GREEN ANIMALS

Living Art:

A Singular Expression of Portuguese-American Cultural Traditions and Values

Prepared by:
Holly Collins
Research Fellow
The Preservation Society of Newport County
January 28, 2004
**GREEN ANIMALS**

Table of Contents

I. Biographies…………………………………………………………………………1-15
   ♦ Thomas Edward Brayton
   ♦ José Carreiro
   ♦ Alice Brayton
   ♦ George Mendonça

II. Timeline of Events 1857-1997………………………………………………………..16-21

III. Individual Garden Elements at Green Animals……………………………………22-30
   ♦ Damask Rose Garden
   ♦ Fruit Trees & Espaliers
   ♦ Formal Garden
   ♦ Annual Display
   ♦ Herb Garden
   ♦ Arbors
   ♦ Giant Reed Grass
   ♦ Figs
   ♦ Dahlia Bed
   ♦ Berries
   ♦ Perennial Border
   ♦ Bamboo
   ♦ Cloverleaf
   ♦ Pet Cemetery
   ♦ Fish Pond
   ♦ Cutting Garden
   ♦ Vegetable Garden
   ♦ Compost Pile
   ♦ Significant Trees

IV. Structures…………………………………………………………………………31-34
   ♦ Main House
   ♦ Summer Kitchen
   ♦ Ice House
   ♦ Barn and Gardening Tools
   ♦ Caretaker’s Cottage
   ♦ Out Houses
   ♦ Lean-to Greenhouse
   ♦ Cold Frames
   ♦ New Greenhouse
   ♦ Head House

V. Topiary Documentation………………………………………………………………….35-84
   ♦ Garden entry
• Topiary border
• Formal Garden
• Upper Topiary Lawns
• Pet Cemetery, Cloverleaf and Chinese Gateway

VI. Early Garden Views................................................................. 85-89

VII. A Comparison of Garden Elements of São Miguel and Green Animals......90-105

VIII. Plant Lists: 1980 and 1983 brochures

IX. Bibliography

X. Appendix: A Collection of Carreiro Family Photographs *circa*1920s.
GREEN ANIMALS

Biographies
Thomas Edward Brayton

Thomas Edward Brayton was born in Fall River, Massachusetts on May 15, 1843 to John and Mary Cory Read Brayton.¹ The prolific Brayton clan’s common ancestor was Francis Brayton who is recorded as having purchased property in Portsmouth, Rhode Island in 1643. The family believes, but cannot document that Francis emigrated from England. They do have evidence that the name Brayton was anglicized from the French “Le Breton.”² Some future generations of Braytons settled in Fall River, Massachusetts where their success in the cotton textile industry earned them prominence locally. They married into Borden and Durfee families whose names also became affiliated with successful cotton mills. Since Thomas Brayton’s father’s occupation is noted as farmer in the Fall River street directory in 1866, he most likely worked his way up in the trade with extended family assistance or encouragement.³ David Anthony Brayton (1824-1888) built three cotton mills, the Durfee Mills, in 1865, 1871, and 1880. These became some of the largest print cloth factories in the country. Along with his brother John, he also established the First National Bank of Fall River shortly after the National Banking Act of 1863.⁴ His son, also David Anthony (1855-1913) became treasurer of Durfee Mills and served as a director for the First National Bank of Fall River, the Sagamore Manufacturing Company, and the Fall River Manufacturing Mutual Insurance Company.⁵

In 1861, Thomas Brayton, aged 18, appears in the Fall River City Directory as a clerk working at 7 Granite Block and residing at the home of his father at 38 Rock Street. By 1866 Brayton is recorded as a hose [hosery?] manufacturer still living at the home of his father on 38 Rock Street. The Fall River City Directory of 1870-1871 documents the progression of Thomas Brayton’s career path, now a cotton dealer doing business at 20 Market Square and residing at 52 Rock Street, also owned by his father John. In 1874, Thomas E. Brayton & Co., Cotton Dealers are doing business at 19 Bedford Street. Other principals listed in the directory are R. W. Moreville, Jr. and Andrew Borden.

On May 6, 1875 Thomas Brayton married Martha Ireson from New London County Connecticut.⁶ A year and a half later he purchased a property in Portsmouth, Rhode Island for family use as a summer residence on January 15, 1877, from the executors of the Last Will and Testament of Henry T. Coronett.⁷ Research of Land Evidence records at Portsmouth Town Hall indicate that the parcel Brayton purchased

---

² Ibid. Introduction.
³ Fall River Street Directory, 1866, p. 35. Fall River Historical Society.
⁵ Ibid. p. 156.
⁶ Ibid. p. 160.
⁷ Land Evidence Book 17 pp. 360-362, Portsmouth, RI Town Hall
was once part of a very large farm, as noted in an 1858 quit claim deed that transferred a share of land known as the “East Field” from Seth R. Anthony to George B. Anthony. The east and west boundaries of the property were West main Road and Narragansett Bay. A search for Anthony grantees prior to 1858 found three entries of the name Cory in various land transactions, but the boundaries were not recognized by the researcher. Nor has it been established that this Cory name has any relationship to Cory’s Lane or to Thomas Brayton’s mother’s family name, although it appears likely. Thirty-six acres of said property was transferred from George Anthony to Amasa Manton in 1859. A Robert Manton acquired adjoining acreage to the south. It was Amasa and Robert Manton who divided the property into smaller parcels and developed farms. Elizabeth and Robert Manton acquired the properties at public auction in 1867 from Benjamin Knight and Albert Gallup, assignees of Amasa Manton. In 1870, Elizabeth Manton sold her property, described as “a farm laid out by A and R Manton in 1867” to Henry Coronett. The 1877 transfer from the estate of Coronett to Brayton describes the property as having “buildings and improvements therein.” According to oral history interviews with George and Mary Mendonça in September and October of 2003, superintendents from 1940-1985 of the property now known as Green Animals, the land Brayton purchased also had a Damask Rose Garden, and an apple orchard and a pear orchard on either side of the caretaker cottage identified on the 1867 plat plan as “Farmer’s Cottage.”

The Brayton’s first child, Alice, was born on February 28, 1878 in Fall River, Massachusetts, and at some point between 1878 and 1880 Thomas Brayton became treasurer of the Union Cotton Manufacturing Company. Customarily a treasurer in the Fall River mills was the principal operating officer and had complete control of operations from the purchasing of raw materials to the sale of the final product, endowing total power over the mill’s profitability. A second child, Mary Elizabeth was born in Fall River on May 20, 1880. Brayton, his wife Martha and two young daughters moved from Rock Street to a new residence at 36 Prospect Street in 1882. That same year, their third child Helen was born on July 14 on the estate in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. The Brayton’s last child, Edward, was born on September 13, 1888 in Fall River.

No records have been found describing the Brayton family’s summers on their Portsmouth estate except for a guest book from the estate with entries from 1910 to 1915. It portrays a lively social schedule of entertaining small parties for luncheons, teas on the lawn, suppers, and Sunday dinner for Brayton family
members. Out of town house guests were frequent. It is also known from a personal interview with Mary Carreiro Mendonça, who was raised on the estate as the superintendent’s daughter, that when the family summered on Narragansett Bay, Thomas Brayton conveniently tended to business matters commuting by rail from Fall River directly to the waterside boundary of his property.

Thomas Brayton hired a Portuguese mill worker, Jose Carreiro, to develop and manage the grounds of his Portsmouth estate in 1905. Brayton, perhaps raised on vegetables from his father’s farm, specifically requested of Carreiro that he develop a vegetable garden to supply his family with fresh produce. Carreiro was given liberty to establish other gardens as he pleased.

Martha Ireson Brayton died on May 28, 1909. According to Mary Mendonça, who was born on the estate in 1917 to José and Maria Carreiro, the Braytons had by then ceased to use their estate as a summer residence and permanently closed the main house. She remembers talk of the closing of the house as related to Martha Brayton’s death, however from notations in the old guest book from the estate the family still summered there as late as 1915. Joe Carreiro continued to maintain the estate, living in the farm house on the property, and began developing what would become a world renowned topiary garden. Twice weekly, the Braytons sent a chauffeur to pick up vegetables and flowers, and occasionally the Braytons entertained friends on their country estate.

By 1910 Brayton’s career had advanced and the Fall River City directory documents Thomas E. Brayton & Company as treasurer of Union Cotton Manufacturing Co, president of Pocasset Manufacturing Company, and president of Border City Manufacturing Company. The family had moved to 294 Prospect Street in Fall River. As for Brayton’s personal character, despite his success and community stature, Thomas Brayton was a private man as remembered by Mary Mendonça. In a 1983 House and Garden article author Mary McCarthy remarked that the Fall River gentry of Thomas Brayton’s day were plain, hardworking people “uninfluenced by their wealth.” Also, a Garden magazine of 1984 reported that Brayton had found a kindred spirit in his gardener Carreiro, both being staunch and stern perfectionists. It appears that Brayton wore his success quietly.

Thomas Brayton died at age 96 on May 10, 1939. He bequeathed the Portsmouth estate to his daughter Alice, age 61 and his son Edward, age 51. At the time of his death Alice was residing at 294

---

16 Guest Book. PSNC Archives. Green Animals files.
17 Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, September 15, 2003.
18 Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, September 15, 2003.
19 Oak Grove Cemetery Records. Fall River, MA.
20 Guest Book. PSNC Archives. Green Animals files.
21 Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, September 15, 2003.
22 Ibid.
Prospect Street in Fall River, apparently caring for her elderly and ailing father, and Edward at 388 Rock Street in Fall River. Alice Brayton re-opened the main house on the Portsmouth estate in 1936 to begin renovations to make it her permanent residence. She moved to the estate in the spring of 1939 naming it Green Animals.

Thomas Brayton far right
Edward Brayton center
In a notation on the back of the photograph the women are identified as Ellen far left, and Annie (Mrs. Brayton) seated. However, Mary Mendonça confirmed that Edward’s wife’s name was Annie but stated that he did not marry until the 1930s. Therefore she questions that the women’s names are correct.

---

26 Last Will and Testament of Thomas E. Brayton. Portsmouth Town Hall Probate Book 15, p. 48B.

27 Personal interviews with George and Mary Mendonça, September/October 2003.
José Nunes Carreiro

On November 26, 1873 José Nunes Carreiro was born in the parish of Riberia Grande in São Miguel in the Azores to John and Escolastica Nunes Corriera aka Carreiro. Little is known of his youth in the Azores, however, according to family oral history as related by José’s daughter Mary Mendonça, his father and grandfather were gardeners on private estates in São Miguel. Further research confirmed that one of the Carreiro’s employers was a man named Vasco Bensaude, whose family attained a high degree of prestige and wealth through commerce, industry, transportation and tourism. Bensaude purchased a large estate, Pico do Salomão, from an English orange merchant named John Nesbitt toward the end of the nineteenth century. The Bensaude family still own Pico do Salomão, which has a formal garden with boxtree and geometric topiary shapes that are found in the more formal gardens of the Azores and mainland Portugal. During the nineteenth century in São Miguel wealthy landlords hired English and French gardeners to train their local staff professional gardening skills. Isabel Soares del Albergaria, who has written the definitive book on the gardens of São Miguel, *Quintas, Jardins e Parques da Ilha de São Miguel* (Quetzal Editores, Lisboa, 2000), provided this information and contacted a former gardener at Pico do Salomão who confirmed that a Carreiro family did work at the gardens. Mary Mendonça does not believe her father ever worked as a gardener in São Miguel, but through his father and grandfather José was exposed to professional gardening practices beyond the characteristic informal botanical park spaces typical of the Azores garden style.

According to Mary Mendonça, her father immigrated to the United States when he was seventeen, around 1890. José later returned to the Azores and married Maria d’Estella Souza. The exact date of their marriage is unknown, but a daughter Inez was born around 1905-1906. The family then lived in Fall River, Massachusetts where José worked for Sagamore Mills. In 1905, Treasurer of the mill Thomas Brayton asked for volunteers to tidy the yard surrounding the mill (although Brayton does not appear as Treasurer of Sagamore in the Fall River Street Directories, Mary is certain her father worked at this mill). As a recruit for this task, José’s (now “Joe”) competence exceeded Brayton’s expectations inspiring him to offer Joe a position as gardener at his Portsmouth, Rhode Island estate and summer home. Joe accepted and began working at the Cory’s Lane property on weekends. Thomas Brayton’s first commission for Joe was to develop a vegetable garden to supply his family with fresh produce. Joe planted a large vegetable garden between the areas presently designated as the Damask Rose Garden and the Giant Reed Grass. Beyond this, Brayton gave Joe free reign to establish whatever other gardens he saw fit.

29 Oral History Interview with Mary Mendonça, 17 October 2003.
30 Correspondence with Isabel Soares de Albergaria, 17 November 2003. bel_albergaria@net.sapo.pt
31 St. Patrick’s Cemetery Fall River, MA. Internment records of Anna C. Corriera. St. Anthony’s Church, Portsmouth, RI. Birth and Baptismal records of Anna and José Corriera.
32 Personal interviews with George and Mary Mendonça, December 2003.
Eventually the Carreiro family permanently moved to the caretaker’s cottage on the estate and a second daughter, Anna, was born in Portsmouth on September 28, 1908. According to Mary Mendonça, Joe’s next garden development was most likely establishing the grape arbor, since they were typical family outdoor living spaces dotting the Azores countryside and highly symbolic of home and tradition for Portuguese immigrants. Once settled in Portsmouth Joe fostered relationships with gardeners on other local estates, namely Blythewold, in Bristol and the Webster, Warren and Auchincloss estates in Newport. They met periodically to collaborate and exchange cuttings from their gardens. From these cuttings, Joe propagated and developed the gardens on the estate. On a return trip to the Azores Joe brought back what he called “Cannaviera” or “Viera Bamboo” which he planted for both beauty and utility since it can be used for staking purposes and fencing. [planting currently identified as Giant Reed Grass] Joe’s son-in-law George Mendonça also believes the figs and one apple tree near the caretaker cottage possibly came from the Azores. The Marvell family, spouse and in-laws of Mary Elizabeth Brayton Marvell, contributed fruit tree cuttings and Joe developed a variety of apple, peach, pear, plum, nectarine and apricot trees in addition to the apple and pear orchards existing on the estate. As an economy of space he also developed espalier fruit trees onto which he grafted several different varieties of the same fruit.

