

# Explorations in Landscape Architectural Design and Stewardship on the Côte D'Azur

Château de La Napoule | Summer 2019

July 19 – 27, 2019



## Friday, July 19, 2019 – Chateau

- 6 PM – Orientation Wine and Cheese
- 7 PM – Welcome Supper (included)

## Saturday, July 20, 2019

- 8 – 9 AM – Breakfast at the Chateau (included)
- 9 – 10 AM – Introduction to the Chateau and Gardens and Workshop by LNAF Staff
- 10 - 12 PM – Tour of Chateau, gardens, and beaches by LNAF Staff
- 12 – 1 PM – Light lunch (included)
- 1 – 3 PM – Talk #1: Make Visible and Instill Value for our Shared Cultural Landscape Heritage by Charles Birnbaum
- 3 - 4 PM – Reading the Landscape: Cognitive Mental Mapping Exercise by Charles Birnbaum
- 4 – 6:30 PM – Free time
- 6:30 – 9:30 – Dinner on your own

## Sunday, July 21, 2019

- 8 – 9 AM – Breakfast at the Chateau (included)
- 9 – 10:30 AM – Talk #2 An Introduction to *What's Out There* (TCLF's on-line digital database of our shared landscape legacy) by Charles Birnbaum and assisted by Eric Groft
- 10:30 – 3:30 (lunch on your own) - Site visits to close proximity locations to conduct *What's Out There* field reconnaissance

Participants form groups of 2 to 3 and choose to inventory one of the following:

### Beaches

- Beach du Raguette
- Plage du Château
- Plage Robinson

### Parks

- Parc Forestier du San Peyre (wooded, natural forest with trails and view of the Sea)
- Promenade du Tanneron
- Parc Départemental de La Pointe l'Aiguille
- Square Sainte Rosalie
- The Old Course (golf course in La Napoule, est 1891)
- Croix des Gardes

### Misc

- Massif de l'Esterel (natural landmark on coast)
- Adjacent to Château, memorial to war veterans (as seen in village squares throughout France)
- Train station and new pedestrianized plaza around Château
- Markets in La Napoule and Cannes (Aix is renowned for best in region)

### Cannes (5 miles west of La Napoule)

- Ile Sainte Honorare
- Le Monastere Frotifie
- Monuments aux Mortes
- La Croisette (promenade in Cannes)

### Lerins Islands (20 mins by ferry from La Napoule)

- Abbaye de Lerins
- Villa Domergue

### Antibes (22 kms north of La Napoule):

- Le Nomade
- Picasso Museum

- 3:30 – 4:15 PM - Wrap up of site visit with discoveries and discussion at the Chateau led by group leaders and Charles and Eric
- 4:15 – 6:30 PM – Free time
- 6:30 – 9:30 PM – Dinner on your own



## Monday, July 22, 2019

- 8 – 9 AM – Breakfast at the Chateau (included)
- 9 – 10:30 AM - Bus to Beaulieu-sur-Mer
- 10:30 – 12:30 PM - Tour of Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild

*Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild, also called villa Île-de-France, is a French seaside villa located at Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat on the French Riviera.*

*The villa was designed by the French architect Aaron Messiah, and constructed between 1905 and 1912 by Baroness Béatrice de Rothschild (1864–1934).*

*A member of the Rothschild banking family and the wife of the banker Baron Maurice de Ephrussi, Béatrice de Rothschild built her rose-colored villa on a promontory on the isthmus of Cap Ferrat overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. The Baroness filled the mansion with antique furniture, Old Master paintings, sculptures, objets d'art, and assembled an extensive collection of rare porcelain. The gardens are classified by the French Ministry of Culture as one of the Notable Gardens of France.*

*On her death in 1934, the Baroness donated the property and its collections to the Académie des Beaux Arts division of the Institut de France.*

