

Yale University Campus
■
Farrand Cultural Landscapes Study



December 2019
For
Yale Office of Facilities
■
By
Heritage Landscapes LLC
Norwalk CT, and Charlotte VT
■

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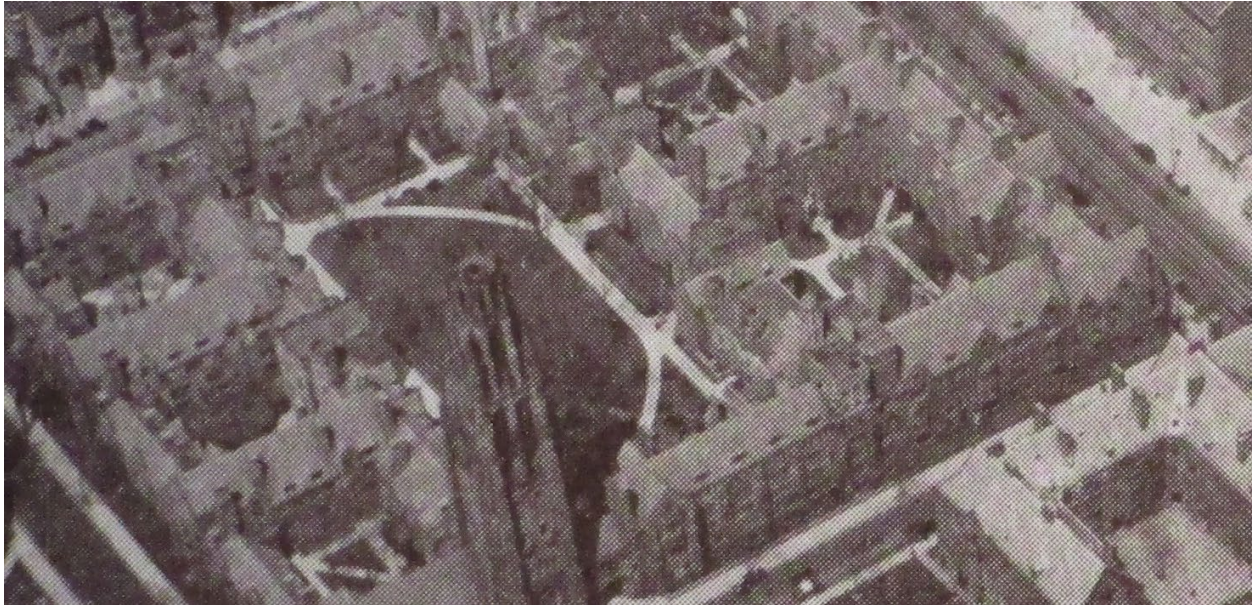
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Norwalk, Connecticut and Charlotte, Vermont

Cover Image: Old Library Street, circa 1940, Yale University Library Archives

Inside Cover Image: Old Library Street, 13 August 2019, Heritage Landscapes

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Executive Summary

Focus, Scope and Methods

The Yale University Office of Facilities engaged the services of Heritage Landscapes, LLC to develop this Yale Campus Farrand Cultural Landscapes Study. Beatrix Farrand (1872-1959), a prominent landscape architect, provided landscape design services for the Harkness Memorial Quadrangle from 1920 to 1922 and served as Consulting Landscape Gardener to Yale University from 1923 to 1945. While widespread knowledge affirmed Farrand's campus influence, little was known about the breadth or depth of her contributions in shaping the campus. This study identifies, documents, and assesses for integrity the landscapes to which Beatrix Farrand contributed. This research-based study sought documentation to clarify and provide details about her 25-year tenure with Yale University and to gain an understanding of what remains of her legacy in 2019. The following sequence of steps were undertaken to shape this documentation:

- Identify, acquire and study archival documents
- Conduct Farrand campus landscapes field review
- Study secondary sources
- Collaborate with Judith Tankard on context piece
- Assemble corroborating sources, 2 or more to verify Farrand contributions
- Describe Farrand's landscape character-defining features as-built
- List character-defining features present 2019
- Prepare selected existing landscape plans
- Develop recommendations based on findings

