking the entry at the corner of the garden (Figure 1.17).

Heritage Landscapes developed Plans 1 and 2 to provide a basis for understanding the character and organization of the Fowler Garden, and to identify remaining features of the former landscape. Plan 2 depicting the existing landscape provides the context of the current public landscape within the garden area as a baseline toward developing the preferred rehabilitation plan.

F. REHABILITATION STUDIES AND WORKSHOP

Heritage Landscapes developed two study plans for rehabilitation of the Fowler era Garden at the Madison Lewis Woodlands. Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Study A and Study B. These sketch plans were derived using the existing condition base drawing, Plan 2: 2017 Plan, and the historic documentation captured in Plan 1: 1910 Plan. The overarching goals in both study A and B rehabilitation plans is to preserve the historic elements that remain in the garden and to rehabilitate the garden to re-establish defining elements and features that convey its historic character and cultural values while making possible a compatible use through reconstruction repair and alterations. This approach is consistent with the more modest recommendations for preservation and rehabilitation of the garden area identified in the Madison Lewis Woodlands Cultural Landscape Report (MLW CLR) compiled by Heritage Landscapes, 2008. As indicated in that MLW CLR, Rehabilitation treatment recommendations include

- Accommodate passive, social and educational recreation
- Improve wayfinding and interpretation
- Stabilize and repair the extant architectural concrete fountain basin
- Reconstruct the wooden pergola and rustic wood entry arbor
- Improve public entry
- Recapture historic circulation and provide additional paths for increased use and interpretation opportunities.
- Provide parking access

Garden rehabilitation studies A & B address these recommended rehabilitation items to recapture of the Fowler Italian Garden character by re-defining of the spatial organization; repairing and replacing missing landscape elements; and replacing vegetation including the white spruce linear plantings, vine covered arbor and border garden beds containing annuals, perennials and shrub materials. The proposed garden plans for Study A and B are similar in their overall layout, spatial organization and proposed plantings recapturing the character of the historic garden. The key difference between A and B is the level of proposed detail in the garden components with Study A having a slightly higher level of detail and recapture of the historic garden ornament and furnishings. Another key difference between the studies is the location and degree of detail of the proposed perimeter fencing, with Study A having a more extensive wood trellis style fencing around the full garden perimeter and Study B, a less detailed and more practical and economic perimeter fence along three of the four garden borders. Each Rehabilitation Study concept and details is described below.

F1. Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Study A

The proposed garden is organized to replicate the original design to the degree possible with specific site changes to be accommodated. Renewal of the Fowler Garden as presented in Study A seeks to

- Define the historical spatial organization of the garden as documented
- Retain, repair and reuse the historic fountain basin
- Replace missing garden features
- Replant in accurate locations, by character and scale and when known plant species
- Replant the perimeter evergreens and deciduous trees
- Recreate the linear flowering display beds
- Provide for the addition of reconstructed historic structure and fabricated sculptural objects and furnishings in the future
- Provide paved circulation and seating for public use

Garden spatial definition, created with the combination of horizontal ground plane of turf, plantings beds and structures and objects, as presented in the Plan 1 discussion. The center planting and north and south borders are space creating features to recapture. The formal space to the north is

created by replanting two linear floral beds to the north and south, a pair of rectilinear planting beds flanking the east and west sides of the circular fountain, informal planting of shrubs and trees along the Witches Brook and a line of white spruce along the north and west borders. A view of on recommended plant, Lilium speciosum rubrum, is included to show the stature of this plant (Figure 1.18) The historic elongated triangular bed, with somewhat less formality along the south margin and carriage drive is also studied for reconstruction and adaptation.

As an adaptation to public use, and more intensive foot traffic, walks reinforce the spatial configuration. These proposed paved walkways align outside of the planted beds and the reach both the historic semi-circular bench and the pergola. The walk is envisioned as stone which is more easily maintained in the long term, or possibly a border of stone with an interior of decomposed granite or similar stone mix that can be compacted, walked on and maintained.
The border along the south forms an elongated triangular bed. The foreground appears to be a linear somewhat irregular planting of flowering plants along the interior side with daylily foliage apparent in one historic view. Perennials and annuals in a mixture would be effective. The long rectangle appears to be planted with mixed shrubs that form the southern edge of the garden space. The employment of a rustic cedar wood fence along this edge would respond to the historic drives with shrubs and fence resented earlier (Figure 1.10)

South of the border the former carriage drive is reestablished in a compacted or stabilized stone dust. A local gravel and stone fines for driveways would work. This drive which linked the east and west entrances of the Belair Estate serves as the primary entrance to the Madison Lewis Woodlands walking trails east of Witches Brook. Entry to the Fowler Garden would be through a reconstructed rustic wood archway at the southwest corner of the garden.

The landscape slope west of the garden proposes a pollinator meadow with a mixture of wildflower and grasses to promote an increase in pollinator habitat and diversity of species in the area, which will also help local gardens to thrive. The combination of pure water without chlorine of other chemicals, which can be achieved by filtering the fountain basin supply, and pollinator plants will enrich habitat for this garden.

Securing the garden from the local deer population is addressed by use of deer fencing along the full garden perimeter. The fencing is a contemporary intervention necessitated by deer browsing pressure in the immediate surrounding area to ensure survival of the ornamental plantings. Materials for fencing will reflect the character of the historic Fowler estate by using rustic lumber in a design that evokes the Fowler era without implying replication of an historic element. The fencing is to be designed with a hierarchy such that the southern perimeter will be of a more detailed design and for support of flowering vines to complement the garden whereas the lesser detailed fencing is to be at the pollinator meadow edge. Fencing behind the replanted line of spruce trees and along Witches Brook is deemed as more functional and should be least visible letting the vegetation take precedent in the overall garden design.

Central to the garden design is the historic prefabricated concrete fountain basin. The basin is in fair condition and may be restored with a low water jet to re-activate a water feature in the garden. The study shows new benches set in the center of the wider paved walk. The benches without backs retain a low profile in the garden to not overpower the floral display and allow flexibility for viewing in any direction. To the east, a semi-circular bench is shown with a replacement herm at the central location. Opposite but on axis to the herm, a sundial marks the center of the historic colonnaded pergola marked in this plan with stone insets as part of the stone and gravel paving. Plant materials will be selected to replicate the materials believed to be in the historic beds reflecting the historic form and texture of the bed plantings. The two long beds in the formal space of the garden were planted with two single species lines of materials in the north bed and three lines of single species materials in the south bed. The two center beds opposite the fountain and the central planting around the fountain basin were of the same composition, a mix of roses and heliotrope. The third bed, forming a border along the carriage drive is proposed as a mix of evergreen and deciduous shrubs with perennials arranged informally, to replicate historic character. White willows and sugar maples created a backdrop of deciduous trees along the brook that was underplanted with broadleaf evergreens and lower masses of shade loving species. The most formal feature of the planting is the line of white spruce along the north and to a lesser degree the spruce west of the historic pergola. These evergreens are recommended for renewal to establish the framework for the rehabilitated garden.

F2. Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Study B

Study B for rehabilitation of the Fowler era garden is a more modest approach to rehabilitation than expressed in the ambitious Study A plan. This plan is seeks to accomplish the desired preservation and stewardship goals for recapture of the Fowler era garden character by focusing on re-establishing the gardens spatial organization and plantings. Study B proposes less paving, fewer elements such as benches and does not anticipate future additions of the historic semi-circular bench, pergola, herm and sundial. Deer fencing in this study is pulled farther inward toward the core garden area and represents less overall detail in the finish with only the south perimeter being more ornamental in design. The historic central basin would be repaired and restored to function more like a bird bath with a central water feed and overflow without a recirculating pump and center jet.

The approach to planting is much like that of study A with re-planting of the long linear bedding along the more formal garden chamber and two central rectilinear beds to either side of the center water basin. There is generally more manicured turf with reduced area of ground cover and less variety in the proposed selection of ornamental shrubs and perennials in the bed along the carriage drive.

F3. Access for Studies A and B

Universal access to the Garden in both Study A and B is accommodated with regrading of the area of reconstructed arbor at the southwest corner of the garden nearest Robin Brae Drive. The roadway edge would be modified slightly to accommodate several visitor parking spaces for the Fowler

Garden as part of the Madison Lewis Woodlands. The most southern of the spaces can be arranged to allow handicapped access to the garden via the reconstructed arbor. A gravel drive is provided for pedestrian access and for maintenance vehicles to access both the garden via a gate to the east end and the woodland beyond the brook. The 4 foot wide existing footbridge built atop the historic stone bridge abutments is not suited for vehicle access to the woodland portion of the grounds and is shown as being replaced with 12 foot wide bridge that is more in keeping with the historic character of the original Fowler era carriage drive bridge and designed to accommodate village maintenance vehicles.

G. COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

Heritage Landscapes met with the Village of Warwick representatives and members of the garden committee on 2 October 2017 to review historic findings, Plan 1: 1910 Plan and present the Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Studies A and B. As an introduction overall goals were reviewed. After presenting the two studies the discussion proceeded with an objective of reaching consensus on direction for next steps toward developing a preferred plan for implementing the garden Rehabilitation effort. Identified and agreed objectives included:

- Overall Rehabilitate the garden in the character of the Fowler Era
- Recapture of the garden spatial organization any layout
- Recapture of the garden features to the degree possible
- Preserve and restore to fountain use the central concrete fountain basin
- Accommodate more intensive new uses
- Address site constraints, deer browsing and access
- Incorporate management and maintenance considerations

The Village and Committee felt that Study A captured the character of the Fowler Era garden and could gain broad support. The proposed treatment plan was directed to embody the features, elements and fundamental principles presented in Study A incorporating flexibility for phased implementation of garden design structures and elements in the future as momentum is built and funds are raised. The development of the proposed Rehabilitation Plan proceeded on this basis.

PART 1 ENDNOTES

[1] Robert R. Page, Cathy A. Gilbert, Susan A. Dolan, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*, Washington DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, NPS, Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, 1998.

