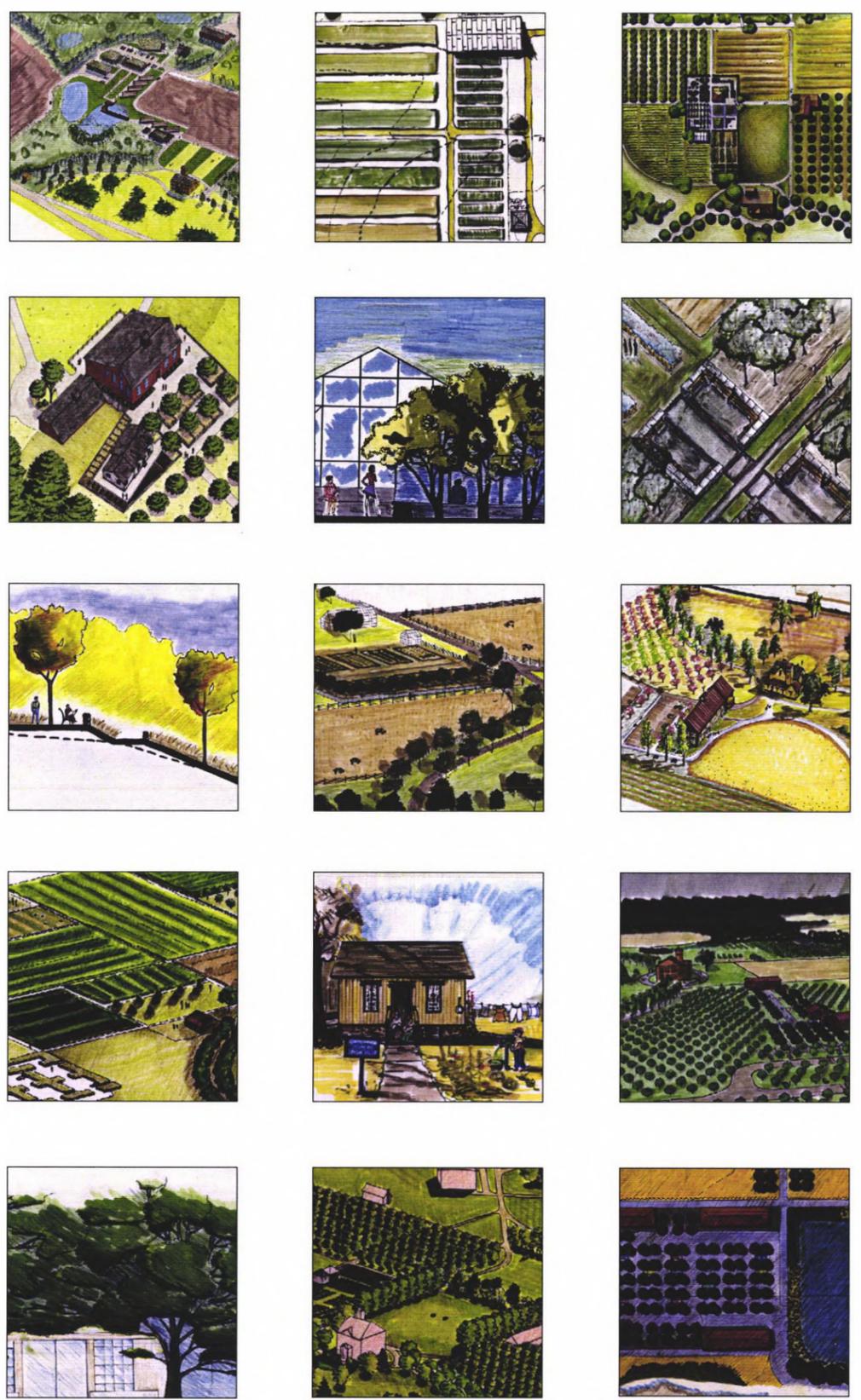


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A POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Landscape Design Research for LINDENWALD
the Farm and Home of President Martin Van Buren
Kinderhook, New York



University of Massachusetts
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Graduate Studio in Landscape Architecture, Spring 2004

National Park Service
Martin Van Buren National Historic Site

Open Space Institute

Roxbury Farm,
Kinderhook, New York

National Park Service
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation



BACKGROUND

Martin Van Buren, the eighth president of the United States, was born in 1782 in the Hudson Valley town of Kinderhook. The son of farmer/inn keepers, early in life he apprenticed with a local lawyer and then went into politics. Known as a shrewd legal scholar, Van Buren also quickly succeeded in the political world. After serving as a U.S. Senator, he was elected governor of New York, resigning in 1829 to become President Andrew Jackson's secretary of state. In 1832 he campaigned successfully as Jackson's vice president and in 1836 he was elected to the presidency. Van Buren served one term, defeated by William Henry Harrison in 1840. In 1848 he again ran for president, as the candidate of the newly formed Free Soil party. For the rest of his life he remained an influential figure in the tumultuous and violent national politics of the ante-bellum and Civil War periods.

While still president in 1839, Van Buren purchased the 221-acre farm that he named Lindenwald. The existing brick farm house (1797) was one of the finest in his hometown of Kinderhook. There were many reasons for Van Buren to want to establish such a home, near family and old friends. Certainly he anticipated retiring there after his presidency, just as Thomas Jefferson had retired to Monticello (Virginia), and Andrew Jackson had retired to his plantation, The Hermitage (Tennessee). But more than a retirement home, Lindenwald gave Van Buren a symbolic setting from which he could conduct his public life. Located prominently on the Old Post Road between New York and Albany, the most powerful politicians of the day stopped by and visited Lindenwald to discuss politics and solicit Van Buren's support.

Van Buren transformed the architecture and landscape of his property during the time he lived there, from 1841 until his death in 1862. There was great political symbolism in his decision to become a farmer and in how he chose to manage his farm. The mid-nineteenth century was a time of agricultural change in the Hudson Valley. Van Buren engaged in advanced agricultural techniques that served as demonstrations and experiments from which his neighbors and other farmers might benefit. Van Buren's ornamental landscape improvements at Lindenwald were contemporary to the early work of the Hudson Valley landscape gardener Andrew Jackson Downing. The house itself was remodeled in 1849 by the architect Richard Upjohn.

After Van Buren's death in 1862, the property went through a succession of owners who made further changes to the landscape. In 1974 Congress established the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site which has been managed by the National Park Service since then. The National Historic Site established in 1974 covers 37 acres immediately around the residence, with 20 acres held in fee simple and the remainder covered through conservation easements. This total includes a parcel just north of the site which was not part of the historic farm, in which the temporary visitor center is located.

STUDIO SITE/PROGRAM

Van Buren's original 221-acre farm also included a "lower terrace" of farmland extending from the upper terrace down to Kinderhook Creek. The lower terrace was not acquired when the National Historic Site was created. Most of the lower terrace (and part of the original upper terrace) was recently acquired by the private non-profit land trust, the Open Space Institute (OSI). This land was then leased to Roxbury Farm, a "community supported agriculture" farm. Working with the Park Service and Roxbury Farm, this year OSI completed the sale of 102 acres of the lower terrace agricultural fields to Roxbury Farm. Roxbury Farm, in turn, granted a conservation easement to OSI that limits future use of the land to agriculture, made allowance for the arrangement of trails for future public access, and protected the historic landscape characteristics and features described in the 2004 Cultural Landscape Report for Lindenwald.

This studio assumed that the remainder of the OSI property not sold to Roxbury Farm will eventually be acquired in fee by the Park Service. The studio site therefore consisted of an expanded upper terrace property, treated as if it were all owned in fee by the Park Service, together with the eased lower terrace property owned by Roxbury Farm. Together these properties make up most of the original 221-acre farm.

The situation called for creative suggestions for how the public will experience the expanded National Historic Site. A conceptual transformation of the site is in process. The old site was very much a house museum, the interpretation of which emphasized the building and activities that took

place in it. The new historic site is a cultural landscape, including not only the ornamental, residential grounds, but the actively used (and privately owned) farmland that surrounds it. Studio participants were asked to consider this reconceptualization of the site, and to address how the connection between the house and farm could be reestablished as one experience, under these circumstances.

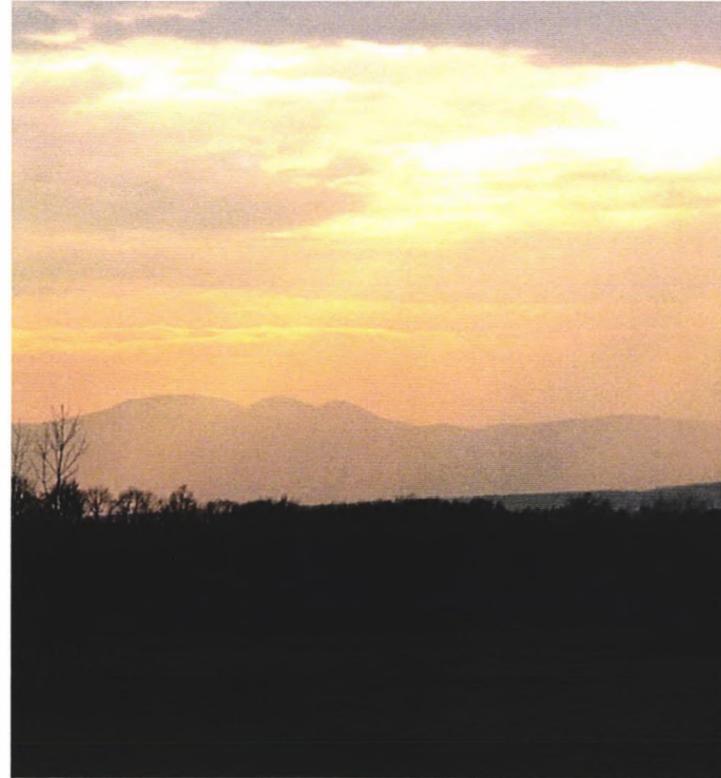
The site also currently lacks permanent facilities, such as a "visitor center." Projections of visitor numbers suggest that 40,000 visitors may be expected annually (about twice the current number), with the majority coming in the summer. A minimum of 4,000 square feet of public facilities and offices, and 4,000 square feet of park Service maintenance areas were required for the studio. Planning of new visitor facilities varied according to general strategies, including: locating new facilities on the "footprints" of historic or existing structures (or near them); locating new facilities through the restoration of historic landscape features (such as orchards and gardens); locating new facilities in compact, centralized compounds ("visitor centers"); and locating new facilities in a decentralized manner, in a number of new structures or landscape features.

PRESERVATION/DESIGN ISSUES

Over the last ten years, National Park Service staff and consultants have produced extensive analysis and documentation of the entire area of Van Buren's original 221-acre farm. The historic characteristics and features of the landscape have been specifically identified.