On July 15, 1910, José N. Corriera (“Little Joe”) was born in Portsmouth. At this time Joe began propagating privet, most likely with the intent of designing topiary. Within the next year Joe’s wife Maria succumbed to tuberculosis and he returned to the Azores to find another suitable partner. Joe met and married Maria Augusta Pimentel, daughter of John and Maria Estefania Pimentel. Interestingly, St. Anthony church baptismal records have both Souza and Pimental names registered as godparents for Anna and Little Joe, suggesting that a close knit group of families immigrated together and maintained a network with families still in the Azores. The new couple returned to the United States and the Portsmouth estate where Maria took over the care of Inez, (6), Anna, (3), and Little Joe, (18 months). From the children’s ages it can be determined that their marriage took place early in 1912. Maria was an accomplished seamstress who worked for wealthy families in São Miguel. She continued her skill in Portsmouth making all the family’s clothing and sewing for neighbors in exchange for cloth. Maria also made curtains for the main house on the estate as well as crocheted doilies and decorative tray linens.

Soon after Joe brought his new wife to Portsmouth he planted the privet seedlings that would become his famed Green Animals in their present location in the formal topiary garden. It should be

33 St. Anthony’s Church, Portsmouth, RI. Birth and Baptismal records.
36 Personal interviews with George and Mary Mendonça, September/October 2003.
37 St. Anthony’s Church, Portsmouth, RI. Birth and Baptismal records.
38 Personal interviews with Mary Mendonça September/October 2003.
39 Personal interview with Mary Mendonça, 22 January 2004.
40 Personal interviews with George Mendonça, September/October 2003.
noted that Joe’s expertise was self taught and motivated by a high degree of natural creativity. Joe modeled his animals from various sources; a Dromedary Date package, a pack of Camel cigarettes, and his children’s geography school books. Also, the garden photographs in Quintas, Jardins e Parques da Ilha de São Miguel reveal strong similarities between many of Joe’s garden concepts and garden design elements in the Azores [see Addendum]. However, a quite man, Joe never discussed his inspiration to create animal forms for his topiary rather than designing solely geometric shapes that were familiar to him from the Azores.41

The couple had two children, Mary, born on August 24, 1917, and Adolph, born March 22, 1925. Around the time of Mary’s birth the Brayton’s ceased to use the estate as a summer home and the Carreiro’s and their five children lived there quite independently. The Carreiros were closely involved with the local Portuguese-American community. Joe acted as guardian to many new immigrants seeking financial advice. Maria who was fully literate in Portuguese read the weekly Portuguese newspaper to groups that gathered in their living room in the evenings. She also read letters from the Azores sent to neighbors and composed a response for them to send back after carefully taking notes of what they wished to communicate. Mary Mendonça remembers these as passionately emotional evenings filled with uninhibited expressions of anger, grief or joy. For family entertainment Inez played the piano and Little Joe sang melancholy Portuguese ballads that often brought tiny Adolph to tears, much to the amusement of the family.

As the children grew they showed the same ambition as their parents. After completing grammar school, Inez attended secretarial school in Fall River where she eventually took a secretarial position. Later she moved to a sales job at Cherry & Webb in Fall River. Inez married Frank Mendonça in 1935. Anna became one of the first receptionists at Portsmouth Abbey, where she worked until her death from tuberculosis in 1931. Little Joe attended Amhurst College Agricultural School and was hired by a former editor of the New York Times named Miller as gardener for his estate in Great Neck, Long Island. Mary, like her mother, became an accomplished seamstress and worked at home, demonstrating many of the creative abilities of her father in her work. Adolph attended Providence College and also studied at the University of Kentucky where he received his master’s degree.42 Later he was accepted in the school of dentistry at Columbia University. He returned home to establish the first dentistry practice in Portsmouth.43

During the early years living on the estate the family kept two horses, 1 cow, two peacocks and chickens. By the 1920s Brayton gave up the animals except for the chickens. Mary’s earliest memories of her father’s garden endeavors, probably around 1920, recall him sketching out a layout for the parterres in the formal garden on white butcher paper that he had Maria save for his design purposes.44 The Mendonça’s remember these drawings were stored in the barn for many years but have vanished. The

41 Personal interview with Mary Mendonça, September/October 2003.
42 E-mail correspondence from Ellen Botelho
44 Ibid.
original parterres were constructed from a plant called Kochia, a shrub-like annual, until Joe acquired and propagated the boxwood cuttings that would eventually replace these plants. Joe developed his gardens rather spontaneously, according to his son-in-law George Mendonça. He continually propagated cuttings and when they developed he planted them where they would best fit in and grow well within the overall scheme of the garden. Joe never fully mastered the English language or written word, yet his creative genius was evident in his skillful development and management of a remarkably unique combination of formal and informal gardens and life-sized animal topiary shapes. Alice Brayton, Thomas’ eldest child, was quoted as saying Joe manifested his own form of “Folk Art.” “It all came out of Joe’s head.” During Joe’s career he also earned several hundred first prizes for his floral displays at various garden shows. Throughout his career Joe was conscientiously committed to a high degree of professional integrity.

Joe managed the estate with a staff of one or two helpers. Following Thomas Brayton’s decease in 1939, Alice Brayton made the estate her permanent residence, naming it Green Animals. By her father’s decree she never interfered with Joe’s management or design ideas for the gardens. In 1940, Joe hired his new son-in-law George Mendonça to assist him and carry on his life’s work. National Geographic of August 1948 featured the Gardens at Green Animals. Joe passed away on November 28, 1950, and thereafter George took over management and further development of the gardens and his own topiaries until his retirement in 1985. Green Animals was also featured in Yankee Magazine in June of 1971 and October of 1982, in Garden Magazine in May/June of 1974, and Architectural Digest in November/December of 1976.

---

45 Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, 18 November 2003.

46 Personal interviews with George and Mary Mendonça, September/October 2003.


48 Obituary from the personal files of Mary Mendonça, nd.
Photographs from personal collection of Mary Mendonça

José Nunes Carreiro in his gardens ca. 1920s behind the “Antelope” (currently “Reindeer)

José and Maria
Alice Brayton was the first of four children born to Thomas and Martha Ireson Brayton on February 28, 1878 in Fall River, Massachusetts. No details of her youth and upbringing have been found although it is evident her family enjoyed a genteel lifestyle due to her father’s success and local prominence in the Fall River Cotton Mill industry. The children also benefited from the pastoral environment of their summer estate on Cory’s Lane in Portsmouth, Rhode Island that her father purchased in 1877. Of all the children, Alice in particular developed a passion for the Portsmouth property, which she would eventually claim as her home. It can be surmised that as a young adult, observing their gardener Joe Carreiro’s gradual development of a whimsical garden venue with life-sized animal topiary the estate became an object of delight and fascination for her.

Alice’s education ended with her completion of Fall River High School. However, she avidly pursued an active community oriented life and became a fairly prolific author in her later adult years. Alice never married and lived with her father at 294 Prospect Street in Fall River until his death at age 86 on May 10, 1939. Martha Brayton preceded her husband in death by thirty years. Alice became well known locally for her efforts initiating a relief program in Fall River with the assistance of her friend Bishop Cassidy during the Great Depression. Her system of administering tickets for milk, food and clothing based on families needs resulted in a 30% savings over government programs contributing to families based on size. She also founded the District Nursing Association of Fall River and sat on the boards of Union Hospital and the Fall River Historical Society, where she served as honorary Vice president until her death in 1972. Not only were Alice Brayton’s humanitarian instincts expressed through community efforts but on a personal level as well. She happened to be on the Portsmouth estate in August of 1917 when Joe Carreiro’s wife gave birth to a daughter and required assistance. Alice quickly arranged an ambulance for the mother but insisted on personally delivering the new-born to the hospital in her chauffeur driven car. At age 39 she claimed Mary Carreiro was the first baby she ever held. To commemorate the

50 Land Evidence Book 17, pp. 360-362. Portsmouth Town Hall.
52 Last Will and testament of Thomas E. Brayton. Portsmouth Town Hall Probate Book 15, p. 48B.
53 Oak Grove Cemetery Records. Fall River, MA.
54 Mary McCarthy, “The Indomitable Miss Brayton” House and Garden, December 1983. p. 143
occasion Alice gave the Carreiros a lilac, which still grows at the front of the caretaker cottage.\textsuperscript{58} Her social affiliations included membership with the Women’s Union Club of Fall River, The Colony Club of New York City, the Chilton Club of Boston, and the Rositha Society.

When her father’s health seriously began to fail around 1936, Alice began making plans for her eventual move to the Portsmouth property. Thomas Brayton’s Last Will and Testament bequeathed the house and grounds to Alice and her brother Edward. His will stated that his other two daughters, Mary Elizabeth Marvell, residing in Tiverton, Rhode Island, and Helen Barendt, living in Coronado, California, had been adequately compensated prior to his death (perhaps through dowry arrangements). Thomas Brayton advised his gardener Joe Carreiro not to relinquish the keys to the main house to anyone, not even family. However, Alice sought Mary Carreiro’s assistance in explaining her situation and was able to convince Joe that she would be re-opening the house and it was essential to commence necessary repairs and improvements. At that time, beyond general repairs she winterized the house and changed the exterior paint color from slate grey to white. In accordance with her father’s wishes she left complete control of the gardens and plantings to Joe Carreiro. There was also a great deal of brush clearing required around the main house. Joe hired Mendonça Landscape and Nursery to assist him with this project. Alice Brayton, age 61, moved to the property in the spring of 1939, naming it Green Animals. She was particularly fond of her “beloved” giraffe, which became the logo of her property.\textsuperscript{59} On August 19, 1939, Edward quit claimed his share of the property to his sister for one dollar.\textsuperscript{60}

Alice Brayton published five books after moving to Green Animals: \textit{George Berkley in Apulia}, Boston: Marymount Press, 1946; \textit{Trading in Scrabbletown}, Newport, RI: Ward Print Co., 1952\textsuperscript{[?]; \textit{George Berkley in Newport}, Newport, RI: Portland ME, Anthoensoen Press, 1954; \textit{The Burying Place of Governor Arnold}, Newport, RI privately printed, 1960; \textit{Life in the Stream} 2 Vol. Newport, RI: Wilkinson Press: 1962. She was also a contributing author to “Gardens of America.” On Aquidneck Island she was noted for receiving a gold metal for work at Hunter House from the Preservation Society of Newport County, and as founder of the Newport Garden Club.\textsuperscript{61} She was also a member of the Spouting Rock Beach Club in Newport and the Newport Historical Society.

In 1940, Joe Carreiro hired his new son-in-law George Mendonça to work for him at Green Animals. Following Joe’s death in 1950, George carried on for Alice Brayton with the same freedom Thomas Brayton had bestowed upon Joe. Calling it “George’s Garden,” she even deferred to him on what flowers to pick. Alice Brayton enjoyed the ritual of a daily morning walk through her gardens and entertained frequently with stunning garden parties. The most renowned was Jacqueline Bouvier’s coming out party in the late 1940s, complete with a carousel for the guest’s amusement from 5:00 pm to 5:00 am.\textsuperscript{62} However, her greatest pride and joy was her vast vegetable garden, about which she was quite particular.

\textsuperscript{58} Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, January 23, 2004.

\textsuperscript{59} Personal Interviews with George and Mary Mendonça, September 15, 2003.

\textsuperscript{60} Land Evidence Book 38, pp. 252-254. Portsmouth Town Hall.

\textsuperscript{61} PSNC Archives. Green Animals: Various obituaries.

\textsuperscript{62} Oral History Interview with George Mendonça, 17 October 2003.
The vegetable garden was moved and expanded, encompassing the areas presently designated as cutting garden and bamboo garden extending to the south boundary of the estate. All vegetables were picked young and only on the day they were to be consumed, consequently there were successive plantings of the more tender crops. Fruits as well were never picked until ripe and different varieties that matured at different rates ensured an ongoing supply of fresh fruit in summer months. Alice also indulged in the ritual of a daily fig, and enough were grown to make preserves to carry her through the winter. It should be noted that all gardening work was done by hand without the assistance of machinery, requiring considerable hours and labor. Alice Brayton preferred simple menus that highlighted the exquisite freshness of her harvests and took particular pleasure in delighting her guests with the “firsts” of the seasons.63

Although many articles written about Miss Brayton describe her as an elitist and a bit of a raconteur, apparently she shared a different side of her personality with her “family” at Green Animals. Alice Brayton’s house staff was a housekeeper/cook and a chauffeur, Bertha and Joe DiBiasio. George Mendonça maintained a staff of two workers. According to Mary Mendonça, who occasionally helped Bertha in the kitchen, one day a guest remarked on the lovely cake her “maid” prepared. Alice responded with, “There are no maids here. Everyone here is family.” Mary also recalls searching for George one afternoon finding he had been lured onto the front porch of the main house for cocktails with Alice Brayton and her guest Mrs. Auchincloss. Clearly she did not consider her staff beneath her in any way. Prominent in George’s memories of “Miss Brayton” are her love of nature, a quick wit, and clever sense of humor.64

Alice Brayton passed away on December 11, 1972. Out of concern for Green Animals carrying on after her decease she bequeathed the property to the Preservation Society of Newport County. Under the Society’s stewardship the garden legacy she espoused continues on.

---

63 Personal interviews with George and Mary Mendonça, September/October 2003.

64 Ibid.
George Mendonça

George Mendonça was born on December 29, 1909 on his parent’s farm at 546 Jepson Lane in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, the sixth of nine children of Francisco and Maria Parreira Mendonça. The exact date of Francisco Mendonça’s immigration to the United States from the Azores is unknown, but it was presumably shortly after the turn of the 20th century. Francisco’s intent was to quickly earn money to pay for their new home in São Miguel where the couple had inherited land from their families. Francisco obtained a job doing brick work for a contracting firm in Portsmouth owned by a man named Wilson. Eventually Wilson also started a nursery business and early in the 1900s Wilson’s son Edward took over his father’s business and gave up the contracting firm to focus on the nursery. It was in the Wilson’s employ that Francisco most likely learned the nursery trade, which would eventually become his family business, Mendonça Nurseries.

