## The Vista Terrace The Japanese-style Garden





Frances Vandenbroucke February 19, 2019

## The Vista Terrace: A Pause for Reflection



- Design
- Significant plants
- Quick virtual tour
- Objects
- Marjorie Post's use of the space
- How it is used today
- Maintenance

## A Completely Open View From the Mansion



## To the Bottom of the Vista and Beyond



## View of the Mansion from the Bottom of the Vista



#### Significant Plants





#### **Spring Blooms**

- Forsythia
- Azaleas
- Deutzia
- Mock orange
- Saucer magnolia
- Lilac



## Woody Plant Border at Top of Vista Frames the Terrace



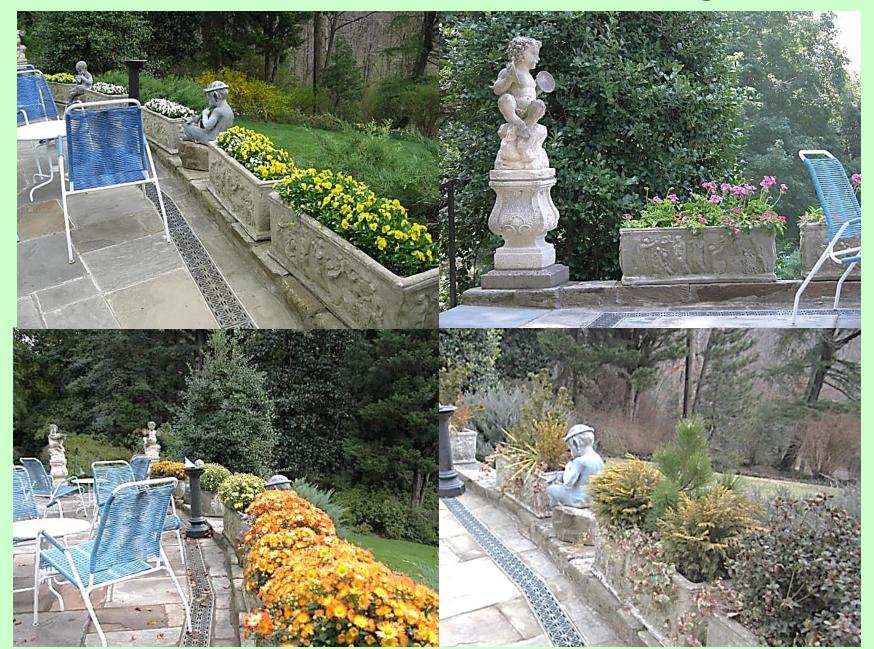
#### A Quick Virtual Tour

#### The Vista in Fall and Winter Garb





#### A Year of Seasonal Changes



#### The Well-Furnished Terrace



- Satyrs
- Sundial
- Plaque
- Furniture



A set of four limestone baby satyr musicians *American c. 1950* 



One holds a horn
Another plays the cymbals
The third plays the pipes
The fourth plays a
tambourine



## A pair of lead satyrs: one playing the pipes, the other playing a horn to a bird perched on his knee



#### The Mariner's Sundial American c. 1950



A cast-iron pedestal supporting a sundial plate with sailboat gnomon



#### Bronze Plaque

Given by members of the Sulgrave Club on November 28, 1964, in appreciation for hosting them at Topridge



#### Surf Line Patio Furniture

Brown Jordan Furniture Co., Pasadena, CA Mid-1960s



## The Vista Terrace Marjorie Post Knew and Used



## The Vista Terrace from the Lunar Lawn, c. 1964 Notice the chairs!



The Vista Terrace offered a place for small groups to gather during Marjorie Post's parties on the Lunar Lawn (1966)



#### It serves the same purpose today





#### Maintaining the Space



- Seasonal plants
- Pruning
- Furniture cleaning and storage
- Conservation of objects

## Journey to the Japanese-style Garden

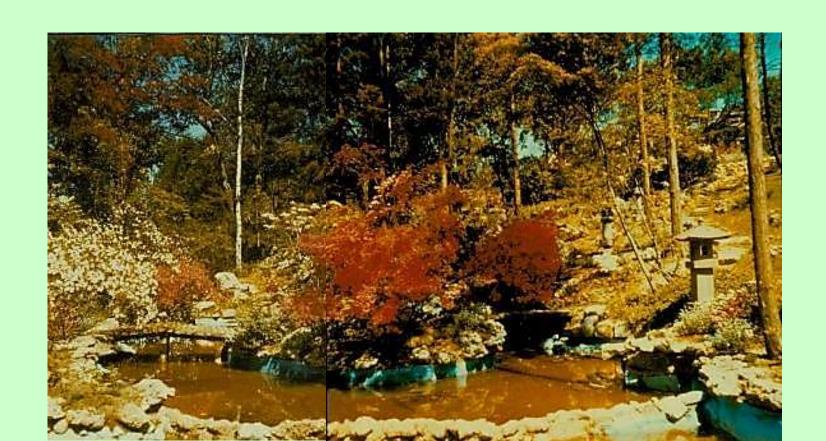


- The designer and the design process
- Virtual tour of the mature garden
- Significant plants
- Objects
- Marjorie Post in the garden
- Restoration 2001-2
- Maintenance

#### The Arbremont "Oriental" Garden

c.1955

Note the bright turquoise-painted shoreline and the free-growing azaleas and trees.





