

Bill Noble

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Experience**Garden Design, Public Garden Management and Garden Preservation****Current**

- Garden design and consultation for residential and institutional properties; master planning, garden design, plant selection, construction management.
- Restoration of exceptional gardens; preservation planning.
- Consultation with newly emerging public gardens, nonprofit organizations and community organizations to develop preservation and management strategies.
- Advise public gardens; provide strategic planning, organizational development, garden management services.

Director of Preservation, Garden Conservancy, Cold Spring, NY**1999 – 2013**

- Responsible for implementing the Conservancy's mission to preserve, manage and share gardens with the public. Oversaw the selection of gardens.
- Developed and implemented successful strategies for the transition of gardens from private to nonprofit ownership and management.
- Oversaw restoration of significant American gardens. Monitored, assessed and advised on quality of garden presentation and management.
- Worked with garden owners and staff, developed governance and funding capacity to sustain gardens. Advised garden owners, public agencies, nonprofits, friends groups and volunteers on horticulture, planning, fundraising, promotion, education, volunteer management as well as the legal aspects of garden ownership and preservation.
- Led a national team that managed a broad range of gardens in a variety of regions. Supervised and encouraged the development of managerial skills of people on site. Developed management strategies; this role required leadership and management skills, and budgeting, personnel and administration.
- Gave frequent lectures and workshops and developed training programs and publications.

Director of Landscapes, The Fells, Newbury, New Hampshire

1993 – 1998

- Directed preservation, planning, and maintenance of historic landscape of *The Fells*, summer retreat of John Hay. Managed garden staff and volunteers; directed restoration of walled woodland garden, perennial gardens, and rock garden.
- Led site budgeting, planning and fund raising initiatives; launched membership program and developed site revenue generating programs.
- Developed educational and interpretive programs including workshops, tours, and conferences. Responsible for promotion and outreach.

Horticulturist, Saint Gaudens National Historic Site, Cornish, New Hampshire

1987 – 1993

- Restored and maintained the historic gardens of *Aspet*, the home and studio of sculptor Augustus Saint Gaudens.
- Researched and documented history of the gardens, rehabilitated historic hedges, restored hundred year-old flower garden, improved maintenance of trees and lawns, developed maintenance plan.

Market Gardener, Noble's Market Garden, Windsor, Vermont

1981 – 1987

- Raised and sold vegetables through retail farm stand and farmers market.

Education

Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, Certificate in Gardening Arts

1987 - 1991

University of Toronto, Masters in Medieval Studies

1975 - 1977

Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin BA in Classics and Comparative Literature

1970 - 1974

Editorial

- Former contributing Editor, *Organic Gardening* magazine
- Former Contributing Editor, *Garden Design* magazine
- Contributing Editor, *The Gardener's Garden*, Phaidon

Awards

- Marjorie Van Wickle Lyon Horticultural Award, Blithewold, Bristol, RI 2007

Board service

- Trustees of Saint-Gaudens Memorial
- Hollister House Garden
- Advisor, Lord & Schryver Conservancy

Garden Design

- Sanborn Mills Farm, Loudon, NH
- Greenwood Gardens, Short Hills, NJ
- Welling Garden, Norwich, VT
- Tell Garden, Plainfield, NH
- Windy Hill, Grafton, VT
- Rock Garden, Sharon, VT
- Travis Garden, Stockbridge, VT
- The Rocks, Washington, CT
- Stetson Garden, Norwich, VT
- Garden in Long Lake, NY
- Hooverness, Fishers Island, NY
- Northcote, Cornish, NH
- High Court, Cornish, NH
- Platt Garden, Cornish, NH
- Tiadnock, Dublin, NH
- Bimba Garden, Hanover, NH
- Wilkinson Garden, Hanover, NH
- Extended Care Facility, Mount Ascutney Hospital, Windsor, VT
- Garden of Bill Noble and James Tatum, Norwich, Vermont

Selected publications

- *Spirit of Place: The Making of a New England Garden*, Timber Press, May 2020
- "Northcote, an Artist's New Hampshire Garden," *The Journal of the New England Garden History Society*, Spring 1993.
- "Gardening with Granite: Clarence Hay's New Hampshire Rock Garden", *Rock Garden Quarterly*, Summer 2000.
- "Taking a Garden Public: Feasibility and Startup," The Garden Conservancy Preservation Handbook Series, 2001 and 2005.
- "High Ground", Horticulture Magazine, May 1, 2007, "Personal Gardens".