When Francisco did better than he expected financially in the United States he decided to bring Maria and their three children, Mary, Silvana, and Frank to Portsmouth where he believed there were greater future opportunities for his family than in the Azores. Francisco had earned enough money to purchase a significant tract of land, over 100 acres on Jepson Lane between Union and Oliphant Streets, where he started a dairy business with sixty-eight cows. The other children born to the Mendonça’s in Portsmouth besides George were Joe, Anton, Angelina, Margaret and Virginia.

George recalls helping out on the farm from the early age of 10, rising at 5:00 am to milk the cows by hand. Following the milking the family had breakfast then the children helped out with other farm chores. Francisco began propagating nursery stock on the farm, which needed tending, as well as their large vegetable garden. The Mendonça family homestead was fairly self-sufficient with two horses and a chicken coop. They raised two pigs every year to make chourico, which they smoked with corn cobs in their smoke house on the farm. According to George the neighbors eagerly awaited this annual event. George and his siblings attended Oliphant Elementary School, walking from Jepson Lane to the corner of West Main Road and Oliphant Street each day during the school year. Later, the children attended De La Salle High School in Newport.

In the 1920s Francisco realized that his expanding nursery stock could become a far more lucrative business and he decided to abandon dairy farming to focus on developing the nursery business. Mendonça Nurseries grew primarily privet, boxwood, roses and a variety of evergreens such as arborvitae, juniper and yew. Privet and boxwood were particularly popular plants in Newport at the time. Initially, all of the sons became involved in the business, which they expanded to include landscape services to meet their nursery customer’s needs as a full service operation. Eventually, Frank and Joe left the business and George and Anton took over the nursery.

George’s future was determined when Joe Carreiro, gardener and caretaker for a Portsmouth estate on Cory’s Lane, hired Mendonça Nurseries in 1936 to clear brush and perform a general clean-up of the area surrounding the main house. The landscape project was part of an extensive renovation of the main house, which sat unused for many years, and was now being readied for use as a permanent residence by
Alice Brayton, eldest daughter of the owner Thomas Brayton. Despite the long-term vacancy of the main house, Carreiro, who lived with his family in a caretaker’s cottage on the property, developed by his own design and inclination a unique combination of formal and informal gardens on half of the estate. The dramatic feature of these gardens, which earned him considerable acclaim, and high esteem from his new employer, was life-sized animal topiaries. While the main house was under renovation Alice Brayton often entertained on the estate on weekends, enjoying the gardens and refreshments on the front porch, before her permanent move in the spring of 1939.

When Mendonça Nurseries worked on the Cory’s Lane estate, George met Joe’s daughter Mary, who would become his future wife on November 30, 1939. According to George, he was quite charmed by her offer of homemade lemonade on a particularly hot day. Mendonça Nurseries returned to the estate for other jobs and Joe Carreiro was impressed with George’s work ethic and understanding of plant materials. He offered George a position as his assistant on the estate, now known as Green Animals, and George began working there in 1940. Anton took over management of Mendonça Nurseries, eventually purchasing property on East Main Road in Middletown, Rhode Island in the late 1960s, and moving the business.

When George began working at Green Animals he recalls his father-in-law handing him the clippers and saying, “Go on, these are your animals now.” George worked closely with Joe and they managed a staff of two assistants. Both men were hard and diligent workers undaunted by long hours. The topiary required frequent trimming by hand, arbors were carefully trained, fruit trees were pruned and given scheduled insecticide treatments, numerous flower beds needed daily attention, and the extensive vegetable garden that so delighted Alice Brayton was meticulously planted and kept. They relied on manual labor rather than machinery to maintain and embellish the gardens at Green Animals.

After they were first married George and Mary Mendonça lived at Green Animals while they built a house on a plot from the Mendonça family farm on Jepson Lane, to which they moved in 1941. They had three sons while living in their new home; Gregory born in 1941, Leonard born in 1943 and Paul born in 1944. When Joe Carreiro passed away in November of 1950, George became superintendent of Green Animals and Alice Brayton requested that the Mendonça family move back to the estate. Although they regretted leaving the house they built, the garden fantasia of Green Animals, an unblemished panorama of Narragansett Bay, and Alice Brayton’s sincere regard drew them back to Cory’s Lane in 1951.

Thereafter, Alice Brayton’s doctrine at Green Animals was that George, and he alone, managed the gardens and made all decisions thereof. She bestowed the same liberty on her gardener as her father granted Joe Carreiro. George carried on in Joe’s footsteps with a staff of two helpers and managed the demands of Alice Brayton’s active entertaining schedule at Green Animals where the gardens were the venue for many parties, “Coming-Out” galas, and even weddings. Astonishingly, none of these events were ever interrupted by foul weather. The employer/employee relationship, according to George, was one of ease and mutual respect. In the 1960s, due to the increasing fame of the gardens at Green Animals, Disney World approached George with a job offer in Orlando, which he flatly refused even when they tempted him to name his own price.

Upon Alice Brayton’s death in 1972 Green Animals was bequeathed to The Preservation Society of Newport County, who retained George as superintendent to continue management of the gardens when they opened the estate to the public. Mary took over flower arranging for displays at the main house and a
copyright was obtained for her skilled and creative needlework replica of the gardens of Green Animals however, plans for marketing the design never came to fruition.

George added a new topiary section to the gardens, which he developed in the 1970s. Some of these topiary pieces were crated and transported to local garden shows and were used as decoration for Preservation Society events. George’s yew bears became popular pieces with visitors to Green Animals. During his career at Green Animals he lectured frequently on the gardens and topiary for New England garden clubs and horticultural associations. George was a guest on local radio talk shows in Fall River, Massachusetts and in Newport, Rhode Island, and he appeared on a public television program from New Bedford, Massachusetts, “The Portuguese Around Us.” George also lectured for garden clubs in Tappan Springs and Daytona Beach, Florida and in Honolulu, Hawaii for the Hawaii Historical Society. He continued to lecture after his formal retirement in 1985, but less frequently. In 1996 George was chosen for a leading role in a film documentary by Errol Morris, Fast, Cheap and Out of Control produced by Sony Classics, which featured four individuals who pursued their livelihoods with unusual passion and dedication. Today, George’s forty-five year career at Green Animals demonstrates an uncommon value commitment. In recognition of his career The Preservation Society of Newport County granted George Mendonça a Laurel Award in 2003 “in recognition of a lifetime of selfless, passionate and devoted service that has resulted in the Green Animals gardens we cherish today.” The Mendonça’s still live among the gardens at Green Animals where George recently celebrated his 95th birthday.

Note: All information in this biography is based on a taped oral history interview with George Mendonça on December 3, 2003 and, and a personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça on December 16, 2003.
Photographs from the personal collection of Mary Mendonça

George and Mary Mendonça

George and Mary Mendonca November 30, 1939
GREEN ANIMALS

A Timeline of Events
### A Timeline of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Source/Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>Seth R. Anthony, yeoman, quit claims a share of land known as the East Field to George B. Anthony for $1.00. 9 August 1858.</td>
<td>Land Evidence Book 14 p. 206. Portsmouth Town Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1867</td>
<td>Elizabeth T. Manton acquires a property at public auction from assignees of Amasa Manton, Benjamin B. Knight and Albert S. Gallup, for $10,450. 6 June 1867.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1875</td>
<td>Marriage of Thomas E. Brayton Martha Ireson of New London County CT</td>
<td>Brayton Family History Vol. II, Clifford Ross Brayton, Jr.; 1982 Fall River Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877</td>
<td>Thomas E. Brayton, Cotton Dealer, residing at 52 Rock Street in Fall River, MA purchases Portsmouth property on Cory’s Lane from the executors of the Last Will and testament of Henry T. Cornett, 15 January 1877 for use as a summer residence.</td>
<td>Fall River Street Directories, Fall River Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>28 February; Alice Brayton is born in Fall River, MA.</td>
<td>Brayton Family History Vol. II, p. 160.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>Thomas Brayton is recorded as Treasurer of the Union Cotton Manufacturing Co. residing at 52 Rock St. in Fall River, MA. 20 May; Mary Elizabeth Brayton is born in Fall River.</td>
<td>Fall River Street Directories, Fall River Historical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>The Thomas Brayton family residence is at 36 Prospect Street in Fall River, MA 14 July; Helen Ireson Brayton is born in Portsmouth, RI</td>
<td>Brayton Family History Vol. II, p. 160.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1888 13 September; Edward Brayton is born in Fall River, MA


1905 Thomas Brayton hires mill worker José Carreiro as gardener for his Portsmouth estate. Carreiro begins working weekends. The vegetable garden, a cutting (flower) garden, and the grape arbor were the first gardens developed by Carreiro on the estate.

George and Mary Mendona Interviews September/October 2003

Inez Carreiro is born to José and Maria (Souza) Carreiro
Exact date unknown.

1908 28 September. Anna Carreiro is born to José and Maria (Souza) Carreiro in Portsmouth. The date of the Carreiro’s permanent move to the estate is unknown.

St. Anthony Church Portsmouth, RI. Birth and Baptismal records.

1909 28 May; Martha Brayton dies.

Oak Grove Cemetery records, Fall River MA
St Patrick’s Cemetery records, Fall River MA

1910 Joe Carreiro began propagating privet cuttings for topiary.

15 July. José Carrera is born on the Portsmouth estate (little Joe).

George Mendonça notes and interviews September/October 2003
St. Anthony Church Portsmouth, RI. Birth and Baptismal records.

1911-1912 Maria Souza Carreiro dies of consumption.
(exact date unknown; unable to obtain death records from Newport County, Portsmouth Town Hall or St. Anthony’s Parish)

Joe travels to the Azores and marries Maria Pimental. They return to the Portsmouth estate (exact date unknown) His three children are respectively 6, 3, and 1 ½ years old.

Mary Mendonça Oral History Interview 21 October 2003

1912 Young topiary plants for the large animals are moved to their permanent location

George Mendonça Interviews September/October 2003

1917 Mary Carreiro is born on the Portsmouth estate.
The Thomas Brayton family no longer summer on the estate.
(exact year unknown)

Mary Mendonça Oral History Interview 21 October 2003
1920

Plants for the large Topiary animals; Lion, Elephant, Giraffe and Camel are established in the formal garden but not fully formed until late 1920s. Construction begins on the Tall Rose Urn, Large Morris Chair, Obelisk, and Sailboat. Very early in the 1920s Joe began sketching a master plan for the development of the formal garden with parterres and garden paths.

George Mendonça Notes
Mary Mendonça Oral History Interview 21 October 2003

1922

Construction begins on the Rhode Island Red Rooster

George Mendonça Notes

1924

Construction begins on the Loving Cup, Dog Seated on a Table, Reindeer, Standing Bear, and 4 Arches in the formal garden

George Mendonça Notes
Mary Mendonça Oral History Interview 21 October 2003

1925

Adolph Carreiro is born on the Portsmouth estate.

Mary Mendonça Intervsiws October 2003

1925-30

Construction begins on the Policeman, Boar on a Table, Horse and Rider, 3 Peacocks, Donkey, Nesting Swan, Ostrich, Small Morris Chair,

George Mendonça Notes

1931

8 May; Anna Carreiro dies of consumption.

St. Patrick’s cemetery records Fall River, MA.

1936

Alice Brayton begins renovations on the main house on the estate for use as her permanent residence.

Mary Mendonça Oral History Interview 21 October 2003

1937

Construction begins on the Globe Lights

George Mendonça Notes

1938

Hurricane causes extensive damage to topiaries. Joe Carreiro hires Mendonça Nurseries for general clean up of brush, etc. surrounding the main house.

Personal interview with George Mendonça, September 15, 2003

1939

10 May; Thomas E. Brayton dies and bequeaths the Portsmouth estate to his daughter Alice and his son Edward.

Alice Brayton permanently moves to the estate.
19 August; Edward Brayton quit claims his share of the estate to his sister Alice Brayton for $1.00.

30 November; Marriage of Mary Carreiro and George Mendonça

**Brayton Family History Vol. II** Fall River Historical Society
Last Will and Testament of Thomas Brayton Probate Book 15 p. 48 B
Portsmouth Town Hall
Land Evidence Book 38 pp. 252-254 Portsmouth Town Hall
Mary Mendonça Oral History Interview 21, October 2003.

1940
Joe Carreiro hires George Mendonça to work at Green Animals.
Mary and George live on the estate while building a house on Jepson Lane.
Construction begins on the Orb and Driveway Arches.

Mary Mendonça Oral History Interview 21 October 2003
George Mendonça Interviews September/October 2003

1948
August; National Geographic Article on Green Animals

PSNC Archives

1950
28, November Jose Carreiro dies.
George Mendonça becomes superintendent of Green Animals

Record of Death Book 12 p. 494 City of Newport
George Mendonça Interviews September/October 2003

1951
George and Mary Mendonça move from Jepson Lane to Cory’s Lane with their three young sons, Gregory (10), Leonard (8), and Paul (6).

Personal interview with Mary Mendonça, November 18, 2003.

1954
Significant hurricane damage to topiaries.
Giraffe lost its head. George Mendonça adds another privet plant to reconstruct the topiary.

George Mendonca Interivews September/October 2003

1970-1980
George Mendonça constructs Yew Rooster, Spot the Dog, Big Bear, Baby Bear and the Unicorn

George Mendonça Notes and Interviews September/October 2003

1970
Yankee Magazine article on Green Animals

PSNC Archives

1972
11 December; Alice Brayton dies
Green Animals bequeathed to PSNC

Misc. obituaries, PSNC archives

1976
November/December, Architectural Digest article on Green Animals
1982
PSNC Archives
October; *Yankee Magazine* article on Green Animals

1984
PSNC Archives
May/June *Garden Magazine* article on Green Animals.

1985
George Mendonça retires.
PSNC hires Ernest Wasson as superintendent; Chrissy Genga consultant.
Construction of driveway arches resumes.
Construction of public parking and restrooms.
Restoration and strengthening of topiary supports begins.