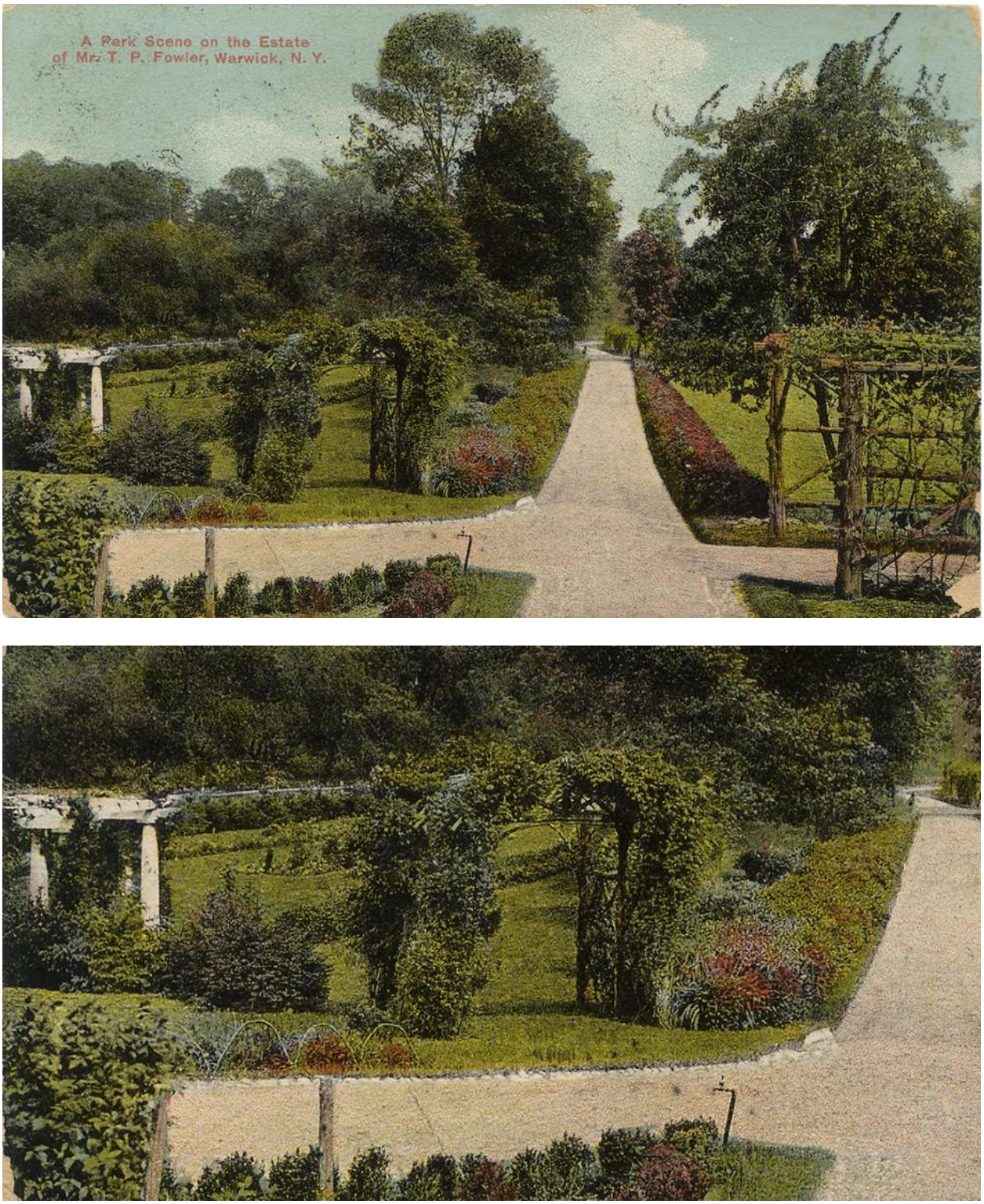


Figure 1.1a b This c1910 postcard photograph documents the Fowler Garden shows the vine-covered rustic wood arbor, at left, marking entry to the Fowler-era Italian Garden. Left of the entry arbor, the white pergola planted with vines inserts a formal character at the west end of the garden. Visible in the distance is the rustic bridge crossing Witches Brook. (MLW-VW-GardenAxis-1910)

Figure 1.2a, b The use of rustic common red cedar (*Juniperus virginia*) logs and branches, bark on or peeled, defines the character of entries and boundaries throughout the Fowler Estate, as shown in this 1927 photo of a gateway and fence composition. (MLW-SG-GateDrive-1927)

Figure 1.3a, b This c1902 view from stable/carriage house shows a portion of the carriage drive and intersection, the long rustic wood arbor and productive garden rows. The Italian garden extends beyond the frame of this image in the lower left corner. At the center, the long vine covered arbor leads past the tall Lombardy poplar trees to the ice pond. At right, the organized vegetable garden rows are visible. (MLW-VW-BA-FromStable-1902 cropped)

Figure 1.4 This 1910 view shows the rustic and densely planted arbor at the garden entry. Crafted of bark on cedar logs and branches, the structure created a framed threshold into the garden, with axial view to the dwarf umbrella catalpa and an angled view to the border and center beds. A mix of what appears to be climbing rose, honeysuckle and porcelain berry vine foliage creating a foliage and bloom covered archway into the garden. Porcelain berry and Japanese honeysuckle are both aggressive invasive exotic plants and other more well-behaved vines should be substituted. (MLW-VW-BA-GardenArbor-1910 Cropped)

Figure 1.5a Two border planting beds are clearly visible in this 1910 view looking east across the formal lawn of the Italian garden. A clipped dwarf catalpa (at image left) is in front of the pergola and sundial. In the background, a line of white spruce tree forms the north garden border backed by willows. Note the great height and extent of the fountain spray in this view, which likely created damp surrounds. (MLW-VW-BA-Garden-1910-cropped)

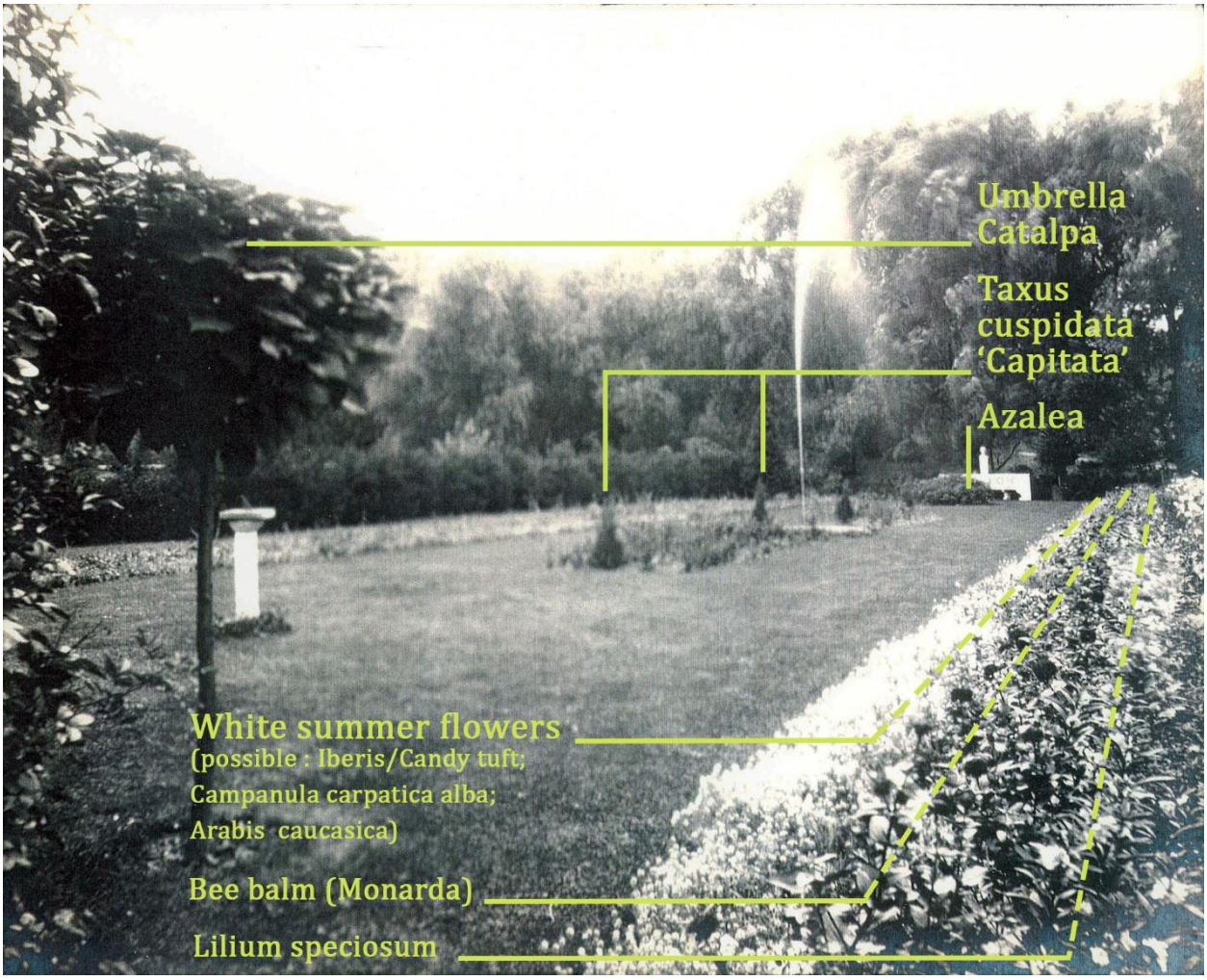


Figure 1.5b The clarity of this photograph shows details of plant forms and leaf shapes and arrangements, enabling some identification of the plants in the 1910 garden. The lily stem and leaf form is clearly Lilium speciosum rubrum, a species form that is antique, sends up a showy candelabra of flowers in late July early August, and is quite durable. At the back of this border is peony foliage. (MLW_Plant Notes 2_HL-15Feb2018)

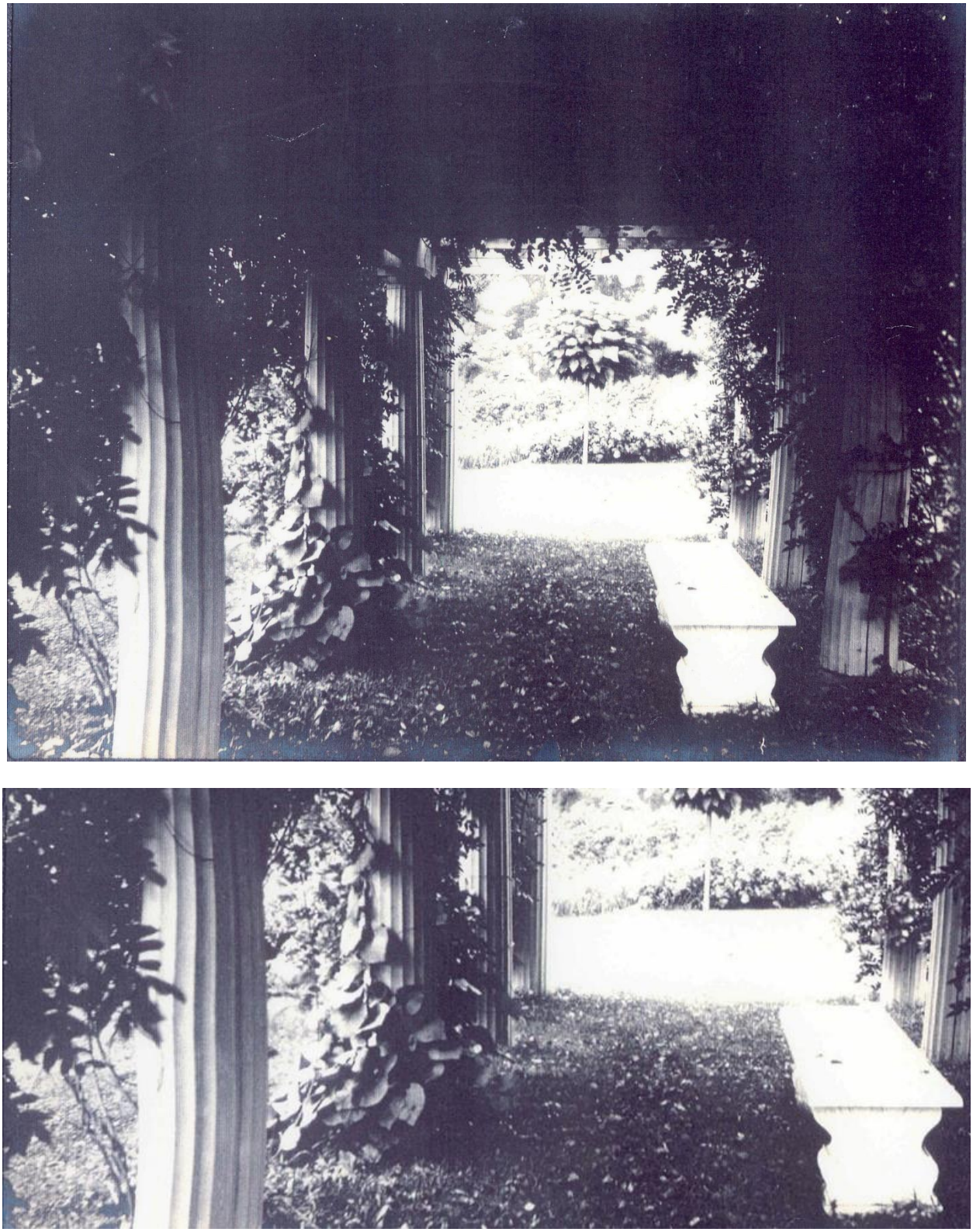


Figure 1.6a, b 1910 pergola axial view shows the fluted columns and classically inspired bench set in the grass which appears to be carved in stone or formed cast stone concrete. The trimmed dwarf catalpa tree provides the axial fulcrum centered in the view along the pergola, as it also does for the entry arbor. (MLW-VW-BA-Pergola-1910 cropped)

