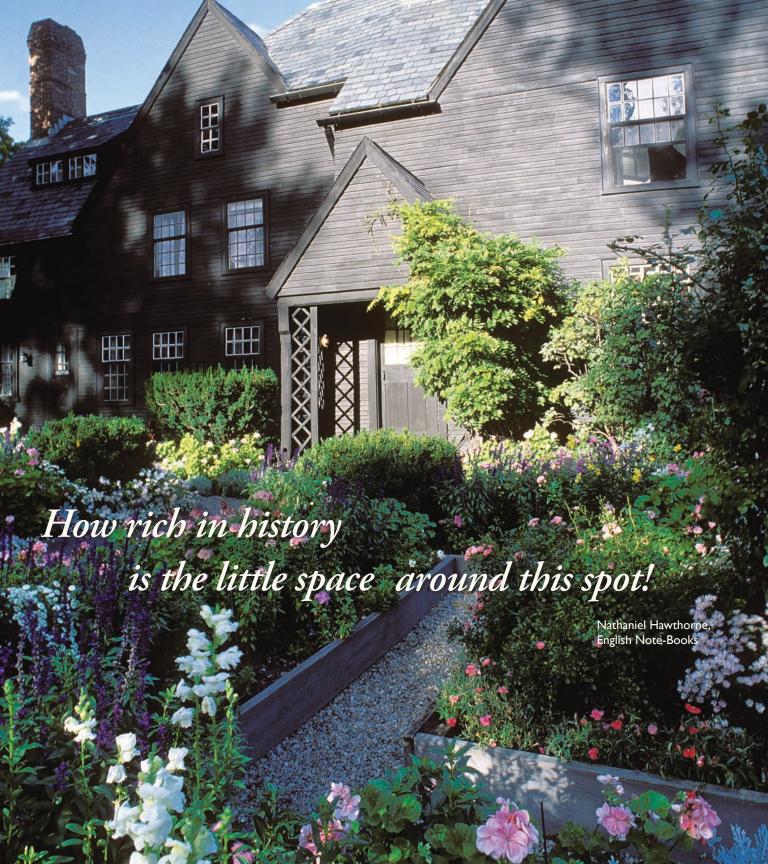


### Guide and Map





# A GARDEN OASIS NESTLED AMONG HISTORIC HOMES



While The House of the Seven Gables and the land surrounding it has evolved for centuries, it was Caroline Emmerton's early-twentieth century vision that gives the present-day garden its soul. Under her direction, the garden was laid out and elements and buildings added to create the space we see today. In line with her settlement work, she wanted to create an "old-fashioned" garden oasis that would be a place for retreat. Landscape architect Daniel J. Foley added many touches to the site throughout the latter part of the last century. He gave the garden its scale and sense of place. Since 1980, landscape designer M. Robyn Kanter, who worked with Foley for many years, has carried on his traditions.