The work began with investigation of relevant archives at Yale University and at the University of California at Berkeley, Farrand Collection which yielded a comprehensive capture beyond prior investigations. Review of dozens of boxes of archival materials revealed hundreds of relevant historic correspondences, maps, plans, sketches, photographs, aerial photographs and other

records including more than 1,700 images and over 500 pages of writings as primary sources. A combination of hand-held photography and high-resolution scans provided these historic documents for detailed office study and inclusion in this report. Secondary sources were also reviewed for context. A short essay on Farrand's university works was provided by Judith Tankard to position the Yale University work within her career institutional commissions.

The methods used in this study were informed by national and international preservation standards, with particular reference to cultural landscape character and character-defining features (CDFs). The form reflects the scope of work and directly relates to the evidence uncovered through the research process. This is not a complete cultural landscape report. Instead, it is an initial study focusing on archival research, assessment of documentation, on the ground review, and categorization of landscape by what remains and general recommendations. Heritage Landscapes tracked documentary evidence to confirm which Yale University campus landscapes were shaped by Farrand. Evidence, such as her drawings and correspondence, or annotated plans, was affirmed with corroborating documents, such as 1940s campus photographs.

Farrand Yale Campus Landscapes Chronology

A basic chronology of Farrand's contributions to the Yale campus and related events is itemized by date, many of which are construction dates for new buildings, as listed here:

1920-22	Harkness Quadrangle as independent contractor
1923 Oct	Farrand hired as Consulting Landscape Gardener, formed Landscape Organization
1923	Established Yale Nursery
1923	Old College Campus
1923	Peabody Museum
1924	Pierson-Sage Square
1924	Lapham Field House
1924	Sloan Physics Laboratory
1924	Sterling Chemistry Laboratory
1924	Weir Hall
1924-27	Marsh Botanical Garden
1926	Farrand awarded honorary Master of Arts
1927	Yale Alumni War Memorial
1928	Walter Camp Memorial Gateway
1929	New Haven Hospital
1930	Sterling Memorial Library
1931	Pump House
1931	Calhoun College (now Hopper College)
1931	New Athletic Field
1931-32	Old Library Street (now Library Walk)
1932	Yale Divinity School (now Sterling Divinity School)

1933	Trumbull College
1934	Berkeley College
1937	President's House
1940	Silliman College

This extensive chronology indicates that Farrand's contributions to the Yale University campus were widespread and continuous for over two decades. There were likely many more contributions to the campus landscape than those listed above. The nature of her ongoing and continuous collaboration with Marsh Botanical Garden and Forestry at Yale informs the likelihood that much of her work occurred on site in conversations and specific site interventions, and as such, went unrecorded in either plans or correspondence.

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

12015

CLASS OF SERVICE This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.	WESTERN UNION NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT	SIGNS DL = Day Letter NM = Night Message NL = Night Letter LCO = Deferred Cable NLT = Cable Night Letter WLT = Week-End Letter
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The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at 376 Lexington Avenue, New York, N. Y.

1933 JUN 27 AM 9 35

NBS32 27=NEWHAVEN CONN 27 915A

OFFICE OF MRS MAX FARRAND=

124 EAST 40 ST=

DIAL BASE NINETEEN AND A HALF INCHES SQUARE STATUE DEPTH

KNEE TWO FOOT TWENTY SIX INCHES WIDTH ACROSS ELBOWS THIRTY

THREE INCHES TOTAL HEIGHT FIFTY SIX INCHES=

GEORGE A CROMIE.

