

An allee of crabapple trees line a bocce court at Ice Pond Farm in North Salem, NY—the home of Dick Button and a founding garden in the Garden Conservancy's Open Days Program.

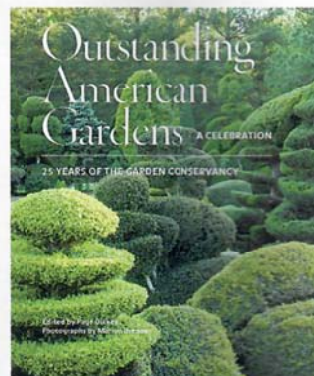


A detail of Ken Eisold's four-acre woodland garden in Ridgefield, CT.

Outstanding American Gardens—A Celebration: 25 Years of the Garden Conservancy

BY PAGE DICKEY (Abrams)

For 25 years, the Garden Conservancy, headquartered in Westchester County, has helped save and share American gardens that might otherwise be lost to time and neglect or hidden behind private gates. Coming on September 22, 2015, this book highlights 50 diverse and distinct gardens from coast to coast, including a classic Southern garden in Charleston, NC, the gardens of Alcatraz prison in San Francisco, CA and several gorgeous local examples. This volume is truly a testament to the dedication of the nonprofit Garden Conservancy. **\$50**



1b. *Elle Décor* magazine, September 2015



Lush borders
in a garden in
Eugene, Oregon.

SAVING GRACE

Just as historic preservationists save significant buildings, the Garden Conservancy rescues and maintains private gardens, making them accessible to the public. *Outstanding American Gardens* (Stewart, Tabori & Chang), a new book celebrating the organization's 25th anniversary, features Marion Brenner's photographs of 50 sumptuous oases across the country, from a topiary garden in South Carolina filled with fanciful abstract shapes to a Japanese-style haven on Long Island, complete with a traditional teahouse, to the flower beds of Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay, once tended by prisoners and guards alike and again thriving after years of neglect.



Ruth wind through
cherry trees at an
island garden on the
Long Island Sound.

BRENNER: MARIAN BRENNER; GARDENS: MARIAN BRENNER; BELLINI: COURTESY MARIO BELLINI/PHADON PRESS; GARDENS: MARIAN BRENNER

1c. *Sunset* magazine, September 2015

Seed saviors

BEST LANDSCAPES When *Outstanding American Gardens: A Celebration* crossed our desk, we saw the book's subtitle (*25 Years of the Garden Conservancy*) and thought, Oh, Connecticut lilacs and Virginia dogwoods. Then we opened it. Of the 50 public and private properties in this volume, 14 are, in fact, in the West—including this stunner, right, in Eugene, Oregon. And here's an even more important Western connection: Frank and Anne Cabot may have been Easterners, but it was visiting Ruth Bancroft in Walnut Creek, California—and hearing her worries about her collection's future—that led Frank to found the nonprofit. "As we drove away, I said to my wife, 'We have to find some way to help this woman.' And she said, rather facetiously, 'Why don't you start a garden conservancy?'" The rest, thanks to them, is gardening history. \$50; abramsbooks.com. ▲