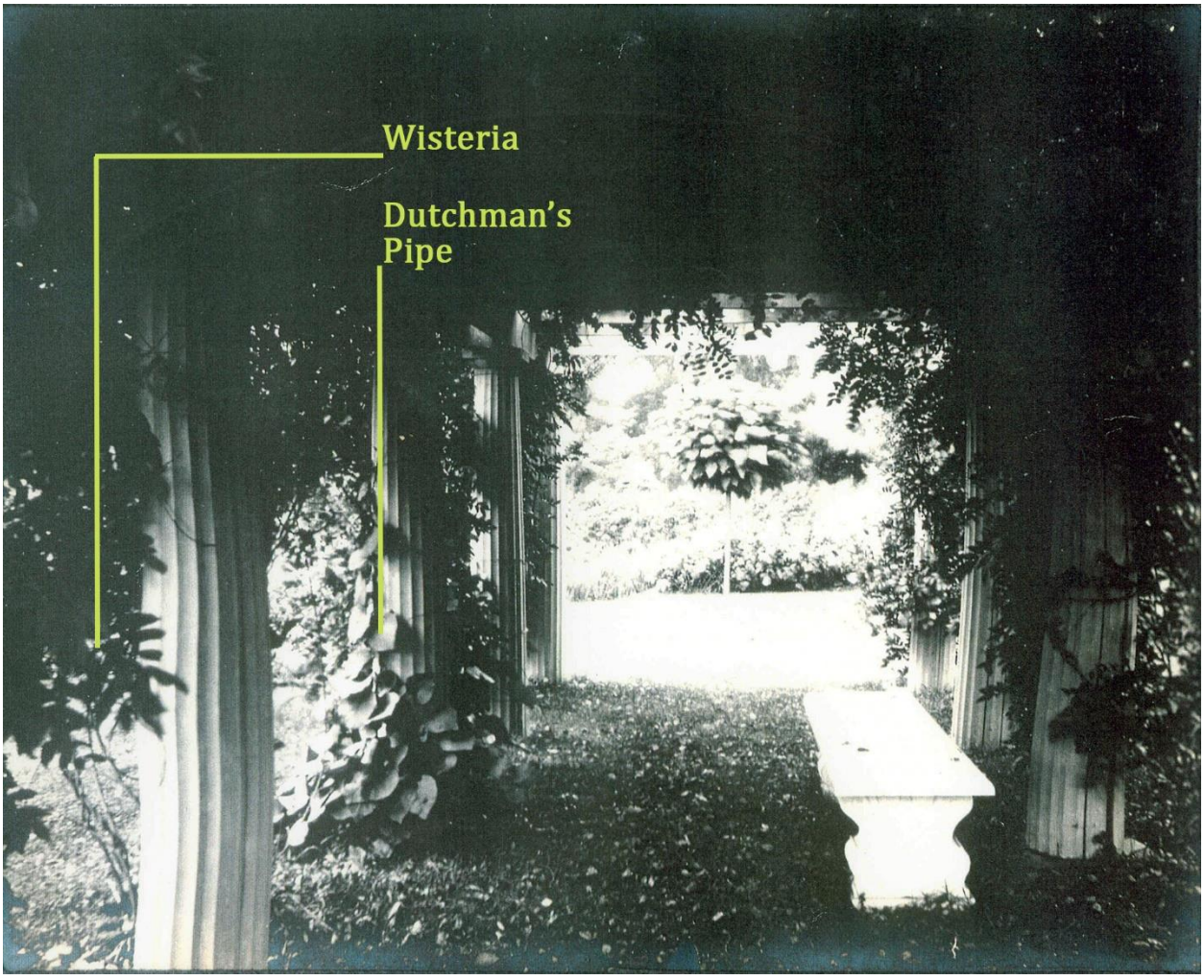


Figure 1.6c The fluted pergola columns support overhead beams and lattice covered with vines. As annotated on this historic photograph, wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*) vines created dense shade and fragrant blossoms, with Dutchmans' pipe (*Aristolochia macrophylla*), there may also be foliage of Sweet Autumn clematis (*Clematis terniflora*), adding a diversity of textures and interesting flowers. (MLW-Plant Notes 3_VW-BA-Pergola-1910_HL-15Feb2018)

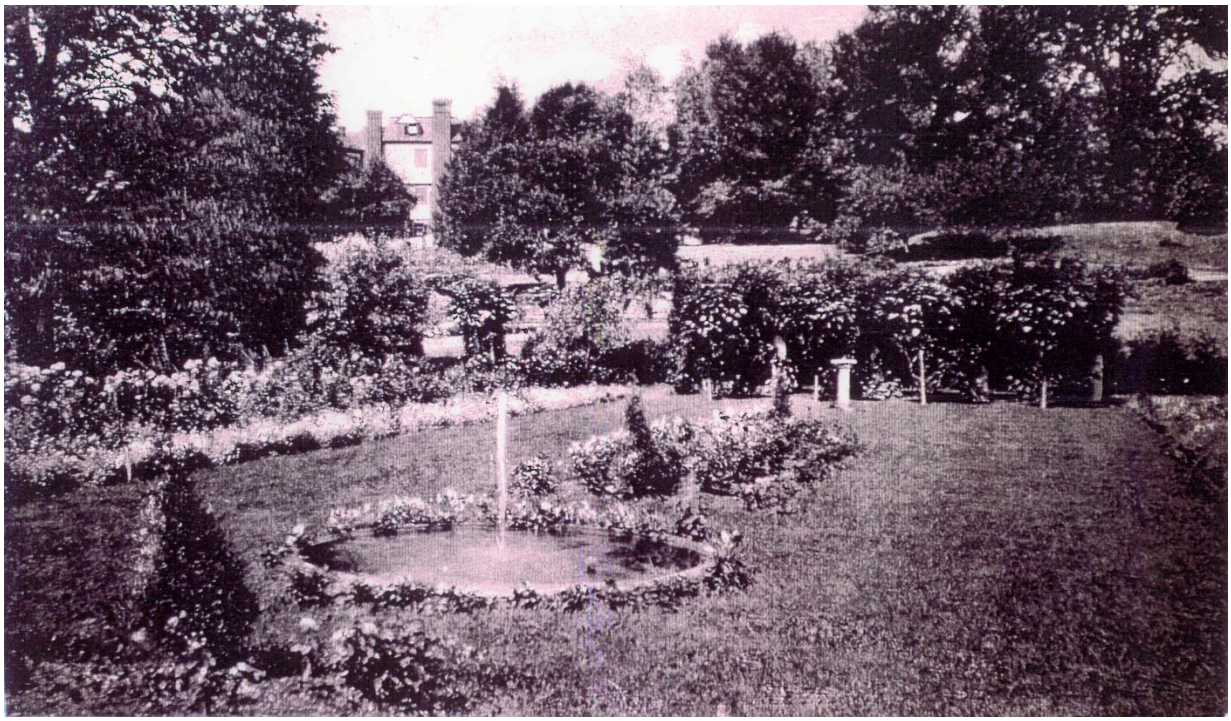


Figure 1.7a View looking west across the central lawn panel toward the vine covered pergola and rustic entry arbor. The fountain is ringed with a low flower border, with the spray are about a 4-foot height. The pyramidal yew shrubs punctuate a bed of blooming roses with a low flower border at the margin. (MLW-VW-BA-GardenPergola-1910 cropped)

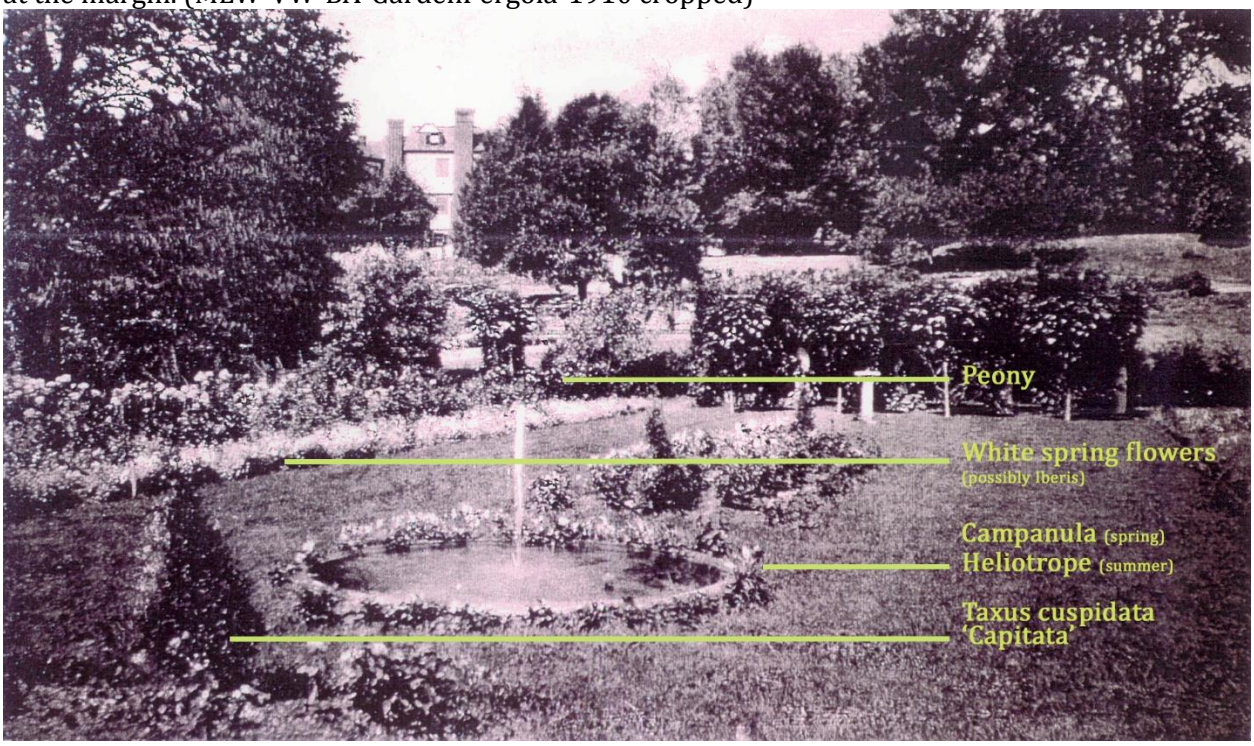


Figure 1.7b Closer inspection of this spring/early summer photograph indicates heliotrope or campanula ring the basin and the long rectangular beds flanking the fountain to the east and west are composed of layered flowers, with tall peonies at the outer edge. (MLW_Plant Notes 1_HL-16Feb2018)

Figure 1.8 The 1910 garden as seen from the south looking toward the semi-circular carved marble bench and herm. Potted trimmed bay tree standards, set to either side of the bench in front of a shrub border planting would have been greenhouse grown and placed in the garden for the mild weather months. The flowering bed plants are seen in the foreground displaying what appears to be peony bloom above the foliage. (MLW-VW-BA-GardenBust-1910 cropped)

Figure 1.9 Looking west across the rustic bridge at the crossing of Witches Brook on the approach to the main house from the historic Colonial Avenue carriage path entry drive. The formal garden would be positioned behind the screen of willow trees to the right. The bridge, possibly with a wood deck and displaying a peeled log railing, was constructed at a width to accommodate vehicles. It provided access between the main house, and tennis courts and play house on the east side of Witches Brook. (MLW-VW-BA-CarriagePath-1910 cropped)