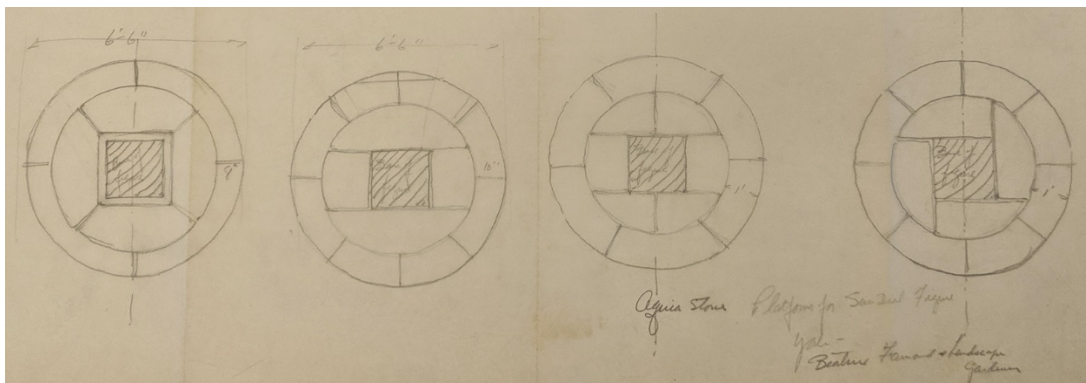


Figure ES.1 and 2 This telegraph message about an element to be placed and sketch of alternate stone layouts to place such an element, record the kind of ongoing exchanges addressing details of the Yale campus. (FYCS-UCB-1935-b6 f79-Cromie to BF-Sundial dimensions, FYCS-UCB-FlatFiles-nd-BF-Sundial small)

Farrand's Approach Resulting in Yale Campus Character

An article authored by Beatrix Farrand provides insight into her approach to landscape design on the Yale Campus. "Landscape Gardening at Yale" concludes with the unifying concept underlying all of her work at Yale: "Surely the training of the eye to daily settings both beautiful and fit is as large a part of education as is the regular academic routine."

Farrand demonstrated an understanding of institutional scale and the need for durable, limited maintenance landscapes on the Yale campus. Farrand motivated the development of a campus nursery, identifying a benefit of growing campus plants nearby: "It is now possible to dig a plant in the University nursery and to re-plant it in its new position within an hour's time, thereby lessening the necessary shock of transplanting." The nursery operation also provided the plants she sought, as identified with the aid of her collaborators at Yale Forestry and the Marsh Botanical Gardens.



Figure ES.3 This 1940s oblique aerial view depicts the spatial organization of the Yale campus landscapes showing interior courtyards and streetscapes, integrated with the surrounding city of New Haven. (FYCS-YUL-1940c-1-MAR-RU703-b1f17-Aerial (3) crop)

Documentation of the Yale Campus during Beatrix Farrand's tenure from 1920 to 1945 correlates with establishment of a unified campus landscape design vocabulary. While contemporary word usage tends to limit the scope of "gardener" to selection and growth of plant material, historic evidence supports Farrand's influence on landscape features including character-defining aspects

of spatial organization, circulation, structures and furnishings. Between the 1920s and early 1950s, historic views and plans reveal a series of character-defining features (CDFs) repeated across the campus contributing to an overall harmony and unity. In addition to the unifying character developed across the campus, Farrand contributed to the President's house gardens, botanical gardens, and Yale nursery of differing character. The following landscape vocabulary descriptions enumerate the Beatrix Farrand Yale Campus CDFs created through her work. These CDFs include aspects of spatial and visual organization, topography, circulation, vegetation, landscape structures and relationships to architecture, as well as water features, furnishings and objects. These CDFs are described in detail, to include the characteristic features of courtyards, moats along streets and redesigned streets as pedestrian corridors throughout the campus.

Farrand Cultural Landscapes Study Findings

In this study, twenty-four campus landscapes are documented as influenced by Farrand. This number is higher than anticipated and extends previous writings and research findings to document campus-wide influence. These Farrand/Yale sites are located on the accompanying plan drawing **L1 Farrand Yale Landscapes** in four groups:

- 24 landscapes- to include 7 **legible** Farrand landscapes noted as 4A to 4G colored **in blue**; 10 **remnant** Farrand landscapes noted as 5A to 5J colored **in green** on the plan; and, 7 **overwritten** Farrand landscapes noted as 6A to 6G colored **in peach** on the plan, Farrand's work is confirmed by Farrand plans and correspondence and often corroborated with historic photographs at each of these locations.