Studio proposals for the site were encouraged to enhance existing historic characteristics and features, and possibly restore or even reconstruct features that no longer exist. The removal of structures and landscape features that are not historic was also be considered. The 1997 Park Service "treatment plan" for the historic landscape of the upper terrace was treated as a desirable framework for further design suggestions.

Efforts were encouraged to incorporate an appreciation of the historic social meanings and activities of the site. This was a special farm, managed by one of the most important political figures of the day for symbolic as well as practical



purposes. Visitors were entertained both indoors and out, and the landscape was a demonstration of values as well as farming techniques. The farm was also populated by many laborers and servants who were an integral part of the life of Lindenwald, and it was understood that they should not be made “invisible” in the treatment of the landscape today.

Kinderhook Creek is an ecologically sensitive corridor, and proposals for the historic site needed to acknowledge the potential of connections to the regional greenway currently being planned as a partnership between OSI and local residents and municipalities.

The student projects were critiqued in studio based on the degree to which the treatment described was appropriate, advancing the stewardship of a nationally significant landscape; creative, helping the public experience and appreciate the landscape’s significance in new ways; and effective, serving the needs of the Park Service and private partners to make the landscape accessible and meaningful to the public, through the provision of necessary facilities and interpretation.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the student projects presented in this workbook, some observations regarding future redevelopment of the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site can be generalized.

In every proposal, the eventual acquisition of the remaining OSI land by the Park Service was considered desirable. By expanding the boundaries of the upper terrace landscape in this way, new designs and treatment recommendations were devised to reestablish the relationship between the house and the larger farm, both visually and in terms of access.

Most students concentrated on the (expanded) area of the upper terrace in their design proposals. The private ownership of the lower terrace, as well as its stable future as a working farm, meant that in most student projects the public would experience the lower terrace mainly by seeing it from the upper terrace, or by walking through it on a path system defined by the future Kinderhook Creek Greenway and/or Roxbury Farm’s field patterns.

In all the student projects, the existing 1950s farm complex- and all other non-historic structures-were demolished and replaced by new facilities or restored landscape. All students proposed realigning the 1950s farm access road away from the historic fish pond area, or eliminating it altogether and replacing Roxbury Farm access with a new road on the north side of the site, following either the Kinderhook Creek corridor or the base of the escarpment separating the upper and lower terraces.

Almost all projects proposed thinning or removing vegetation on the escarpment itself in order to open the visual relationship between the upper and lower terraces. The general area of the Van Ness Monument, in particular, was seen as a critical moment in the experience of the landscape at which the visitor to the upper terrace landscape becomes aware of the views of the lower terrace.

Many projects did not rely on a centralized “visitor center,” but instead sought ways to utilize restored landscape features, and decentralized visitor facilities, to both provide services and interpret the landscape.

A Park Service maintenance area was proposed for either the site of the 1950s farm complex, or on the temporary visitor center parcel (the strip of land just north of the historic farm). The existing parking lot was used in a number of student proposals. Others relocated it to the other side of the Old Post Road, on the temporary visitor center parcel, or to the south side of the site. The existing entrance was used in many schemes; others relocated the entrance to create an arrival along the Old Post Road, or from the south side.

Most students felt that in order to convey the significance of the cultural landscape as a whole, treatment proposals could not rely solely on the restoration of historic landscape features and characteristics. While such restorations played a role in most of these proposals, additional strategies and experiences were planned and designed.

Lindenwald General Management Plan

The park has three identifiable cultural resource zones that need to be managed according to a subset of management practices. The three zones can be classified as 1) an agricultural management zone 2) an ornamental management zone and 3) a facility development overlay zone.

The Agricultural Management zone is identified as the rye and wheat fields, the north and south orchards, and any included pedestrian pathways.

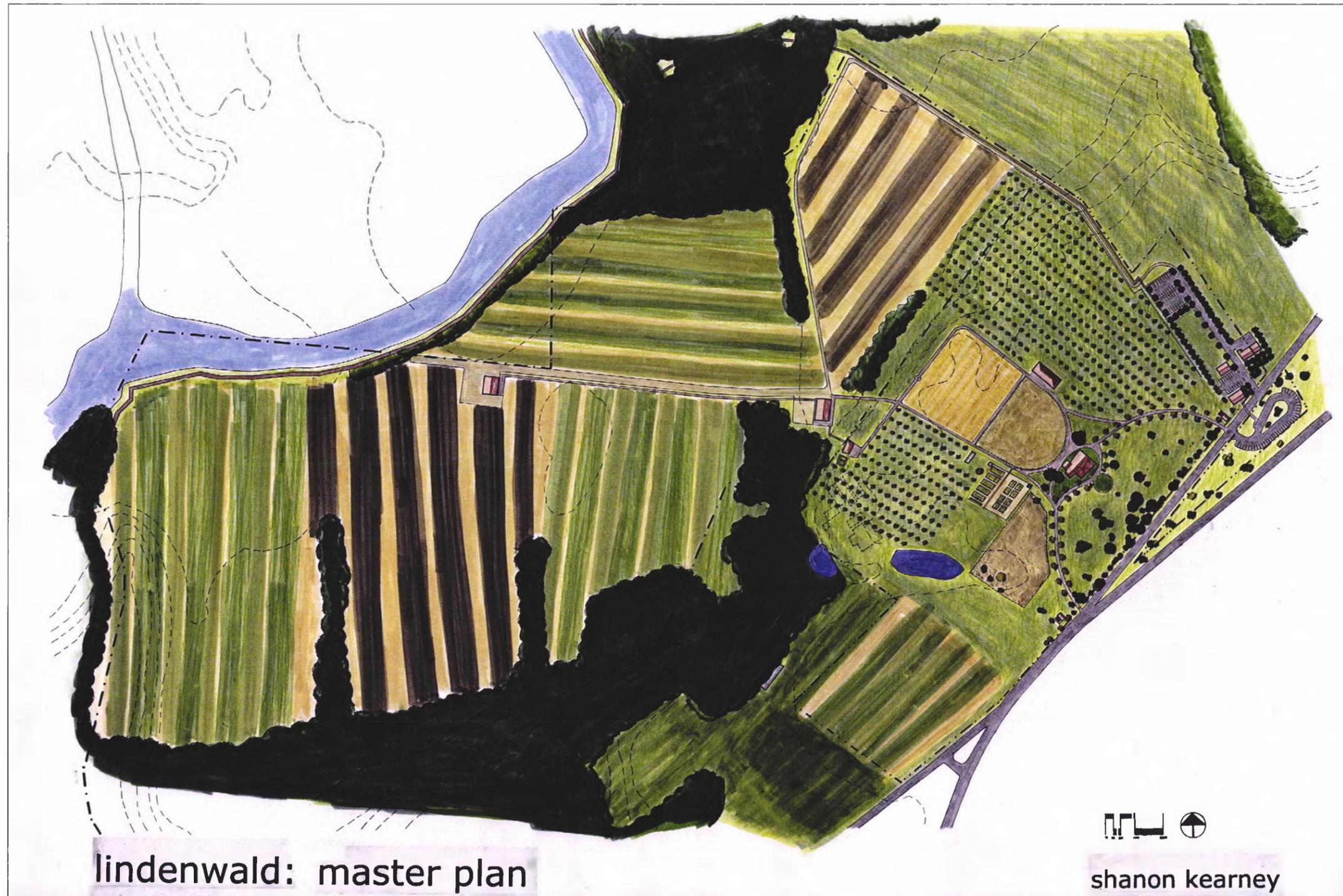
Agricultural Management Plan

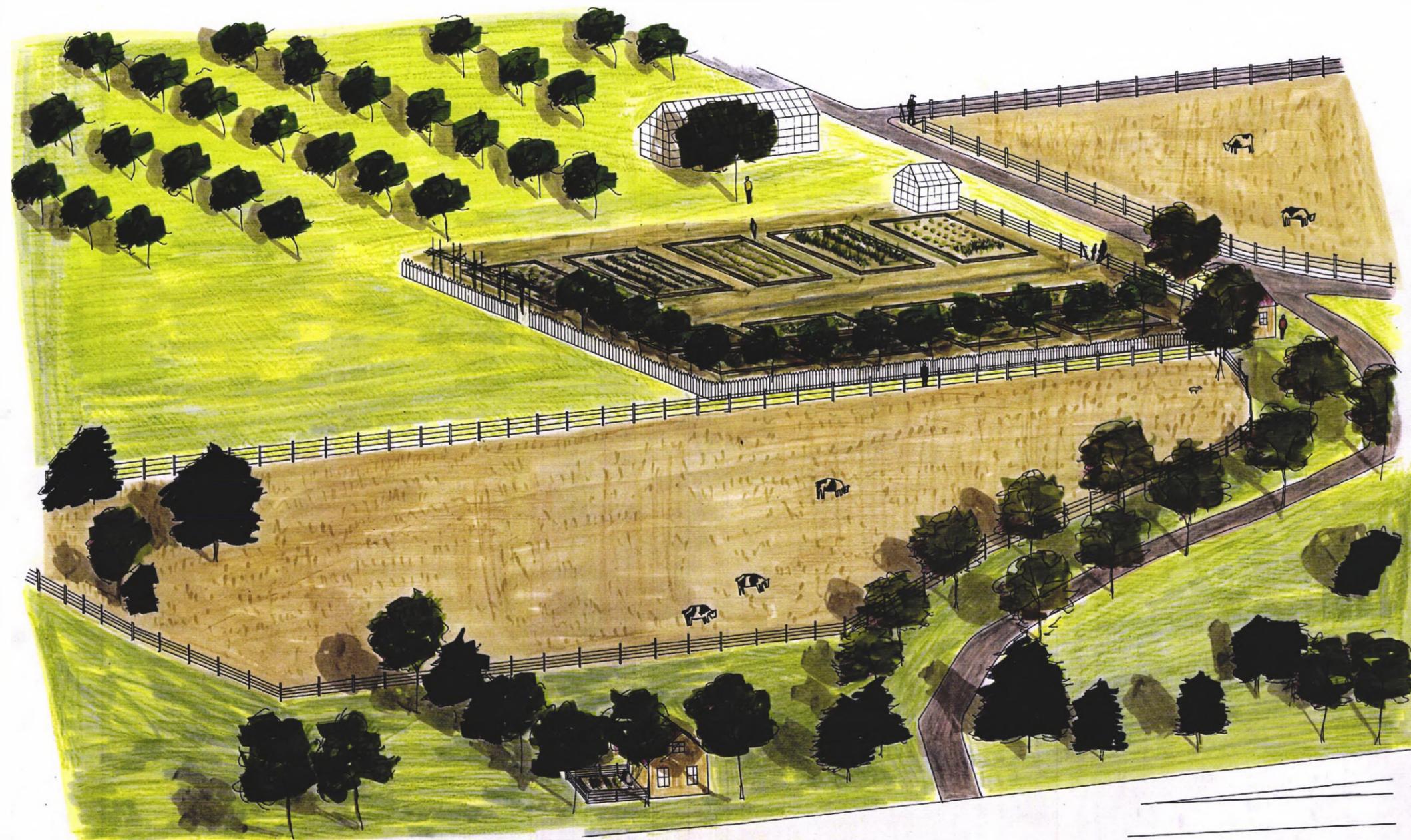
Rye and Wheat Fields

Agricultural fields should be rotated between wheat and rye crops on a biannual basis. To suggest historic farming practices, one field should be left fallow to suggest how the property may have looked when crops were in rotation. When crops are in rotation, NPS needs to plant clover in the fallow fields to reinvigorate soil, as farmers would have done in the 1850s.

