



Davidia in bloom

CURIOUS GARDENERS

The Newsletter of the New England Chapter of NARGS

May 2016

May 28, 2016 Meeting

A Day in the Boston Area

Ellen Weinberg guide: the Arnold Arboretum, Boston
and Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge

Schedule

Arnold Arboretum: Meet at 9:45 am in front of the Hunnewell Visitors Center.

We will start walking at 10:00 am sharp.

We will explore the Leventritt Shrub and Vine Garden for seasonal blooms and make our way to the Larz Anderson Bonsai pavilion. A discussion of the history of the Bonsai/Penjing collection and its possible enlargement will be discussed. Time permitting we can also walk up to the Explorers Garden or visit any other areas of interest. (see map page 3) Recommended parking is along the Arborway. You may want to bring raincoats/umbrellas if rain is indicated.

Lunch around 12:30 Bring your own lunch Drinks and dessert will be provided at
Ellen Weinberg's home

330 Waverly Ave., Newton, MA

Park across the street on Green Park Ave. or in the driveway

(see directions page 6)

Mt. Auburn Cemetery: Meet **at 2:00 pm** at the gatehouse for an hour and a half tour. A docent who specializes in the horticultural facts of the plantings will guide us through the grounds. Please call or email and make reservations with Ellen. We need to provide our guide with the number of participants weinbergellen@gmail.com or cell 617-866-0223

The entrance to Mt. Auburn is at 580 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge and parking is inside the cemetery along the white (unmarked) avenues located on the map (see map page 5)

Missed connections? To find where the group is, call Ellen's cell (617-866-0223)

You can join the tour anytime your schedule and logistics permit.