#### Shogo J. Myaida

(Pronounced "My - eeda")

Born 1897 in Takamatsu, Japan

Taught landscape design at Imperial University, Tokyo

1922 Ohio State landscape architecture summer institute in Europe

Moved to United States, settled in Albertson, Long Island NY

Became U.S. citizen in 1954

Died 1989 in Hendersonville NC



#### List of Some of His Other Work

1923: Brooklyn Botanical Garden

1923-24: Camp Takeda, Brenau College (now University), Gainesville GA

1925-30: Architectural and landscape drafting and design, Palm Beach FL

1938-39: Nippon Garden, New York World's Fair

1951-53: Levittown PA planning, with Levitt & Sons

1956-58: Holly Pond, Centre Island, Long Island NY Home of Jackson and Mary Griggs Burke

#### A Likely Influence

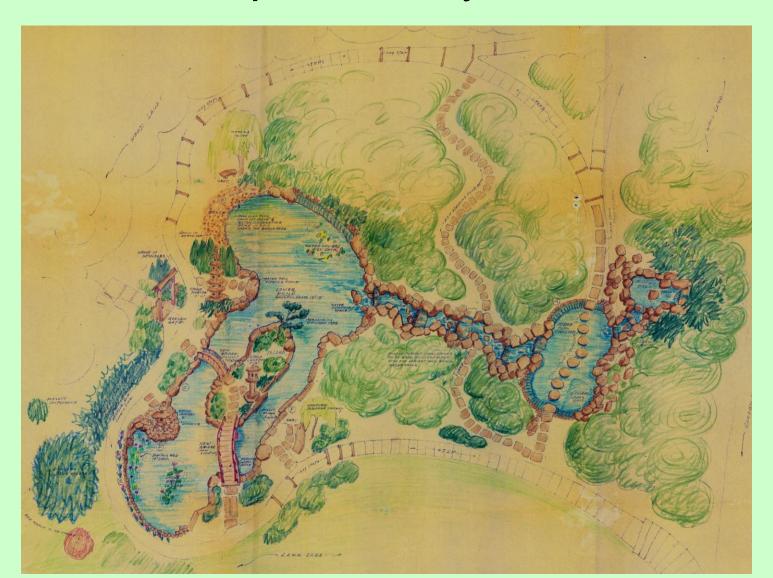
Ritsurin Koen in Takamatsu

A hill-and-pond garden of the Edo period,

Opened to the public in 1875

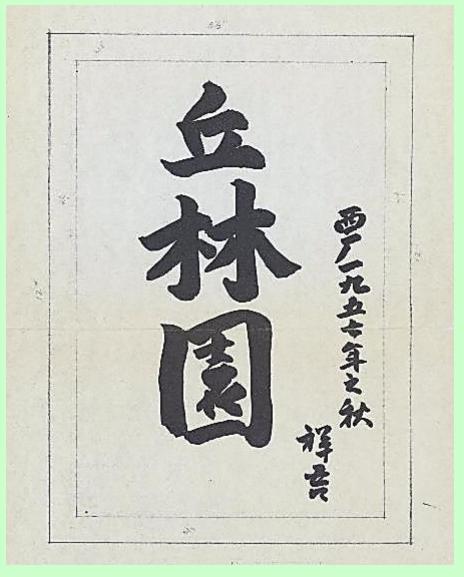


## Preliminary Concept Plan by Shogo Myaida for Japanese-style Garden



# Myaida named the garden *Kyurin-en*, Hill Wood Garden

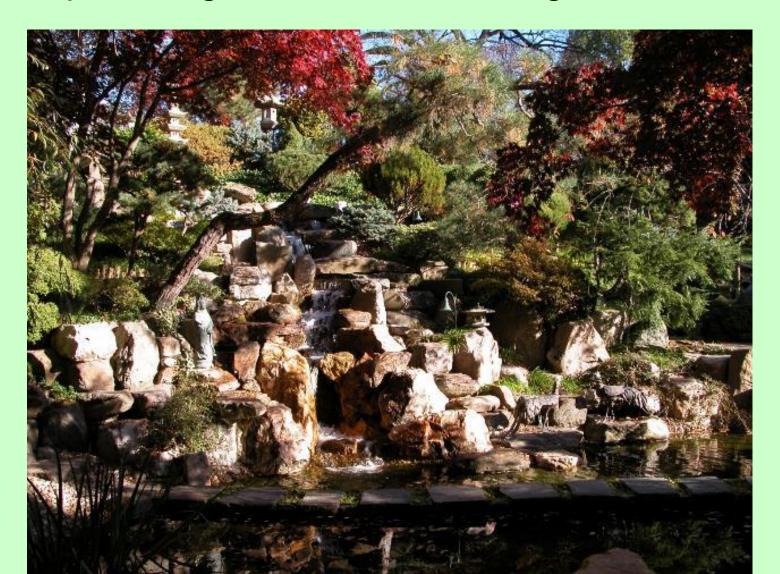




Translation: Hill Wood Garden Western Calendar 1957, Autumn Shogo

#### **Kyurin-en** Today

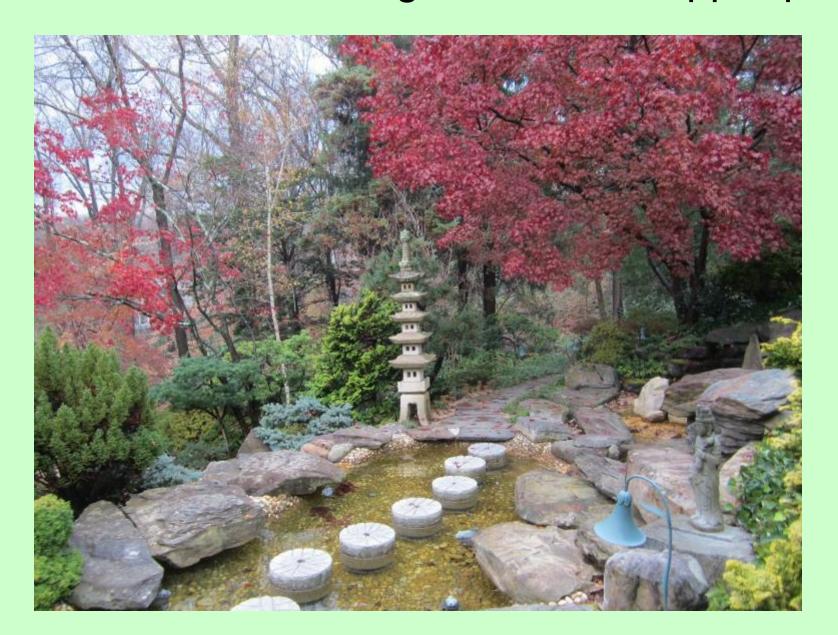
A Japanese garden with western garden nuances