North Orchard

In order to re-establish the North Orchard without harboring pests, crab apple trees should be planted on the back part of the property according to the grid pattern established in Treatment





lindenwald: aerial view

kinderhook, new york

shanon kearney

Plan of the Cultural Landscape Report for Martin Van Buren National Historic Site. The front part of the property should be planted with pear trees. No spray is needed by on the back half of the lot due to the planting of non-productive crab apples. On the front half of the property, a low spray approach is required. A white wood and wire fence known as the Dingman fence should be added along the Northern edge to suggest the boundary that existed during Van Buren's time.

South Orchard

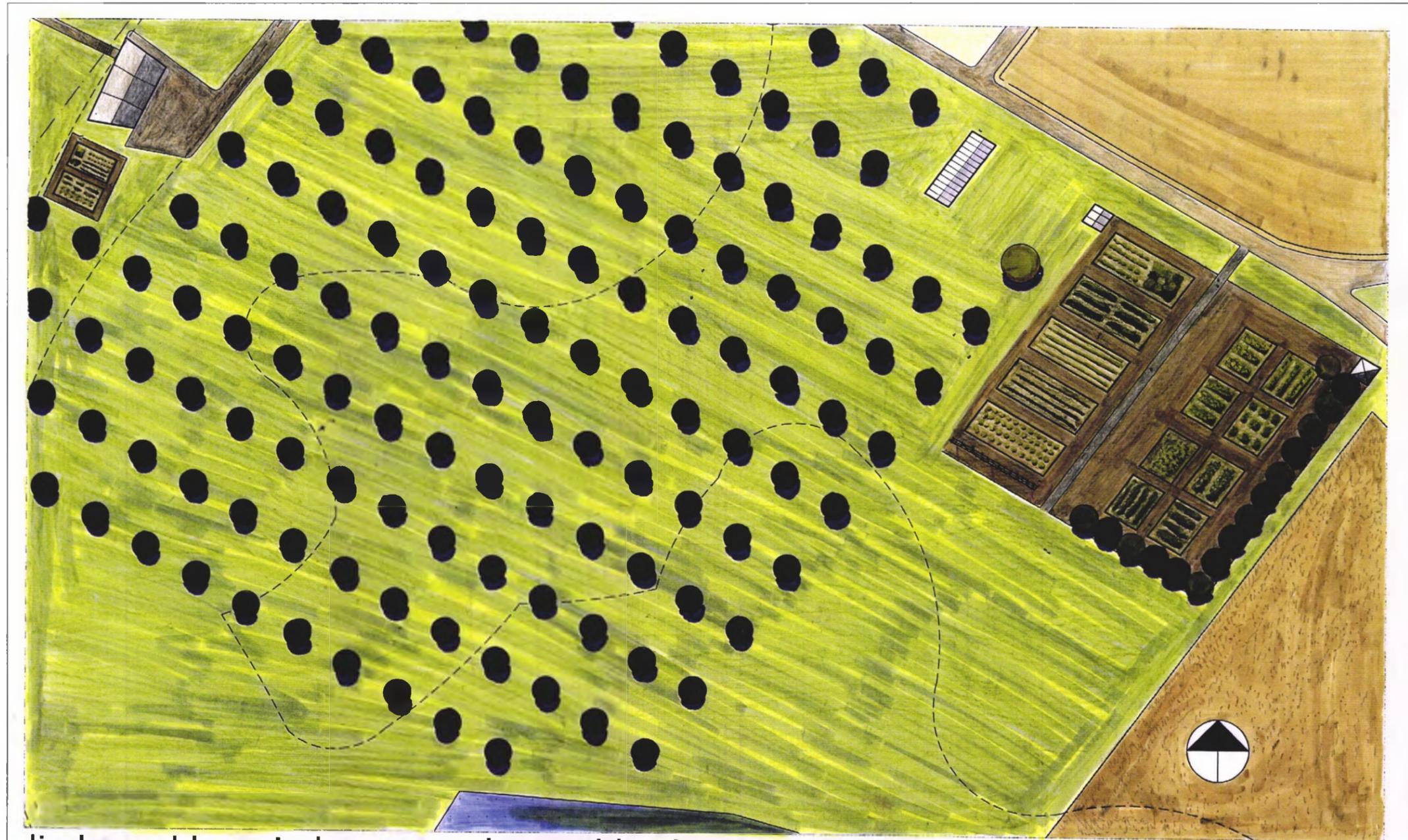
The South Orchard should be re-established with the same orientation and grid orientation of the North Orchard. However, this orchard should contain a wide variety of pear trees to celebrate Martin Van Buren's interest in propagating pear trees from tree cuttings. Trees should be planted closer than the North Orchard (20 X 35'). Tree canopies should not be pruned and tree trunks should be as long as five or more feet in height.

Pedestrian Pathways

All pedestrian connections with the exception of those crossing agricultural land should consist of compacted soil similar to that of the front drive.

Ornamental Management Plan

The Ornamental Management Plan consists or maintenance procedures for the upper pond, the lower pond, the rear and south pastures, the main garden,



lindenwald: main house garden and kitchen garden detail

kinderhook, new york

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shanon kearney

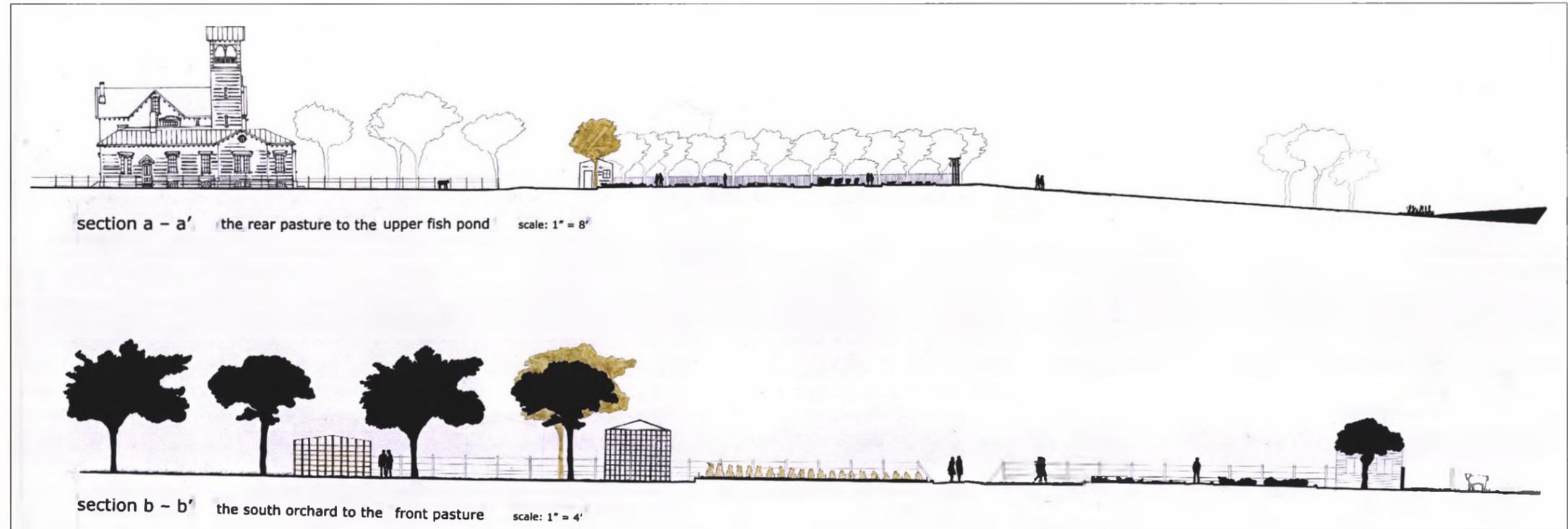
the kitchen gardens, the lawn, and the front meadow.

Ponds

The re-establishment of the upper pond is crucial to the appearance of the ornamental landscape. Once re-established, the border of the pond should be maintained as an informal meadow. A path to the main garden should be roughly mowed weekly to allow pedestrian access. The outer edge of the pond should contain wetland plantings. Trout, pickerel, and perch should be reintroduced since they are from the period of historical significance. The woodland edge to the lower pond should be cut back to allow visual access to this historic feature.

North and South Pastures

NPS should mow the pastures biannually using a flail mower or sickle bar mower to suggest how a historic pasture may have been maintained. The rest of the year, NPS should retain a local farmer to provide the grazing of livestock in designated pastureland in exchange for grazing feed. Manure can then be supplied to Roxbury Farm onsite. A fence consisting of wire and white wood should be set in place to distinguish between pasture land containing the animals and to separate the pastures from more formally tended parts of the property. Paths bisecting pastures should be mowed in the same manner on a bi-weekly basis to allow access for farming practices.



Main House Garden

The garden will need to be tended by park staff and a Friends Organization to avoid overgrowth. All paths are to be compacted soil with the exception of the main garden path, which is the same as the historic drive. Vegetables are to include beets, onions, peas, cabbages, beans, turnips, herbs, and other household vegetables. Melons, red currants, and strawberries should be planted. Garden flowers should be snapdragons, Canterbury bells, petunias, and pink and yellow sweet peas. The ornamental fruit trees will need to be pruned annually to maintain their historic appearance. Grape vines on the trellis will need to be trimmed to maintain an accurate historic appearance.

Kitchen Gardens

Kitchen gardens should include only household vegetables and fruits. No heirloom varieties or fruit trees should be planted. The garden should be less tended to suggest it served only as a productive food garden and not for display.