George Mendonça Interviews September/October 2003
Mary Ann Von Handorf Interview November 18, 2003.

1988
PSNC hires Mary Ann Von Handorf as superintendent

1992-93
Green Animals Garden Committee replaces aging fruit trees
(Peaches, Pears, Plums, Apricots) with Crab Apples.

Mary Ann Von Handorf Interview November 18, 2003.

1996
George Mendonça is a featured actor in *Fast, Cheap and Out of Control*,
an Errol Morris Documentary film produced by Sony Classics

2004
Superintendent Mary Ann Von Handorf leaves Green Animals
GREEN ANIMALS

Individual Garden Elements
Individual Garden Elements at Green Animals

**Damask Rose Garden**

*Rosa x damascene.* Among the species of old garden roses, which consist of classes existing before 1867. This rose garden was established prior to Thomas Brayton’s purchase of the Portsmouth property in 1877. Fuchsia colored flowers bloom in June. The existing plants are all original. This rose variety sends out shoots, multiplies, and renews itself. See the topiary section for details on the Golden Archway, Policeman, Orb and Globe Lights, also at the garden entry, and for the topiary border details.

Personal interviews, George and Mary Mendonça, September/October 2003 and January 5, 2004.
Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, December 10, 2003

**Fruit Trees**

When Thomas Brayton purchased the estate there was a pear orchard west of the caretaker cottage and an apple orchard east of the caretaker cottage. The apple varieties grown on the estate were McIntosh, Baldwin, several varieties of Russet, Golden Pippin, Gravenstien, Sweet Winesap, Twenty Ounce, Jewett Red, Northern Spy and Yellow Transparent apples. There was also an unusual variety called Winter Banana that had a translucent, jelly-like center. Pear varieties were Seckle, Bosc, Keiffer, and Bartlett. These orchards eventually expired to hurricanes or disease. One apple tree currently existing between the caretaker cottage and new green house is at least one hundred years old and was possibly a graft that Joe Carreiro brought from the Azores. An apple grower from Connecticut was unable to identify the variety. When the new greenhouse was built in 1985 George Mendonça moved this tree to its present location. It bears a yellow fruit with crisp flesh, excellent for eating and baking. The Marvell family (Mary Elizabeth Brayton Marvell) provided Joe Carreiro with grafts to develop more fruit trees. These trees were in the present section # 2 and # 4 in the current Green Animals brochure. Several varieties of peaches were grown, yielding an ongoing supply of fresh peaches during summer months. Plums, nectarines and apricots were also grown. The Eisenhower family often came to pick nectarines, Dwight’s favorite fruit.

The fruit trees required fastidious care. When dormant they were sprayed with a mixture of lime and sulfa. When buds appeared they were sprayed with a stronger mix of lime and sulfa plus an insecticide. When the bud was fully formed they were treated again and another treatment was applied when the bud opened. They were sprayed again as soon as the fruit began to develop. Proper timing for these treatments was crucial for healthy development of the fruit. Treatments were stopped thirty days before full maturity. During Alice Brayton’s tenure at Green Animals she only allowed fruit to be picked when ripe and ready to be consumed. Fruit was generally picked daily and some was juiced and canned or made into preserves. Apples and pears kept well in the cold cellar of the main house. Eventually many of the fruit trees became diseased and the PSNC replaced them with Japanese Flowering Crabapples, *Malus floribunda* in the 1990s.

Personal interviews, George and Mary Mendonça, November/December 2003 and January 5, 2004.
Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, December 9, 2003.

**Espaliered Fruit Trees**
Joe Carreiro developed a section of espalier fruit trees east of the Caretaker cottage in the 1930s. According to George Mendonça Joe established the espaliers because they took up less space in the garden. Joe grafted several varieties of the same fruit onto each tree. When cared for as outlined above, the espaliered fruit trees thrived and bore edible fruit, however currently there is no treatment plan for the espaliers. Some of the fruit varieties on these espaliers are Johnathan Apple, Sekel Pear, Quince and Sweet Cherry Golden as identified in the Green Animals brochure published in 1983.

Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, January 5, 2004

**Formal Garden**

See the topiary section for details on the large animal topiaries and the upper topiary lawn.

**Arches:** The arches originally had no geometric detail. In the 1940s Joe Carreiro decided he wanted to create a “shelf” on each side of the arches. This probably tied in with the developing design of the driveway arches.

**Parterres:** Joe Carreiro laid out the formal garden with pathways and parterres early in the 1920s. He sketched out a detailed plan on butcher paper, which his wife Maria saved for his design purposes. A 1924 photograph shows the early development of the large animals and arches. The original parterre hedges were constructed from Kochia, *Kochia trichophylla*, (Burning Bush, Summer Cypress), a fast growing, and bushy cone shaped annual. Presumably, once Joe obtained boxwood cuttings to propagate he established the English boxwood parterres, *Buxus sempervirens ‘Suffruticosa’*.

**Large Animal Topiaries:** In 1910 Joe began propagating California Privet, *Ligustrum ovalifolium*, for the construction of his life-sized animal topiaries; the Camel, Giraffe, Elephant and Lion. He installed them in their present locations in 1912. One plant was used to form each “table.” From the table Joe chose select shoots (approximately 3 per leg) to begin developing the animal’s legs. Once proper leg height was achieved, shoots were joined with heavy twine to begin forming the body of the animal. To counteract the upright growth habit of the plant material, tails, trunks and various appendages were created by inserting and tying heavy wire inside the plant to train it downward. The rest of the animal was formed by careful hand pruning with clippers. The mature topiaries are pruned every two to three weeks and their yearly growth rate is determined by annual rainfall. The last pruning takes place well before frost in the fall to prevent the possibility of the sap freezing and damaging the plant. The topiary plants were fertilized heavily in the spring with 5-10-10 fertilizer. Holes were dug far enough away from the plants to prevent damaging them and about a cup of fertilizer was placed in the holes. This treatment schedule is no longer followed. Instead a highly organic fertilizer based on bone meal is added to the annuals beds surrounding the topiary and on the lawns. This, augmented by the new irrigation system meets fertilization needs.

**Spiral:** The spiral in the center of the garden was constructed by George Mendonça in the 1940s. Prior to that there was a sundial in this location. Bishop Cassady, a good friend of Alice Brayton’s gave her the sundial as a gift and requested it be placed in the center of the formal garden. Miss Brayton never liked the piece, and upon the Bishop’s decease she had George remove the sundial.
Annuals: Annuals beds surround the topiaries within the parterres. When George was superintendent he alternated annuals varieties in the beds from year to year but generally planted the same annuals. Today the types of annuals in all beds are changed yearly to create interest for returning visitors. Joe Carreiro planted his annuals in a highly symmetrical arrangement. George continued to adhere to this planting pattern following his father-in-law’s death in 1950. In recent years the PSNC has preferred to plant annuals in a random pattern. Interestingly, Joe's and George’s preference for a symmetrical planting arrangement also appears in garden designs in Isabel Soares de Albergaria’s book *Quintas, Jardins e Parques da Ilha de São Miguel*, which documents historic gardens of S. Miguel in the Azores.

Personal interviews with Mary Mendonça, September/October 2003.
Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, November 18, 2003.
Christopher Brikell and Judith Zuk, Ed. *A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants*

Annual Display Area

This garden section was originally dedicated to fruit trees such as peaches, pears, nectarines and apricots. Presently it is planted with Japanese Flowering Crabapples. During Alice Brayton’s tenure, a variety of annuals were planted yearly as borders in all of the fruit tree sections, and there was no designated annual display area. Heliotrope is always planted in honor of Alice Brayton’s favorite flower. She was also very fond of red and white striped petunias. Refer to Green Animals brochure for an overview of the types of annuals the PSNC has planted in the beds.

Interview with George and Mary Mendonça, January 5, 2004
Interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, January 9, 2004.

Herb Garden

The present herb garden was developed in the 1980s by George Mendonça per request of the PSNC. Today the herb garden is essentially for display. In an Oral History interview with George on December 3, 2003 he explained that Alice Brayton did not care much for herbs and the only one he grew for her was tarragon. Joe Carreiro did grow standard culinary herbs among other plantings, but not in a separate garden. He also grew wormwood, which possibly could have been used for pest control. Joe Carreiro used the present herb garden section # 8 in the current Green Animals brochure for a display area of Gladiolus and Dahlias.

Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, December 10, 2003
Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, January 5, 2003

Arbors

Grape Arbor: According to Mary Mendonça the grape arbor was most likely the first garden element constructed by her father after fulfilling Thomas Brayton’s request for a vegetable garden. Grape arbors were typical outdoor living spaces in the Azores and thus were symbolic of home and tradition for
Portuguese immigrants. The Carreiros made juice, wine and jelly from the grapes. Originally Joe constructed all arbors from Giant Reed Grass which he called “Cannaviera.”

During Alice Brayton’s tenure at Green Animals the grape arbors produced 200 gallons of juice annually. George Mendonça has quoted Alice Brayton as saying, “Water is for floating boats, not for human consumption.” Fruit juices were her favored beverages and enough was canned to last through winter months. George also obtained the then necessary permit to engage in wine making and he was proud that guests remarked on the quality of his wine, which he produced by combining the juice of all the grape varieties. At that time the grape arbors were extensive. In addition to the existing grape arbor there was a second large grape arbor that was removed for construction of the new greenhouse in 1985. From this arbor another fence supporting grapes ran south past the existing cold frames to the existing arbor. Another fence supporting grapes ran east all the way to the property boundary. Concord, Catawba, and Delaware grapes were grown. The trellis near the original summer kitchen (now public restrooms) was also once for grapes. The grape arbors were sprayed with insecticide twice yearly and pruned only when dormant because the vines “bleed” when pruned. The grape arbor is no longer sprayed with insecticide because visitors are inclined to pick and eat grapes. The arbors were constructed from red cedar. The existing grape arbor was replaced in 1995.

**Magnolia Arbor:** Saucer Magnolia, *Magnolia x soulangeana.* Originally the Magnolia arbor had four entrances with flat sides and a dome in the center. As above, it was constructed from Giant Reed Grass. Joe planted vines on the arbor until he acquired the Saucer Magnolia in the early 1930s. Alice Brayton enjoyed the view of her garden from her bedroom, particularly when this arbor was in full bloom. Interestingly, she chose the garden view bedroom over a water view bedroom.

**Gourd Arbor:** Joe Carreiro developed this unusual arbor because he was intrigued by the shapes of the gourds. He also experimented with creating shapes by inserting a gourd blossom into wine bottles which trained the mature shape of the gourds to the dimensions of the bottles. Once the shapes developed the bottles were broken.

**Sweetheart Rose Arbor:** The roses comprising this arbor are a variety identified by George Mendonça as “Thousand Shine,” which he believes is now extinct. Joe Carreiro started this arbor in the mid 1920s. The roses bloom in June, budding pink, and as they develop the blooms turn white. These roses are thornless, an unusual trait. Among Alice Brayton’s guests the Sweetheart rose arbor became a favorite spot with young couples who used it as a backdrop for photographs.

Personal interview with George Medonça, September, 2003.
Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, January 5, 2004

**Giant Reed Grass**

*Arundo donax*, a clump-forming rhizomatous perennial grass. According to Mary and George Mendonça, Joe Carreiro acquired the root, or “toe,” on a trip to the Azores. Joe claimed it originated in India and he referred to it as “Cannaviera,” or “Viera Bamboo.” Joe used the plant for staking material and as mentioned above for constructing early arbors. Joe and George also made wind breaker fencing out of the Giant Reed Grass. The grass grows to twenty feet each season and is cut down in the fall.

Interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, 18 November 2003.
Figs

George Medonça believes that Joe Carreiro may have brought the figs from the Azores. The Carreiro family mostly enjoyed their figs fresh but did make some into preserves. A daily fig was one of Alice Brayton’s rituals. Enough were preserved to last her through the winter. Two of the figs are white and the rest are purple. The only variety identified, per the 1983 Green Animals brochure, is *Ficus carica*. Today the figs are fertilized with a highly organic fertilizer based on bone meal and they are buried in a combination of soil and compost in the fall before hard frost. The figs are unearthed early in the spring.

Dahlia Bed

Originally this garden section was open pasture. In the early years two horses and one cow were kept on the estate, as well as two peacocks and chickens. After 1940 this section was dedicated to Alice Brayton’s vegetable garden. In the 1980s the PSNC established the Dahlia bed. Dahlias are planted around May 1. They are dug and stored in the heated cellar for the winter.

Berries

Red currant, *Ribes silvestre*, and Gooseberry, *Ribes uva-crispa*, were established in the late 1920s and early 1930s and High Bush Blueberry, *Vaccinium corymbosum* was planted in the 1940s. The berries were eaten fresh and also made into preserves. The currants were also juiced for Alice Brayton. *Note that the red currant variety is changed from the current Green Animals brochure and the 1983 brochure, per discussion with Mary Ann Von Handorf, and that the Gooseberry was identified in the 1983 brochure as *Ribes grossularia*.

Perennial Border

George Mendonça started the Hardy Orange, *Poncirus trifoliata*, from seeds from the Long Island estate where Mary’s brother ‘Little Joe’ worked as gardener (originally there were two Hardy Orange). George also planted rhubarb in this bed.

Bamboo
Phyllostachys aureosulcata, planted by Ernest Wasson in the 1980s from a clump acquired from Blythewold Gardens to add interest to the lawn area. During Alice Brayton’s tenure this area was devoted to her vegetable garden, and before that the Carreiros used the area as open pasture.

Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf January 12, 2004
Personal interview with George Mendonça, January 12, 2004

Cloverleaf

Joe Carreiro continually propagated plant material and developed new garden sections until 1940. He most likely designed this garden path display area with a bumper crop of seedlings. It is unknown why he chose the cloverleaf design. The center of the cloverleaf is traditionally planted with foxglove and tall mums.