The 24 confirmed landscapes are addressed in this Farrand Cultural Landscapes Study. For ten landscapes, insufficient sources failed to fully document Farrand's contribution.

- 10 landscapes- researched but **unconfirmed**, shown **in gold** on the plan and unnumbered, have limited evidence of architectural drawings held in the Farrand collection at UC Berkeley or Balmori text inclusion, but no Farrand authored or annotated plans or corroborating correspondence has been located to date.

The extent of remaining Farrand landscape character varies across the Yale University campus. Each of the 24 landscapes individually discussed in this report expresses varied levels of extant Farrand CDFs. This study groups and examines the Yale campus Farrand landscapes according to the legibility of the Farrand landscape in 2019. Designated as legible, remnant, or overwritten, each of these groups can be addressed through a wholistic preservation approach. Legible landscapes exhibit the overall character and many of features from Farrand's era. Remnant landscapes hold some of these historic features, and have the potential for interventions to reinstate missing features. Overwritten landscapes are currently in a form and character other than that of the Farrand era. However, as these current landscapes are reconsidered, Farrand documentation may guide future changes to incorporate Farrand era features and character.



Figure E5.4 Planted moat image from Farrand's 1925 article "Landscape Gardening at Yale" captures the intent of trained plantings within the moat and light into the buildings along a city sidewalk. (FYCS-UCB-1925c-HQ-b6 f79-BF-Landscape Gardening at Yale-12 Moat)



Figure ES.5 Graduation planting of ivy to grow up building walls. Proliferation of ivy on stone walls may have triggered widespread vine removals, to include those trained on vine supports that were not damaging masonry. (FYCS-YUL-1938 2000-1-MAR-More and Clark-Yale Univ Illustrated-Planting ivy)



Figures ES.6 and 7 Paired views of Library Street, circa 1940s and today, illustrates a Farrand legible landscape that remains on the Yale Campus. (FYCS-YUL-1940c-LS-MAR-RU703-b26f536-Library Street (6))

Farrand Landscapes Campus-wide Treatment Recommendations

The integrated understanding of the landscape history and the extent of historic character present in 2019 informed a proposal of conceptual level treatment approaches and recommendations. As defined through national standards, recommendations align to one of the following approaches:

- **Preservation:** maintain and protect existing character-defining features.
- **Restoration:** based on documentary evidence replicate the landscape at a specific time, remove elements added later and restore features present at that time.
- **Rehabilitation:** preserve historic features and adapt the landscape to address current needs while respecting the historic landscape character and preserving remaining features
- **Reconstruction:** rebuild a historic landscape or specific feature based on thorough documentation

In general, as Yale University is a functioning and evolving campus landscape, the two most suitable approaches would **Preserve**, retaining and repairing what CDFs remain and **Rehabilitate** while respecting remaining features, to accommodate current and future needs. Overall campus landscape recommendations are presented and grouped for campus-wide recommendations and those that relate to the four categories of landscapes based on documentation and extant evidence.

The rehabilitation preservation approach, as defined through national standards, directs: overall respect for the inherited landscape of today; preservation of existing historic landscape CDFs that remain; and adaptation of the landscape to address current needs. The recommended landscape period for preservation coincides with Beatrix Farrand's Yale Campus works from 1920 to 1945.

This rehabilitation approach directs preservation of CDFs of the 1922 to 1945 period, which are present in the 2019 landscape. Preservation may entail repairing and stabilizing deteriorating CDFs, to include paving, masonry, railings, vegetation, and small objects. When stabilization and repair is no longer viable, replacement in-kind, with an identical material should be pursued. If replacement in-kind is not feasible, the material may be replaced with a similar feature of comparable character. This may be the necessary route for lost elm trees as replacement in-kind would likely result in repeated tree loss from Dutch elm disease. A deciduous canopy tree of similar character with upright form should be identified as a suitable elm tree replacement.