Lawn

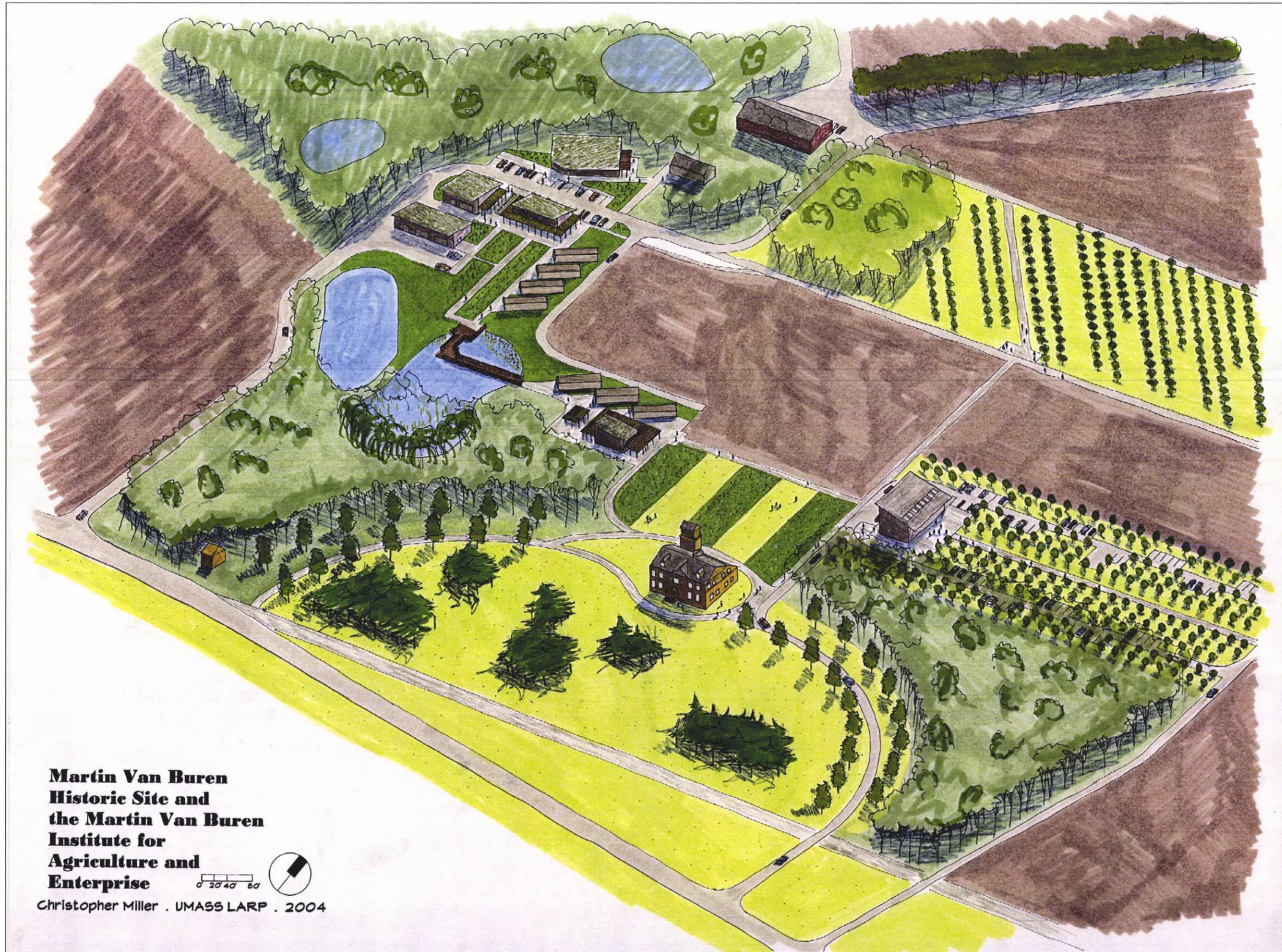
The front circular lawn is to be treated as indicated in the Cultural Landscape Report: Treatment Plan.

Front Meadow

The land in front of the house should be returned to meadow with all its original plantings. The meadow needs to be mowed biannually using a flail mower or sickle bar mower to suggest its original meadow appearance.

Facility Development Overlay

The facility and maintenance area can be mowed and maintained using conventional 21st century methods.



**Martin Van Buren
Historic Site and
the Martin Van Buren
Institute for
Agriculture and
Enterprise**

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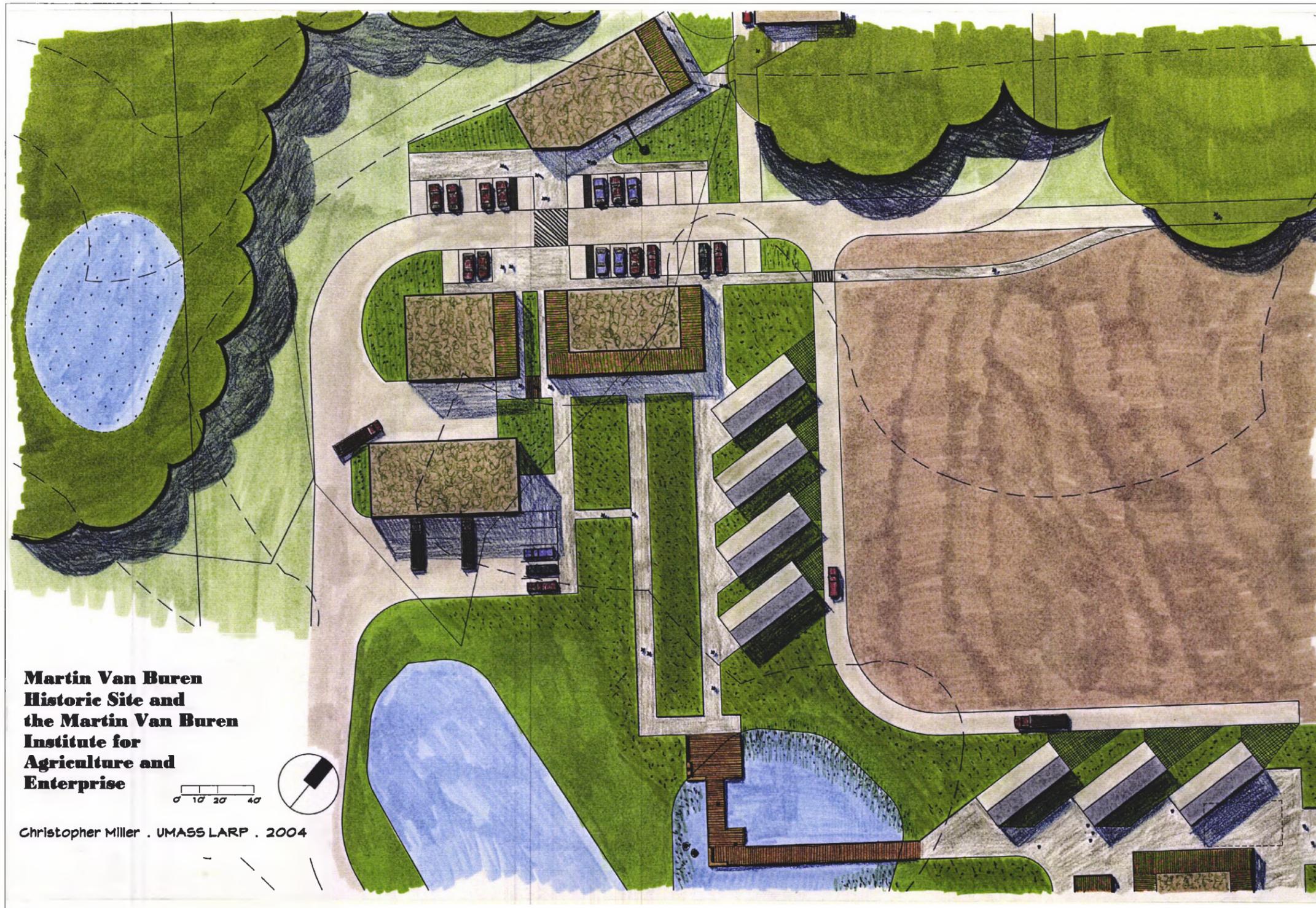
Christopher Miller . UMASS LARP . 2004

The Martin Van
Buren Historic Site
and the
Martin Van Buren
Institute for
Agriculture and
Enterprise

This concept introduces a third party not-for-profit institute that would continue with Martin Van Buren's spirit of agriculture at the Martin Van Buren Historic Site in Kinderhook, NY. The Martin Van Buren Institute for Agriculture and Enterprise embraces experimental agriculture as a means to economic viability in the Hudson Valley.

This is an appropriate treatment for the Historic Site because Martin Van Buren held Jeffersonian ideals of a State capable of maintaining a handsome economy in honest work and land use. The new Institute will continue the legacy of Martin Van Buren, promoting an awareness of new agricultural methods and the enterprise to create a more sustainable food supply in the Hudson Valley.

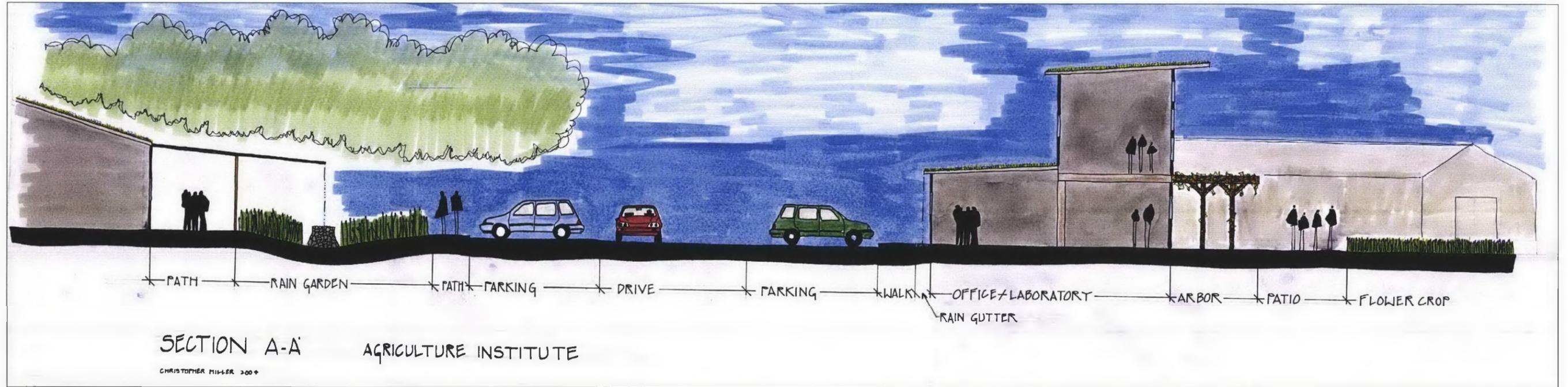
As the Hudson Valley Region gains higher levels of pressure from the metro areas of Albany and NY the need to protect open space and agricultural land has become a priority of Conserva-



tionists. The inclusion of the Institute at the Martin Van Buren Historic site will allow a may people a look at the demonstration of viable agriculture in the Hudson Valley while maintaining precious open space.