Oral history interview with Mary Mendonça, October 17, 2003
Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, January 12, 2004

Pet Cemetery

The pet cemetery hedge is constructed of Yew, Taxus, and the Rose Urns are constructed of California Privet, Ligustrum ovalifolium. American Pillar roses, winter hardy and disease resistant climbers, were planted in the hedge to spill out of the rose urns. American Pillars bloom abundantly late in the season for a long period. The hedge was constructed in the mid 1920s and completed in the mid 1930s. Alice Brayton claimed that she and her father planted two Oak saplings there when she was a child with the intent of stringing a hammock between them when they matured. Later, Alice Brayton used the garden as a cemetery for her pets; Tang, Jocko, Tang 2, Angel and Tina. George Mendonça recalls making fairly elaborate caskets for these animals. The grave marking “Owl” is for a very special cat that appeared at Green Animals in the 1980s and made it her home. Owl was deaf and transpired in an encounter with a neighbor’s Golden Retriever, much to the regret of her other feline friends at Green Animals. Mary Ann Von Handorf and Ernest Wasson honored her with a resting place alongside Alice Brayton’s pets.

Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, January 5, 2004

Fish Pond

Mary Mendonça does not recall when or why her father constructed the fish pond. Originally it was ¾ its present size and very shallow. The Carreiros, and later Alice Brayton kept common goldfish and water lilies in the pond. It was completely rebuilt to its present form in the 1940s. The pond was generally drained and cleaned every three years. The water lilies purify the water. Apparently Alice Brayton had trouble keeping her dogs out of it and George planted Armaria (Thrift) around the pond to curb their entrance. Currently the pond is a safety concern for the PSNC.

Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, January 5, 2004

Cutting Garden

xxxi
The cutting garden area was added by the PSNC in the 1980s. Prior to this there wasn’t a designated cutting garden on the estate. Cutting flowers were planted randomly among all the beds. This area was also once part of Alice Brayton’s extensive vegetable garden.

Personal interview with George and Mary Mendonça, January 5, 2004

**Vegetable Garden**

A vegetable garden to supply his family with fresh produce was Thomas Brayton’s only request of his gardener, Joe Carreiro. The vegetable garden he developed originally covered the area above the Damask roses to the Reed Grasses. When the Brayton’s stopped summering on the estate sometime around 1917, he came or sent his chauffeur twice weekly to pick up a supply of fresh vegetables and flowers.

When Alice Brayton’s reopened the estate the vegetable garden was expanded to encompass the area currently dedicated to dahlias, the current section of bamboo and lawn, the current cutting garden, and all the land extending east below the espaliers. The location present location of the vegetable garden was dedicated to an asparagus bed. Her garden was her pride and joy (refer to her biography). Following is a list of vegetables that George Mendonça planted for Alice Brayton:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asparagus</th>
<th>Leeks</th>
<th>Spinach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beets</td>
<td>Lettuce (3 plantings)</td>
<td>Swiss Chard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans (4 varieties)</td>
<td>Muskmelon</td>
<td>Strawberries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broccoli</td>
<td>Okra</td>
<td>Turnips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage</td>
<td>Onions</td>
<td>Zucchini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrots</td>
<td>Parsnips</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
<td>Parsley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celery</td>
<td>Peas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn, Sweet</td>
<td>Peppers, sweet &amp; hot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cucumbers</td>
<td>Potatoes, for summer &amp; winter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eggplant</td>
<td>Pumpkins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kale</td>
<td>Radishes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rhubarb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The garden was planted and maintained by hand. No machinery was used. Alice Brayton preferred her vegetables young so there were successive plantings of tender vegetables. The first crop of peas was generally planted the last week of February and developed a great root system. Three successive crops of peas were planted, but the early crop thrived and produced as long as the other crops. Fresh to the table was such a priority that when sweet corn matured, a pot of water was brought to a boil in the kitchen. Then, a bell was rung to alert Joe and George to quickly pick and shuck the corn and deliver it the waiting pot. Peas were another of Alice Brayton’s favorite vegetables and according to George, she ate them three times a day in season.

Personal interviews with George Mendonça November/December, 2003

**Compost Pile**

In the early years on the estate Thomas Brayton had truck loads of manure delivered to the estate for use as fertilizer. Eventually Carreiro developed a compost pile which he mixed with the manure. Today
the compost is used to protect the figs in the winter and as a soil amendment for the annual beds. Joe Carreiro planted fast growing Kudzu to camouflage the compost pile.

Personal interview with George Mendonça, January 5, 2004

**Significant Trees and Plantings**

**Copper Beech**: *Fagus sylvatica 'Altropunicea.'* The Mendonça’s do not recall any particular or unusual maintenance schedule for this tree. Today it is pruned and maintained according to common maintenance practices. It is pruned annually and the base of the tree is mulched during droughts. The Copper Beech is 130 years old.

**Yew**: *Taxus baccata.* This yew is significant for its size.

**Silk Tree**: *Albizia julibrissin.* Silk trees are weak wooded and generally do not reach this age and size.

**Hinoki Cypress**: *Chamaecyparis obtuse 'Gracilius.'* The two Hinoki Cypress in the topiary border are significant for their size.

**Black Pines**: *Pinus thumbergii.* Japanese Black Pine. Originally these trees were planted expensively around the main house and were lost to hurricanes and storms.

**Hardy Orange**: *Poncirus trifoliata.*

**Lemon Verbena**: *Alysia triphylla.* This plant is believed to be over forty years old. It is dug and heeled-in in soil in the barn for the winter where it is kept slightly moist until replanting in the spring.

Personal interviews with Mary Ann Von Handorf, December 9, 2003, and January 23, 2004
GREEN ANIMALS

Structures
Structures

**Main House:**

Amasa Manton of Providence purchased 36 acres of farm land from George Anthony on March 31, 1859 and developed the property. The main house existed in 1867, as evidenced by a plat plan of the farms of A. and R. Manton, Portsmouth, Rhode Island, surveyed and platted by Cushing and De Witt, June 1867. Seven acres of this land and its buildings were acquired at public auction by Elizabeth Manton on June 6, 1867. She sold the property to Henry Coronett on June 25, 1870. On January 15, 1877 Thomas E. Brayton of Fall River, Massachusetts purchased this property from the estate of Henry T. Coronett for use as a summer residence. The 1867 plan also identified a boat house and a farm house on the property. The Brayton family used their summer home for almost forty years. When the house was closed around 1917 (exact date unknown) it sat vacant and the contents were untouched for over twenty years. In the Last Will and Testament of Thomas Brayton there is an inventory of the contents of the house at the time of his decease in 1939. In 1936, when her father’s health was failing, Alice Brayton began renovations with the intent of making it her permanent residence. At that time she winterized the house and changed the slate grey paint color of the house to white. Alice Brayton moved in the house in the spring of 1939 and lived there until her death in 1972, when the property was bequeathed to The Preservation Society of Newport County.

**Portsmouth, RI Town Hall Plan Book – No. 1-A, 28 and 29.**

**Land Evidence Book 14 p. 206 Portsmouth Town Hall**

**Land Evidence Book 15 p. 198 Portsmouth Town Hall**

**Land Evidence Book 17 pp. 360 Portsmouth Town Hall**

**Last Will and Testament of Thomas E. Brayton; Inventory [copy on file PSNC Archives]**

**Personal interviews with George and Mary Mendonça, September/October 2003.**

**Summer Kitchen:**

The original summer kitchen for the main house was used by the Brayton’s during their summer tenures and Mary Mendonça recalls her mother and older sister talking about Brayton staff working there. After the main house was closed Alice Brayton offered the space to the Red Cross for storage. After Alice Brayton made the house her permanent residence the space was used for personal storage needs. When the PSNC acquired the property they converted the former summer kitchen into public restrooms.

**Personal interview with Mary Mendonça, January 12, 2004.**

**Ice House:**

This structure was converted into the Newport Mansions Gift Shop by the PSNC.

**Personal interview with Mary Mendonça, January 12, 2004**

**Barn and Gardening Tools:**
The footprint of the barn is on the 1867 plat plan of the Farms of A. and R. Manton. When the Carreiro family moved to the estate two horses and a cow were kept in the barn and it also housed a flock of about 20 chickens. Alice Brayton had a window installed in the north facing side of the barn, which the chickens hopped in and out of. The southern portion of the barn was used for equipment storage. Today the barn is used as a storage facility for equipment and garden supplies and as a garage.

Personal interview with George Mendonça, January 12, 2004

According to Mary Mendonça, she remembers helping her father collect brush that he cut by the railroad tracks. Joe used the brush to make his own rakes and to design garden twig benches; some of which he designed in an “S” shape. He also used the brush to replace handles on worn hoes and other garden tools and made a sort of plow or what he called a “row maker” to lay out the vegetable garden. He dragged this tool along to create the rows. Brush was also made into trellises for peas. In the early years Joe had three push mowers to mow the lawn and when Mary’s brothers were old enough they helped out with the mowing. When George Mendonça came to work for Joe in 1940 he remembers a “clumsy” power mower and a couple of push mowers. Most of their pruning was done with nine inch clippers although Joe did have a more cumbersome twelve inch set of clippers. These were regularly sharpened on a grindstone kept in the barn.


**Caretaker’s Cottage:**

The caretaker’s cottage was originally heated by a coal stove in the kitchen and two pot belly stoves, one in the living room and one upstairs. There was a cistern on the north side of the house and a well to the south of the house. Electricity was installed in the late 1920s when Portsmouth Abbey was built. The house was plumbed in 1932. Prior to that water was pumped from the well and carried in buckets to the house. This was one of the children’s after school chores, as was carrying wood for the coal and pot belly stoves. Mary recalls that they always had a telephone. The bathrooms were added to the house in 1934-1935. The house had no central heat until 1951 when Alice Brayton had a furnace installed for George and Mary’s return to live in the house.

Personal interview with Mary Mendonça, January 12, 2004

**Out Houses:**

The original estate had two out houses, one, the small structure directly south of the caretaker cottage and the second, in the current location of the outdoor soda machine near the public restrooms. According to Mary Mendonça the out houses were efficient and well built.

Personal interview with Mary Mendonça, January 12, 2004

**Lean-to Greenhouse”**

When Joe Carreiro first worked on the estate there was a deteriorating greenhouse located where the cold frames are now. In the late 1920s Joe removed the structure and built the lean-to greenhouse still
existing on the south side of the barn, and he also constructed the two existing cement cold frames. All plants and vegetables were propagated in the greenhouse. Joe and George used newspapers to protect the plants in the greenhouse and sometimes used a space heater. When the plants were established and the weather appropriate plants were moved to the cold frames.

**Personal interview with George Mendonça, January 12, 2004**

**Cold Frames:**

Today one of the cold frames is part of the perennial border and the other is used as a cold frame and then later planted with annuals. George Mendonça used to sow them in the fall with pansies and forget-me-nots.

**Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, January 16, 2004.**

**New Greenhouse:**

The new south greenhouse was constructed in 1985 by the PSNC. The north greenhouse was added in 1992.

**Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, January 12, 2004.**

**Head House:**

The head house is the central section of the greenhouse between the present office and “employee kitchen.” Originally the area housed a large potting bench. At that time the gardener’s offices were in the main house. Later they were moved into the head house and the area is now primarily used as office/library space. Potting is now executed in the actual greenhouses.

**Personal interview with Mary Ann Von Handorf, January 12, 2004**

Note: In the following Topiary Documentation section all dates cited are approximate based on interviews with George and Mary Mendonça, George’s early notes, and examination of photographs taken of the gardens in different time periods. Mary Ann Von Handorf also supplied information on the 1980s. All the photographs in this section were taken in October of 2003. The dates on the photographs are inaccurate.
GREEN ANIMALS:

Topiary Documentation: September/October 2004
Name of Topiary: DRIVEWAY ARCHES Identification #: 001

Location: Flanking both sides of the driveway behind the main house.

Date of Origin: 1935-1940 Date of completion: 1990s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the arches: 27

Supports required: Combination of older rods and wood struts as cross bars and newer iron re-bars.

Dimensions of the arches: Center opening – ground to top of arch 8’
Dimensions within the arch 7’ x 7’
Sides of arches 3’ 6” wide; 4’ 9” deep

Inspiration at the time of planting:

Joe Carreiro designed the arches to give a finished look to the driveway. According to George Mendonça it is possible that Joe was inspired by a similar treatment that he may have seen in the Azores. Personal interview George Mendonça/Holly Collins 10.16.03.

Particulars of planting and development:

Although almost all of the topiary at Green Animals was constructed without frames, supports are required to create arches. Joe usually began arches with simple wood supports on the sides. Once the top of the arch was tied together it took about a year to harden off. The first 6 plants on the south side of the drive are original, indicated by plant development and older supports. The entire south hedge was completed first then construction stopped. Construction resumed in the 1980s, and the last five plants were added in the 1990s. New re-bar frames were also added in the 1990s. The arches will be fed in the spring of 2004 to stimulate new growth.
Name of Topiary: POLICEMAN

Identification #: 002

Location: Garden Entrance

Date of Origin: 1925

Date of Completion: 1935-36

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 2

Supports required: Metal rods and angle iron added 1985-1990

Dimensions of the topiary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Shoulder span</th>
<th>Shoulder to top of head</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6’ 10”</td>
<td>61”</td>
<td>19”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34”</td>
<td></td>
<td>21”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arms: 21”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

To prevent people from walking on the grass and encourage them to take the garden path. Now listed as “Guard” in the brochure, the original name was “Policeman.”

Particulars of planting and development:

Two privets were grown to achieve leg height. Shoots were then intertwined and the plants were grown to shoulder height. About 2 shoots were chosen to develop the arms and about 3 shoots to form the neck and head. Originally the Policeman was flanked by two cacti which were potted and removed to a greenhouse for the winter. The left arm was held up to stop traffic and the figure had a badge. The Policeman was straightened and reshaped in 1987 (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: ORB  Identification #: 003

Location: Garden Entrance

Date of Origin: early 1940s  Date of Completion: 1948

Species: Handsworth Boxwood  Buxus sempervirens ‘Handsworthiensis’

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: none

Dimensions of the topiary:  
- Height: 4’ 2’’
- Circumference: 8’

Inspiration at the time of planting: To discourage walking on the lawn.