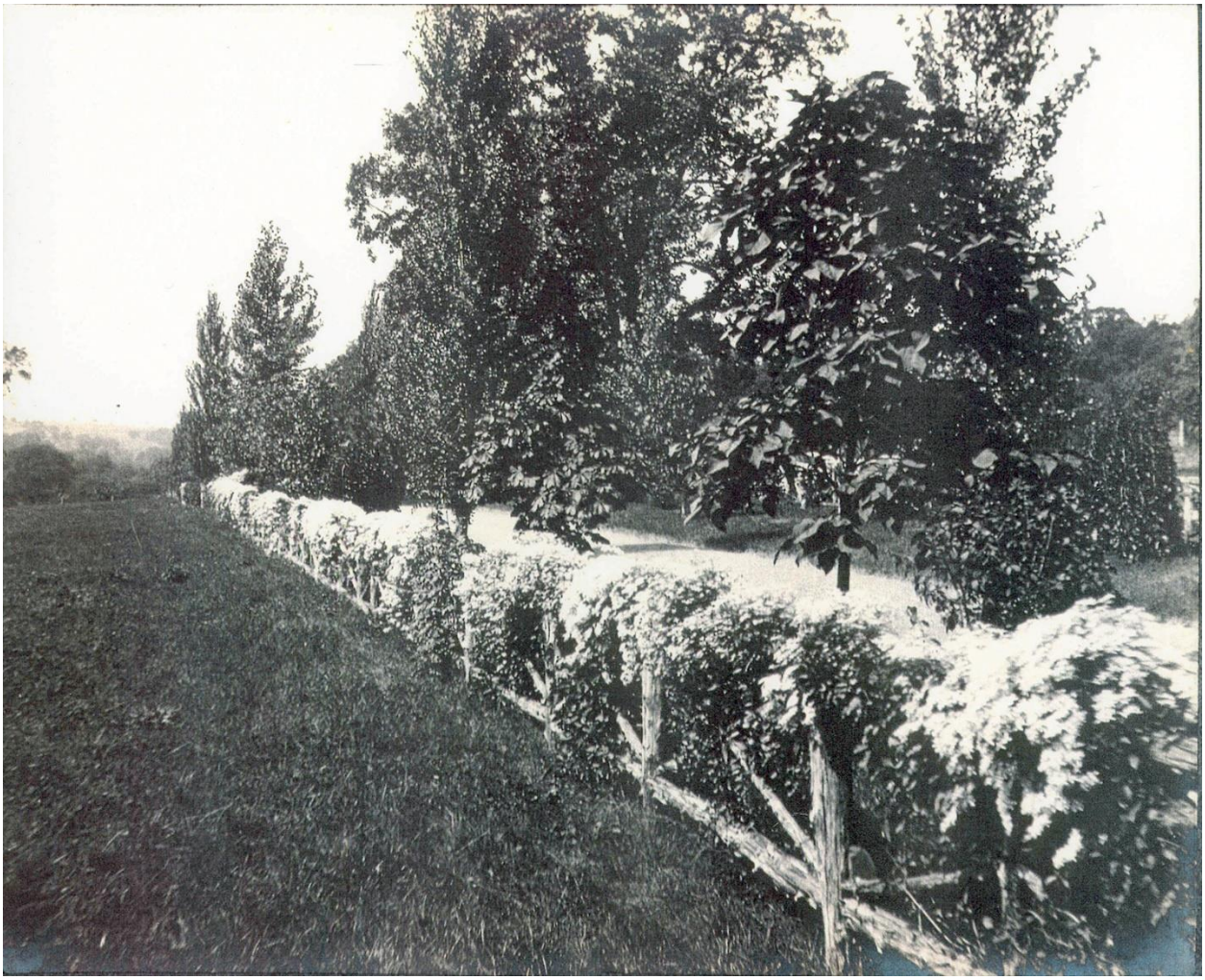


Figure 1.10 is a Carriage Drive view that shows consistent linear shrub planting along a cedar bark-on fence. This plant may be spring blooming bridal wreath spirea, or similar. It documents the use of linear flowering shrubs on the estate property. (MLW-VW-BA-Fence-1910-report)

Figure 1.11 A 2017 view west across the remaining one-half acre Fowler Italian Garden shows black walnut trees self-sown and turf. The garden retains aspects of historic organization, as topography, original spruce trees to right, and fountain basin remain as clues. The area serves as an entry point into the Madison Lewis Woodland. (MLW-View West 2 2017 May 10 (56))

Figure 1.12 A wider Robin Brae Drive to the west of the garden reflects the original alignment of the carriage drive. The widening of the road surface likely caused altered topography at the top of slope along the gardens west perimeter, at left. (MLW-Brae Dr 2017 May 10 (75))

Figure 1.13 The historic concrete fountain basin remains as the central focus of the former garden. No longer functional as a fountain, the basin retains rain water providing still water for birds. Flagstone around the fountain is undocumented. The contemporary bench was added. (MLW-Fountain 2017 May 10 (2))

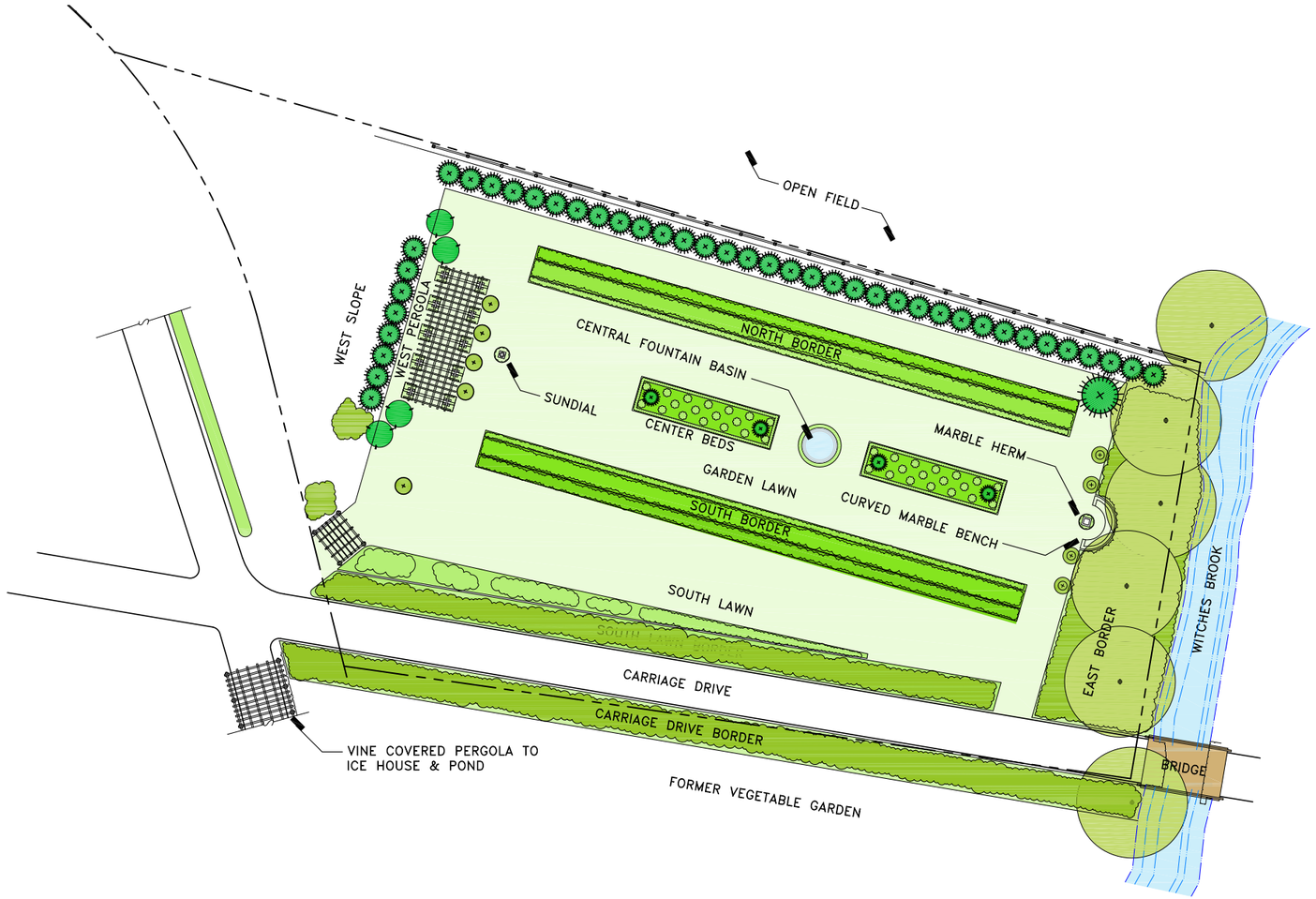
Figure 1.14 The location of the former vine covered pergola at the toe of the west slope is demonstrated by the two pairs of overgrown and misshapen yews. Individual trees from the historic white spruce line are also visible. Up the slope from the spruce, volunteer Tree-of Heaven, (*Ailanthus altisimma*) and invasive vines have taken hold. (MLW-Pergola 2017 May 10 (6))

Figure 1.15 This view south along Witches Brook shows the loss of garden character between the brook and the east end of the Fowler Garden, at right and extending off frame. Vegetation has become more naturalistic following loss of white willow canopy and mixed evergreen shrub and herbaceous plantings that historically marked the border of the formal garden. (MLW-Witches brk 2017 May 10 (52))

Figure 1.16 A contemporary pressure treated wood bridge has replaced the historic wood deck bridge with rustic cedar log railings. Built atop the historic stone footings, the new bridge is sized to accommodate pedestrians rather that vehicles. It serves as the primary access to the Madison Lewis Woodland trails from Robin Brae Drive. (MLW-Bridge 2017 May 10 (40))

Figure 1.17 A small pollinator garden is planted near the wooden Madison Lewis Woodland entrance sign. The sign and garden are in the approximate location of the historic rustic arbor at the southwest corner of the formal garden. The former carriage drive and bridge across Witches Brook is out of frame at image right. The loss of planting beds and garden structures has degraded the spatial organization and legibility of the historic garden character. (MLW-Entry 2017 May 10 (15))

Figure 1.18 Foreground plant in this view is Lilium speciosum rubrum in fall with the top showing the flower branches and a seed pod. Figure 1.5 shows the border with this plant form in the third row. (Lilium speciosum rubrum HL BRF fall 2017)



PLANT LIST

Area Botanical Name	Common Name
Evergreen & Deciduous Trees	
Acer saccharum	Sugar Maple
Catalpa bignonioides 'Nana'	Umbrella Catalpa
Picea glauca	White Spruce
Salix alba	Weeping Willow
Tsuga canadensis	Eastern Hemlock
Carriage Drive, South Lawn Borders	
Bedding Plants	Annual Mix
Hemerocallis	Daylily
Center Fountain Basin	
Heliotrope arborescens	Heliotrope
Center Island Beds	
Heliotrope arborescens	Heliotrope
Rosa	Hybrid Perpetual Rose
Entry Arbor	
Lonicera japonica	Japanese Honeysuckle
Rosa	Climbing Rose
Formal Borders North / South	
Lilium speciosum album or rubrum	White or Red Species Lily
Lobularia maritima	Sweet Alyssum
Zinnia elegans	Zinnia
Pergola	
Aristolochia durior	Dutchman's Pipe
Wisteria (sinensis)	Wisteria
Potted Materials	
Hedera helix	English Ivy
Laurus nobilis	Bay Laurel
Viola tricolor	Johnny Jump Ups

SYMBOL KEY

- PROPERTY LINE
- DECIDUOUS TREE
- UMBRELLA CATALPA
- EVERGREEN TREE
- EVERGREEN SHRUB
- DECIDUOUS SHRUB MASS
- ANNUAL/PERENNIAL PLANTING
- GROUNDCOVER PLANTING
- LAWN

SOURCES
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, GOOGLE.COM
2017 FIELD RECONNAISSANCE, HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
BEL-AIRE ESTATES 1952 PLAN, VILLAGE OF WARWICK
NOTE:
PROPERTY LINES TAKEN FROM FIELD MEASUREMENT OF ON-SITE PINS. ACTUAL PROPERTY LINES REQUIRE SURVEYOR SURVEY.