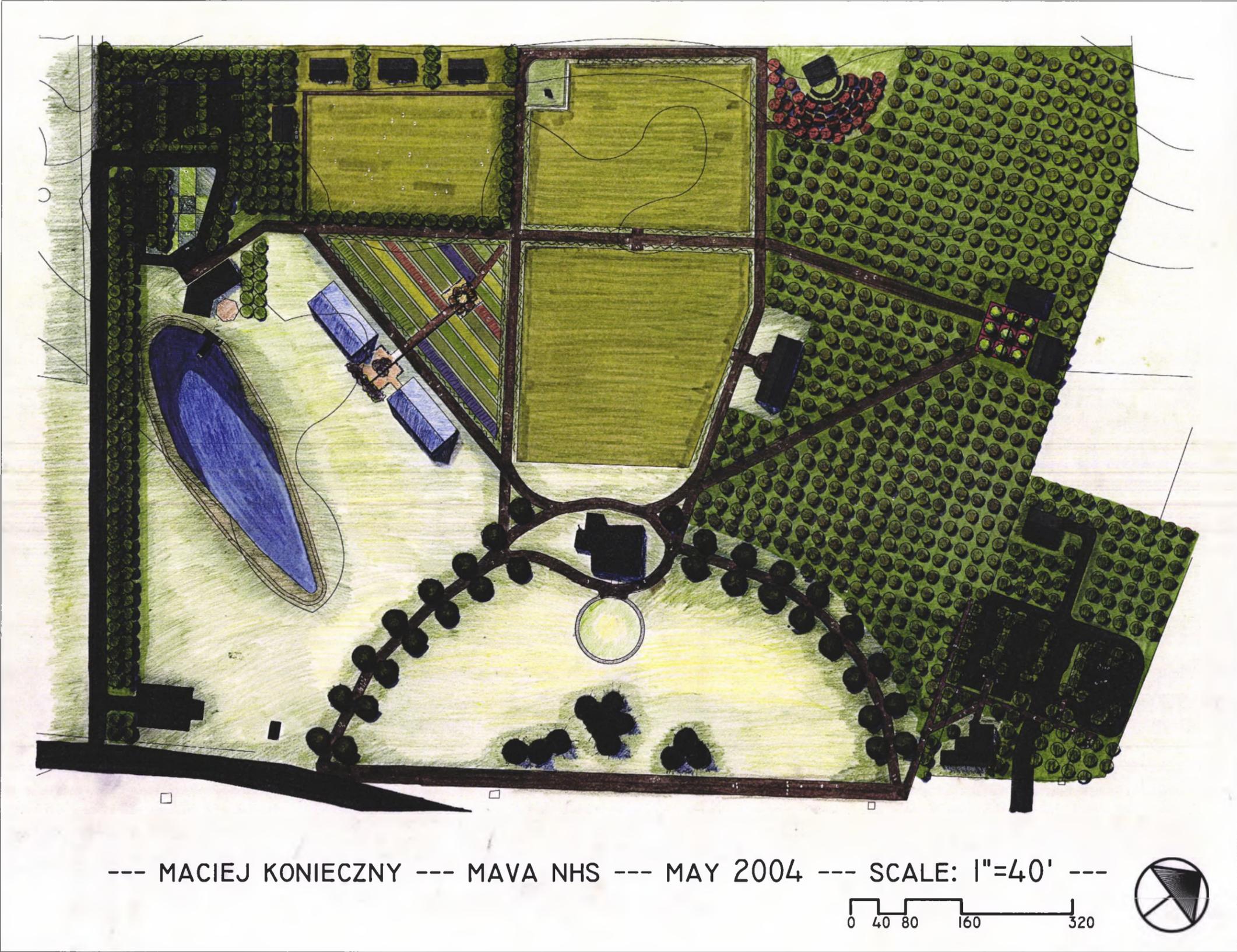
As the Martin Van Buren Historic Site becomes a regional park offering Kinderhook and surrounding towns an attractive recreational outlet for its prospective citizens, the Institute will contribute to the Park Service becoming a friendly neighbor in the community.

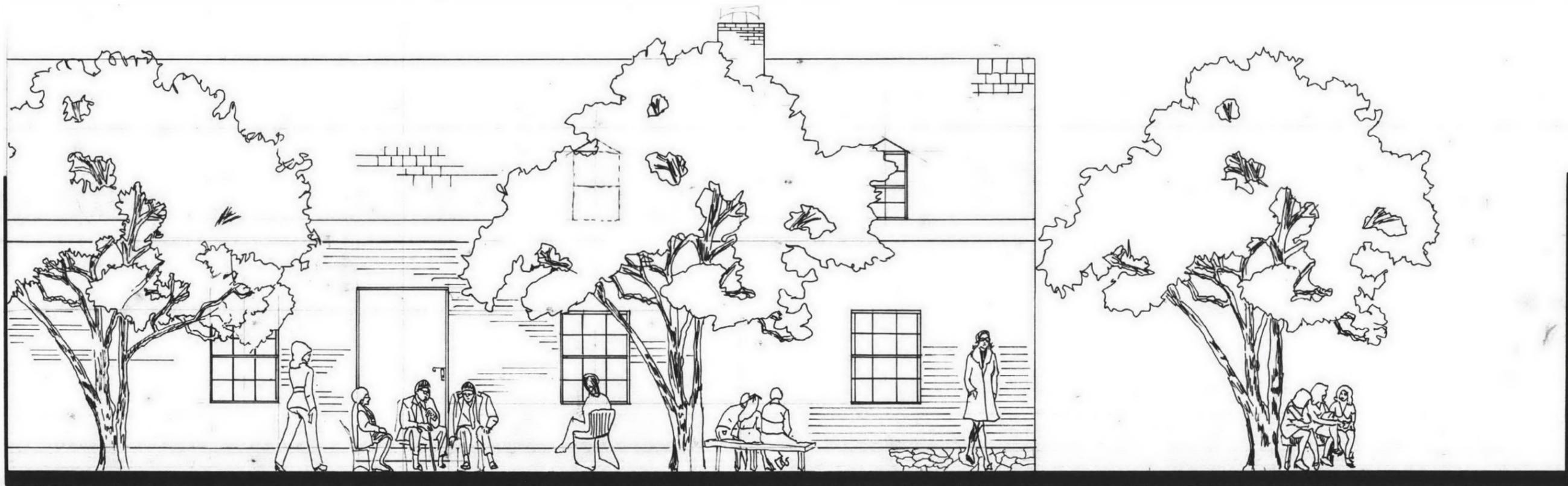
21st century residential development pressure in the Hudson Valley is a good example of current trends in affluence across America. The Martin Van Buren Historic Site and the Martin Van Buren Institute for Agriculture and Enterprise will help demonstrate that agriculture can bring honest jobs and conserve the land for public recreational use.



Martin Van Buren Educational Campus

This design creates a novel approach to the management of a National Historic Site by introducing an independent partner with a unique program. The Martin van Buren Educational Campus evolved from the eighth President's progressive ideology toward agriculture, his commitment toward innovative techniques, and his prominence as a historical figure and creates an opportunity for young students to spend a week in the beautiful Hudson Valley learning. It provides outdoor classrooms for students to experience agriculture first hand, as well as facilities for indoor education in American history. Lastly the Martin van Buren Library is established for the student body and the public. The Martin van Buren Historic Site is transformed into a thriving center for enlightening children of all ages in agriculture and history.



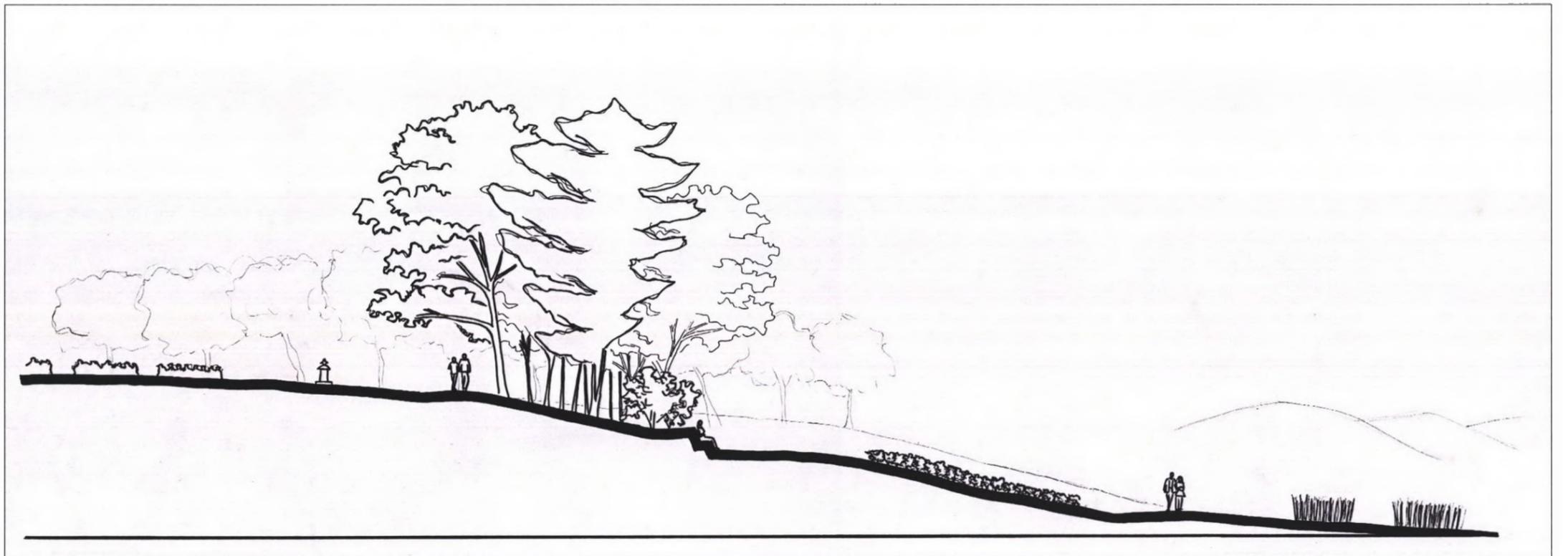
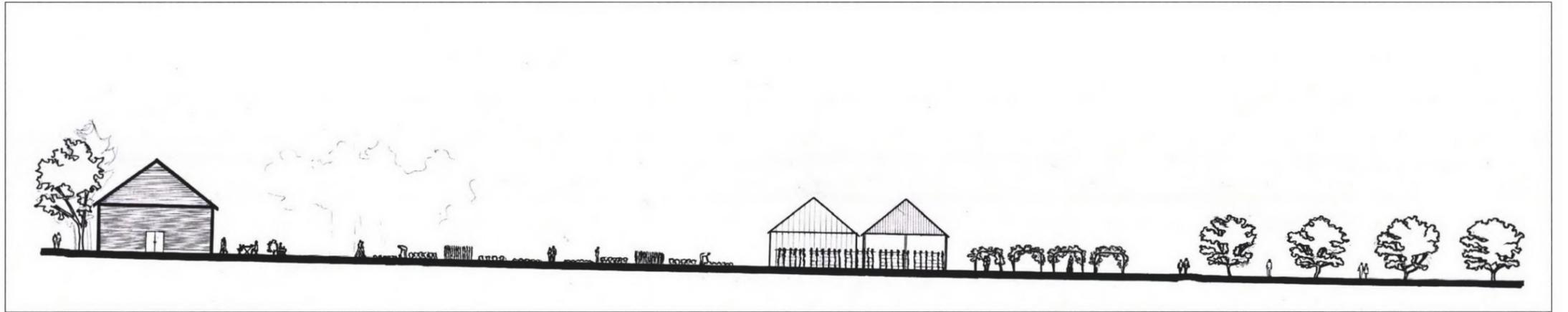