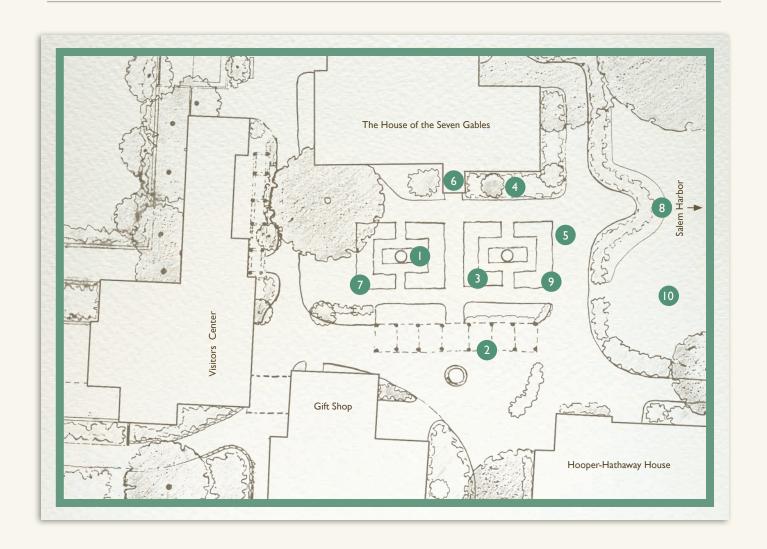


DANIEL J. FOLEY 1913 — 1999 Landscape Architect

# THE GARDENS AT THE HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES



History and charm combine in our scenic seaside gardens





#### 1. Rose Trellis

The two rose trellises in the center garden first appeared in photos in the early 1920s. It has been said that they were copied from one that existed in an old garden on the grounds of the Andrew-Safford House in Salem. They have been recreated several times over the years, most recently in 2013. For many years the trellises have supported the climbing rose, *Rosa "New Dawn*," which was introduced in 1930.

#### 2. WISTERIA ARBOR

The wisteria arbor is another feature added to the garden in the 1920s. The variety, Wysteria sinensis, was introduced to the region during the height of the China Trade in the 19th century and was a favorite in Salem gardens. Our original plants are pruned to allow the old wood to form a knotted screen, through which one can catch a glimpse of the garden.



## 3. THE MRS. LAWRENCE GERANIUM

This iridescent pink geranium is a signature plant in our garden. We have been growing it for well over 60 years. An old favorite in North Shore gardens, it is no longer grown commercially. We keep this cultivar going by having a local nursery propagate plants for us.



#### 4. THE LILACS

"I well remember the thrill that the gaunt old house gave me when I first caught sight of it," remembered Caroline Emmerton. "It was shrouded in lilac bushes. They loomed high above the very high fence, and above the lilacs rose the dark old house." Today, the lilacs (*Syringa vulgaris*) contribute to the feeling that this is a garden that has been here for a long time.



#### 5. Cast Iron Garden Furniture

Cast in Boston and similar to that gracing the White House lawn, our garden furniture was another 1920s addition to the site. Through the generosity of the Chris Patton Garden Fund, it was restored in the 1990s. Over 25 layers of paint were chipped off each piece, and a sample was analyzed at SPNEA (Historic New England) for color analysis to enable restoration of the furniture to its original color.





#### 6. THE GARDEN PORCH

Caroline Emmerton wrote, "The garden porch is not mentioned by Hawthorne in the novel. I built it for our Settlement residents – to give them a place to sit outdoors. I now feel that I took a liberty with the old house and I should certainly remove the porch if that was an easy matter." Today, the garden porch remains a wonderful element of our garden that helps define the space.

#### 7. THE BOXWOOD

In the late 1960s, Dan Foley added the boxwoods (Buxus sempervirens) that anchor our raised beds. He brought them in from a large estate in Newburyport. These plants give character to the gardens and add a sense of proportion and scale.



#### 8. THE SEASIDE LOCATION

What makes this space memorable is the sense of enclosure, the play of light and shadow, and the garden's relationship to the water. The dark first-period houses, the shadows from the trees, the iridescent glimmer of the water and the bright accents of the garden flowers all combine to subtly surprise our visitors when they first walk on the grounds.



#### 9. THE PATTERNED BEDS

The center garden was laid out in 1909 by architect Joseph Chandler. It is a simple, Jacobean-style knot garden with boards along the beds to provide formal precision and a sense of neatness. This was characteristic of many Colonial Revival gardens. The boards have been replaced several times over the decades, most recently in 2014.



#### 10. THE SEASIDE LAWN

Shored up by a seawall originally constructed in the late-eighteenth century by Captain Samuel Ingersoll, owner of the house from 1782 to 1804, our seaside lawn has been a gathering spot for many celebrations over the decades. The style of fencing on the top of the seawall and along the lawn area has been identically replicated for well over one hundred years.





## THE GARDEN GUIDE IS DEDICATED IN THE MEMORY OF:

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# The House Seven Gables

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