

CHOICES IN REMAKING A 1920'S PERENNIAL GARDEN

Confronted with the ghost outline of my grandmother's garden, my family faced many decisions about how to recreate it as a sustainable garden for the very different conditions of the new century. We wanted it to evoke the original, but be easy to maintain. This illustrated talk traces a rocky progress through different choices, some disastrous.

RETHINKING USES FOR ANNUALS

Are perennials really the most economical and beautiful plants for a flower garden? This talk explores the special virtues of annuals in areas where winters regularly ruin plantings, as 'rough drafts' for permanent plantings, as the best choice where bright color is essential, and as an alternative for the gardener who delights in reinventing her garden every year.

NATIVE PLANTS—OR NOT?—FOR SHADY GARDENS

Why not turn a dismal area into a wonderful wild garden? Should we confine our plant choices to those which originated in our areas, or should other issues be taken into consideration? This talk analyzes gardens with different successful solutions to the Native or Not question.

Detailed plant lists will be distributed.

RAISED BED GARDENING

This slide lecture includes a discussion of the historical background to the practice of intensive gardening, a collection of inspirational slides of especially lovely raised beds, handouts on various methods for constructing the beds, different soil mixtures and irrigation techniques, and a list of flowers and vegetables best suited to this gardening technique.

This presentation is designed both for home gardeners who long for perfection and those who plant in difficult commercial areas like gas stations and parking lots.

GRASS-FREE SMALL GARDENS

Designing a landscape with shrubs, sub-shrubs, and ground covers can eliminate the chore of mowing and significantly reduce the need for supplementary water and fertilizer.

This slide lecture explores ways of creating beautiful, ecologically responsible, low maintenance plantings without enraging the neighbors by planting sunburned, shaggy lawns.

HEIGHT IN THE GARDEN: THE DRAMATIC DIMENSION

This slide lecture illustrates ways a mundane garden can be transformed by employing strong verticals: enclosing hedges and fences, architectural elements like arches and pergolas, and dramatically tall accent trees, vines, shrubs, herbaceous perennials, and annuals.

TRANSFORMING PERSONAL SPACE: FROM BACK YARD TO GARDEN

Some people 'just know' what to do to choose plants wisely and plant them effectively. For others, this step by step analysis of their land and their hopes is useful in creating their personal Edens.

"QUATRE VENTS": FRANK CABOT'S NORTHERN GARDEN

A slide tour of the astonishing Northern garden of the founder of the Garden Conservancy and author of *The Greater Perfection*.

TRAVELS WITH THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY FELLOWS

The GC conducts for its Fellows fascinating public and private gardens throughout the United States and Europe to support its preservation projects. Join me for this armchair trip through amazing spaces.

CREATING SUSTAINABLE GARDENS

This program addresses horticultural issues raised by specific plants—weaknesses like susceptibility to disease, tendencies to invade, to attract deer and rodents; and strengths—drought tolerance and effectiveness in solving specific design problems.

MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF RESIDENTIAL GARDENS

Many of us need designs that deal with the problems of poor soils, tree competition, and sloping terrain. We long for color and texture in shade. We want low maintenance gardens and fool-proof plants that look terrific all year long. Plastic aside, how should we start?

SPACE, DESIGN AND PEOPLE

Creating beautiful, comfortable outdoor rooms requires balancing voids and masses. In this talk I discuss the balance between spaces and solids in both public and private gardens. I show ways of avoiding leaky space, screening undesirable views, focusing on beautiful objects, and developing an exciting progression as one walks through a garden.

Other topics are described on my website:

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Sally McGuire Muspratt,

landscape designer, horticultural consultant, garden writer and lecturer, holds a Graduate Certificate in Landscape Design from the Radcliffe Seminars, a B.A. from Harvard and an M.A. in English from Newnham College, Cambridge University. In 2010 she was accredited by the Northeast Organic Farm Ass. (NOFA) as an Organic Land Care Professional. In 2011 she was certified by the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD).

She lives in West Roxbury, designing residential as well as public gardens, lecturing, writing and gardening at home and in Quebec.

Awards

- 2002: **MHS Silver Medal** "Outstanding Horticultural Community Service"
- 2005: **GCFMA Presidential Citation** for Civic Development Workshops
- 2006: **West Roxbury Main Streets** Volunteer of the Year
- 2007: **Landscape Design Council** Award for Civic Development
Emerald Necklace Conservancy Volunteer Award
- 2017: **GCFMA Lifetime Award** for Creating Civic Development Workshops.

Volunteer Positions

- Board of Directors:
 - Arboretum Park Conservancy
- Past Chairman:
 - Landscape Design School
 - Landscape Design Council
 - COG Design
- Emerald Necklace Conservancy:
 - Former Park Overseer and Kelleher Rose Garden Committee advisor

ILLUSTRATED TALKS ON GARDEN DESIGN

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