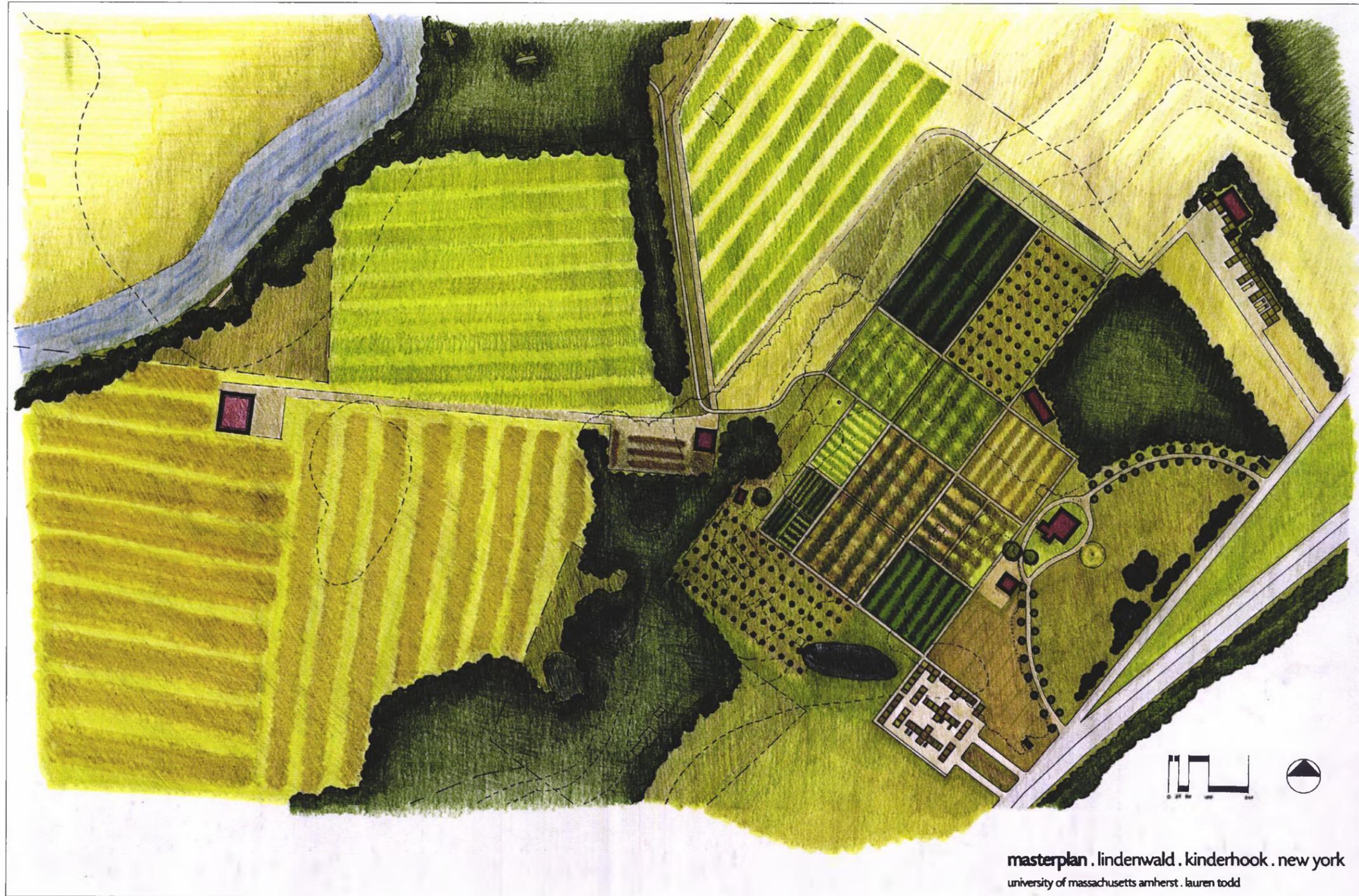
--- SECTION B - B' --- VIEW NE --- SCALE: 1/2" = 1' ---



--- SECTION A - A' --- VIEW W --- SCALE: 1/2" = 1' ---







masterplan . lindenwald . kinderhook . new york
university of massachusetts amherst . lauren todd

Pattern + Process

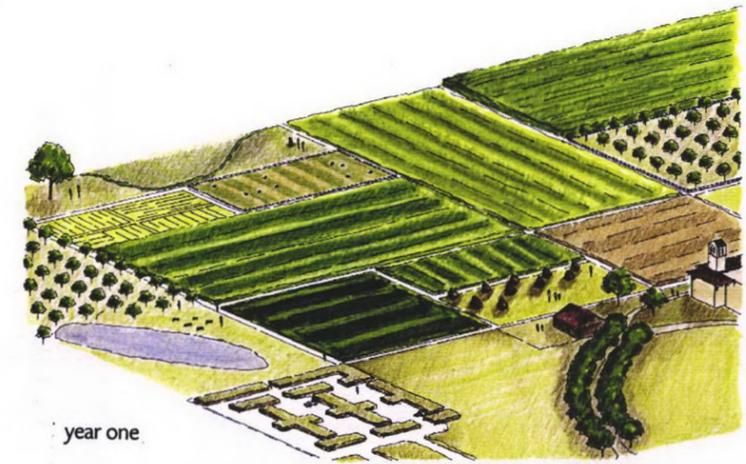
This concept presents a new innovative treatment of the upper terrace analogous to the preservation strategy of the lower terrace which is being managed through the agricultural process of Roxbury Farm.

The landscape of the upper terrace is organized by a pattern of agriculture that interprets Martin Van Buren's 19th century process of crop rotation. Like the landscape of Van Buren's farm, the fields of the upper terrace change, visually and spatially with each season and yearly cycle of crop rotation.

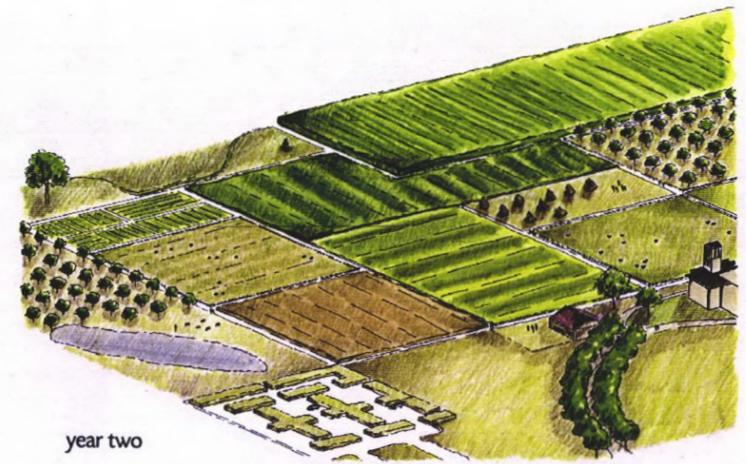
This treatment plan places the most emphasis on the agricultural process of change over time, with transitional field patterns, non-static circulation, alternating crops and overall visual landscape variety, all of which are in tune with the character and spirit of Martin Van Buren's own landscape.



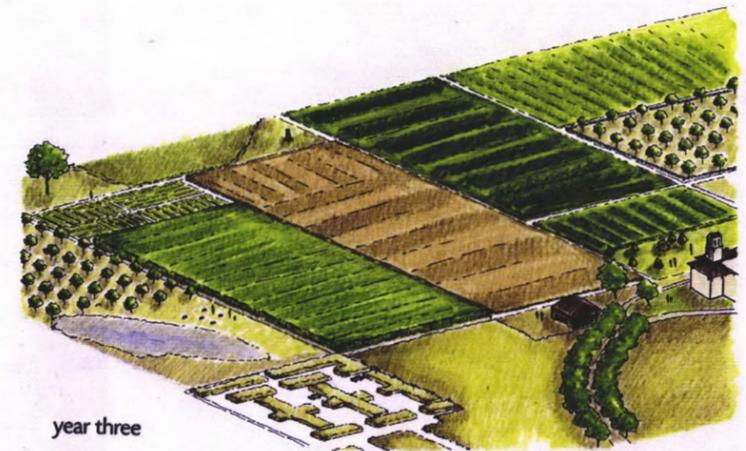
detail plan . lindenwald . kinderhook . new york
 university of massachusetts amherst . lauren todd



