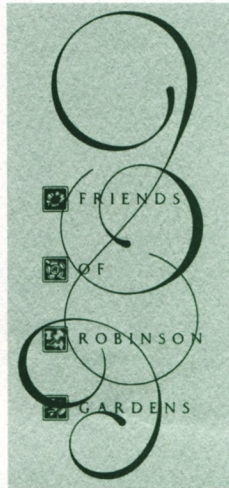


*Friends of Robinson Gardens*

1996 Garden Tour

*May 17, 1996*



# A Room With A View

LANDSCAPE DESIGN BY **Sassafras Nursery**

WITH DESIGNERS **Eric Solberg**

**Martin and Marsha Brander**

*“Ever since I could remember anything, flowers have been like dear friends to me, comforters, inspirers, powers to uplift and cheer”*

Celia Thaxter



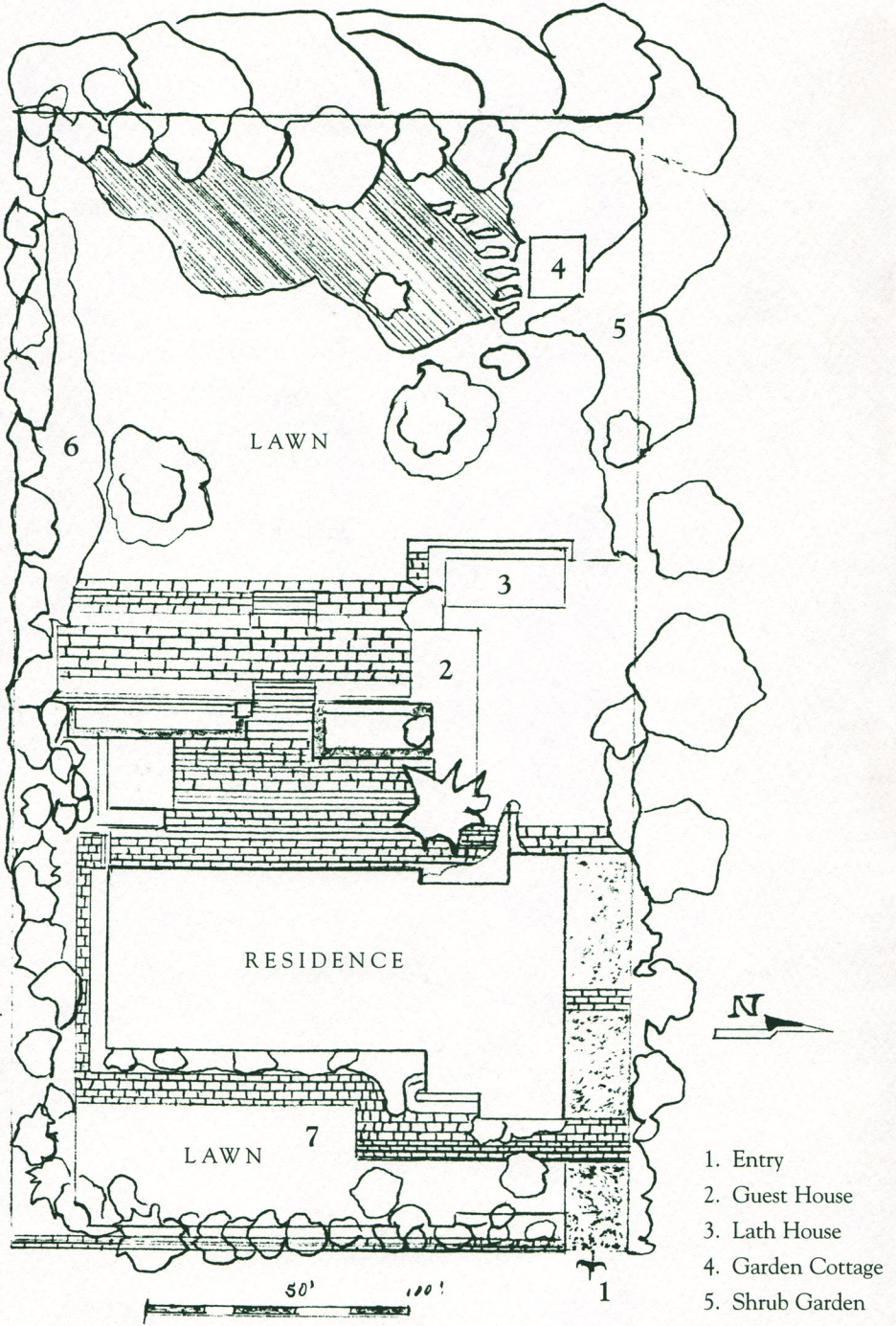
After the gloom of the middle ages the surrounding countryside of Florence and the northern towns of Italy lent itself to the building of many country estates or villas.

These villas were categorized as two basic types. The first being the grand country estate encompassing many levels, terraces, fountains, and a grand vista flowing over rolling hills to the distant countryside beyond. The second type generally a smaller estate, a semi-town villa, most resembles our garden “A Room With A View”.

You enter on a drive on golden pebbles. Immediately to your left the front entrance of the residence and the cloistered lawn transcend you to another place and time. The front entrance of the residence is adorned by an ancient Etruscan door from the Wm. Randolph Hearst collection.

Along with the main house many outdoor rooms are threaded on site lines for a sequence of delights and surprises. Steps are sited to shift ones views and to allow for graceful movements of the human body. Views of water, grand vistas, and the instinct for formality consider the garden so much a part of the house it is regarded as nothing more or less than an extra room. A salon flooded with unlimited light and air. A Room With A View.





1. Entry
2. Guest House
3. Lath House
4. Garden Cottage
5. Shrub Garden
6. Lower Stairway
7. Front Cloister

*A Room With A View*

ERIC SOLBERG has been designing gardens with Sassafras for 15 years. He was raised and educated in Buffalo, New York. His innovative work has been featured in *Time*, *Town and Country*, and *House and Garden* magazines. Together with Sassafras owner Pamela Ingram, they have secured many landscaping awards such as The L.A. County Garden Shows and a Blue Ribbon at the Chelsea America Garden Show.