Heritage Landscapes recommends, in alignment with a rehabilitation approach, to incrementally restore Farrand landscape character. As changes occur across the campus landscape, these provide opportunity to reinstate Farrand CDFs. The CDFs described above provided a campus vocabulary that Farrand put in place over the 22 years of contributions to the campus. Early opportunity to reinstate Farrand CDFs across the Yale campus include:

- **Test vine supports and bring back their use without compromising architectural stonework.** Vines contributed significantly to the Farrand campus character and, in 2019, are lacking throughout the campus. Vine supports can be utilized to train climbers and minimize impact to masonry. Vines are a traditional CDF of the campus. Diminished in recent decades from the campus palette, their removal may relate to proliferation as ceremonial planting of English ivy to climb on buildings was a common practice.

Farrand's notes and lists include many plants with selected vines. She notes twining Japanese wisteria, American bittersweet, clematis and several climbing roses. Climbing roses listed include Rosa American Pillar, Rosa Dr. Van Fleet, *Rosa wichuraiana*, and *Rosa lucida*, each of which ranges from 10 to 20 feet in stem length. American wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*) appears to be less aggressive than the Japanese wisteria and may be worthy of testing.

- Train shrubs and small trees against buildings in an espalier or naturalistic narrow width, highlighting branch patterns. As in the vine supports, these trimmed features can be trained near but slightly separated from building façades or walls to have a flatter shape that will remain within narrow beds, rather than intruding on adjacent walks. Farrand lists a number of large deciduous shrubs that may be trained in this manner. The 10 March 1924 plant list includes a listing with the words (Wall shrubs) at the top, followed by trees and shrubs by campus area. For example, the Old Campus list includes the shrubs forsythia, deutzia, cotoneaster, stephanandra, and *Cornus mas*.
- Test reestablishment of a Yale campus nursery at the historic 103 Wintergreen nursery location or another suitable Yale property.
- Review and update *A Framework for Campus Planning* and University design guidelines to incorporate new understanding of the campus landscape character as developed during Farrand's tenure as Consulting Landscape Gardener. Incorporation of the 1922 the 1945 character will address of a CDFs in a cohesive vocabulary of materials and details that express Yale Campus character.

In summary, this study clearly reveals the widespread impact of Farrand's work in creating a unified campus vocabulary of landscapes CDFs. There are 24 documented and 10 unconfirmed Farrand landscapes on the Yale campus. They are grouped in terms of category and recommendations as:

- **Legible**- Rehabilitate the Farrand Landscape CDFs, based on documentation, 7 count
- **Remnant**- Potentially rehabilitate documented Farrand CDFs of these remnant landscapes that contain traces of the former Farrand landscape, 10 count
- **Overwritten**- CDFs put in place during the Farrand years have been replaced, consider using documentary evidence to guide future change, 7 count
- **Unconfirmed** – insufficient documentation was located to confirm these ten campus landscapes as having Farrand influence. Following the recommendation to pursue targeted research, into the future, may uncover more details, 10 count.

The individual landscapes in the first three categories are addressed in detail in this study. As a result of Farrand's work and influence the Yale campus, the landscape of Yale University was unified in character and interconnected in spatial and visual organization. While the campus continues to evolve, the Farrand CDFs detailed herein can serve as an ongoing reference for the potential character of the campus landscapes. Preservation of what remains and the application of her CDF vocabulary going forward, will aid in reuniting campus landscapes through their common Farrand character and features.