0' 8' 16' 32' 64'

Fowler Garden Rehabilitation
Madison Lewis Woodlands Landscape
Robin Brae Drive, Warwick, New York

Clients:
THE VILLAGE OF WARWICK
77 MAIN STREET
WARWICK, NY 10990

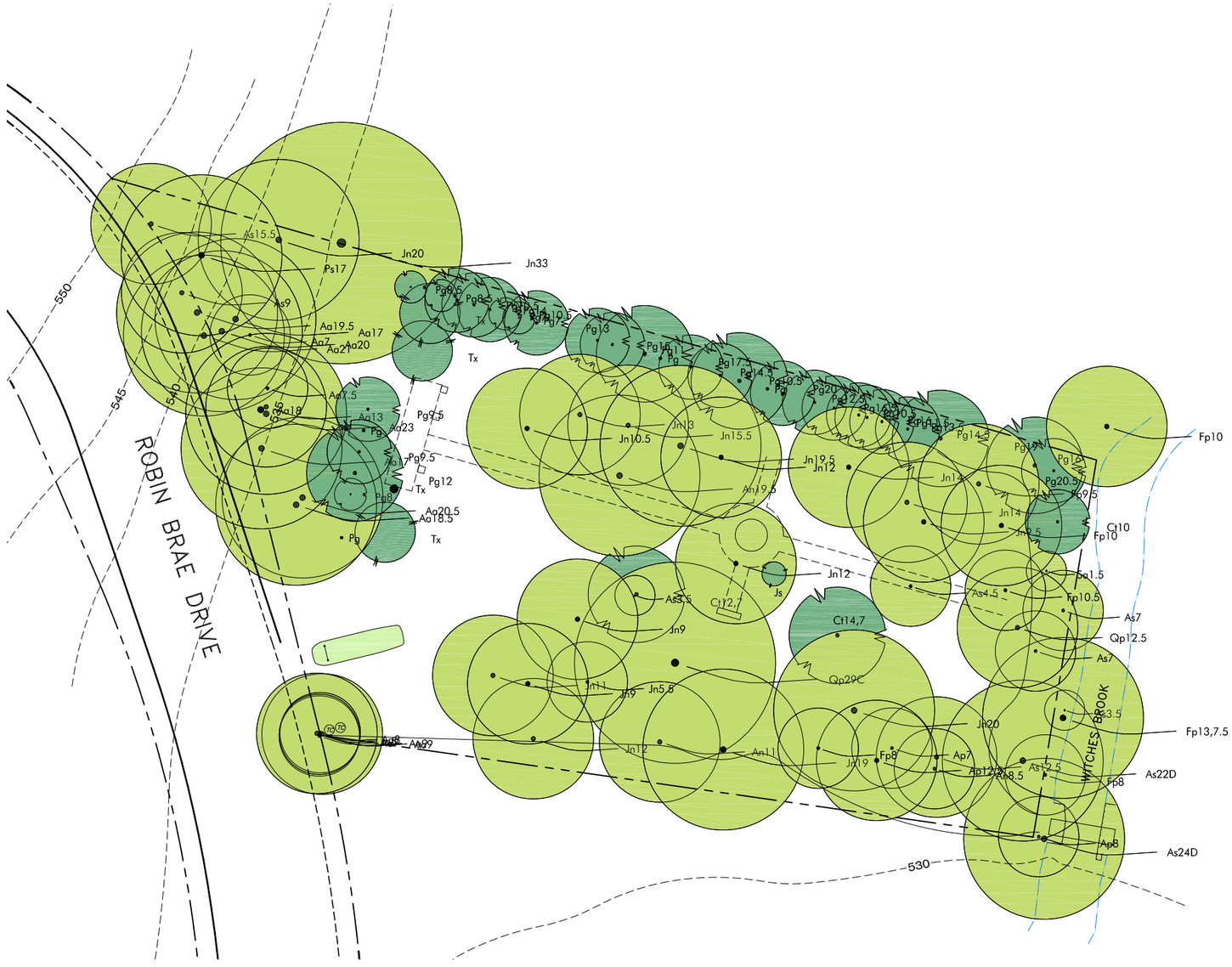
Heritage Landscapes LLC
Preservation Landscape Architects & Planners
Charlotte, VT 802.425.4330
Norwalk, CT 203.852.9966

Drawing Title:

1910 Plan

Date:
20 February 2018

Drawing Number:
1



SYMBOL KEY

- PROPERTY LINE
- STONE PAVEMENT
- DECIDUOUS TREE
- EVERGREEN TREE
- EVERGREEN SHRUB
- POLLINATOR GARDEN
- WITCHES BROOK
- 530 1 FOOT CONTOUR

PLANT LIST

Count	Common Name	Botanical Name
Deciduous Tree		
15	Tree Of Heaven	(Aa) Ailanthus altissima
3	Boxelder Maple	(An) Acer negundo
3	Norway Maple	(Ap) Acer platanoides
10	Silver Maple	(As) Acer saccharinum
7	Ash	(Fp) Fraxinus species
19	Black Walnut	(Jn) Juglans nigra
1	Black Cherry	(Ps) Prunus serotina
2	Pin Oak	(Qp) Quercus palustris
1	Willow	(Ss) Salix species
Evergreen Tree		
3	Atlantic White Cedar	(Ct) Chamaecyparis thyoides
28	White Spruce	(Pg) Picea glauca
Evergreen Shrub		
2	Yew	(Tx) Taxus species
1	Juniper	(Js) Juniper species

SOURCES
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, GOOGLE.COM
2017 FIELD RECONNAISSANCE, HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
BEL-AIRE ESTATES 1952 PLAN, VILLAGE OF WARWICK
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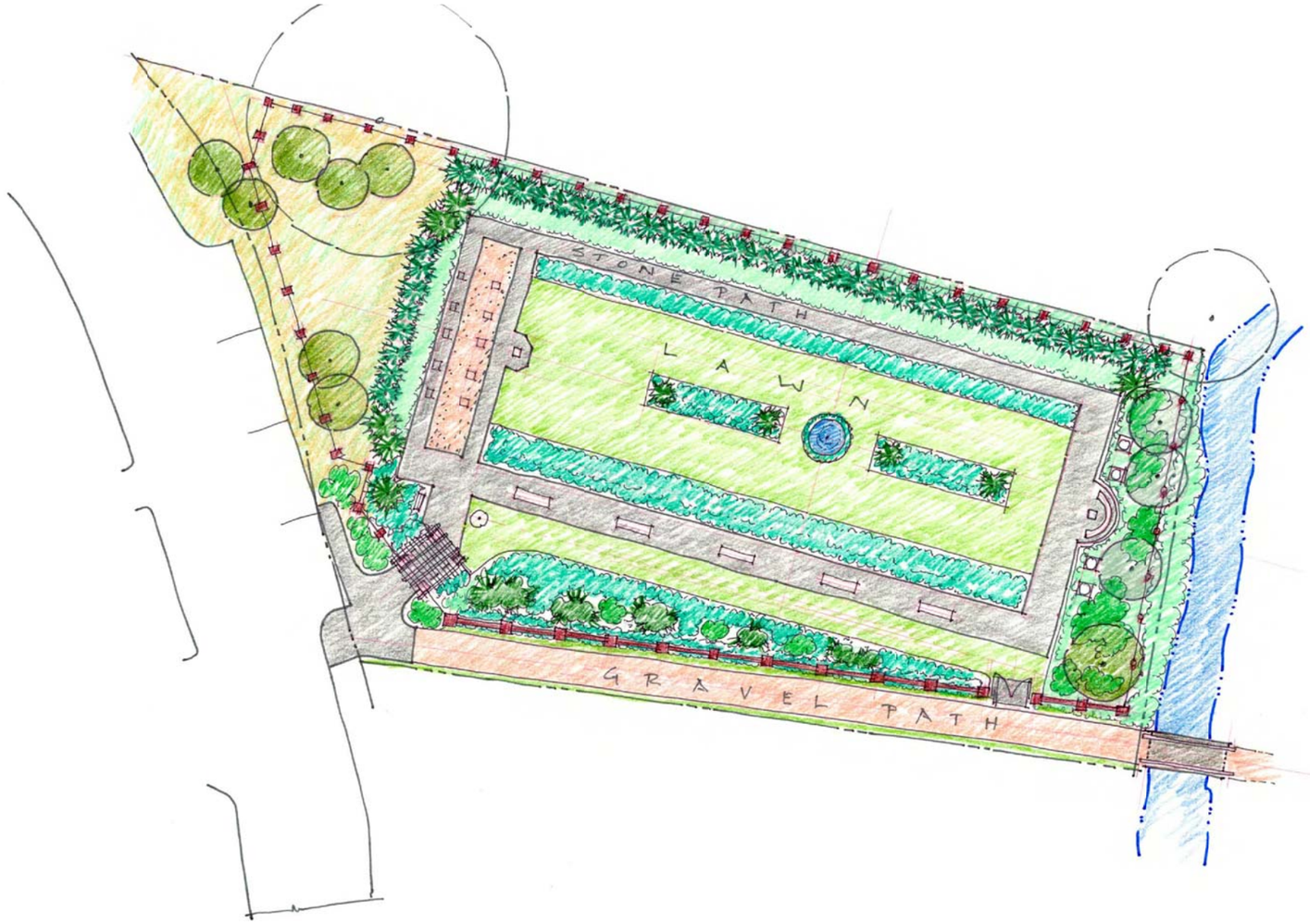
Charlotte, VT 802.425.4330
Norwalk, CT 203.852.9966

Drawing Title:

2017 PLAN

Date:
20 February 2018

Drawing Number:
2



SOURCES
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, GOOGLE.COM
2017 FIELD RECONNAISSANCE, HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
BEL-AIRE ESTATES 1952 PLAN, VILLAGE OF WARWICK
NOTE:
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Fowler Garden Rehabilitation

Madison Lewis Woodlands Landscape

Robin Brae Drive, Warwick, New York

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Preservation Landscape Architects & Planners
Charlotte, VT 802.425.4330
Norwalk, CT 203.852.9966

Drawing Title:

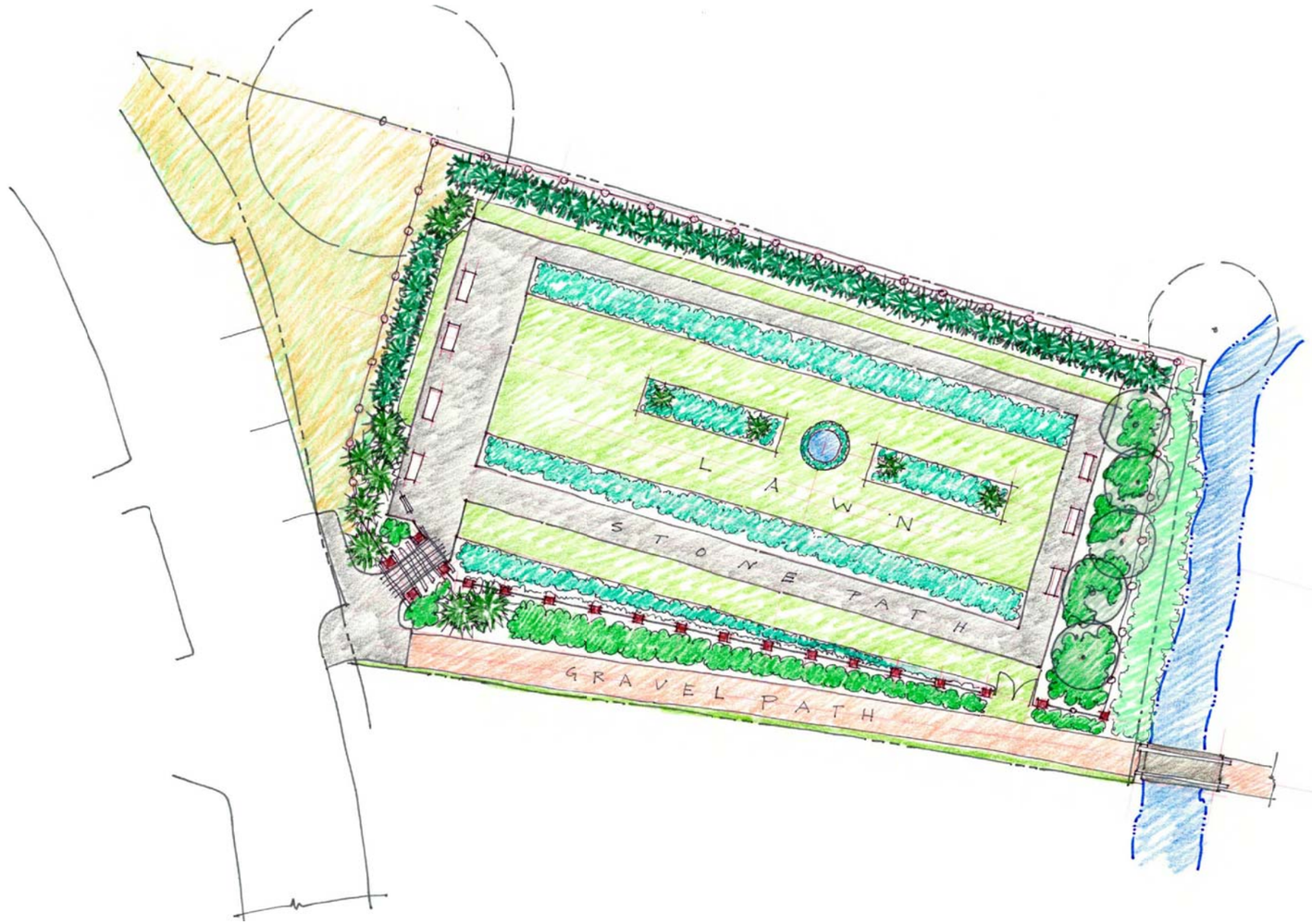
Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Plan Study A

Date:

20 February 2018

Drawing Number:

A



SOURCES
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, GOOGLE.COM
2017 FIELD RECONNAISSANCE, HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
BEL-AIRE ESTATES 1952 PLAN, VILLAGE OF WARWICK
NOTE:
PROPERTY LINES TAKEN FROM FIELD MEASUREMENT OF ON-SITE PINS. ACTUAL PROPERTY LINES REQUIRE SURVEYOR SURVEY.

0' 8' 16' 32' 64'

Fowler Garden Rehabilitation

Madison Lewis Woodlands Landscape

Robin Brae Drive, Warwick, New York

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WARWICK, NY 10990

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Preservation Landscape Architects & Planners
Charlotte, VT 802.425.4330
Norwalk, CT 203.852.9966

Drawing Title:

Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Plan Study B

Date:

20 February 2018

Drawing Number:

B

Part 2: Garden Preservation Treatment Recommendations

A. FOWLER GARDEN PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND PLAN

The proposed approach to the Fowler Garden seeks, as directed by the client and community group, to reinstate the overall character of the garden while accommodating the shift from private estate to public garden open to the community and its visitors. As a valued resource within Warwick, this garden will experience casual and organized uses in the future and this varied intensity of use must be addressed in the recommendations.

The Fowler Garden Rehabilitation plan illustrates the recommended proposed improvements that recapture the historic character of the Fowler Italian Garden and accommodate anticipated contemporary use of the garden as a valued cultural asset to the Village of Warwick. The plan puts forth a series of improvements that can be accomplished in whole or in part as funding, municipal and volunteer resources are available and represented on the "Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Plan" and Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Planting Plan dated February 2018.

B. FOWLER GARDEN REHABILITATION PLAN

B1. Reestablishing the Sunlit Garden Open Space

Recapture of the Fowler Garden relies initially on removal of all overhead tree canopy within the level garden space and on the west slope to allow necessary sunlight for the planted borders. There are also selected removals on the slopes along Witches Brook. The existing hedgerow of white spruce requires removal in order to reestablish an evergreen tree hedge along the north border as a

character-defining feature in recapture of the historic Fowler Garden spatial organization and boundaries.

The retention of one old tree showing the early 20th century pruning lines may be considered for interpretive purposes, if desired. This potential tree to remain would require pruning to allow air, sun and space for the new plantings.

In preparation for new plantings, tree roots that occur in proposed planting areas, walks and structure locations will need to be physically removed. In areas where there is meadow and mown turf, stumps may be ground to a 12-inch depth and filled in as the stumps rot and a depression appears.

B2. Garden Beds Plantings

Carrying out a planting plan that reconstructs the garden beds begins with soil preparation. Once removals are complete, soil test should be carried out to determined nutrient, pH and adequacy of drainage and water percolation into soils. The first rule of planting is to prepare your soil well. Preparing soil is a task as each bed is opened, cultivated and then planted. Soil amendments can be made to correct deficiencies.

As noted in historic illustrations, and on Plan 1: 1910 Plan, there are a number of historic plants that are identified, and the overall scale and organization of the plantings is clear. Employing this documentation, Heritage Landscapes recommends planting the Fowler Garden with identified plants and plants that were used in the early 20th century. Where a clear determination of genus and species cannot be made, achieving the character of the plant, in terms of scale, texture, bloom, and color is advised.

North and South Border Gardens

The planting of these border gardens is in a linear pattern. The front row appears to be Iberis sempervirens / Candytuft, a spring blooming perennial. This plant may be set back about one foot from the garden edge to allow space for planting of annual white sweet alyssum for continuous summer bloom. The second row appears in the historic images to have stiff stems and upright flowers. A tall Monarda / Bee Balm would provide that form, as would a very tall Zinnia planted as an annual. The south border has a third row clearly showing the stem and foliage form of Lilium speciosum rubrum, which is a robust pink rosy red species lily with a dramatic candelabra of flowers when growing in fertile soil. This lily is more resistant to the lily beetle than others. If an infestation occurs, usually coming in on nursery stock, beetle control will be required. The back row on both sides is peony, in a tall form with stiff stems. Four older varieties, still available in the trades, are listed as for consideration.[1] Peonies are long-lived generally trouble free and vigorous if growing in good soil and fertilized twice a year, spring and mid-summer. The organization of these borders, as described, is recommended as:

Front Row	Lobularia maritima / Sweet Alyssum, annual, continuous summer bloom Backed by Iberis sempervirens / Candytuft, perennial for spring bloom
Second Row	Monarda didyma / Common Bee Balm, perennial summer bloom Zinnia, elegans / Zinnia, 30-36" tall variety, annual late summer fall bloom
Third Row	Lilium speciosum rubrum / Red species lily, late July bloom, resistant to lily beetle
Fourth Row	Paeonia lactiflora/Peony older varieties, those listed are available today -Paeonia lactiflora 'Festiva Maxima / Festiva maxima peony, 1851 -Paeonia lactiflora Duchess de Nemours, 1856, Early, white, large, cupped, white guards, light canary-yellow center pale green base, stems erect and strong with excellent foliage. dependable and profuse bloomer, notable fragrance -Paeonia lactiflora Louis Van Houtte 1867, old favorite double cherry red large flowers stiff stems -Paeonia lactiflora Mons Jules Elie 1888, Crosse, early, very large, light rose pink

Central Area Beds

The central area has two rectangular beds and small beds that surround the central fountain, and Sundial. The rectangular beds are punctuated by a pyramidal yew, probably *Taxus cuspidata capitata*. The individual plantings appear to be roses in bloom (Figure 1.7a, b). They could be hybrid perpetual roses, a popular type that remain available and are hardy and somewhat lower care than hybrid tea roses. Roses have an open leggy look and a colorful bloom. Matching the character is the target for rose selection. Heirloom roses from a northern source may be used and could include Rosa Hybrid Perpetual types named Baronne Prévost, Général Jacqueminot, Enfant de France, Paul Neyron and Reine des Violettes. Moss roses are another heirloom alternative and include Perpetual White Moss (Quatre Saisons Blanc Mousseux), Crested Moss (Chapeau de Napoleon) and Communis (Common Moss, Old Pink Moss). It is useful to note that rose beds evolve as some roses thrive and others do not. The edge planting may have matched the Center Fountain Basin, Sundial and rectangular beds. A low planting with white flowers appears in historic images (Figure 1.7). This may have been *Campanula carpatica* in white or blue for spring bloom. Heliotrope is a probable annual for this time period and is again being grown for garden use.

Spruce Hedges and Beds

The spruce used for the outer hedges were full size trees which required frequent heavy pruning. The objective for the replanting is to form the hedge and use plants that can be more readily maintained at the desired height of about 6 to 8 feet tall. Picea glauca 'North Star' is a dwarf hardy form of white spruce that matures at 10 to 12 feet with a width of 3 to 4 feet. This plant or a similar dwarf selection will hold the pyramidal shape seen in historic views without the need to prune and misshape a full size spruce tree.

Pergola Plantings

The vines apparent in historic views of the pergola include the large leaved *Aritolochia macrophylla*/Dutchman's Pipe and *Wisteria sinensis*, probably the common blue violet form, although a white form was also used during this time period. These are both quite aggressive vines that grow densely and in long lengths requiring vine management. In addition, there may be a hint

of the foliage of *Clematis terniflora/*Sweet Autumn clematis in the views. All three of these are twining vines that require some support and training. The varied green color, texture and leaf shape of these vines is a characteristic of the pergola appearance (Figure 1.6a, b, c).

The flanking pairs of yew shrubs in place today are misshapen by former covering growth now removed. These shrubs do not appear in the 1910 era views. Rather, four dwarf umbrella Catalpa trees are arrayed to the east of the pergola. Planting evergreen shrubs along the new deer fence line is recommended. The use of a dwarf yew, such as Taxus x media 'Everlow' would suit the location or another form of yew or holly could be used there. Note that all parts of taxus are poisonous, and the red berries are attractive, therefore not using them in a public garden may be preferred.

Entry Arbor Vines

There are two vines that show up well in the entry arbor close up view. Mixed vines in this historic view display the foliage of climbing rose, honeysuckle and porcelain berry vines. Two of these, porcelain berry and Japanese honeysuckle, are aggressive invasive exotic plants and should not be used. There are some antique roses that have few thorns and these would be appropriate for an entry to a public garden. Grape vine may also be used along with clematis. The character seen in historic images is a dense foliage cover, making a clear target for the desired visual quality.

Sustainable Turf

Mixed species turf was the historical norm, often including small flowering plants such as Trifloium repens/White Dutch clover and *Bellis perennis/* English daisy as well as other plants. To address the dual objectives of historical authenticity and sustainability, a mixture of low growing grasses and forbs may be used for the turf areas of the Fowler Garden. A no-mow fescue grass that grows to 6 inches combined with flower seeds or plugs would form a turf lawn that requires infrequent mowing. 8-10 times rather than 22 times a year. This historic and sustainable blend should be maintained in areas around the garden at 3 to 6 -inch height with a "rougher" appearance than grass-only turf. No chemical broadleaf control is recommended.

East Border and Pots

The East Border is under partial shade with informal tree rows. The trees should be replaced with willow and sugar maple. As these trees grow, the changing light regimes will necessitate a progression in the shrubs plantings. In the early years, sun loving deciduous shrubs, as those recommended for the Carriage Drive border, would be planted. As shade increases, evergreen shrubs would be suitable as listed below:

Trees Salix alba / White Willow
Acer saccharum / Sugar Maple
Shrubs Predominantly Evergreen
Rhododendron catawbiense /Catawba Rhododendron
Rhododendron maximum / Rosebay Rhododendron
Kalmia latifolia / Mountain Laurel

In the one view available, pots contain bay laurel standards. These would need to over-winter in a greenhouse. If that difficulty cannot be overcome, planting variable plantings each year in four large pots would evoke the historic use of pots to frame the bench.