### A tour of the mature restored garden c. 2008-2014



#### Millstones make a bridge across the upper pond



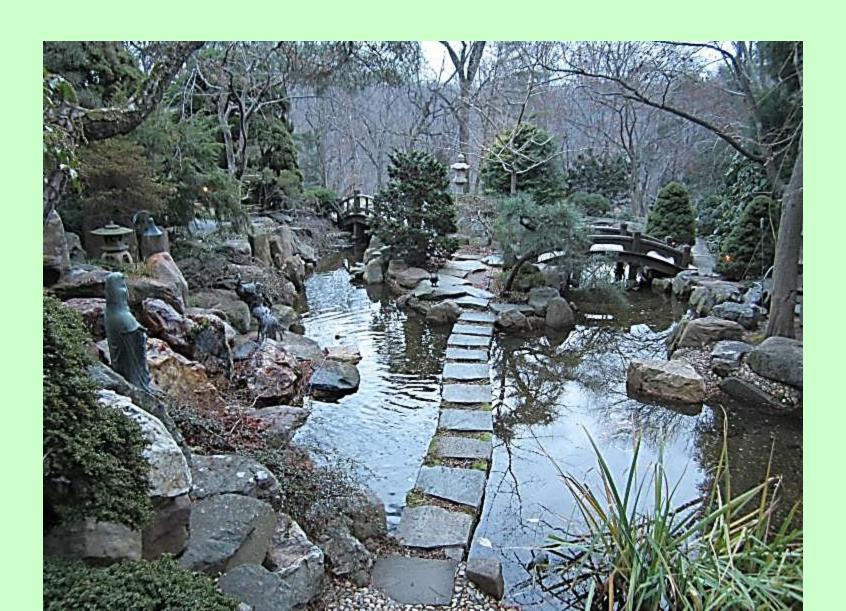
#### Water lilies bloom in summer



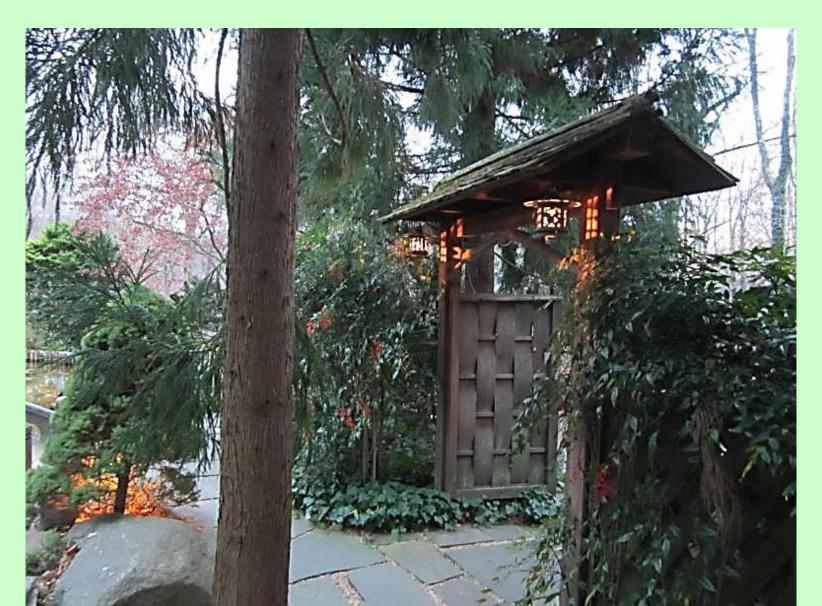
#### Autumn contrast of foliage, color, and form



#### Winter highlights evergreens and stonework



## Tea garden gate is focal point and destination



## Stairs behind the gate lead to Vista Lawn





c. 2008-14 c. 2008-14

## Significant Plants in the Japanese-style Garden



- Dwarf Alberta spruce
- Hollywood juniper
- Japanese pines
- Japanese cedar
- Japanese maples
- Littleleaf boxwood
- Weeping Japanese cherry

