

NAUMKEAG

*Restoration Plan for the Evergreen
Garden & Summer House
MHC Grant Application*

The Trustees of Reservations
Stockbridge, Massachusetts

Project Data

Date: 2001

Garden Size: 1 acre

Total Site: 45 acres

Context: Berkshire Mountains
in western, Mass.

Project Program:

- Photographic documentation
- Site assessment (inventory, analysis and evaluation) of existing conditions
- Treatment recommendations of the character-defining landscape features including all underground utilities
- Budget projections

2001 Mass. Preservation Projects Fund
Recipient from MHC



Existing condition photographs - 2001

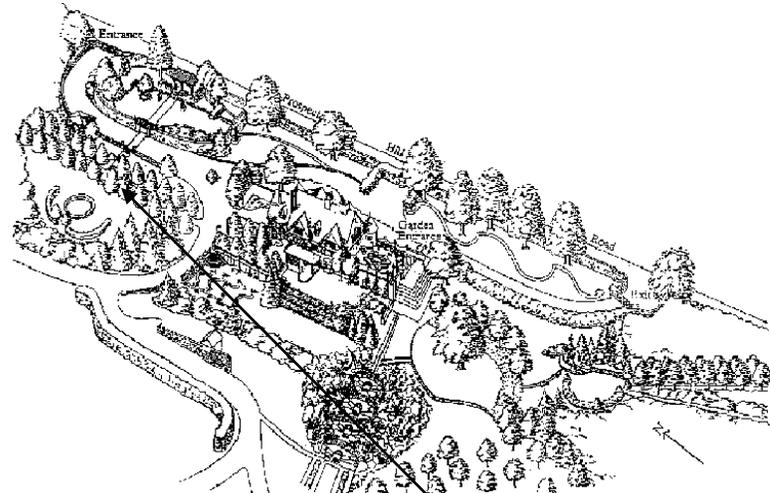
Project Description:

Naumkeag was the summer home and Country Place Era estate of Joseph Choate and his family. The estate, built on a hillside in the Berkshire Mountains, consists of 45-acres and several distinct garden rooms. One such room, the Evergreen Garden, was originally designed and laid between 1884 and 1894 by the Choate family and Nathan Barrett, who designed the structure of the hillside landscape. Other landscape architects followed Barrett including Percival Gallagher of the Olmsted Brothers firm, Marian Coffin and Fletcher Steele. In 1926, Mr. Steele began his 32-year working relationship with daughter Mabel Choate and the entire property was improved physically and aesthetically. Each designer that followed Mr. Barrett worked within the structure and topographic constraints that he developed.

In 1959, The Trustees of Reservations (TTR) acquired Naumkeag, which is a National Historic Landmark and an outstanding example of a historic designed landscape. Since 1959, TTR has maintained the main house, outbuildings and grounds. Major portions of the house and pieces of the designed landscape also have been restored. The Evergreen Garden and its Summer House need to be restored. The garden is overgrown, out of scale and lacking several important features. The Summer House needs structural and cosmetic repairs.

TTR hired our consulting team to prepare a grant application to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) for restoring the Evergreen Garden and Summer House. Our team consisted of Turk, Tracey and Larry Architects (Lead Consultant) and Elmore Design Collaborative, Inc. Both firms specialize in historic preservation in architecture and landscape architecture, respectively. The final product was a grant application that TTR submitted to MHC for funding consideration, which was granted.

Recipient of the 2005 Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Award.



Evergreen Garden & Summer House

Artistic Rendering (TTR)