Large pots, two each side of the semi-circular bench

Laurus nobilis / Bay Laurel
Viola tricolor / Johnny Jump-up low blooms under bay laurel
Hedera helix / English Ivy draping over side

Carriage Drive Border

The foreground of the Carriage Drive Border appears to show daylily foliage; Hemerocallis flava/yellow species daylily would serve as a good option as an antique with a good stature and bloom. Historic flowering shrubs that were popular in the early 20th century include some that are used today. Shrubs for the Carriage Drive Border may be predominantly deciduous to include:

Spirea Van Houttei / bridal wreath spirea
Hydrangea arborescens 'Annabelle'/Annabelle Hydrangea
Weigela florida / Pink Weigela
Weigela florida 'Candida' / White Weigela
Duetzia scabra 'Pride of Rochester' / Pride of Rochester Fuzzy Duetzia,

The shrub border should be planted somewhat openly with space around each shrub that allows it to reach mature size. These shrubs are generally allowed to grow without pruning, as pruning often removes the following year bloom. The exception is the Anabelle hydrangea which is trimmed low or to the ground before leaves show in spring.

West Slope Pollinator Meadow

There is a great increase in interest and projects that create meadows and a broader understanding of their benefits as habitat for pollinators and birds. The need for milkweed to serve as a food source for Monarch butterflies has been widely broadcast as the populations of these amazing migrating butterflies have plummeted from loss of habitat. The nectar from milkweed flowers provides valuable food for butterflies, bees and other pollinators. The leaves of all milkweed species are the ONLY food that the caterpillars of our beautiful American Monarch butterflies can eat.

Given this raised awareness, the recommended approach to the west slope area adjacent to the Fowler Garden is to develop a mixed grasses and forbs herbaceous cover managed with a limited mowing regime, and if allowed, an occasional controlled burn.

Seeding or planting desired meadow areas can begin with planting plugs of preferred grasses and wildflowers. By choosing and establishing the right plants, meadow areas will contribute to habitat value for birds and butterflies in the sunny field and nearby woodland edges. Initial meadow inspection and care will involve suppressing undesirable weed species for a period of three years. Meadow care, once established will be light with inspection and species control as needed and

mowing to suppress woody species which sprout from seed annually. Recent research indicates that to support butterflies, biannual mowing is preferred so that cocoons remain on standing stems to overwinter and open the following spring. Meadows areas reduce use of chemical fertilizers and mowing required, which is a fossil fuel intensive activity. For open meadows, one annual mowing in a cycle of half the area will retain half of the overwintering cocoons fostering beneficial insects and butterflies while controlling woody species growth. Ongoing meadow management inspection and care will be determined by the target species and habitat conditions desired. The proposed meadow grasses and wildflower species are recommended as a mixture. Native Grass Seed: Fresh, clean, dry, new seed, mixed species potentially composed of:

Native Eastern Perennial Short Grasses

- Canada wild rye / Elymus canadensis
- Little bluestem / Andropogon scoparius
- Indian grass / Sorghastrum nutans
- Side oats grama / Bouteloua curtipendula

Herbaceous Species, Native & Indigenous

- Black eyed Susan / Rudbeckia hirta
- Blue-eyed grass / Sisyrinchium angustifolium
- Blue flax / Linum perenne
- Brown eyed Susan / Rudbeckia triloba
- Common milkweed / Asclepias syriaca
- Butterfly milkweed / Asclepias tuberosa
- Lance-leaved coreopsis / Coreopsis lanceolata
- Nodding onion / Allium cernuum
- Smooth blue aster / Aster laevis
- New England aster / Symphyotrichum novae-angliae
- Wild blue lupine / Lupinus perennis
- Wild bergamot / Monarda fistulosa

These are perennial species and may be joined by some native annuals for the initial seeding. This list should be fine-tuned to the soil and climatic conditions of the project site. Obtaining seed from local and regional sources is desired. The objective is to mix native grasses and wildflowers to create a diverse stand of native plants that provides habitat for pollinators, birds and small mammals. All listed wildflowers are perennials, though often annuals are used in the initial seeding and over-seeded for the first few years to provide bloom and more importantly to fill gaps in bare soil that could be targets for undesirable species. As planting projects are scoped, scheduled seed availability needs to be arranged. There are a number of reputable sources for seeds and plant plugs for meadow areas. If areas to be planted need a quick cover, it may be desirable to substitute seeds for some native grass plugs. Plugs have an advantage in quicker growth but cost more and require hand planting. There are several sources that could supply the needed seed or young plugs of preferred meadow plant materials. Plants from local seed sources could also be contract grown in three to four months.

B3. Garden Circulation and Access

Garden paths and walks of the Fowler Garden were primarily turf including the area below the vine covered pergola. The carriage drive which ran parallel with garden along the south perimeter was paved with compacted gravel or stone. Stone paving is recommended for use in the rehabilitation of the garden to accommodate regular use by Village residents and guests and hosting of small gatherings as part of community strengthening. The walks are organized based on the historic circulation patterns which favored walking along the planted flower border. Use of bluestone set on a concrete bed is preferred as a durable material that can be maintained into the future. Their situation set up against the planting beds to the north and south maintains clear delineation of the plantings with lesser maintenance of a cut lawn edge.

The walks are intended to accommodate multiple persons without need to step into the adjacent turf. As shown, they measure 8 feet wide on the east and south and a generous gathering space of 17'-6" across in the location of the former pergola. The walk along the north planting border is 4 feet wide to allow for the increased width of the evergreen hedge along the property line. The 28'-4" by 6'-6" pergola footprint area would be paved in stone or decomposed granite rather than turf to support the foot traffic of public use. The intent is to reflect and mark the location of the historic pergola for interpretation until the funding for a pergola can be secured.

The paving extends below the entry arbor to Robin Brae Drive creating an entry threshold for the garden and Madison Lewis Woodlands via the compacted gravel carriage drive pathway. The proposed carriage drive is aligned along the south property line between Robin Brae Drive and the existing foot bridge. The drive is shown at 8-feet in width providing a generous pedestrian walkway as well as to accommodate small carts and lightweight vehicles for maintenance access to the garden and woodlands. The existing wood bridge is 4-feet in width, too narrow for vehicle uses as even small maintenance carts have a 48-inch to 54-inch wheel base. Replacing the existing bridge with a wider structures that is rated to support small maintenance vehicles will allow the Village maintenance access to the woodlands without having to secure permission from the residential owners along Colonial Drive to cross their private properties. A new bridge can be either prefabricated or custom designed to look more rustic reflecting the historic character of the Belair Estate carriage drive. The existing stone footings will need inspection to ensure their ability to support the maintenance vehicles being used by the Village. Removable vehicle bollards installed at the west bank of Witches Brook will ensure that non-authorized vehicles do not obtain access to the woodlands.

Several parking spaces along Robin Brae Drive are included as part of the garden rehabilitation to make the grounds more accessible to persons with disabilities and the general public who are not in walking distance from the Woodlands. One ADA accessible space and three parking spaces are created by narrowing the existing roadway from 32 feet to 24 feet in width and increasing the shoulder width to provide 8 foot wide parallel parking spaces and painted ADA access route to the paved garden entry below the adjacent arbor. Modifying the roadway shoulder for layby parking is an opportunity to address the poor drainage patterns and surface erosion of the west slope.

B4. Historic Fountain Basin

The Fowler Italian Garden fountain basin remains in its original location at the focal center of the historic garden. The 8 foot diameter precast concrete dish is weathered in appearance showing integral aggregates of the concrete mix in the granulated exterior and appears to remain functional with holding of storm water and no apparent fissures or cracking of the concrete. As the only remaining built element of the historic garden, conservation and return of this basin to an operational status is recommended. In returning this basin to an operational status, a better understanding of its current condition will need to be undertaken. The concrete will need to be cleaned and inspected in determination of any needed repairs and conservation treatments. Restoration of the fountain's water recirculation system and plumbing involves modest utility work to bring water and electric supply lines from the adjacent Village utilities on Robin Brae Drive to provide a water supply and operate a small pump for a central fountain jet. An overflow water line from the basin to Witched Brook will divert storm water from spilling over the basin edge to the adjacent planted border. Water supply and return lines from a small utility vault will operate the center jet. The vault will conceal the pump and small water storage tank and electrical service for the fountain.

B5. Arbor and Pergola

Replacement of Fowler Garden rustic arbor and pergola will greatly enhance the historic character of a rehabilitated Fowler Italian Garden. The rustic arbor is an important built element of the garden and construction of a similar structure will restore the historic entrance progression from the carriage drive through this vine covered portal into the garden chambers. The arbor is composed of cedar timbers to reflect the historic character of the original arbor. Shown at an approximate size of 10'-6" wide and 8'-0" deep, the arbor design is considered as having four side panels and overhead trellis supported by 6 vertical posts. The arbor is designed both as the primary pedestrian entrance to the garden and as part of the perimeter deer protection fencing enclosure with a self-closing garden gate integrated with the arbor design. The gate will achieve the perimeter protection from deer and will invite easy visitor access.

The pergola is the largest built structure in the garden at over 28 feet in length and 8 feet across. The treatment plan makes accommodation for replacement of these landscape structures as part of the initial restoration effort or to be constructed as funding is available by providing a paved area that serves as a place holder as well as a functional user activity or gathering space. The proposed pergola reconstruction proposes a structure that matches the character of the historic pergola in overall size, scale and materials. Ten fluted wood columns painted white support an overhead wood trellis and lattice for supporting overhead vines. Details for construction will be influenced by historic photos and selection of available milled columns and sustainable species lumber where possible to facilitate construction and funding. The base of the pergola is set atop stone paving that allows for vines to be planted at the column base without having the wood columns in contact with the moist planting soil. Wood finishes will utilize stains in lieu of lacquered paints which would chip and need more frequent refinishing. The overhead trellis is to be designed and, with proper vine

training and care, allows for wood members to be replaced without removal of the wisteria hardwood.

B6. Garden Perimeter Fencing

The perimeter of the Fowler Italian Garden was defined by border plantings on the south and west, Witches Brook to the east and the hedgerow or white spruce backed by wood rail fencing. Treatment plan recommendations reestablish the character of the vegetative enclosure with the addition of perimeter deer protection fencing to address deer browsing pressure that was not a concern during the Fowler tenure of the garden. Two styles of fencing are recommended, the first for the perimeter along the historic carriage drive along the south garden border and the second for the remaining three garden outside borders. The south fencing along the carriage drive path will be decorative in character reflecting the rustic wood arbors and trellis found along the historic carriage drive entry to the Belair Estate from Colonial Avenue and the historic trellis just south of the garden over the drive to the ice pond. This fencing at 10 to 12 foot high will deter deer and have self-closing gates. The primary pedestrian entrance gate is located under the entry arbor at the corner of the garden and designed as part of the arbor structure. A second entrance is needed for maintenance access and should not be used by the public on a regular basis. The gate will need to be about 10 feet wide and located along the reconstructed carriage drive path near the bridge beyond the east end of the garden. The turf between the carriage drive and stone paved walk of the garden will be stabilized with a mix of soil and drainage gravel to support the weight of maintenance vehicles preventing them from sinking into the soil or creating ruts. This second gate may also be used for public access during large scheduled events organized at the garden.

Fencing for the remaining three garden perimeters are planted more heavily and are not in as prominent a location as the south fence. In these locations the fencing should blend into the landscape with a simple design and finished in a dark green or black color, giving visual dominance to the adjacent plantings and falling into shadow. Possible use of readily available deer fencing in the nursery/landscape trade or post and chain link fencing finished with a dark vinyl coating can be used based on maintenance and cost considerations.

Protection of the garden needs to also be considered from burrowing animals, groundhogs, rabbits etc. In-ground protection along the perimeter of the deer fencing can be accomplished with the installation of non-corrosive wire mesh or solid material such as non-corrosive metal sheeting or stone.