#### **Dwarf Alberta Spruce**

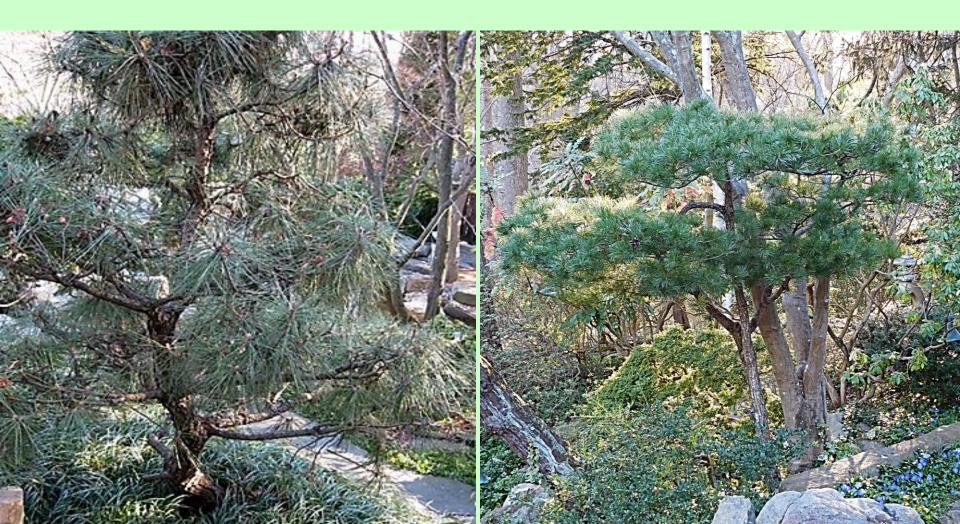
From Marjorie Post's time

## Hollywood Juniper From Marjorie Post's time

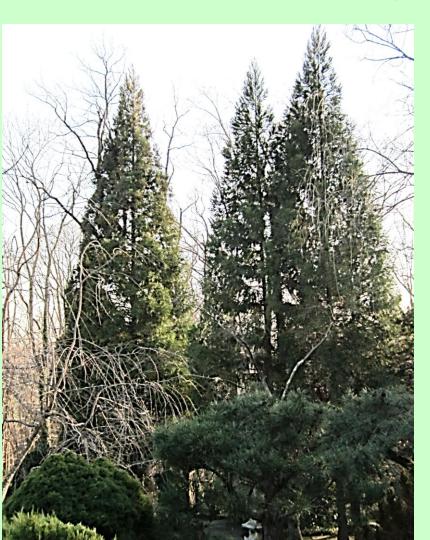


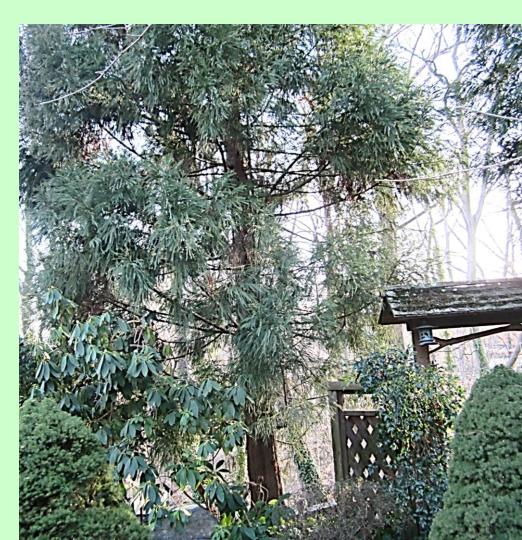


#### Japanese Black Pine Japanese White Pine



# Japanese Cedar (Cryptomeria)





### Red Japanese Maple



### Weeping Japanese Maple

Summer Fall color





#### Littleleaf Boxwood

From Marjorie Post's time





### Weeping Japanese Cherry



### Objects in the Japanese-style Garden

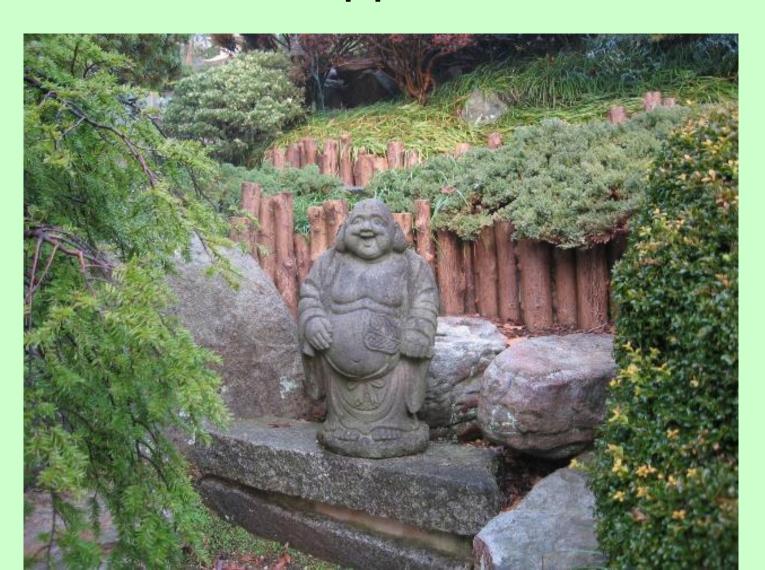
- Temple dogs
- Bodhisattva or Bosatsu:
   an incarnation of the Buddha
- Traditional stone lanterns
- Bronze animals
- Wooden structural elements



### Temple dogs – Koma Inu

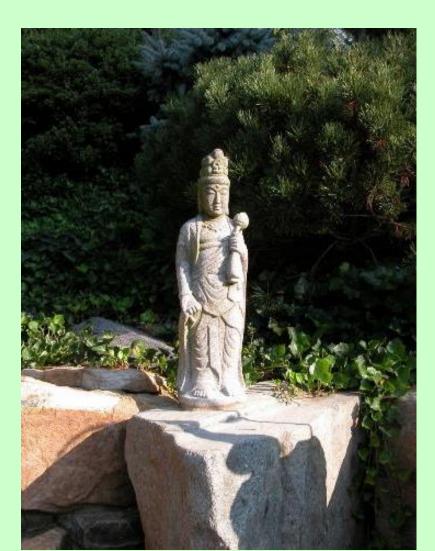


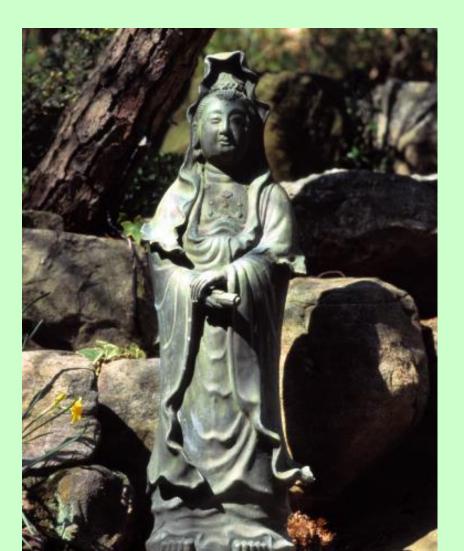
# Hotei - God of contentment and happiness