- 12:30 – 2:30 PM – Lunch (A boxed lunch will be provided or lunch at a local restaurant can be arranged. Meals at outside restaurants are not included in the program fees.)
- 2:30 – 3 PM - Bus to Villa Kerylos
- 3 – 4:30 – Tour of Villa Kerylos

*The villa was built in the early 1900s by French archaeologist Theodore Reinach, and his wife Fanny Kann, a daughter of Maximilien Kann and Betty Ephrussi, of the Ephrussi family. Madame Fanny Reinach was a cousin of Maurice Ephrussi, who was married to Béatrice de Rothschild. Inspired by the beauty of the Reinach's Villa Kerylos and the area, they built the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild at nearby Cap Ferrat.*

*Reinach admired the architecture, interior decoration and art of the ancient world and decided to recreate the atmosphere of a luxurious Greek villa in a new building. He purchased land surrounded on three sides by the sea on the tip of the Baie des Fourmis at Beaulieu-sur-Mer which he felt offered a location similar to that of coastal Greek temples.*

*Reinach selected as architect Emmanuel Pontremoli, who drawing on his travels in Asia Minor designed a faithful reconstruction of the Greek noble houses built on the island of Delos in the 2nd century B.C. and laid out the building around an open peristyle courtyard.*

*Construction of the building began in 1902 and took 6 years to complete. The interior integrated influences from Rome, Pompeii and Egypt with the interior decoration overseen by Gustave Louis Jaulmes and Adrien Karbowsky. Stucco bas-*



*reliefs were created by sculptor Paul Jean-Bapiste Gascq.*

*Reinach commissioned exact copies of ancient Grecian chairs, tabourets and klismos furniture kept in the National Archaeological Museum in Naples from the cabinetmaker Bettenfeld. Others were original designs by Pontremoli.*

*A Greek word, "Kerylos" means Halcyon or kingfisher which in Greek mythology was considered a bird of good omen.*

*Upon his death in 1928, Reinach bequeathed the property to the Institut de France, of which he had been a member. His children and grandchildren continued to live there until 1967.*

- 4:30 – 6 PM – Return to the Chateau
- 6 PM – Dinner on your own

## **Tuesday, July 23, 2019**

- 8 – 9 AM – Breakfast at the Chateau (included)
- 9 – 10:30 - Bus to Bonnieux
- 10:30 – 12:30 – Self-guided Tour of Jardin de la Louve Botanical Garden

*La Louve is a private French contemporary garden, open to the public, in the town of Bonnieux in the Vaucluse Department of France. It was created beginning in 1986 by Nicole de Vésian, textile designer for the Paris fashion house of Hermès. It is classified by the French Ministry of Culture as one of the Notable Gardens of France*



*The gardens are laid out on a series of terraces, and are designed to be in harmony with the surrounding natural landscape. They incorporate local rocks and stones, including stone balls and smooth stones from the Durance River, trees and bushes trimmed into geometric shapes, and wooden benches placed for meditation and contemplation. The garden includes an Arbutus tree shaped by artist Marc Nucera; fig, cherry, apricot and apple trees; roses and iris; and native fragrant plants of the region, including lavender, rosemary, and santolina.*

*The site was purchased by Nicole de Vésian when she retired from Hermès and devoted her time to gardening. Over the course of ten years, she transformed a village house with land exposed to the south into a complex design of stone and greenery. As she approached the age of eighty, she sold the garden in 1996 to art collector Judith Pillsbury and began a new garden above the village. Judith Pillsbury preserved the original design and maintained the garden until 2014 when it was bought by its present owner Mme Sylvie Verger-Lanel.*

- 12:30 – 1:30 - Lunch (A boxed lunch will be provided or lunch at a local restaurant can be arranged. Meals at outside restaurants are not included in the program fees.)
- 1:30 – 2:30 – Bus to a TBD location during return to Chateau or another talk
- 2:30 – 4:30 – Tour of TBD location or TBD Lecture at Chateau
- Dinner on your own