year one



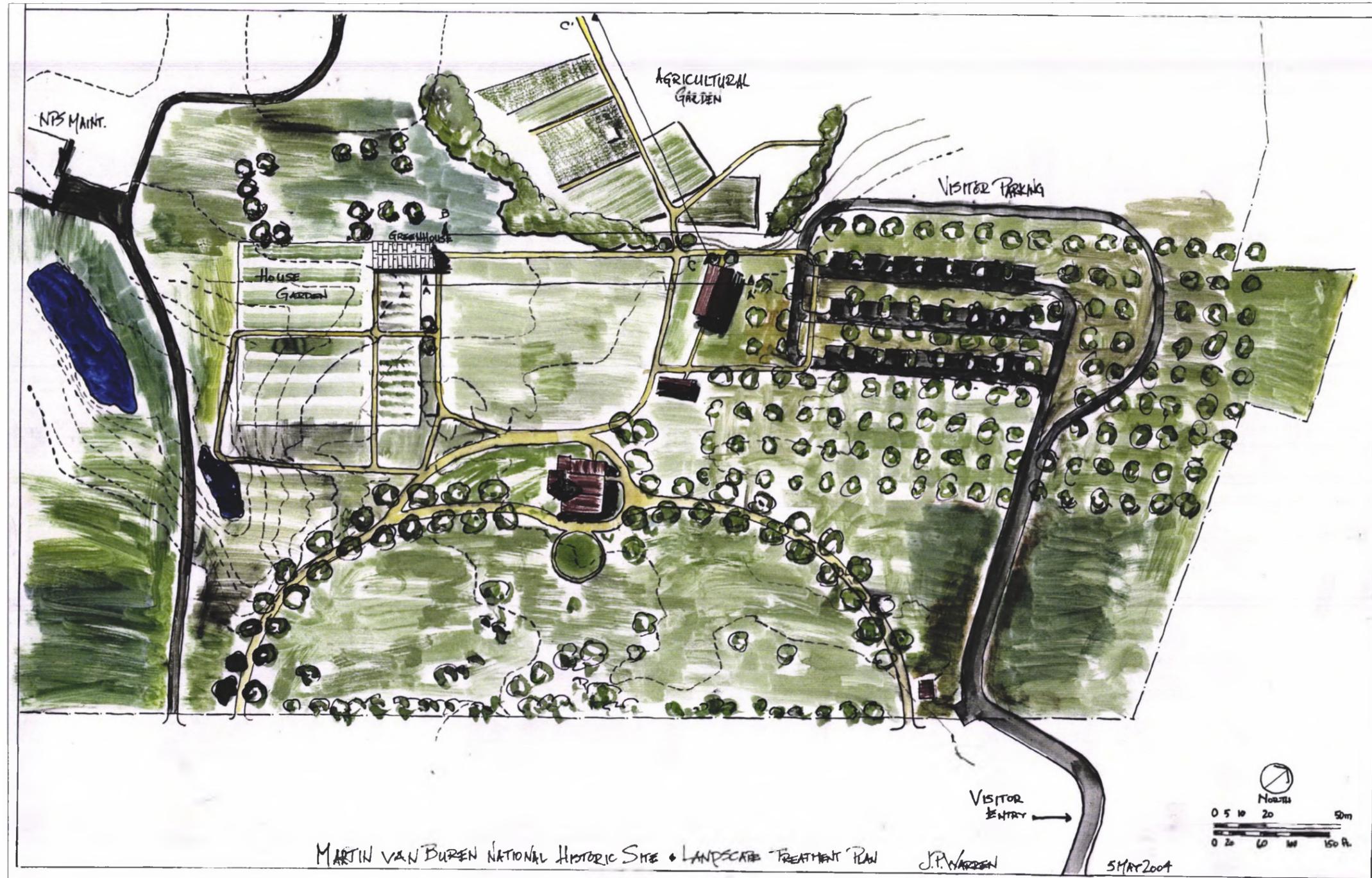
year two



year three

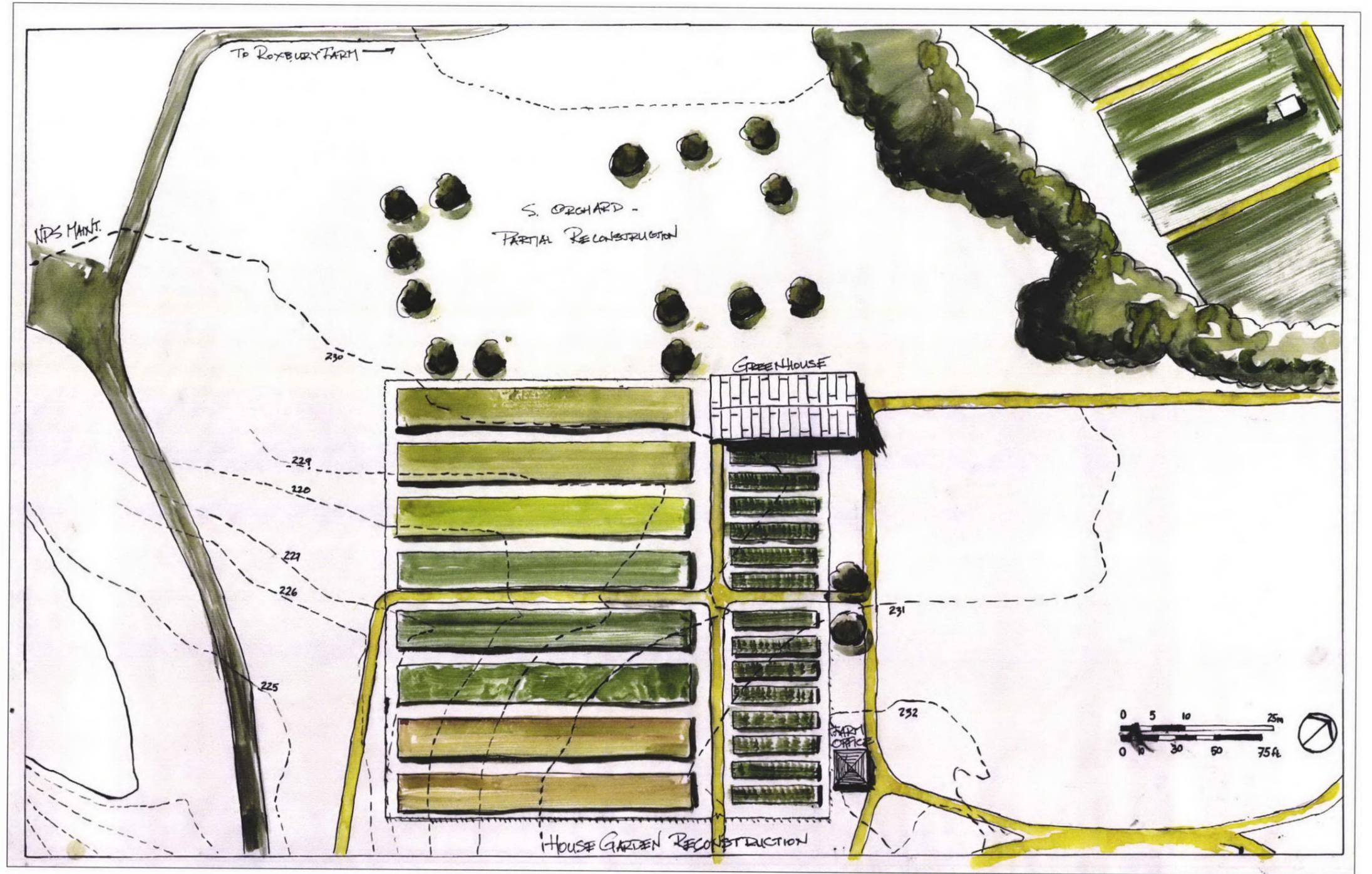


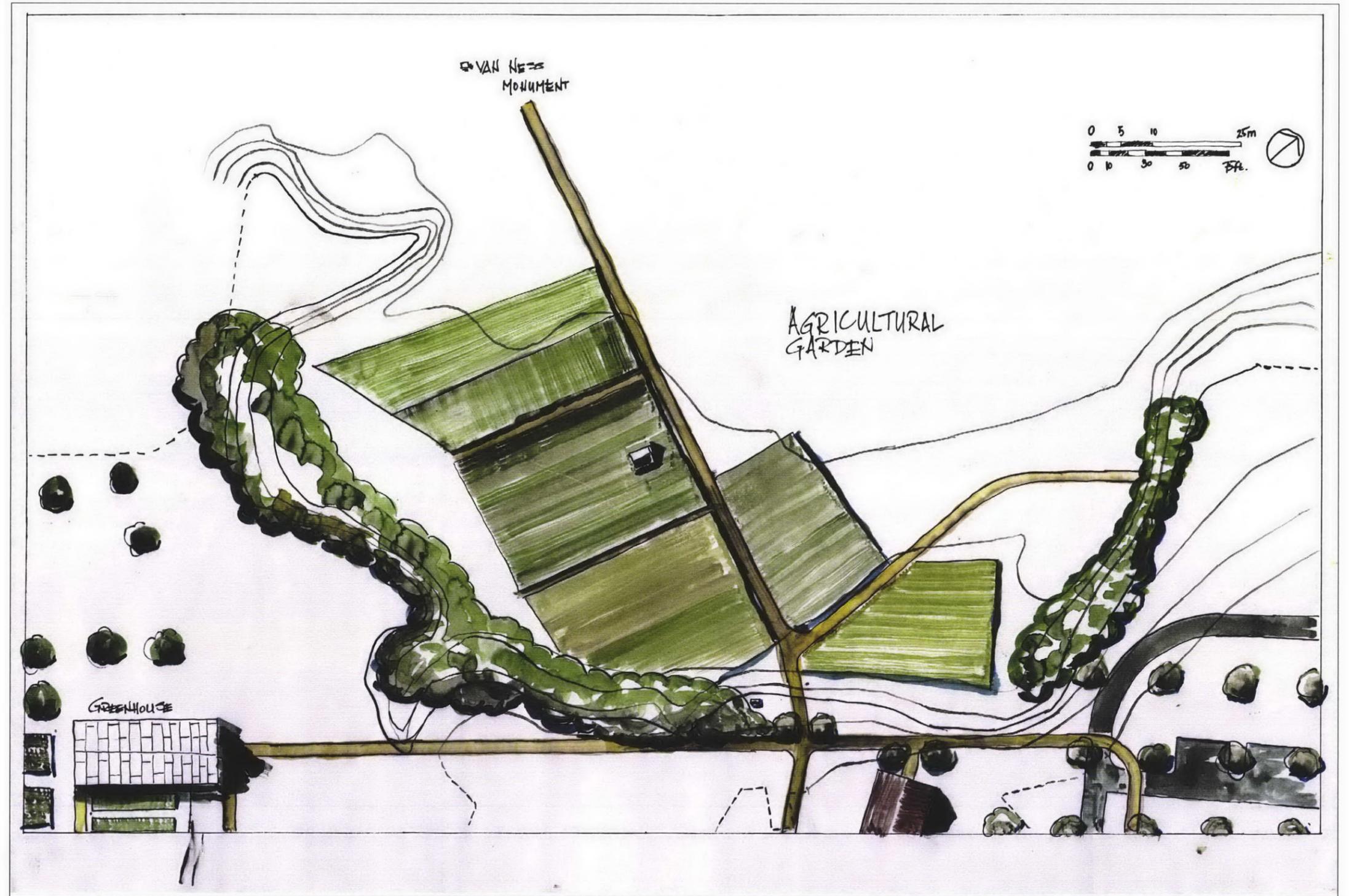
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The Agricultural Garden

This concept was driven by providing for the NPS needs in a way that does not compromise the Mansion's hierarchical significance. The NPS spatial requirements are provided for in outbuildings that emulate those known to have existed - the North Gatehouse, the Carriage Barn, the Laundry, the Farm Office, and the Greenhouse. The landscape treatment facet of this concept falls in two areas specifically - the house garden reconstruction and the western edge of the NPS property - "The Agricultural Garden". The garden is designed around a central axis that leads to a point near the Van Ness monument. Crops that Van Buren grew will be featured. Another element is the use of scaled outbuildings as the base for interpretive signage that relate to the President's agricultural pursuits.