### Kannon, or Guanyin

Goddess of Compassion





## Jizo Protector of lost souls, especially children



### Kasuga lanterns



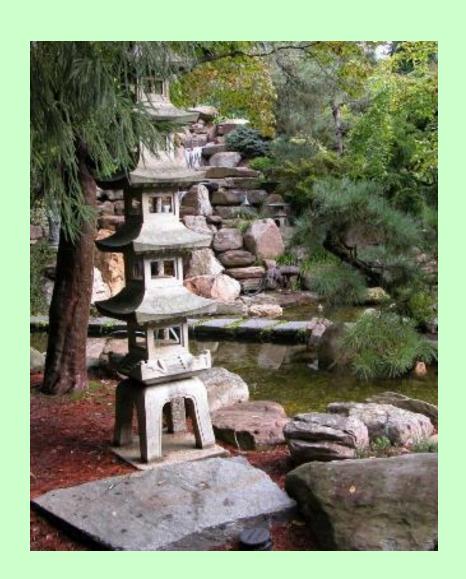


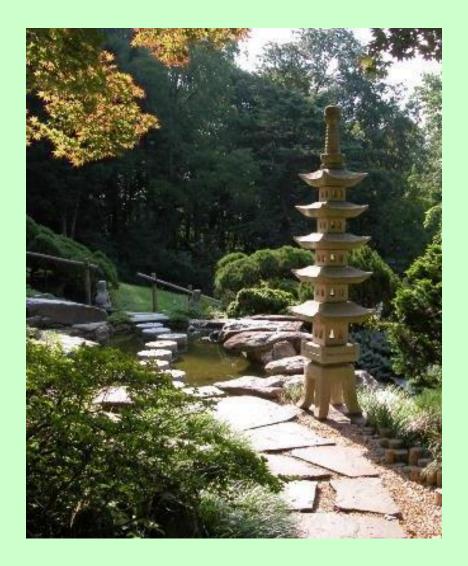


### Snow lanterns – yukimi doro

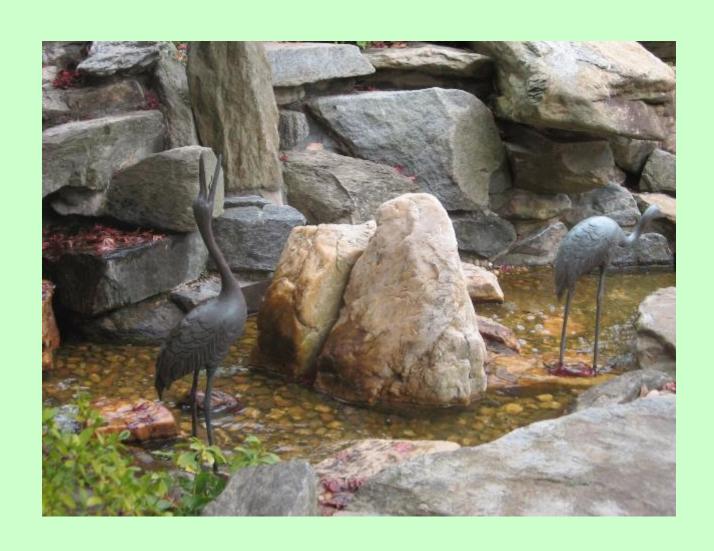


## Pagodas

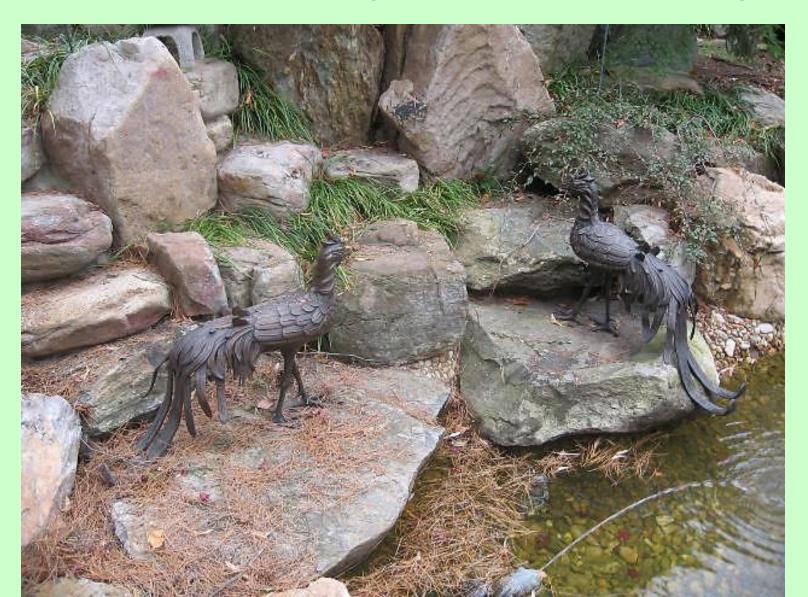




#### Pair of bronze cranes



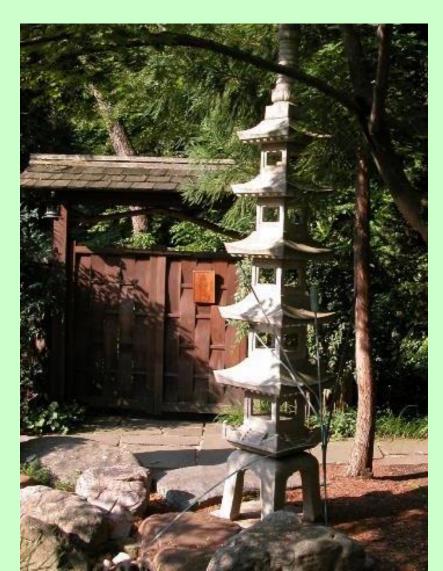
## Bronze ho-o ("phoenix" pair)