### Wednesday, July 24, 2019

- 8 – 9 AM – Breakfast at the Chateau (included)
- 9 – 10 AM – Bus to Fréjus
- 10 - 12 PM - Tour La Pomme d'Ambre

*Created by Nicole Arboireau, the garden covers about 2000 square meters and is built on a slope on the French Riviera.*



*Located in Fréjus, at the foot of the Esterel mountains, this garden contains all the plants of the Provençal culture: rosebushes, wisteria, cistus of the nearby maquis, and collections of exotic sage. However, with more than 700 species, the garden has the typical informal exuberance which characterizes cottage gardening. The garden contains many traditional cottage plants such as kerria, aquilegias and dicentra but also exotics such as blue echiums.*

*Many of the plants in the garden began life as cuttings that Nicole took from plants in the surrounding area. Native plants and trees such as mimosa, eucalyptus, wisteria and bougainvillea are repeated in the Pomme d'Ambre garden.*

*The garden was voted one of the preferred gardens of the French in 2013 in a competition run by a French TV station.*

- 12 – 12:30 PM – Bus to Sepia
- 12:30 – 2 PM – Lunch (A boxed lunch will be provided or lunch at a local restaurant can be arranged. Meals at outside restaurants are not included in the program fees.)
- 2 – 3 PM – Bus to Chateau
- 3 – 4 PM – Talk #3. Design with Nature: Strategies and Approaches for Planting Design by Eric Groff.

*The principals of the New American Garden Style will be explained and the evolution of the natural garden movement will be presented.*

- 4 PM – Discussion
- 6 PM – dinner on your own

### Thursday, July 25, 2019

- 8 – 9 AM – Breakfast at the Chateau (included)
- 9 – 9:30 – Bus to Antibes
- 9:30 – 12 PM - Villa Thuret Botanical Garden

*The garden was created in 1857 by Gustave Thuret, a botanist best known for studies of reproduction in algae, who used it to conduct plant acclimatization trials with friend and lichen expert Jean-Baptiste Édouard Bornet. In 1868, novelist George Sand described it as the loveliest garden she had ever seen. It was bequeathed to the nation*



*in 1878, and in 1927 attached to the Institute of Agronomic Research, which in 1946 became the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique.*

*Today the garden contains approximately 2,500 trees and shrubs in its collections, representing some 1,600 exotic species (144 genera, 131 families) from Mediterranean or hot climate countries including South Africa, Australia, California, Chile, and Mexico, as well as China, Japan, and New Zealand. About 50 to 100 new species are planted each year.*

*The garden contains fine collections of cycads, conifers (with an exceptional collection of cypress), palms (30 species including excellent specimens of Jubaea), legumes (various species of Australian acacias), Mediterranean oaks, Australian Myrtaceae (Callistemon, Calothamnus, Eucalyptus, Melaleuca), a large collection of Pittosporum spp., and Proteaceae including Banksia, Grevillea, Hakea, and Leucadendron.*

*Noteworthy specimens include a magnificent Jubaea spectabilis, as well as very fine specimens of Arbutus xalapensis, Agathis robusta, Cupressus macrocarpa, Eucalyptus benthamii, Melaleuca linariifolia, and Taxodium mucronatum*

- 12:30 – 1 PM – Bus to L'Arzur
- 12:30 – 2:30 PM – Lunch (A boxed lunch will be provided or lunch at a local restaurant can be arranged. Meals at outside restaurants are not included in the program fees.)
- 2:30 – 3 PM – Bus to Chateau
- 3 PM – Talk #4. *Embracing a Landscape's Palimpsest* (Eric Groft)

*Eric will present case studies of landscapes and gardens and how legacy transitions from owners, landscape architects, and lifestyles.*

*Case Study #1 Boxwood - A is a historic twenty-acre Gilded Age estate that borders the Old Westbury polo fields in Brookville, NY, on Long Island's Gold Coast. The design features a forecourt, terracing, a new pond, and restoration of the formal garden. The improvements successfully blend the site's historic features with modern lifestyle amenities. Originally designed by Ellen Biddle Shipman in the 1920's and 30's, the property was then updated by Innocenti & Webel during the middle of the 20th Century and OvS undertook a major renovation in the 1990's and is still involved to this day.*