For additional travel directions see page 6

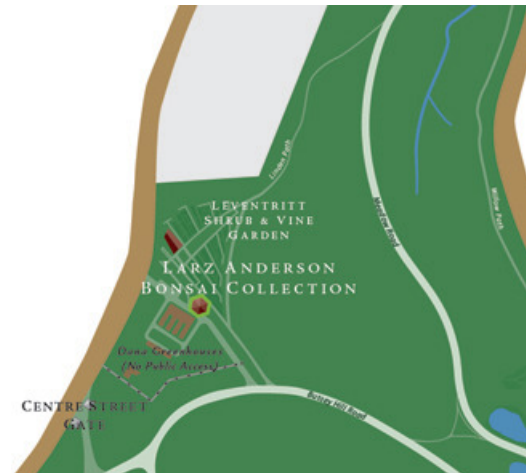
Arnold Arboretum

The Bonsai & Penjing Collection

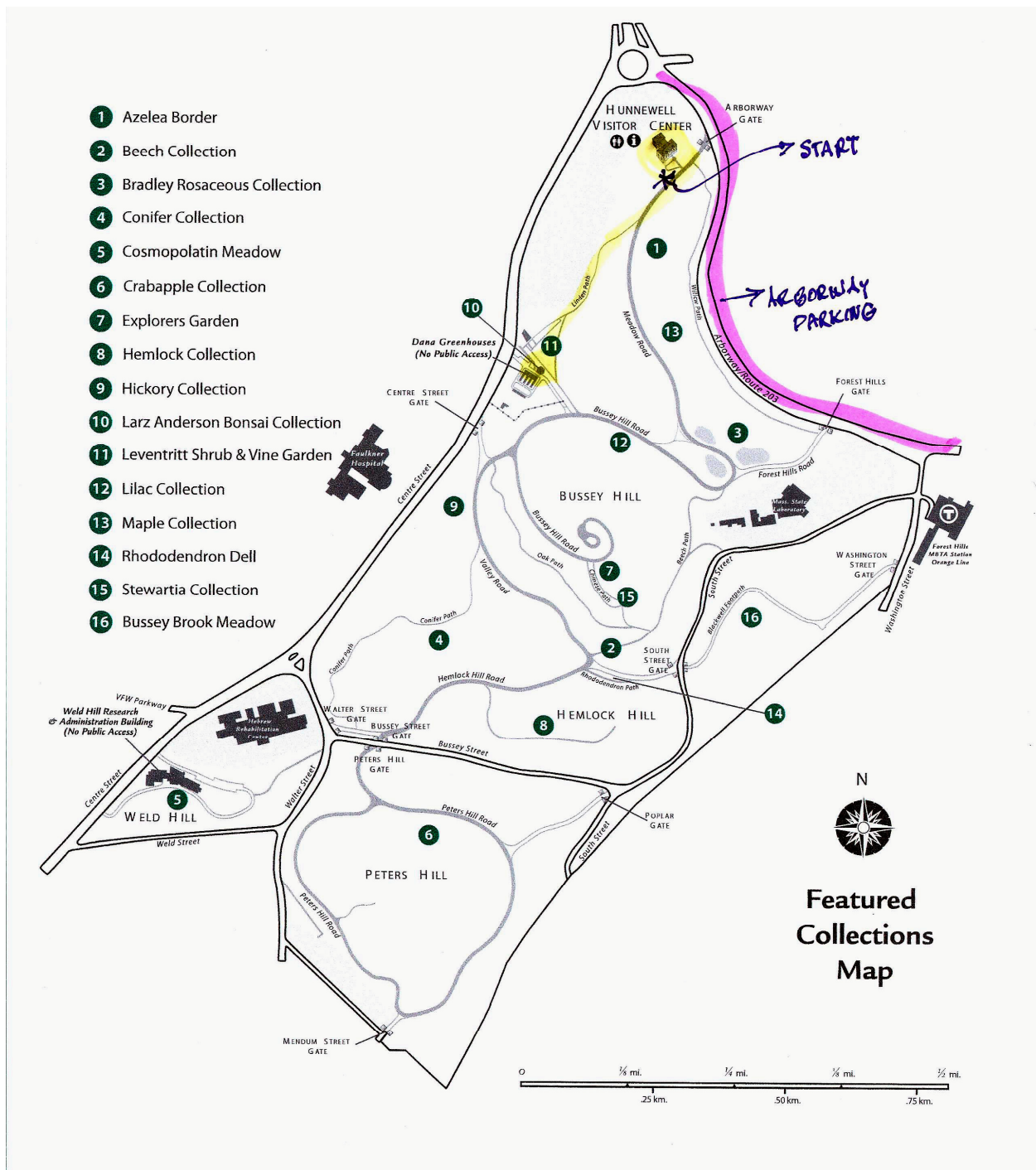


The Larz Anderson Collection of Japanese Dwarfed Trees at the Arnold Arboretum was originally imported into the United States by the Honorable Larz Anderson in 1913, upon his return from serving as Ambassador to Japan. In April 1937, Isabel Anderson donated the majority of her late husband's bonsai collection (30 plants) to the Arnold Arboretum, along with the funds necessary to build a shade house for their display. The rest of the Anderson bonsai came to the Arboretum following Isabel's death in 1949. The core of the collection consists of 6 large specimens of compact hinoki cypress (*Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Chabo-hiba')—each between 150 and 275 years old—that Anderson purchased from the Yokohama Nursery Company. Additional bonsai have been acquired or added to the collection over time, the most recent being a gift of 6 specimens in the fall of 2015. All told, 32 masterfully curated specimens comprise the Bonsai and Penjing Collection. In much of Japan and milder parts of the United States, bonsai can be left outdoors all winter with only minimal protection from the elements. In New England's more severe climate, however, plants in containers need to be protected during the cold months. Arboretum bonsai are stored in a concrete-block structure that is maintained at 33 to 36 degrees Fahrenheit, and the plants are checked for water once a week.