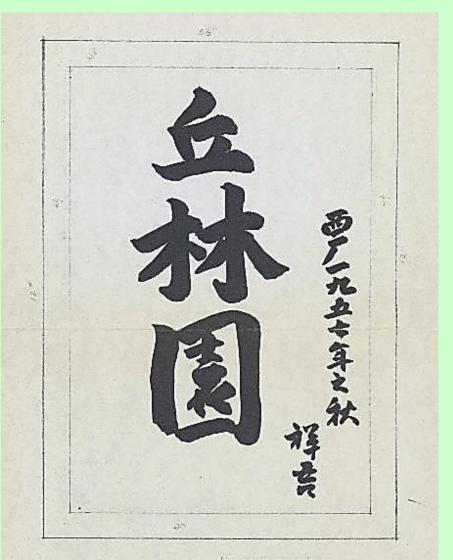


### Wooden bridges



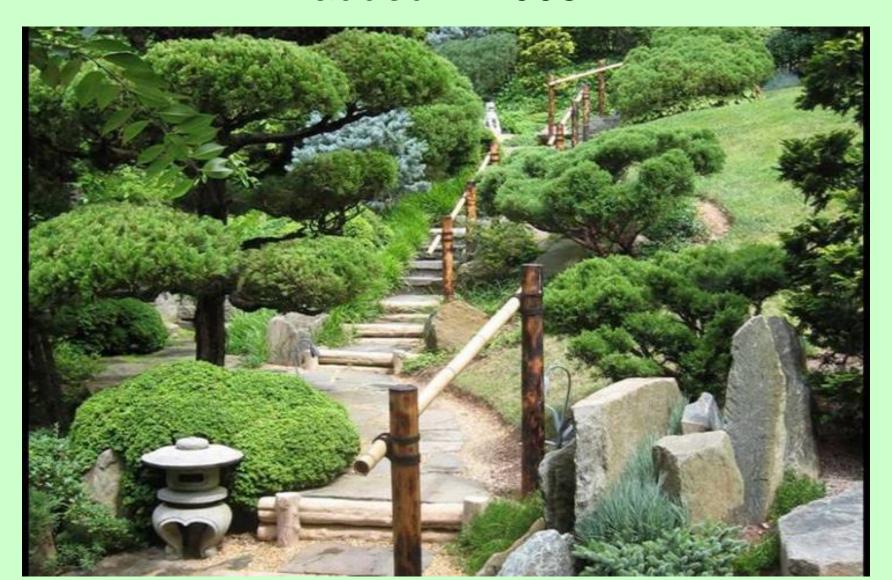
# Tea Garden gate, with carved wooden plaque





#### **Bamboo Hand Rails**

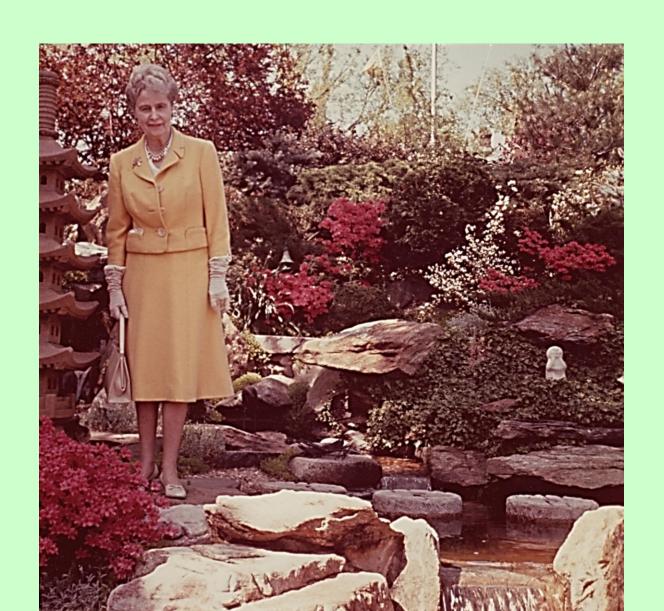
added in 2008



## The Japanese-style garden that Marjorie Post knew (c. 1959-1964)



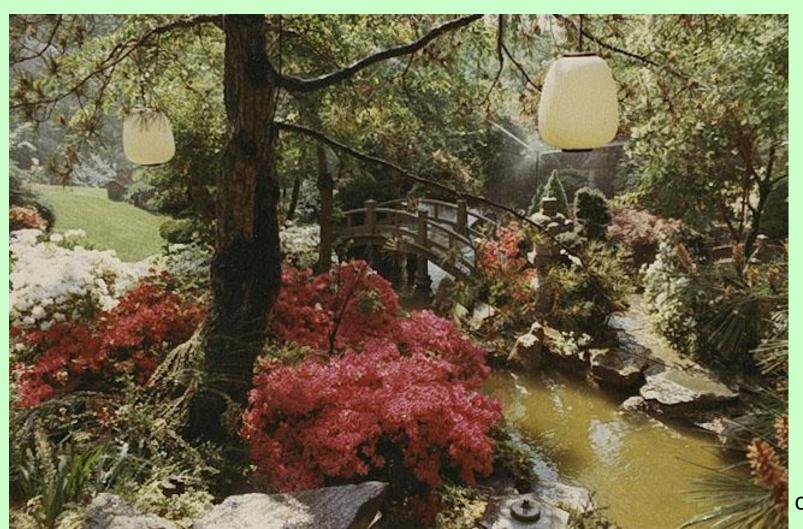
#### A Brief Virtual Tour with Marjorie Post