Particulars of planting and development:

This topiary shape requires the solid stem of boxwood that will develop a single trunk to achieve the floating shape of the orb.

This topiary need to be thinned. Heavy rain makes the piece splay. (M. Van Handorf)
Name of Topiary:  GLOBE LIGHTS (2)  
Identification #: 004

Location:  Garden Entrance

Date of Origin:  1938  
Date of Completion:  1942-3

Species:  Stand; Handsworth Boxwood Buxus sempervirens 'Handworthiensis'  
Globes; Golden Privet Ligustrum Aureomarginatum

Number of plants comprising the topiary:  2

Supports required:  Fishline

Dimensions of the topiary:  
Base diameter:  48” 
Globe diameter:  40”
Total height:  6’ 
Globe height:  4 ½”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

To actually be used as Globe Lights. When Alice Brayton entertained in the evening they inserted lanterns into the golden privet to cast a glow on the garden entry. * Personal interview George Mendonça/Holly Collins 10.16.03. The brochure lists these topiaries as “Lanterns.” “Globe Lights were the original name.

Particulars about the planting and development:

When the boxwoods were developing they retained a hollow to plant Golden privet within the form to create the globes. Originally several shoots of golden privet were allowed to spray out of the globe to resemble rays of light when illuminated at night.

The Globe Lights replaced 2 cacti (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: GOLDEN PRIVET ARCHWAY Identification #: 005

Location: Formal entry into the gardens

Date or Origin: 1936 Date of Completion: 1940s

Species: Golden Privet *Ligustrum Aureomarginatum*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 2

Supports required: Metal rods and wood struts as cross bars.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Interior height: 6’5”
- Opening width: 4’9”
- Total height: 7’5”
- Total width: 7’7”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

To define the entry to the garden. When Alice Brayton entertained in the evening there was a spotlight on the garden shed that illuminated the archway and emphasized the golden leaves of the privet.

Particulars of growth and development:

Golden privet is slower growing than California privet. As with the driveway arches wood planks were used to support the sides. Another piece of wood was added across the top to train the top of the arch. Once the privet matures it will hold its shape.
Name of Topiary: SMALL FLOWER BASKET Identification #: 006

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: Late 1940s Date of Completion: 1945-50

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: none

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Height: 3’ 3”
- Overall Diameter: 34”
- Opening Diameter: 13”

Inspiration at the time of planting: Originally constructed by Joe Carreiro as a chair.

Particulars of growth and development:

The chair was destroyed in the 1954 hurricane. George Mendonça cut the plant down to the base and reconstructed a flower basket which held a pot of flowers during summer months. The full plant was restored before the bowl was pruned out.
Name of Topiary: SMALL MORRIS CHAIR  Identification #: 007

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: 1929  Date of Completion: 1935

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*  
Golden Privet *Ligustrum Aureomarginatum*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Older supports. Metal pipes probably added in the 1940s.

Dimensions of the topiary: 
- Arm Height: 4’
- Seat: 1’4” wide x 2’10” deep
- Total width: 3’6”
- Chair back height: 5’
- Total Chair depth: 4’6”

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown

Particulars of growth and development:

One of the easiest topiary shapes. Corn string was used to help train the arms. George Mendonça later switched to using less visible fish line. The golden privet self-seeded into the chair. Encroaching plants are blocking sunlight sunlight.

Barberry was removed in 1988 (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: LOVING CUP
Identification #: 008

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: 1924  Date of Completion: 1927-28

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Copper tubing. Older supports.

Dimensions of the topiary: Total Height: 6’
Table Height: 4’
Table dimensions: 27” x 33”
Handle to handle: 38”

Inspiration at the time of planting:
Possibly a tribute to an award winning garden, an America’s Cup race. A prize trophy.

Particulars of planting and development:
Two select shoots of privet were trained into the handles.
The Loving Cup was reconstructed by George Mendonça in the 1960s after it was crushed a storm.
Reconstruction took about 5 years. Encroaching plants are blocking sunlight.
Name of Topiary: SAILBOAT

Identification #: 009

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: early 1920s
Date of Completion: 1930s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Old metal pipes, fish line, newer angle iron support, bamboo struts in sails.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Approximate total height: 8’
- Ground to top of first deck: 4’8”
- Beam: 4’4”
- LOA: 6’

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown. Possibly a tribute to yachting activity on the bay.

Particulars of growth and development:

Straight branches were chosen to form the masts. Auxiliary branches were trained in opposite directions to form the sails. Encroaching plants are blocking sunlight.

Mast froze in 1979 (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: PINEAPPLE
Identification # 010

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: 1950    Date of Completion: 1956

Species: Yew Taxus

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: None

Dimensions of the topiary: Approximate height: 18'
                          Base: 7'
                          Diameter: 6'

Inspiration at the time of planting: As the plant developed George looked at it and saw a pineapple. Moved from nursery to replace a pillar that froze in 1979 (E. Wasson notes).

Particulars of growth and development:

The top of the pineapple has grown out of proportion to the topiary. George Mendonça recommends cutting the entire top off and starting over with new young shoots that more closely resemble the leaves of a pineapple. Trim to prevent shading of sailboat. Yew comes back slowly when trimmed.
Name of Topiary: LARGE MORRIS CHAIR Identification #: 011

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: 1930s Date of Completion: late 1930

Species: California Privet Ligustrum ovalfolium

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1


Dimensions of the topiary:
- Seat height: 2’ 7”
- Seat dimensions: 2’ wide x 3’ deep
- Arm height: 3’ 9”
- Back height: 5’
- Total depth: 5’ 4”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

An easy topiary shape to design. According to George Mendonça Joe took the material he had on hand to work with then found a place to fit it in. Often this determined the topiary shape.

Particulars of growth and development:

George Mendonça inserted metal pipes into the seat to support a piece of plywood and a blanket so Alice Brayton’s guests, particularly Caroline and John Kennedy Jr. could be photographed in the chair.

Chair back straightened in 1987. Chair arms had “wooden knobs” that froze off Christmas 1963 (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: SPIRAL

Identification # 012

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: Early 1920s

Date of Completion: 1929

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: 1 tall metal pole in the center primarily to straighten the plant.

Dimension of the topiary:

- Height: 13” 4”
- Diameter: 59”

Inspiration at the time of planting: The nature of the plant’s growth (tending toward a pillar) made it suitable for creating a spiral.

Particulars of planting and development:

Grow plant to about ten feet then begin pruning into a spiral shape. Once established it is easy to retain a spiral.
Name of Topiary: FLOWER BASKET Identification # 013

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: late 1920 Date of Completion: early 1930s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Angle iron and re-bar in concrete foundation added in the 1990.

Dimensions of the topiary: Ground to top of handle: 6’ 2”
Diameter: 39”
Base height: 4’

Inspiration at the time of planting:

For display of American Pillar Roses

Particulars of planting and development:

Allow the privet to establish but plant roses before the growth becomes too full. Keep the center hollowed out as the plant grows. Allow 3-4 shoots on each side to develop to begin to form the handle. When they are large enough join and tie off. Originally the handle was much shorter. The topiary was reshaped in 1990. Longer handle supported by new rebar.

Note: The two Yew Gumdrops shown in the photograph behind the Flower basket are not identified in the current garden brochure. The gumdrops were small orb shaped plants in 1940 and were kept short to prevent blockage of sunlight which affects nearby topiaries.
AMERICAN PILLAR ROSES

Identification # 013 A

Climber

Plant height:  15-20 Ft.

Blossom width:  2-3”

Blooms abundantly late in the season for a long period.

Little or no fragrance. Winter hardy. Disease resistant.

Name of Topiary: TALL ROSE URN ON A TABLE Identification # 014

Location: Topiary Border on garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: 1920s          Date of Completion: 1930

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Older metal rods.

Dimensions of the topiary: Table height: 4’ 3”  Urn height: 3 1/2’
                          Table dimensions: 5’ x 44”  Urn base: 33” wide
                                         Urn top: 36” wide

Inspiration at the time of planting:

For display of American Pillar Roses

Particulars of planting and development:

Roses were originally planted in the base of the table. The plant is now too full for roses to grow within. Tea roses planted in pots and inserted in the urn could be an alternative to maintain the original intent for the topiary. Encroaching plants should be cut back.

A light was placed in the topiary for Jackie’s coming out party (E. Wasson notes)
Name of Topiary: PEACOCK Identification # 015

Location: Topiary Border on Garden Entrance Pathway

Date of Origin: late 1920s Date of Completion: 1934

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Older metal rods in the body.

Dimensions of the topiary: Table height: 4’
Table dimensions: 31” x 48” (oval)
Total length of peacock: 67”
Width of peacock: 28”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

This plant is now identified as a duck, but was originally a peacock. Before the 1920s there were live peacocks on the estate. Most likely the peacock topiaries were to commemorate them.

Particulars of planting and development:

The original design of the topiary featured a pedestal with a flat table top. The peacock on the table stood on a stem. The body was comparatively slender with a long tail and comb on the head.

Tail was lost many times to freezes and hurricanes. The topiary was redone after the 1954 hurricane. The head was broken off in 1974 (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: ARCHWAYS (4)  Identification # 016

Location: Formal Garden

Date of Origin: 1920s  Date of Completion: 1940s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiaries: 2 per arch

Supports required: Originally wooden braces. Re-bar supports added in the 1990s.

Dimensions of the topiaries:
- Total width: 10’
- Total height: 8 ½’
- Width of sides: 4’10”
- Openings: 6’2” high x 3’ wide

Inspiration at the time of planting:

To formalize the entry into the large animal topiary garden. Mary Mendonça recalls her father drawing out the design for the formal garden, including boxwood hedges to define flower beds and paths, on butcher paper in the early 1920s.

Particulars of planting and development:

Originally the arches were dome shaped. In the 1940s Joe Carreiro decided to develop the “shelves” on the sides of the arches, perhaps corresponding with the developing shape of the driveway arches. The arches were damaged in the 1954 hurricane and rebuilt the following summer. These arches will be cut back in the winter of 2003-2004.
Name of Topiary: SPIRAL
Identification # 017

Location: Formal Garden

Date of Origin: early 1940
Date of Completion: 1948

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Angle iron

Dimensions of the topiary:  Height: 13”
                         Diameter: 59”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

George Mendonça constructed this spiral to replace a sundial that Alice Brayton disliked. Bishop Cassady gave Alice Brayton the sundial as a gift specifically to be placed in the center of the formal garden. She waited until the Bishop died to remove it.

Particulars of planting and development: See #012
Name of Topiary: GIRAFFE

Identification # 018

Location: Formal Garden

Date of Origin: 1910      Date of Completion: late 1920s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: Originally 1; Currently 2

Supports required: Angle iron in legs and hips in 1987 as part of a renovation by E. Wasson. Black carpet binding tape added in the winter for support.

Dimension of the topiary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part of Topiary</th>
<th>Measurement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Table diameter</td>
<td>9’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tail</td>
<td>32”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground to top of head</td>
<td>12’ 3”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belly to table</td>
<td>4’ 3”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front legs</td>
<td>38”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back legs</td>
<td>35”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximate length</td>
<td>8’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Inspiration at the time of planting: Joe Carreiro consulted his children’s school books for correct dimensions of his animals.

Particulars of planting and development:

Once the table was formed 3-4 branches were selected to develop each leg. When proper height was achieved they were tied together to form the body. Strings and stakes were used to encourage growth in a certain direction. The head was originally 22 feet from the ground before being destroyed by 1954 hurricane. George Mendonça added a tall privet to replace the neck and head; 3 years to reconstruct. After the hurricane damage more privets were added to the bases of the large animals for extra support. This was Alice Brayton’s favorite topiary and she was afraid she wouldn’t live to see the new head. She confided to George with a twinkle in her eye, “Don’t you know Rhode Island giraffe’s have short necks?” Periodically the giraffe has been trimmed to have more of a spine down the back of its neck. Currently the neck is smooth.
Name of Topiary: CAMEL  Identification # 019

Location: Formal Garden

Date of Origin: 1910  Date of Completion: late 1920s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Angle iron added in 1987 as part of a renovation by E. Wasson. Black carpet binding tape is added in the winter for support.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Table: 9’ long x 6’ wide x 3’ 3” high (oval)
- Top of front hump approximately 6’ from table
- Top of back hump approximately 5’ 7” from table
- Tail: 36”; Leg height: 28”; Ground to top of head: 10 ½’

Inspiration at the time of planting:

This topiary was inspired by a Dromedary Date package and Camel cigarette pack.

Particulars of planting and development:

Head was lifted and a second hump added in 1987 (E. Wasson notes). Currently the front legs are very thick. However, reducing/eliminating the heavy wood in the legs runs the risk of loosing the head and neck (M. Von Handorf notes 2004).
Name of Topiary:  ELEPHANT
Identification #  020

Location:  Formal Garden

Date of Origin:  1910
Date of Completion:  late 1920s

Species:  California Privet  *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary:  1

Supports required:  Angle iron added in 1989 per general renovation by E. Wasson; fish line.  Black carpet binding tape is added in the winter for support.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Table height:  3 ½’
- Table diameter:  8’
- Table to top of back:  61/2’
- Ground to top of head:  9’
- Overall length:  9 ½’
- Tusks:  22”
- Trunk:  43”
- Tail:  26”

Inspiration at the time of planting:  Unknown.  Joe used children’s school books and geography books for scale.

Particulars of growth and development:

The elephant was completely flattened in a 1960s storm.  George Mendonça reconstructed the topiary over a period of 5-6 years.  Old photographs show the head facing down and larger ears.  Spine detail has been added and eliminated over the years.  Currently the table is too large to get a ladder close enough to reach the back to maintain a spine.  The top of the back is now smooth (M. Von Handorf notes 2004).
Name of Topiary: LION

Location: Formal Garden

Date of Origin: 1910  Date of Completion: late 1920s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Angle iron added after 1985. Black carpet binding tape is added in the winter for support.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Table height: 3’ 10”
- Nose to tail: 7’
- Table dimensions: 6’ 6” x 6’
- Body width: 36”
- Ground to top of head: 8’
- Tail: 27”

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of planting and development:

According to Mary Mendonça the Lion has always had an identity crisis, and never really looked like a lion. Attempts are made regularly to improve the face (M. Von Handorf notes 2004). The Lion has survived all storms according to the Mendonças. However, E. Wasson notes document a renovation in 1954.
Name of Topiary: OBELISK
Identification # 022

Location: Annual Display Area

Date of Origin: 1920s
Date of Completion: 1930

Species: Handsworth Boxwood Buxus sempervirens ‘Hansworthiensis’

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: None.