Map showing the location of the Leventritt shrub and vine garden next to the Anderson Bonsai Collection



Map of Arnold Arboretum Tour



Mount Auburn Cemetery

580 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge

Mt Auburn Cemetery - Horticultural Tour with Docent

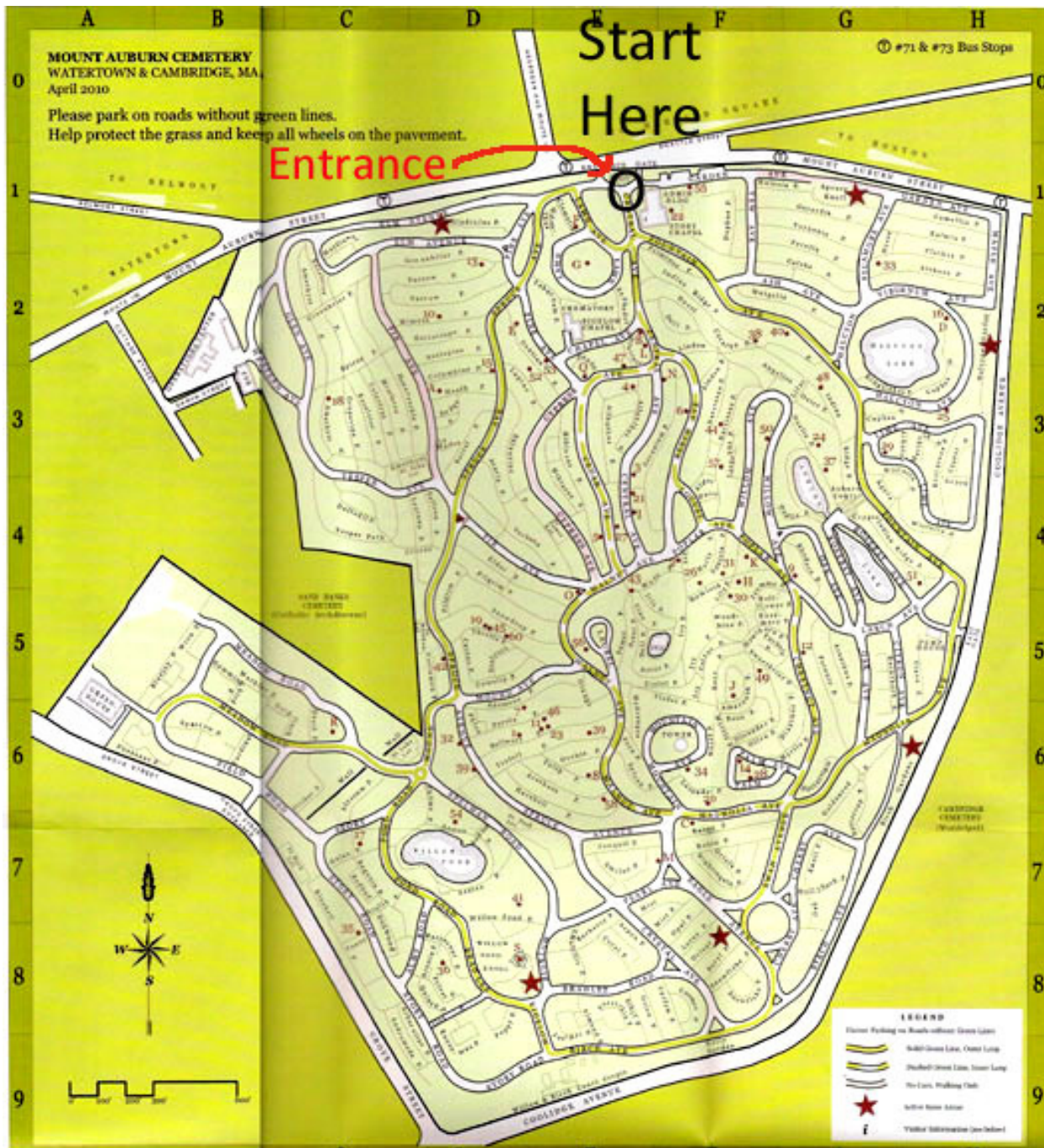
2:00 PM-3:30 PM

Mount Auburn Cemetery is one of the most beautiful and historic landscapes in America. Its impressive collection of over 5,000 trees represents 630 taxa. Thousands of shrubs and herbaceous plants weave through 175 acres of hills, dells, ponds, woodlands and clearings. Plant species from around the world that grow in a northern temperate climate can be seen on the grounds, including individual specimens recorded as Massachusetts state or New England champions of their species. Our NARGS walking tour will be customized to highlight the trees and plants. Perhaps a specimen of *Davidia*, the Dove Tree will be in bloom waving its cream colored “handkerchief” bracts.