Figure ES.8 Killingworth court postcard view, circa 1940s, captures sunlight, flagstone walks, trained shrub mass and vines (FYCS-YUL-1940c-HQ-MAR-RU638-b1-Chamberlain2-Killingworth Court)

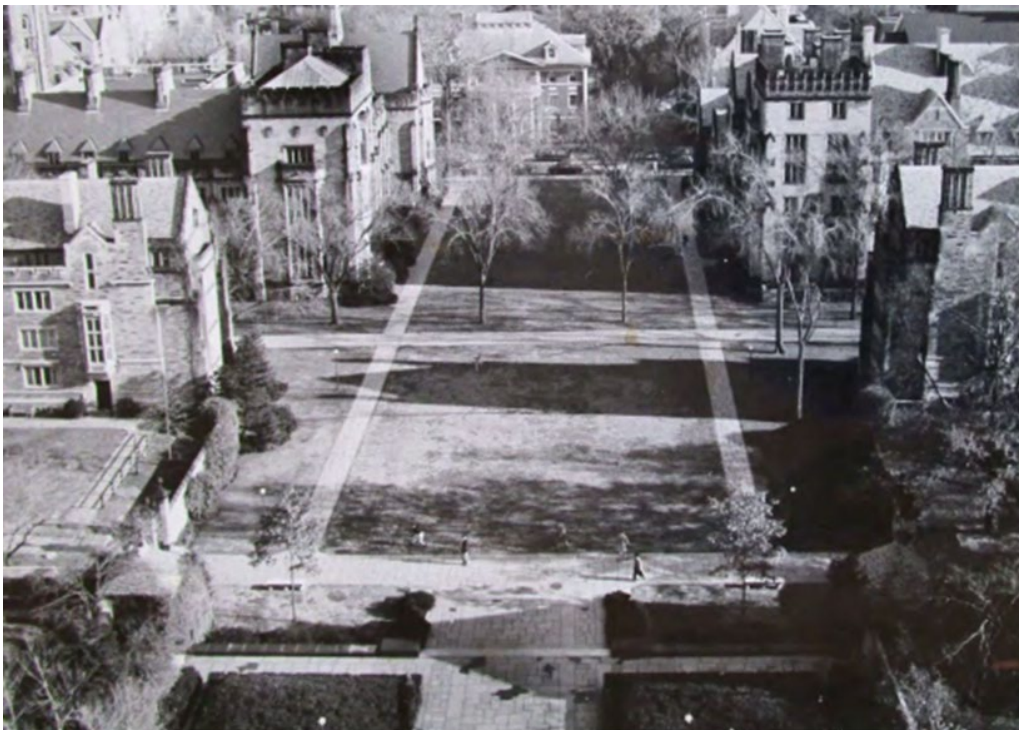


Figure ES.9 Berkey College image captures Farrand era campus character (FYCS-YUL-nd-BC-MAR-RU703-b29f592 (3))

Farrand Yale Cultural Landscapes Study ■ Confirmation Sources Summary									
YFCL Study Code	File Name	LANDSCAPE NAME	Years	BF Drawing or BF Notes	BF Corresp	BF Article	Drawing UCB	UCB Historic Photos	Balmori Text
Legible Landscapes									
4A	HMQ	Harkness Quadrangle / Memorial Quadrangle Courts-Branford Saybrook Killingworth Linonia Calliope Brothers-In-Unity	1921-22	Dwg + Notes			Arch	■	■
4B	OC	Old Campus/Old College	1923+	Dwg	■	■	Arch*		
4C	LS	Old Library Street / Library Walk	1931-32	Dwg			Dwg ns		
4D	SDQ	Sterling Divinity Quadrangle / Yale Divinity School	1932	Dwg				■	■
4E	SML	Sterling Memorial Library	1930	Dwg			Arch Dwg ns	■	
4F	SC	Silliman College	1940	Notes			Arch Dwg	■	■
4G	TC	Trumbull College	1933	Dwg					
Remnant Landscapes									
5A	BC	Berkeley College	1934	Notes			Arch Dwg		
5B	CAC	Calhoun College	1931	Dwg					
5C	GOLF	Golf Course	1931	Dwg			Dwg ns		
5D	LFH	Lapham Field House	1923-	Dwg		■	Arch Dwg	■	■
5E	HPN	Yale Campus Nursery Hamden CT				■			
5F	MBG	Marsh Botanical Garden, Nursery, Building	1924-27	Dwgs	■	■		■	■
5G	SPL	Sloan Physics Laboratory (Pierson-Sage Square)	1924	Dwg	■				■
5G	PSS	Pierson-Sage Square	1924	Dwg		■	Arch Dwg		■
5H	PH	President's House	1937	Dwg					■
5I	SCL	Sterling Chemistry Laboratory (Pierson-Sage Square)	1924			■	Engineer	■	■