B7. Garden Furnishing

Primary consideration to replacement furnishings is their overall size and massing, detail and material. Of these, the size and mass in the garden are important with flexibility to achieve balance between detail and material. Replacement of seating and small-scale sculptural elements would highlight the historic details of the garden providing a quality experience for visitors. Treatment

recommendations are to replace the lost semi-circular marble bench, marble herms and sundial along with several new granite benches for added seating in the garden.

Placing a replica semicircular marble bench in its historic location at the east garden border on axis with the central fountain basin and pergola would anchor this end of the composition. A replacement fabricated in marble to reflect the detailed seat ends and back would create an impressive composition when paired with a replacement marble Herm in the front. If a marble bench is not achievable for the community, cast stone would be a second choice and wood would offer a third option. The semi-circular form is desired in whatever material is used.

The sundial atop a fluted pedestal set opposite the Herm's gaze balances and creates visual symmetry between the east and west halves of the formal garden area. Flat sundial composed in bronze and column base in stone or cast stone concrete may be available from garden ornament companies.

Stone benches centered along the south garden walk provide informal seating from which visitors can view in any direction. These could match the bench seen under the pergola (Figure 1.6). Since they are an addition, they could also be simple solid granite blocks and become part of the garden language without interpretation as an historic replacement. They would be highly durable and would not upstage the historic decorative elements. Fabricated in granite, they would require little maintenance while providing welcome seating for garden visitors.

B8. Signage & Interpretive Panel

The existing Madison Lewis Woodland sign will be replaced as part of the project for rehabilitation of the former Italian Garden. A new sign placed at the entrance between the Carriage Drive and garden entry will identify both, "Madison Lewis Woodland & Fowler Italian Garden." The sign needs to be proportional to the space and evoke the historic nature of the gardens and woodland. It can be constructed of lacquered wood finish or other suitable durable material. Supplemental signage for posting of park hours, rules and emergency contacts can be located in other visibly accessible areas and should not be clustered at the Woodland and Garden entrance sign.

Inside the garden, a simple interpretive sign panel will provide general information about the Belair Estate, History of the Italian Garden and value of recreating the garden for public passive recreational use and informal gathering. Constructed of embedded laminate or other durable material, the panel serves to provide basic information and can be used to direct visitors to other online informational resources.

B9. Utilities

Basic services for water and electrical supply are needed for operation of the fountain basin and to supply water for turf and plant materials in the Garden. Both water and electric service are available at the end of Robin Brae Drive and can be brought to the garden by underground conduits.

Electrical service is needed to operate a small recirculating pump the center water jet as part of the historic fountain rehabilitation. In addition to fountain operation, duplex outlets are recommend to be installed to support small community events or impromptu evening lighting. A utility access panel located just south of the pergola paving at the garden edge can serve this function without being overly disruptive in the landscape.

Water supply is necessary for ongoing maintenance of the garden from spring through the first frost. A combination of automated irrigation and quick coupler system for hand watering will serve the garden operation best. The automated irrigation for the planted beds should be designed as simple system with as few parts as necessary. The turf area is more durable and may be irrigated if desired. A manufactured system/supply currently used in other Village parks will facilitate maintenance operation by Village Department of Public Works personnel and lessen the amount of needed replacement parts to be kept on hand.

Availability of water for hand delivery is important during garden spring planting and in during drought conditions. A below grade supply line below the turf panel in the north or more formal section of the garden and one in the turf area of the south border with quick coupler connections at about 50 to 75 feet on center provide good flexibility and access to all areas of the garden. A tool shed or locker are not considered at this time as the garden is small and a storage unit would be visible in the landscape. The village may locate tools nearby with easy access for volunteers.

C. NEXT STEPS

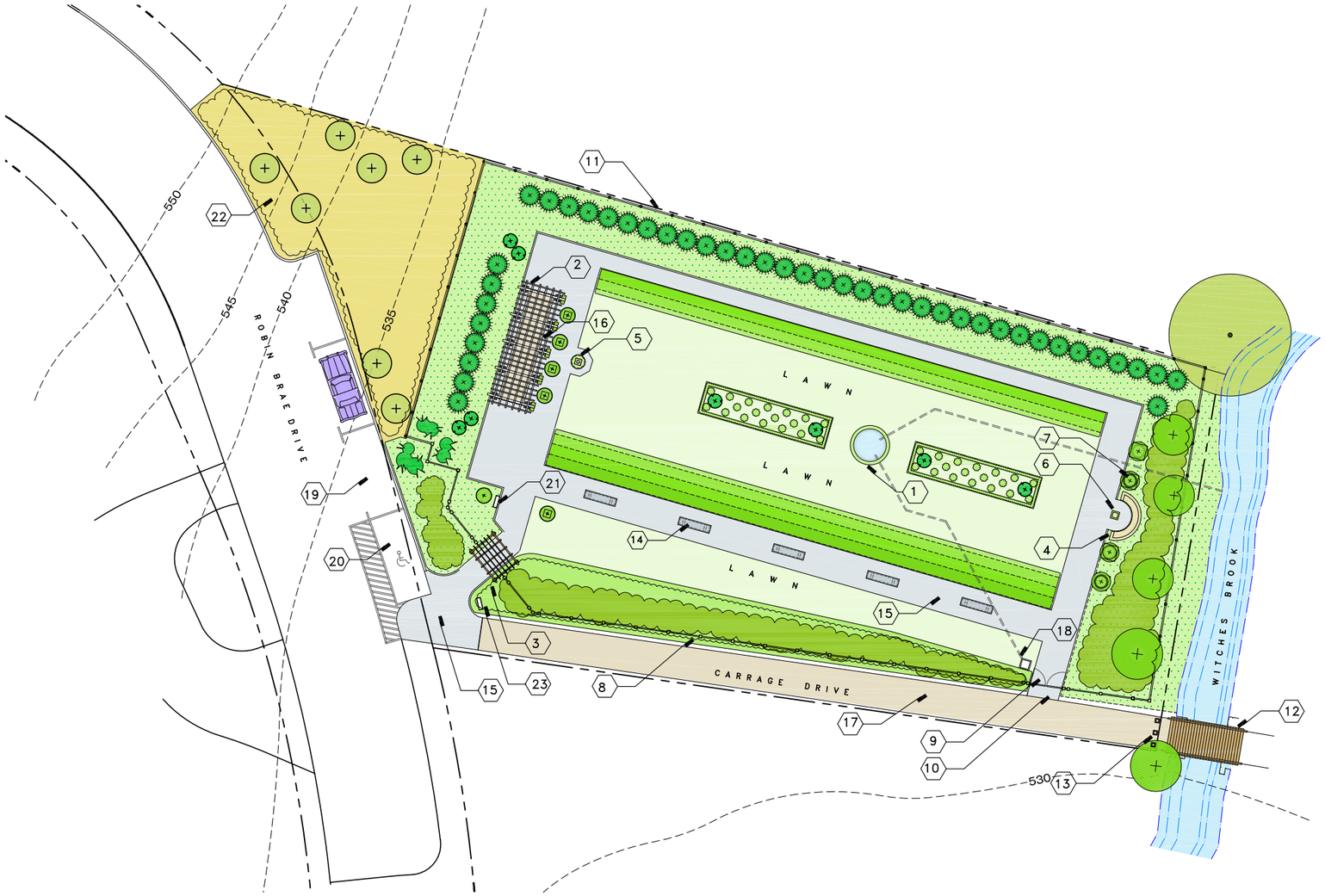
The process of building a garden needs to consider all the aspects of the preparation, installation, establishment care and ongoing maintenance. There is a high degree of motivation shared by the Warwick collaborators. It is important to foster that motivation by taking initial steps that build on momentum and gain local support.

The implementation process recommended is one that follows a logical locational progression, not working in any area that will require disturbing it in future projects. The clearing and reopening of the area is the first project. After initial clearing of volunteer trees and the recapture of the open sunny space, the steps following that work may be varied as financial support and volunteer work force capacity direct. Heritage Landscapes suggests the removal and replanting of the north edge of spruce trees and the reestablishment of the bed along that edge. Working from the north, an early project could be the opening of the linear north bed and preparing it for the recommended perennials and annuals. Subsequent projects should address the center beds and fountain and then work either east and west or to the south, essentially backing out of the garden site as each phase proceeds. Completing rehabilitation of one area at a time rather than small projects throughout the Garden establishes completed scenes and can greater build support for ongoing efforts.

The Heritage Landscapes commends the efforts already undertaken and stands ready to aid in implementation.

PART 2 ENDNOTES

[1] Gilbert H. Wild's of Missouri is a good source for peonies and carries those listed. For heritage roses Pickering Nurseries in Ontario is a reliable source.



GARDEN REHABILITATION IMPROVEMENT ELEMENTS

1. HISTORIC FOUNTAIN BASIN WITH PLANTED EDGE
2. PERGOLA LAYOUT AS HISTORIC WITH PLANTED EDGE
3. RUSTIC WOOD ARBOR WITH GATE WITH CEDAR BARK ON OR EQUAL
4. CURVED ARCHITECTURAL MARBLE OR PRE-CAST CONCRETE BENCH
5. BRONZE SUNDIAL ATOP MARBLE OR PRE-CAST CONCRETE BASE
6. HERM MARBLE OR PRE-CAST CONCRETE
7. CONCRETE PLANTERS ATOP A STONE BASE
8. WOOD TRELLIS DEER FENCING WITH VINES (10 FOOT HT)
9. WOOD TRELLIS MAINTENANCE ACCESS GATE
10. MAINTENANCE ACCESS
11. PERIMETER DEER FENCING (10 FOOT HIGH)
12. WOOD BRIDGE STEEL REINFORCED FOR MAINTENANCE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS
13. REMOVABLE BOLLARDS
14. SIMPLE GRANITE BLOCK BENCHES (NO BACK)
15. STONE PAVING OR DECOMPOSED GRANITE
16. STONE PAVING OR DECOMPOSED GRANITE
17. CARRIAGE DRIVE PATH, COMPACTED GRAVEL AND FINES (WOODLAND MAINTENANCE ACCESS)
18. UTILITY VAULT FOR FOUNTAIN OPERATION
19. VISITOR PARKING
20. ADA ACCESSIBLE PARKING
21. INTERPRETIVE PANEL/SIGN
22. POLLINATOR MEADOW
23. MADISON LEWIS WOODLAND FOWLER ITALIANATE GARDEN SIGN

SYMBOL KEY

- PROPERTY LINE
- EXISTING DECIDUOUS TREE
- PROPOSED TREE
- PROPOSED ORNAMENTAL TREE
- PROPOSED EVERGREEN TREE
- PROPOSED EVERGREEN SHRUB
- PROPOSED UMBRELLA CATALPA
- PROPOSED MIXED SHRUB MASS
- PROPOSED EVERGREEN SHRUB MASS
- PROPOSED ANNUAL/PERENNIAL PLANTING
- PROPOSED GROUNDCOVER PLANTING
- PROPOSED COMPACTION RESISTANT LAWN
- PROPOSED POLLINATOR MEADOW

SOURCES
2016 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, GOOGLE.COM
2017 FIELD RECONNAISSANCE, HERITAGE LANDSCAPES
BEL-AIRE ESTATES 1952 PLAN, VILLAGE OF WARWICK
NOTE:
PROPERTY LINES TAKEN FROM FIELD MEASUREMENT OF ON-SITE PINS. ACTUAL PROPERTY LINES REQUIRE SURVEYOR SURVEY.

0' 8' 16' 32' 64'

Fowler Garden Rehabilitation
Madison Lewis Woodlands Landscape
Robin Brae Drive, Warwick, New York

Clients:
THE VILLAGE OF WARWICK
77 MAIN STREET
WARWICK, NY 10990

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Drawing Title:

Fowler Garden Rehabilitation Plan

Date:
20 February 2018

Drawing Number:
3