While we will concentrate on the use of plants in the landscape, it is impossible to ignore other features of the Cemetery. There are approximately 45,000 monuments at Mount Auburn which vary from quite simple ones to majestic temples and imposing statuary. Bostonians founded Mount Auburn Cemetery in 1831 for both practical and aesthetic reasons: to solve an urban land use problem created by an increasing number of burials in the city and to create a tranquil and beautiful place where families could commemorate their loved ones with tasteful works of art in an inviting setting. Because of this long history the changing attitudes toward death, nature, and family life can be seen as one walks along the avenues. To support this extensive acreage the Cemetery has its own professional staff as well as consulting landscape designers and architects who continue to maintain and extend the landscape that exists today.



Map of Mount Auburn Cemetery 580 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge



Additional directions for those without a GPS

From the Arnold Arboretum at 125 Arborway in Jamaica Plains to 330 Waverley Ave in Newton (Ellen Weinberg's house, where we will have lunch). This trip should take about 20 minutes.

- 1) Continue on Arborway and take right onto South St
- 2) Take first right at light onto Bussey St around the backside of the Arboretum
- 3) Take right onto Centre St
- 4) Take left onto Allendale by the Faulkner Hospital
- 5) Take right on Grove St
- 6) Take left on Newton St around the golf course
- 7) At roundabout take the second right onto Hammond Pond Parkway – on this for about 1.8 miles
- 8) Take left onto Beacon St
- 9) Take right at first light onto Grant St.- cross Commonwealth Ave
- 10) Take right onto Ward St
- 11) Take quick left onto Waverley
- 12) House is on right side – it is pale green # 330 around ½ mile from Ward Street at most
- 13) Can park on Green St across Waverley or in Driveway

From 330 Waverley Ave Newton to Mt Auburn Cemetery (580 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge). This trip should take about 15 minutes.

- 1) Head north (right out of driveway if facing Waverley) on Waverley
- 2) Take left onto Tremont
- 3) Take right onto Park St
- 4) Cross the street over the Mass Pike and stay in the mid to right lanes straight onto Galen St
- 5) At the large intersection take a mild right turn onto Auburn Street. This can be confusing but looking at the intersection the far right is Charles River Rd, the mid right is Beacon St/Arsenal and the mild right is Mt. Auburn
- 6) The Cemetery is at 580 Mt Auburn St about 1.4 miles from the intersection

NARGS-New England Chapter Membership and Dues

Membership in NARGS-NE is \$10.00 a year payable January 1 to Ernie Flippo, 264 Wales St., Abington, MA 02351. Payment may also be made in person at our meetings.

Local Chapters: –There are thirty-eight NARGS affiliated chapters active in North America. Chapter events include lectures, an on-line Newsletter, garden visits, field trips, demonstrations, and plant sales. These friendly gatherings provide a wealth of information; offer a source for unusual plants, plus the opportunity to be inspired by other gardeners in your region. Our Chapter meets 6 times a year, February, March, April, September, October and November, and organizes garden tours in May and June.

National Organization: We encourage you to join the national NARGS organization. www.nargs.org Dues are \$40.00 a year. Benefits include a seed exchange, a quarterly publication, and an on-line web site featuring an archive of past publications, a chat forum and a horticultural encyclopedia. NARGS national also conducts winter study weekends and holds their Annual Meeting in interesting places.

Chapter Officers for 2015

Chair: Ellen Hornig: hornig@oswego.edu

Vice-Chair: Ellen Weinberg: weinbergellen@gmail.com

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Helen du Toit: NJGarden@aol.com

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