Dimensions of the topiary: Height: 10 ½ ’
Base: 5 ½’ square

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown. Possibly part of the 1920s master layout, or it was a good location for an available boxwood plant.

Particulars of planting and development:

Originally this topiary was a round pillar. George Mendonça changed the shape to an Obelisk to facilitate wheelchair access along the garden paths.
Name of Topiary: DOG SEATED ON A TABLE Identification # 023

Location: Adjacent the Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1924 Date of Completion: 1930s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Fish line, binding tape, angle iron added after 1985.

Dimensions of the topiary:

- Table: 4’3” diameter; 3’ high
- Dog: Height; 3’
- Curved body: Length; 2’
- Tail: 1’ 3”
- Ears: 4” high

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown

Particulars of planting and development:

This topiary was moved from the Upper Topiary Lawn to its present location in the 1940s due to overcrowding.
Name of Topiary: BOAR
Identification # 024

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1925
Date of Completion: 1930s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Older metal rods, fish line, angle iron added after 1985

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Table height: 4 ½'
- Body width: 2'
- Diameter: 4'
- Tail: 16"
- Body height: 2 ½'
- Ears: 3"
- Body length: 5'

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown

Particulars of growth and development:

Originally the tail had a curly Q at the end giving it a turn so as not to block the path. The box domes are blocking sunlight. The piece was moved in 1973 to open the pathway (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: FLOWER BASKET
Identification # 025

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn
Date of Origin: 1920s Date of Completion: 1930s
Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*
Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1
Supports required: Metal rods and angle iron added after 1985.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Base height: 3’
- Handle height: 14”
- Outside diameter: 39”
- Inside diameter: 24”

Inspiration at the time of planting:
For display of American Pillar Roses
Particulars of growth and development:
Structural repair in 1990 (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: REINDEER
Identification # 026

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1924 Date of Completion: 1929

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 4

Supports required: Angle iron and fish line.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Ground to top of ears: 7'
- Body width: 2'
- Body length: 4 ½'
- Legs: 2 ½'

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown

Particulars of growth and development: Originally this topiary was an antelope with small rounded ears.
Name of Topiary: RHODE ISLAND RED ROOSTER Identification # 027

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1920s Date of Completion: 1930s

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*  
Barberry *Berberis thumbergii*  
Golden Privet *Ligustrum Aureomarginatum*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 3

Supports required: Angle iron and re-bar.

Dimensions of the topiary:  
  - Height: 4’10”
  - Length: 5’
  - Width: 1 ½’
  - Ground to top of back: 3’10”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

To commemorate the Rhode Island Red Rooster.

Particulars of growth and development:

Joe Carreiro intended this piece to be a Rhode Island Red Rooster. He planted red barberry in the privet to achieve this effect and originally the rooster had a crest on its head. The golden privet self seeded into the topiary. The tail was longer at one time. This piece is now referred to as a bird or cardinal.
Name of Topiary: NESTING SWAN

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1934     Date of Completion: 1938

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Fish line, angle iron and re-bar added as part of E. Wasson renovation in 1990.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Nest height: 3’
- Nest diameter: 4 ½’
- Ground to top of head: 5’ 8”
- Body width: 30”
- Body length: 44”
- Neck: 20”

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown

Particulars of growth and development:

Some reshaping in 1990 (E. Wasson notes). Presently tail should be flatter.
Name of Topiary: PEACOCK ON A TABLE

Identification # 029

Location: Upper Topiary Garden:

Date of Origin: 1930

Date of Completion: 1935

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: The piece still has original metal structures installed by George Mondonça.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Table height: 38"
- Table diameter: 36"
- Body length: 82"
- Body width: 42"
- Tail: 17"

Inspiration at the time of planting: To commemorate the peacocks on the estate prior to 1920s.

Particulars of growth and development:

The lines have changed over time.
Name of Topiary: OSTRICH  Identification # 030

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1936  Date of Completion: 1940

Species: California Privet  Ligustrum ovalifolium

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Fish line.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Table height: 3'
- Table diameter: 4 ½' (oval)
- Ground to top of head: 7'
- Body width: 32"
- Body length: 5'
- Neck: 4 ½'

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of planting and development:

Some reshaping in 1990 (E. Wasson notes).
Name of Topiary: DONKEY  Identification # 031

Location: Upper Topiary lawn

Date of Origin: 1928  Date of Completion: 1933

Species: California Privet  *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 4

Supports required: Fish line and angle iron added after 1985.

Dimensions of the topiary:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ground to top of head:</td>
<td>6’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length:</td>
<td>5’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width:</td>
<td>2 ½’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legs:</td>
<td>3’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tail:</td>
<td>1 ½’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Inspiration at the time of planting:

Subsidized by Mrs. John Nicholas Brown, who when visiting Green Animals remarked that since the gardens had a Republican Elephant they should have a Democratic Donkey.

Particulars of growth and development:

Currently needs reshaping. Topiary was leaning in 1990 (note E. Wasson comments to reshape, 1990).
Name of Topiary: PRIVET SPIRAL

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1928

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Tall metal pole, rope and fish line.

Dimensions of the topiary: 18’ tall x 54” diameter

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of planting and development:

See # 012. Began shaping at about 10 ft.
Name of Topiary: STANDING BEAR  Identification # 033

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1924  Date of Completion: 1929

Species: California Privet  *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 2

Supports required: Angle iron and re-bar added as part of renovation by E. Wasson in 1990.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Height: 5’ 7”
- Width: 2 ½’
- Depth: 58”
- Tail: 9”

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of planting and development:

Normal development.
Name of Topiary: HORSE AND RIDER       Identification # 034

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1925       Date of Completion: 1935

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 4

Supports required: Metal rods and angle iron in the body in both horse and rider.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Ground to top of rider’s head: 9’
- Ground to top of horse’s head: 7 ½’
- Length of horse: 7’
- Width: 2 ½’
- Legs: 4’
- Tail: 15”
- Height of rider: 3 ½’

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of growth and development:

The whole topiary was pushed forward by heavy snow in the late 1980s. Restoration prompted the decision to have angle iron and re-bar supports made for this and other fragile topiaries.
Name of Topiary: PEACOCK Identification # 035

Location: Upper Topiary Lawn

Date of Origin: 1930 Date of Completion: 1934

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Copper pipe in the table and metal rods at legs.

Dimensions of the topiary:  
- Table height: 2’ 10”
- Table diameter: 28”
- Total height: 5’ 10”
- Peacock height: 3
- Length of peacock: 3 ½’
- Width: 1 ½’

Inspiration at the time of planting: To commemorate the peacocks on the estate until the 1920s.

Particulars of growth and development:

Name of Topiary:  MAMA BEAR  Identification # 036

Location:  Bears and Unicorn Lawn

Date of Origin:  1970  Date of Completion:  1979

Species:  Yew  Taxus

Number of plants comprising the topiary:  1

Supports required:  None

Dimensions of the topiary:  
  Total height:  7’
  Width:  4’
  Depth:  6’
  Arms:  33”
  Ear to nose:  24”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

According to George Mendonça, he intended it to be kangaroo until 1976 (E. Wasson notes 1987; confirmed by Mary Mendonça).

Particulars of growth and development:

Moved to permanent location 1974. Pull out select branches from the plant for arms and legs and tie off until they harden. A very easy shape to obtain. The ears should be rounded not pointed.
Name of Topiary: BABY BEAR

Location: Bears and Unicorn Lawn

Date of Origin: 1978
Date of Completion: 1983

Species: Yew Taxus

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: None

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Total height: 4' 3"
- Width: 2 ½'
- Depth: 3 ½'
- Arms: 12"
- Ear to nose: 14"

Inspiration at the time of planting:

George Mendonça’s intent was to have a Mama bear and three baby bears.

Particulars of growth and development:

It was grown on the west side of the caretaker’s cottage from a sapling found by Mary Mendonça. The piece was potted for the Providence Flower show in the mid 1990s, then planted in its current location.
Name of Topiary: UNICORN    Identification # 038

Location: Bears and Unicorn Lawn

Date of Origin: 1980       Date of Completion: 1986

Species: California Privet  *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 4

Supports required: Small metal pole in one leg.

Dimensions of the topiary:  
Total height: 6’ 5”
Nose to tail: 5/8”
Ground to top of back: 4’ 7”
Legs: 35”
Tail: 10”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

A personal request of George Mendonça by the owner of the Unicorn Interiors formerly on Bellevue who funded the piece.

Particulars of growth and development: Normal.
Name of Topiary: SPOT THE DOG

Identification # 039

Location: Bears and Unicorn Lawn

Date of Origin: 1975

Date of Completion: 1980

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Golden Privet *Ligustrum aureomarginatum*

How many plants comprise the topiary: 4

Supports required: Small supports were inserted in the neck to tip the head forward. Small metal pole in one leg to make it stand up.

Dimensions of the topiary:

- Height: ground to top of ear 4’
- Length: 5’
- Ground to top of back: 3’
- Width: 26”
- Tail: 6”

Inspiration at the time of planting:

PSNC request for more animals. Displayed at the Elms Fair and Music Festival.

Particulars of growth and development:

The dog is starting to sit, leaning south, and needs to be straightened (M. Von Handorf notes 2004).
Name of Topiary: YEW ROOSTER

Identification # 039

Location: Bears and Unicorn Lawn

Date of Origin: 1973

Date of Completion: 1978

Species: Yew Taxus

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: None

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Overall Height: 5' 10"
- Wing size: 4' 10"
- Tail: 5'
- Wing to wing: 6'
- Total length: 6'

Inspiration at the time of planting:

PSNC request for more topiary. This topiary is currently identified as Rhode Island Red Rooster, however, George Mendonça refers to this topiary as a Yew Rooster. The Piece he calls Rhode Island Red Rooster was specifically designed by Joe Carreiro to be that and he intentionally installed the barberry to create the effect. It is now identified as a Cardinal.

Particulars of growth and development:

3 lobes to top of comb; crease in back. Add wattles. (E. Wasson notes 1990)
Name of Topiary: THE SCOTTIE DOG Identification # 041

Location: North of Magnolia Arbor

Date of Origin: 1925 Date of Completion: 1930

Species: California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

How many plants comprise the topiary: 1

Supports required: Old pieces of pipe and metal rods.

Dimensions of the topiary: Table height: 3 ½’
Table dimensions: 36” x 48”
Dog height from table to ear: 33”
Dog length: 38”
Dog width: 16”
Tail: 8”
Table to belly: 16”

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of growth and development:

Used wire to train the topiary. Too much shade caused the plant to grow toward available sunlight. Experienced die-back in 1979. Plant is still affected by too much shade.
Name of Topiary: BIRDBATH

Identification #: 042

Location: North of Magnolia Arbor

Date of Origin: 1930
Date of Completion: 1933

Species: California Privet  *Ligustrum ovalfolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Metal pipe.

Dimensions of the topiary:
- Height: 5’
- Base: 92” diameter
- Top: 10’3” diameter

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of growth and development:

Originally a white porcelain foot basin was placed in the bowl and it was used as a birdbath. Presently needs a larger interior dish.
Name of Topiary: BOX DOMES (2) Identification # 042-043

Location: North of Magnolia Arbor

Date of Origin: 1930 Date of Completion: 1934

Species: Handsworth Boxwood *Buxus sempervirens* ‘Handsworthiensis’

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: None.

Dimensions of the topiary: Height: approximately 8’ Diameter: approximately 8’

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of growth and development: Normal.
Name of Topiary: PRIVET SPIRAL Identification # 045

Location: North of Magnolia Arbor

Date of Origin: 1930 Date of Completion: 1940

Species: Privet

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: No supports. Angle iron support recommended in 1990.

Dimensions of the topiary:

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of growth and development:

The plant was shaded out. Under construction/repair since 1995.
Name of Topiary: YEW SPIRAL          Identification # 046

Location: In front of the barn.

Date of Origin: 1949          Date of Completion: 1955

Species: Yew

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: none

Dimensions of the topiary: Height: 14’
                               Diameter: 10’

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of growth and development: None.
Name of Topiary: FOUR LEAF CLOVER Identification # 047

Location: Adjacent to the entry of the Pet Cemetery

Date of Origin: 1920 Date of Completion: 1930s

Species: Handsworth boxwood *Buxus semperviens Handworthiensis*
California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*
Golden Privet *Ligustrum Aureomarginatum*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: Unknown

Supports required: old metal pipes.

Dimensions of the topiary: Base height: 3’
Peak height: 4 ½’
Overall: 10’ 5” x 10’ 11”
Hedge depth: 20”

Inspiration at the time of planting: Unknown.

Particulars of growth and development:

Traditionally Foxglove was planted in the center, then tall Mums (1990 E. Wasson notes). The peaks on the garden pathway should be re-established to mimic the piece (M. Von Handorf notes 2004).
Name of Topiary: ROSE URNS (4) Identification # 048

Location: Pet Cemetery

Date of Origin: mid-1920s Date of Completion: 1930s

Species: Hedge; Yew *Taxus*
Urns; California Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 1

Supports required: Old metal pipes.

Dimensions of the topiary:
Table height: 4 ½’
Table dimensions: 5’ 7”x 5’ 9”
Height of Urn: 2 ½’
Handle to handle width: 5 ½’

Inspiration at the time of planting:

Possibly intended as an enclosure for the Twin Oaks; Turkish Oaks *Quercus cerris*. Alice Brayton claimed that she planted the acorns when she was a child. Later Alice Brayton buried 7 of her dogs here; Owl, Jocko, Tang (2), Angel and Tina.