## Ornately planted hillside, with coordinating Vista bed in background

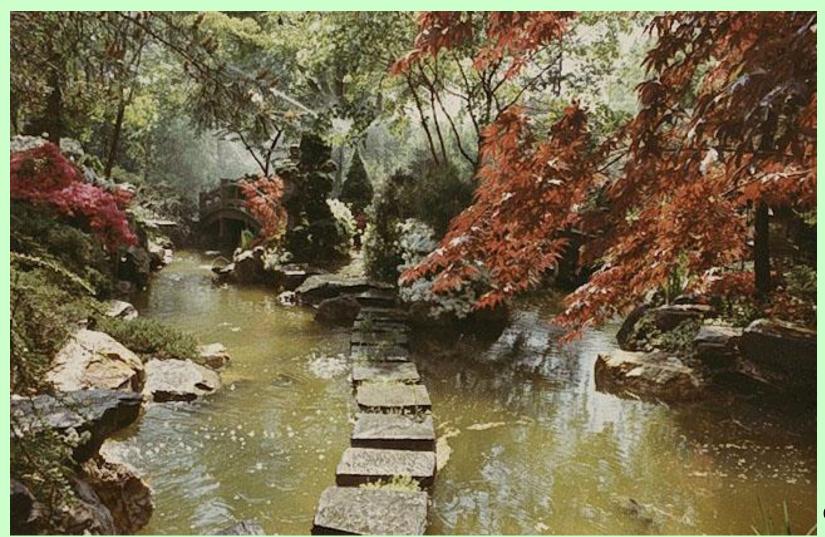


## Lanterns were hung from trees Note the unpruned azaleas

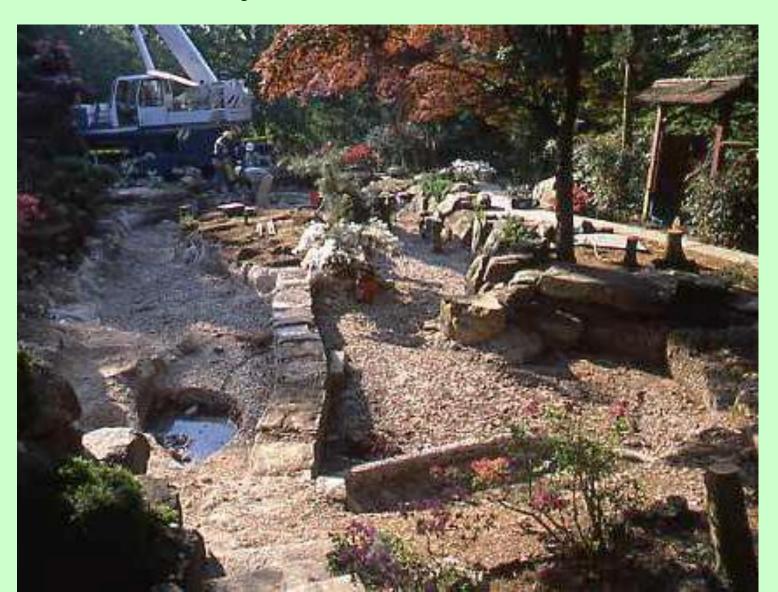


c. 1959-64

## Japanese maples and azaleas provide brilliant color contrast



#### The Restoration Project 2001-2002 Kyurin'en Rebuilt



Removal of overgrown, unhealthy, or incorrect plants
Many specimens were dug and saved in temporary beds,
others too large to move were left in place

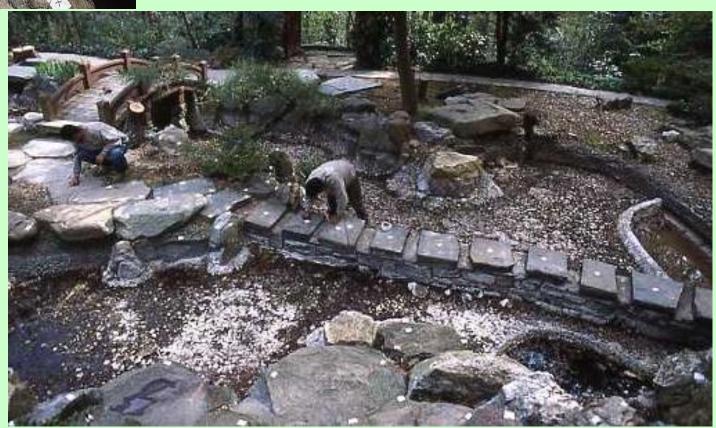




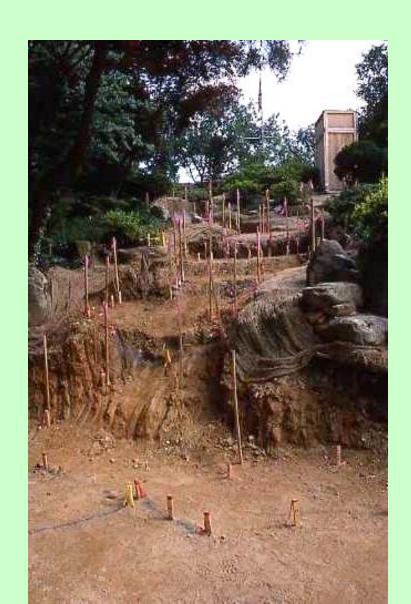
## Stone positions were recorded for later replacement