Table 1.1a Page 1 of the Farrand landscapes summary of legible and remnant landscapes noting confirming sources and corroborating secondary sources. (Heritage Landscapes)

Farrand Yale Cultural Landscapes Study ■ Confirmation Sources Summary									
YFCL Study Code	File Name	LANDSCAPE NAME	Years	BF Drawing or BF Notes	BF Corresp	BF Article	Drawing UCB	UCB Historic Photos	Balmore Text
Overwritten Landscapes									
6A	NAF	New Athletic Field	1931	Dwg			Dwg ns		
6B	NHH	New Haven Hospital	1929		■		Arch Dwg		■
6C	PM	Peabody Museum	1923			■	Arch Dwg		■
6D	PPH	Pump House	1931	Dwg				■	
6E	SHM	Sterling Hall of Medicine and Institute of Human Relations	1930	Dwg +		■	Arch Dwg		■
6F	AWM	Yale Alumni War Memorial	1927		■		Dwg ns	■	
6G	WH	Weir Hall / School of Architecture	1924			■	Arch Dwg*		■
Unconfirmed									
	BTP	Beta Theta Pi Fraternity House					Arch Dwg*		
	CC	Cross Campus	1934				Arch Dwg*		
	DC	Davenport College Courtyard	1933						■
	JEC	Jonathan Edwards College	1932						■
	PC	Pierson College Courtyard	1933						■
	SAW	Sachem's Wood				■			
	SH	Sheffield Hall front	1932					■	■
	SL	Sterling Law	1931				Arch Dwg	■	
	TDC	Timothy Dwight College, Temple College Group	1935				Arch Dwg*		
	WCM	Walter Camp Memorial Gateway	1927				Arch Dwg*		
Summary			24 landscapes	>confirmed BF landscape via BF drawing or authored text					
			10 landscapes	>likely BFsecondary correspondence, non-BF drawing					
			*	Drawing listed on UCB inventory, not requested					

Table 1.1b Page 2 summary of the overwritten and unconfirmed Farrand landscapes showing confirming sources or lack thereof. (Heritage Landscapes)

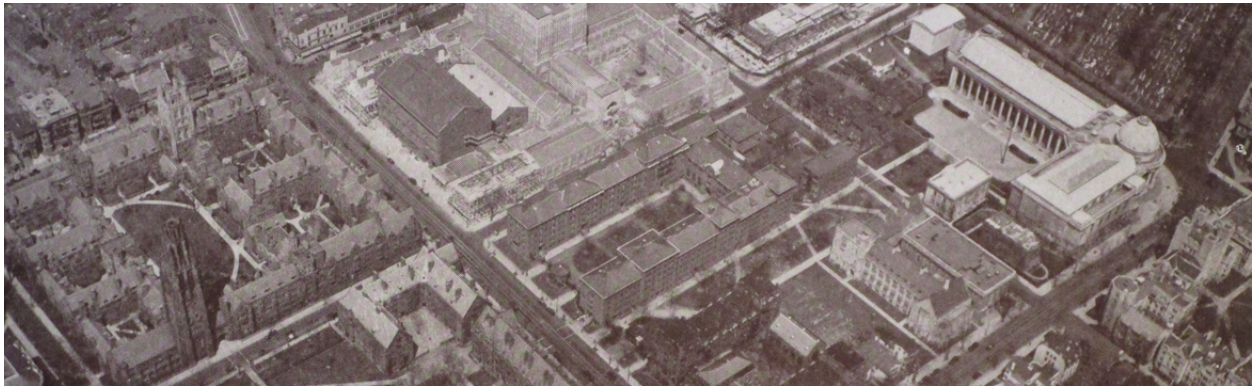


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Judith B. Tankard, Author

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