The urns were for display of Dr. Van Fleet Roses/American Pillar Roses

Particulars of growth and development:

The handles were reshaped in 1990. The Turkey Oaks in the Pet Cemetery have shaded these pieces (M. Von Handorf notes 2004).
Name of Topiary: CHINESE GATEWAY

Location: Entryway to Greenhouse

Date of Origin: 1930

Date of Completion: 1940

Species: Privet

Number of plants comprising the topiary: 3 plants each side

Supports required: Re-bar.

Dimensions of the topiary:
Overall height: 11’
Peak height: 10’
Opening width: 6’
Opening depth: 4 ½’
Opening height: 7’

Inspiration at the time of planting:
The lines of the Chinese Archway resemble the metal Gateway to the City of São Miguel, Azores.

Particulars of growth and development:
The Gateway is to be narrowed and the height lowered (M. Von Handorf notes 2004).
GREEN ANIMALS

Early Garden Views
GREEN ANIMALS

A Comparison of Garden Elements of São Miguel and Green Animals
A Comparison of the Garden Elements of São Miguel and Green Animals

After reviewing the book *Quintas, Jardins e Parques da Ilha de São Miguel* by Isabel Soares de Albergaria with Mary and George Mendonça on January 26, 2004, they have identified many design elements in the Azores landscape as probable inspiration for Joe Carreiro’s over-all development of the gardens at Green Animals. Joe Carreiro’s designs are not exact replicas of garden details in São Miguel. Rather, his various garden elements at Green Animals portray a sense or a feeling of the underlying soul of the Azores gardens as the following photographs demonstrate. However, the first example illustrating the symmetrically planted flower beds is a precise comparative. On the whole, the subtlety of most of these comparisons reveals a keen eye for design detail, which Joe very skillfully and creatively incorporated into his garden scheme. Whether they were subconsciously or intentionally applied is left to our own imaginations.


Comparison: Symmetrical planting pattern in the circular bed in the foreground. Profusion of tall flowers.

Comparison: Symmetrical planting pattern in flower beds.


Comparison: Archways with “shelves” on the sides. Circular shallow pond with center statuary.


Comparison: Circular shallow pond with statuary in the center.


Comparison: Shape of the archways is reminiscent of the lines of the walls in photograph # 4.

Comparison: Fish pond with statuary in the center. Symmetrical planting and profusion of tall flowers within hedges.
8. *Quintas, Jardins e Parques da Ilha de São Miguel*, p. 87. Illustration 64. Formal parterre. Jardin de Botelho, 19th C.

Comparison: Formal garden layout with parterres.

9. *Quintas, Jardins, e Parques da Ilha de São Miguel*, p. 120. Illustration 95. Jardin de José do Canto, 19th C.

Comparison: Formal garden plan with parterres and pathways.

Comparison: Traditional arbors.


Comparison: Pathways, hedges enclosing flower beds and trees.

Comparison: Garden pathway flanked by lush beds within hedges.


Comparison: Horseshoe shaped path surrounding feature garden elements.

Comparison: Horseshoe shaped path surrounding various garden elements.


Comparison: Trees with borders of flowers.

Comparison: Trees and borders of flowers.

Comparison: Lines of the left and right arches are reminiscent of the line of the Chinese Gateway.

PLANT LISTS

The Preservation Society of Newport County Plant Documentation
1980 and 1983
GREEN ANIMALS
Portsmouth, R.I.

Topiary, Formal, Fruit and Vegetable Gardens
Formal Gardens and Topiary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Partial List of Plants</th>
<th>Flowers, Foliage</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1. Variegated</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2. Salvia farinosa</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3. Impatiens x assisiaca</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4. Begonia</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5. Helianthus annuus</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6. Dahlia</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7. Asters</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>8. Oriental Poppy</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>9. Lavatera</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10. Eupatorium</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>June, July, August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Diagram Notes:**
- Do not miss the small Toy Museum in the Main Residence.

---

*Formal Gardens and Topiary diagram showing various plants and their flowering times.*
PLANT, FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GARDEN

Red List Partial List of Plants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Latin Name</th>
<th>Italian Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Flowering Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Monarda didyma</td>
<td>Oswego Tea</td>
<td>Oswego Tea</td>
<td>Early Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Veronicastrum virginicum</td>
<td>Bluestem</td>
<td>Bluestem</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Viola tricolor</td>
<td>Johnny-Jump-Up</td>
<td>Johnny-Jump-Up</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Salvia splendens</td>
<td>Scarlet Sage</td>
<td>Scarlet Sage</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Helianthus annuus</td>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Liatris spicata</td>
<td>Gayfeather</td>
<td>Gayfeather</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldsturm'</td>
<td>Shasta Daisy</td>
<td>Shasta Daisy</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Coreopsis tinctoria</td>
<td>Tickseed</td>
<td>Tickseed</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Asclepias syriaca</td>
<td>Milkweed</td>
<td>Milkweed</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Actinomeris odora</td>
<td>Desert Bluebells</td>
<td>Desert Bluebells</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Echinacea purpurea</td>
<td>Purple Coneflower</td>
<td>Purple Coneflower</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Phlox divaricata</td>
<td>Woodland Phlox</td>
<td>Woodland Phlox</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Helenium autumnale</td>
<td>Sneezeweed</td>
<td>Sneezeweed</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Ligularia stenocephala</td>
<td>Lamb's-ears</td>
<td>Lamb's-ears</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Green List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Latin Name</th>
<th>Italian Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Flowering Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Prunus 'Shirotae'</td>
<td>Oriental Cherry</td>
<td>Oriental Cherry</td>
<td>Early Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Malus 'Caespitosa'</td>
<td>Crabapple</td>
<td>Crabapple</td>
<td>Early Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Cornus 'Flaviramea'</td>
<td>Dogwood</td>
<td>Dogwood</td>
<td>Early Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Viburnum 'Acerifolium'</td>
<td>Siberian Cranberry</td>
<td>Siberian Cranberry</td>
<td>Early Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Amelanchier canadensis</td>
<td>serviceberry</td>
<td>serviceberry</td>
<td>Early Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Salix alba</td>
<td>White Willow</td>
<td>White Willow</td>
<td>Early Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Populus 'Tristis'</td>
<td>Poplar</td>
<td>Poplar</td>
<td>Early Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Acer saccharum</td>
<td>Sugar Maple</td>
<td>Sugar Maple</td>
<td>Early Spring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blue List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Latin Name</th>
<th>Italian Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Flowering Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Delphinium 'Magic Fountains'</td>
<td>Larkspur</td>
<td>Larkspur</td>
<td>Mid Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Petunia hybrida</td>
<td>Petunia</td>
<td>Petunia</td>
<td>Mid Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Helianthus annuus</td>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>Mid Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Zinnia 'Elegans'</td>
<td>Zinnia</td>
<td>Zinnia</td>
<td>Mid Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Coreopsis 'Early Bird'</td>
<td>Tickseed</td>
<td>Tickseed</td>
<td>Mid Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Rudbeckia 'Goldsturm'</td>
<td>Shasta Daisy</td>
<td>Shasta Daisy</td>
<td>Mid Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>Liatris spicata</td>
<td>Gayfeather</td>
<td>Gayfeather</td>
<td>Mid Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Salvia 'Caradonna'</td>
<td>Salvia</td>
<td>Salvia</td>
<td>Mid Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

White List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Latin Name</th>
<th>Italian Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Flowering Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>Acer platanoides 'Dissectum'</td>
<td>Fringe Tree</td>
<td>Fringe Tree</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Prunus 'Jojoba'</td>
<td>Japanese Apricot</td>
<td>Japanese Apricot</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Malus 'Golden Hornet'</td>
<td>Crabapple</td>
<td>Crabapple</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Carpinus betulus</td>
<td>Hornbeam</td>
<td>Hornbeam</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yellow List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Latin Name</th>
<th>Italian Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Flowering Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>Taxus 'Hicks'</td>
<td>Yew</td>
<td>Yew</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

North List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Latin Name</th>
<th>Italian Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Flowering Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>Viburnum 'Carpenter'</td>
<td>Viburnum</td>
<td>Viburnum</td>
<td>Late Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GREEN ANIMALS

Portsmouth, Rhode Island

The small country estate overlooking Newport Bay in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, now known as Green Animals, was purchased in 1757 by Mr. Thomas B. Wighton (1701-1793), a descendant of seven sons of bald-a white-collar, upper-class resident. From early childhood, a picture and a adventure with Mr. Wighton, was confirmed to the United States Manufacturing Committee in 1774. He was a leading figure in the abolitionist movement and was active in the fight for the rights of African Americans. He was a founder and a director of the Rhode Island African School and a leader in the fight for the rights of African Americans.

Despite his love for the arts and for the people, Mr. Wighton had no children. The property was left to his sister, and she, with her husband, continued to live in the house. The property was later sold to a family of children. Although Mr. Wighton lived on the property, he never married or had children. He died in 1793, leaving the property to his sister, and the estate is now known as Green Animals.

Although Mr. Wighton lived on the property, he never married or had children. He died in 1793, leaving the property to his sister, and the estate is now known as Green Animals.

While well-known for her wit and her abhorrent qualities and obnoxious activities, Miss Edmonia died in a hotel room. As a result, the story, together with the mystery of her disappearance, has been told and retold as a version of her father's visitors. The history of the house is a fascinating one, with its links to the history of the nation. The story of the house is told in the words of the people who lived there, and the story of the country is told in the words of the people who lived there.

The story of the country estate, the rise of a nation, and the story of the people who lived there, is told in the words of the people who lived there. The story of the country estate, the rise of a nation, and the story of the people who lived there, is told in the words of the people who lived there.
Bibliography

Botelho, Ellen. E-mail Correspondence. 24 May 2013.


de Albergaria, Isabel Soares. Email correspondence. 17 November, 2003. Bel_albergaria@net.sapo.pt


Internment Records. Oak Grove Cemetery. Fall River, MA. Martha Ireson Brayton.


Land Evidence Book # 14. Portsmouth Town Hall, Portsmouth, RI.

Land Evidence Book # 15. Portsmouth Town Hall, Portsmouth, RI.

Land Evidence Book # 17. Portsmouth Town Hall, Portsmouth, RI.

Land Evidence Book # 38. Portsmouth Town Hall, Portsmouth, RI.

Last Will and Testament of Thomas E. Brayton. Probate Book 15. Portsmouth Town Hall, Portsmouth, RI.


Nelson, Charles. Email correspondence, 22 October 2003. tippitiwitchet@zetnet.co.uk

Obituary. José Carreiro. Personal files of Mary Mendonça, nd.

Plat Plan. Plan Book - No. 1 A, 28 and 29. Portsmouth Town Hall, Portsmouth, RI.


Sayers, David. Email correspondence, 11 November 2003. davidsayers@btinternet.com

Small, David. Email correspondence, 25 September 2003. heathers@zetnet.co.uk

Street Directories. Fall River, MA. Fall River Historical Society. 1861, 1866, 1870-71, 1874, 1880, 1882, 1910.


APPENDIX

A Collection of Carreiro Family Photographs circa 1920s
The Carreiro Family on Cory’s Lane in the 1920s

1. Mary Carreiro c. 1920 in the Upper Topiary Lawn among beginning topiary plants.
   Background: Arbors made from Giant Reed Grass or “Cannaviera.”
   Note: Original Magnolia arbor had four entrances with a dome in the center.
   Vines were planted on this arbor until the magnolia was acquired in early 1930s.

2. Inez Carreiro c. 1920 in front of early grape arbor.
   Background: Stacked pile of Giant Reed Grass in front of the cold frame.
   Note: The roof of the arbor had not yet been constructed.
3. Left to right: Anna, Little Joe, Inez and Mary Carreiro in the formal garden c. 1923-24.
   Background: Formal garden archway and fruit trees.

4. Mary Carreiro at the stone wall along Cory’s Lane c. 1923-24.
   Background: Portsmouth Abbey
5. Mary Carreiro (right) with the daughter of a close family friend on the front lawn of the caretaker’s cottage, c. 1924. 
Note: Mary’s doll and baby carriage were a gift from Alice Brayton.

6. Left to right: Inez and Mary Carreiro with the son of a family friend who rented the field on the north side of Cory’s Lane to raise vegetables to take to market, c. 1924. 
Note: The girls are shelling beans in the field.
7. Mary Carreiro looking through the early Sweetheart Rose Arbor c. 1924.

   Background: The hedge behind the caretaker’s cottage.
9. Inez Carreiro c. 1924-25
   Background: Original arbors (see description photo #1).

    Background: Early Formal Garden Archway.
    Note: A cousin of Inez, Anna & Little Joe from Boston, the youngest of thirteen children.
    Maria Carreiro took in Cecila in the summers to help out.
11. Adolph and Anna Carreiro under the grape arbor in front of the cold frames c. 1924-25.

12. Left to right: “Jessie” clowning with Adolph Carreiro at Portsmouth Abbey c. 1924.  
Note: Jessie was an errand boy at Portsmouth Abbey.


   Background: Portsmouth Priory.
17. Anna Carreiro and Adolph in front of the Portsmouth Abbey Manor House c. 1926.
   Note: Anna Carreiro was one of the first receptionists at Portsmouth Abbey.

18. Inez Carreiro with the beginnings of the “Loving Cup” c. 1926.
    Background: Formal Garden.
19. Inez Carreiro in front of the Main House c. 1926.

20. Left to Right: Inez Carreiro, a good friend, Anna Carreiro c. 1926-27.
21. Left to right: Inez, a good friend and Anna near the railroad station at the bottom on Cory’s lane c. 1926-27.

22. Inez Carreiro with Adolph on the front lawn of the caretaker’s cottage c. 1927.
23. Adolph Carreiro in the Formal Garden c. 1927
   Background: Barn and fruit trees. To the left and behind Adolph is the beginning of the Giraff.
   Note: Adolph was the first dentist in Portsmouth. Undergraduate education, Providence College, Studied one year in France following service in WWII, dentistry degree, Columbia U.

   Background: St. Philomena’s School.
   Note: The twig bench was one of several Joe Carreiro made from twigs collected on the shore line. Some other benches were “S” shaped.
25. Anna (center) and friends in front of Portsmouth Abbey c. 1926-27.

26. Inez Carreiro on the shore at the bottom of Cory’s Lane c. 1928-28.