Each stone had 3 GPS coordinates



### Reconstructing the Waterfall

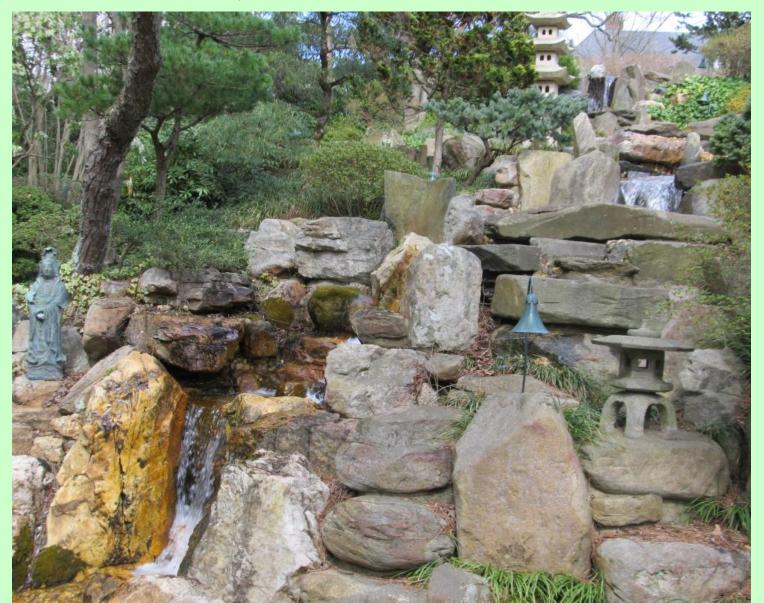




## Rocks and boulders were returned to their exact locations



# The result: an incredible engineering, construction, and artistic achievement

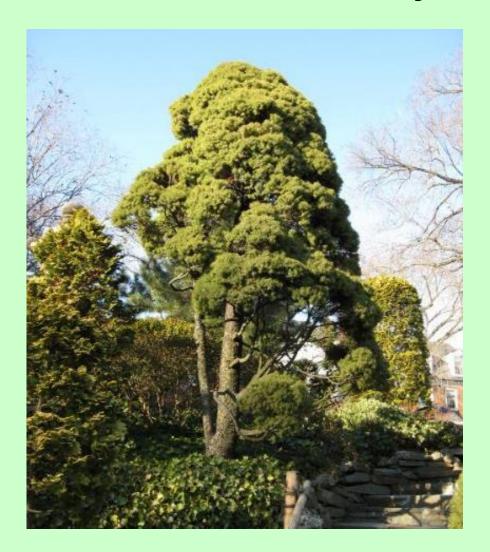


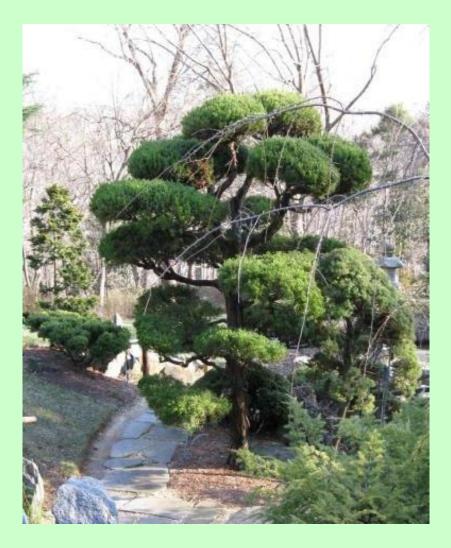
## Maintaining the Japanese-style Garden

- Pruning
- Pruning
- More pruning
- Plant replacement
- Water quality



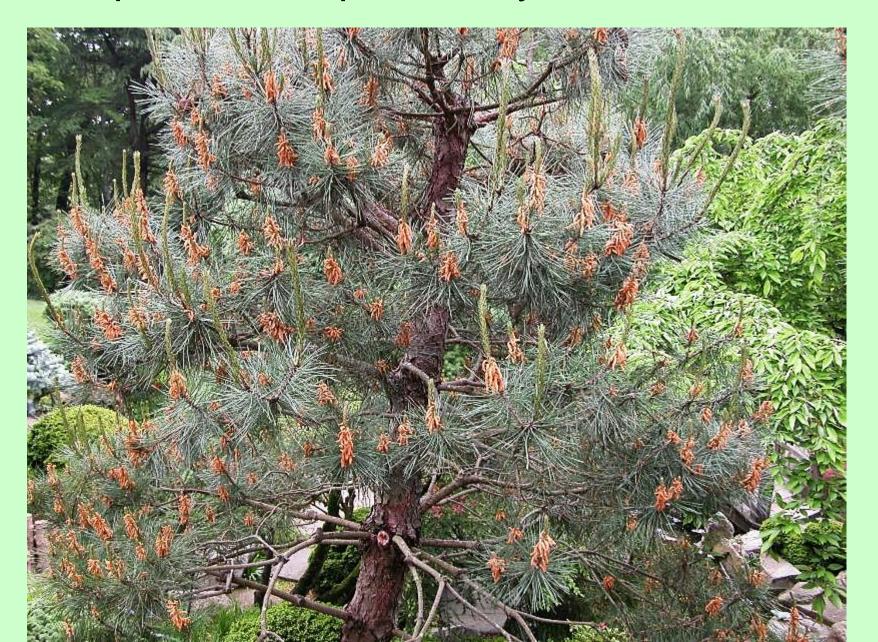
### Tamazukuri style: "cloud" pruning





Also used for boxwood, dwarf Alberta spruce, Japanese holly, yew, pfitzer juniper

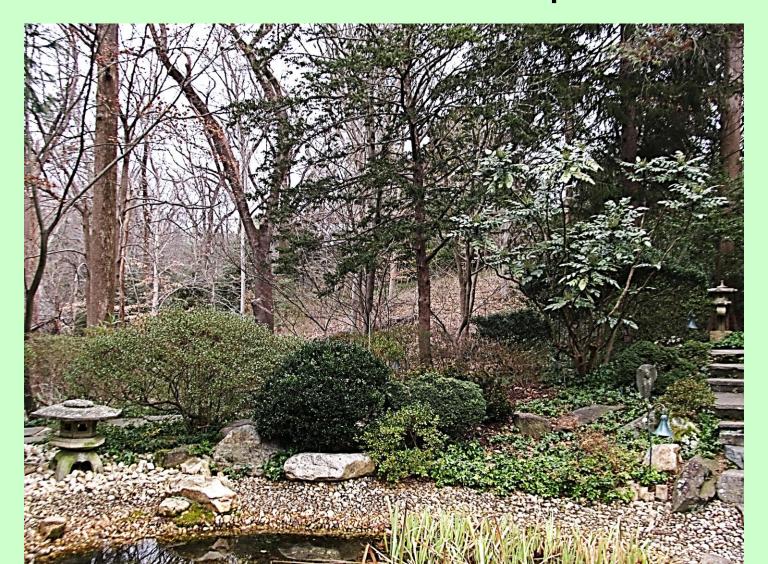
#### Japanese red pine ready to be candled



### Pruning azaleas: Karikomi



## Overgrown, unhealthy, or dead specimens must sometimes be replaced



### Maintaining Water Quality

Cartridge filter system installed 2014

Waterfall pump installed 2017





### The result is crystal clear water



## **Kyurin-en** invites quiet exploration Enjoy