*Case Study #2 – Finch Farm. OvS' Master Plan and design for this 100-acre farm in Southern New England preserves its 18th-century aesthetics, allowing it to maintain its wild – yet tranquil – beauty. The home sits deep within the Titicus Reservoir Drainage Basin on the New York-Connecticut border and draws inspiration largely from its natural surroundings. The landscape is interrupted only with streams, upland paddocks and bridal paths that weave through the land; even the more modern driveway leading to the house is surrounded by a natural, highly detailed garden.*

*The property is planned around the natural divisions of the land, taking into consideration the site's wetlands, woodlands, meadows and equestrian amenities. Highlights include a four-acre, native-planted meadow, a woodland ephemeral garden, a pond, and multiple riding rings.*

*Despite its historical beauty, the home maintains its functionality in the modern world. The renovations of the farmhouse, barns and stable include the transformation of a cottage into a guesthouse – ensuring the farm a place in the 21st century. The residence received extensive coverage in *Classical Invention: The Architecture of John B. Murray*, a monograph by the project's architect.*

*Case Study #3 – The Federal Reserve Campus. The original Federal Reserve Board Building (now called Eccles Building) designed by Paul Cret in the modern classical style was dedicated in 1937. In 1974, Cret's successor firm, Harbeson Hough Livingston and Larson (later called H2L2), was engaged to design an additional building, called the Martin Building. Its surrounding garden, built over the parking garage, was designed by George E. Patton. In 1977 a winter storm destroyed much of Patton's evergreen plantings. David Lilly, a Governor of the Federal Reserve, engaged James van Sweden and Wolfgang Oehme, of Oehme van Sweden, to renovate the garden and create a more useable outdoor public space. Their planting design was a symbolic change from the formal European geometry to a garden style which drew influence from America's Great Plains heritage and the native plant palate of Karl Foerster, from Germany, and Mien Ruys, from the Netherlands. It also launched a new American garden style.*

*The Virginia Avenue Gardens of the Federal Reserve appear at grade but are actually on the roof of an underground parking structure. Their lush meadow- like compositions are eye-catching, especially for a site in the middle of the city. They feature sweeps of perennials set in contrast to trees and ornamental grasses. The trees offer shade, soften the visual impacts of buildings, and provide transition in scale to the urban surroundings on the five acre corporate campus. Open spaces function as sculpture gardens where visitors gather for strolls, lunches, and reading. The gardens provide visual contrasts throughout the year: displays of bulbs in spring, ornamental grasses that change the scale of the site in summer, and bouquets of dried perennials and golden grasses in winter. Oehme, van Sweden & Associates monitors and updates the gardens continuously, and has recently designed improvements for perimeter site security.*

- 4:30 PM – Free time and dinner on your own

### **Friday, July 26, 2019**

- 8 – 9 AM – Breakfast at the Chateau (included)
- 9 – 10:30 AM – Talk #5. *Cultural Landscapes: Treatment and Carrying Capacity* (Charles Birnbaum)
- 10:30 – 11 AM – Discussion
- 11 – 12 PM – Cognitive Mental Mapping Part II by Eric and Charles
- 12 – 12:30 PM – Discussion
- 12:30 – 2 PM – Lunch at the Chateau (included)
- 2 – 3:30 - Group Presentations of *What's Out There* Assignments
- 3:30 – 4 PM – Discussion and wrap-up
- 4 – 6:30 PM – Free time
- 6:30 – 7:30 – Farewell Wine and Cheese
- 7:30 – Farewell Supper at the Chateau (included)

### **Saturday, July 27, 2019**

- 8 – 8:30 AM – Breakfast at the Chateau (included)
- 8:30 AM – Departure