Selected publications on projects

- *Outstanding American Gardens: A Celebration: 25 Years of the Garden Conservancy*, Abrams, written by Page Dickey, photographs by Marion Brenner. Chapter on garden of Bill Noble and a selection of preservation projects.
- "Norwich Resident's Work Honored by the Garden Conservancy", article by Henry Homeyer, Valley News, West Lebanon, NH, December 30, 2015. Article discussing garden of Bill Noble.
- "In the Mix" Martha Stewart Living, article by Stephen Orr, photographs by Roger Foley, July 2012. Article discussing garden of Bill Noble.
- "In the Garden: A Design Sprouted from Aged Ruins", *The New York Times*, Anne Raver, August 2009. Article discussing garden of Bill Noble.
- "New England Primer", Elizabeth Pochoda, *House and Garden Magazine*, September 2003. Article discussing garden of Bill Noble.
- "Gardens of the Cornish Colony", Carol Williams, *House and Garden Magazine*, October 2000.
- "*Human Nature: The Keepers of the Garden's Soul*", *The New York Times*, Anne Raver discussing Garden Conservancy and its accomplishments at The Fells. October 1, 1999.
- "Border Diplomacy", Paul Dunphey, *Garden Design Magazine*, August/September 1997. Article discussing the restoration of The Fells.
- "The Long View", Douglas Brenner, *Garden Design Magazine*, June/July 1995. Article discussing the Platt garden and its restoration
- "Gardening with Granite: Clarence Hay's New Hampshire Rock Garden", *Rock Garden Quarterly*, Summer 2000.
- "Taking a Garden Public: Feasibility and Startup," The Garden Conservancy Preservation Handbook Series, 2001 and 2005.

Selected presentations

- “Ties that Bond: Making Gardens Together”, Bobbie Dolp Inaugural Lecture, Salem, OR, November 2019
- “The Gardens of the Cornish Colony: Where Classic Gardens Took Root in America”, Wave Hill Winter Lecture Series, January 2017, Hanover and Monadnock Garden Clubs
- “Longue Vue Gardens: Landscape of Renewal”, Southern Garden History Society, April 2018 and Charleston, SC, March 2019
- “Imagining and Conserving American Gardens”, Hardy Plant Society of Oregon Winter Lecture, January 2016, slide presentation.
- “Imaginary Gardens with Real Toads in them”, Hollister House Garden Study Weekend, September 12, 2015, slide lecture.
- “The Gardener’s Eye”, West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association annual meeting, Charleston, WV, January 23, 2015
- “The Gardener’s Garden”, West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association annual meeting, January 23, 2015.
- “Preserving America’s Garden Masterpieces”, slide lecture presented in Washington, DC, Boston, MA, New York, NY, Denver, CO, Portland, OR, Shelburne, NY, Vancouver, BC, and Montreal, PQ, Canada.
- Scott Medal Award Ceremony Remarks and interview with John G. Fairey, Peckerwood Garden, March 17, 2013
- “Change and Transition, the Journey from Private to Public”, Garden Conservancy Preservation Weekend 2012, Chicago Botanic Garden, September 2012
- “Emerging Public Gardens Roundtable”, sponsored creation of network of garden activists working to preserve historic and contemporary gardens in Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.
- “Preservation Stories: Reports from the Field”, moderated panel discussion presenting garden preservation success stories at the Garden Conservancy’s 10th Anniversary Celebration, Charleston, SC, October 1999.
- "Gardening with Granite: Clarence Hay's Rock Garden at The Fells", slide lecture presented at "Gardening with a Legacy," A Symposium sponsored by the Indianapolis Museum of Art, September 19-21, 1997.
- "The Gardens of the Artists of the Cornish Colony", a slide lecture and workshop developed presented for Sotheby's Education Institute: New York City, Hanover and Cornish, NH, 1997.
- "Working with the Woods", "Summer Pruning", "Perennial Border Design and Maintenance", "Organic Lawn Care". Workshops offered at The Fells, 1996-97.