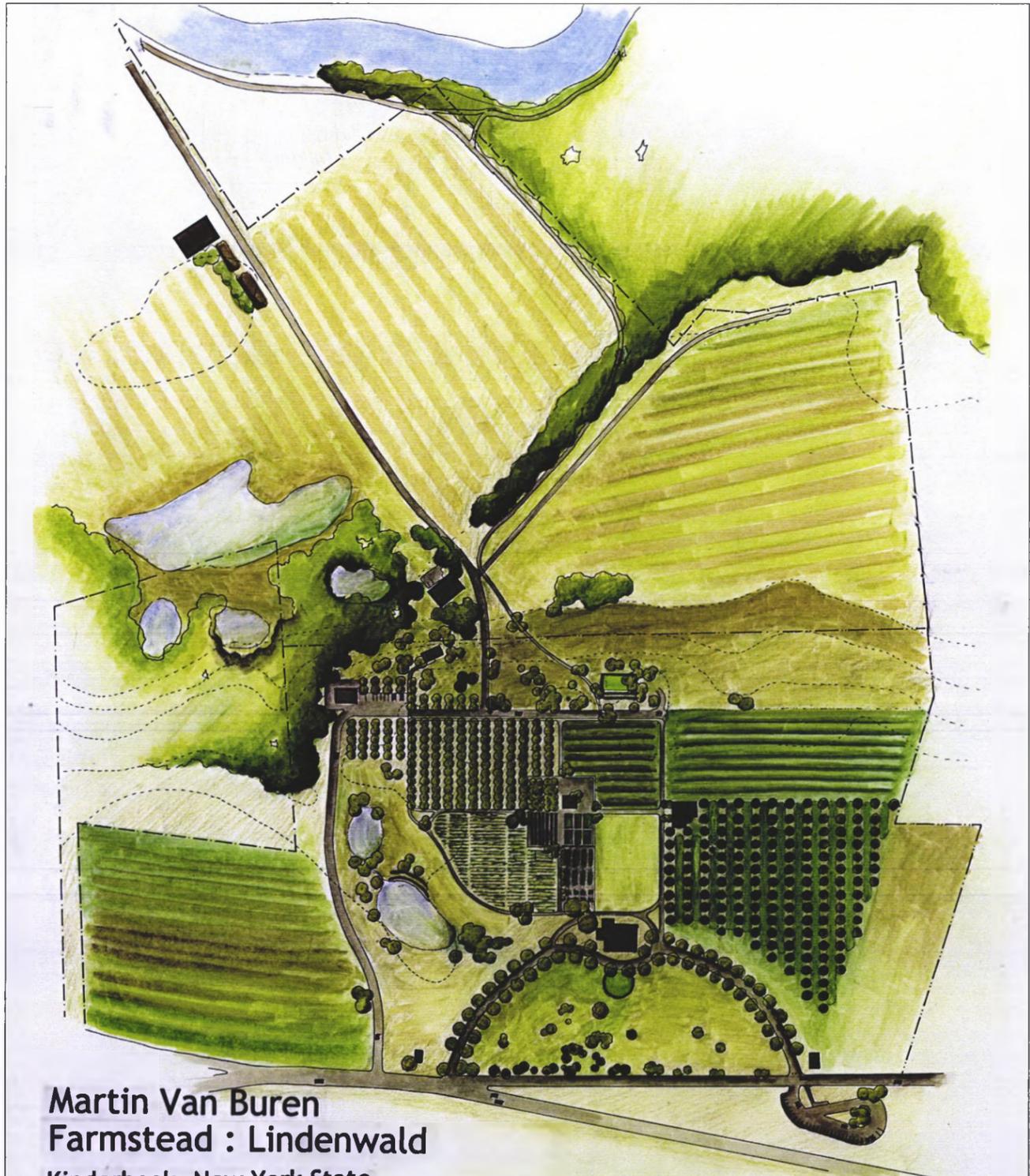






Martin Van Buren Homestead

Significance of Martin Van Buren's attitudes towards agriculture is conveyed through the design of a new interpretive core area managed by the National Park Service and an expanded partnership with Roxbury Farms on the upper terrace. The new Lindenwald landscape embodies the values in productive and progressive farming upheld by Martin Van Buren. The agricultural learning center is an outdoor classroom offering visitors an insight into the techniques and tools of Martin Van Buren's cultivated landscapes: the kitchen garden, the vineyard, the orchard and the farm within the context of a contemporary working farm operation.

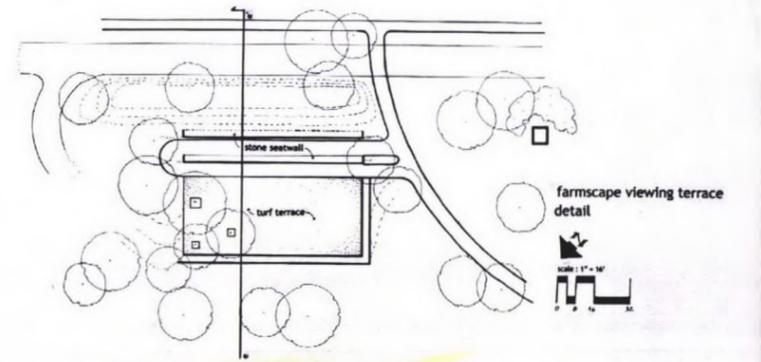
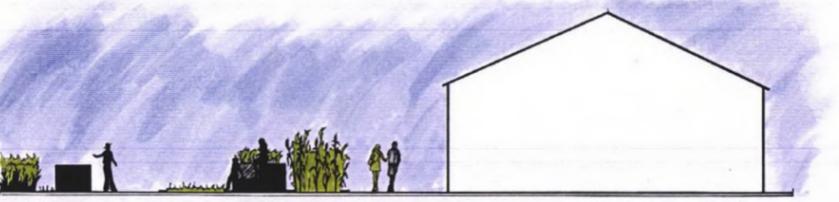
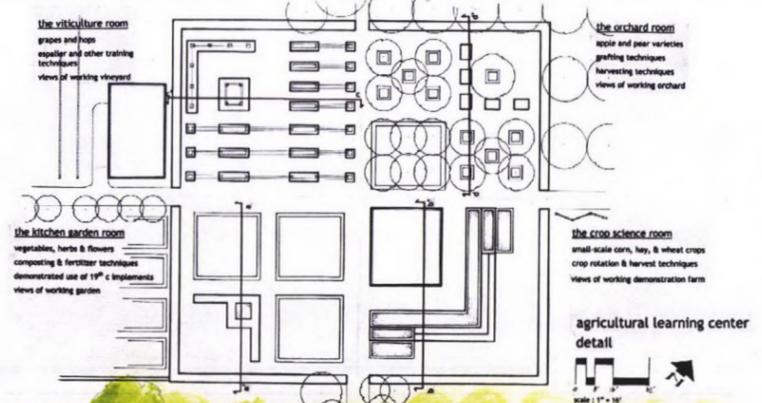


**Martin Van Buren
Farmstead : Lindenwald**
Kinderhook, New York State

nicole ann vajda

scale : 1" = 100'
master plan





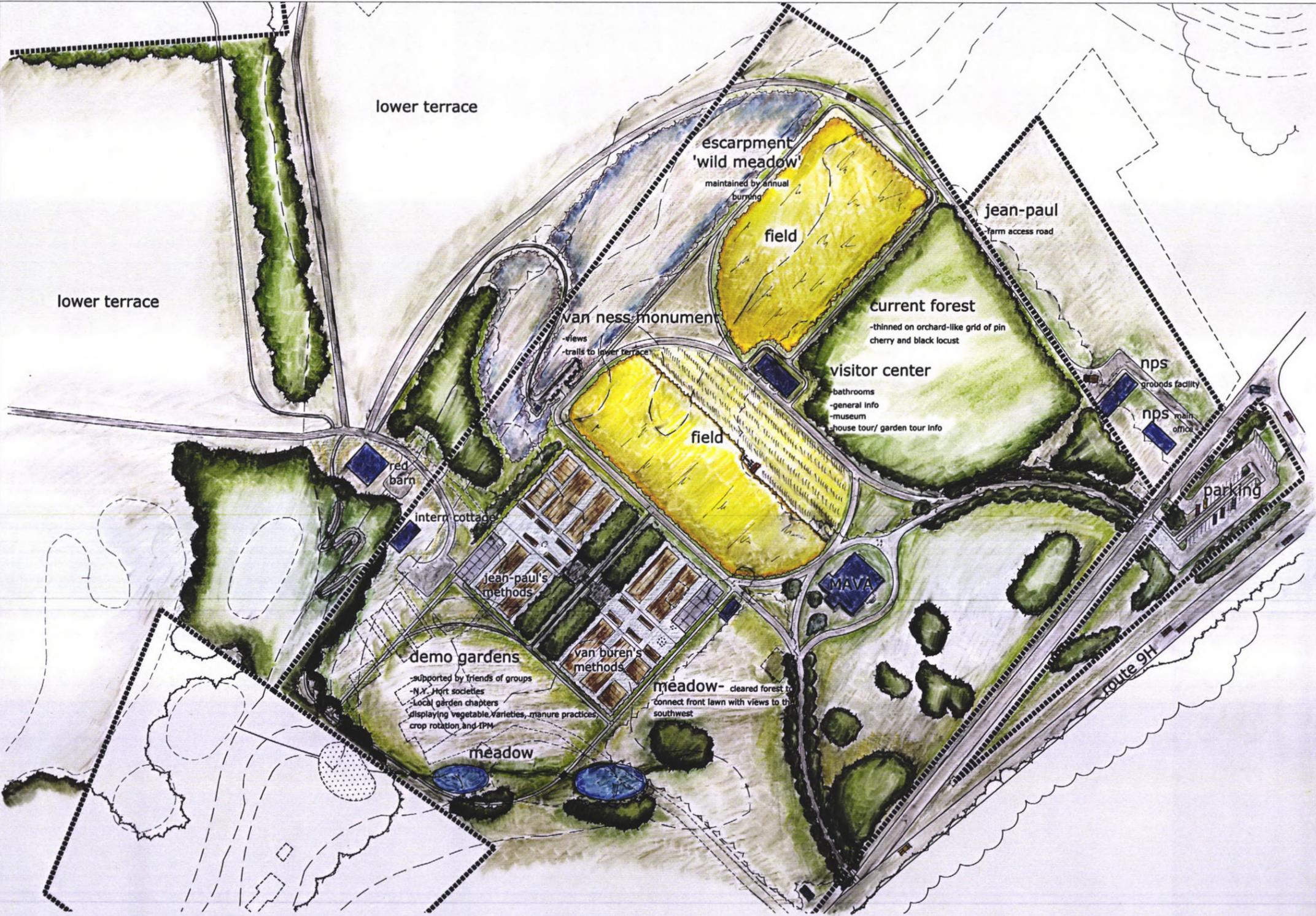
Kleinrood

Goals

- locating and massing of new facilities
- representing architectural redesign
- interpretive themes-using N.Y. Hort. Society, heirloom veg. groups, local garden chapters
- connecting MAVA to Kinderhook Creek Greenway, an ecologically sensitive corridor
- locating facilities on the footprints of historic or existing structures
- creating various levels of circulation around the site

Theme

- juxtaposition of upper terrace verses lower terrace
- the experience is located on the upper terrace where the circulation is defined by the spatial organization
- modern verses old techniques of farming
 - ways of crop rotation and incorporation of ipm
 - manure use, past and present
 - comparison of vegetables through demonstration gardens and orchards, heirloom varieties
- design represents partial restoration of historic farm roads and structures, i.e. carriage barn, gardens, green house, red and black barn



kleinrood

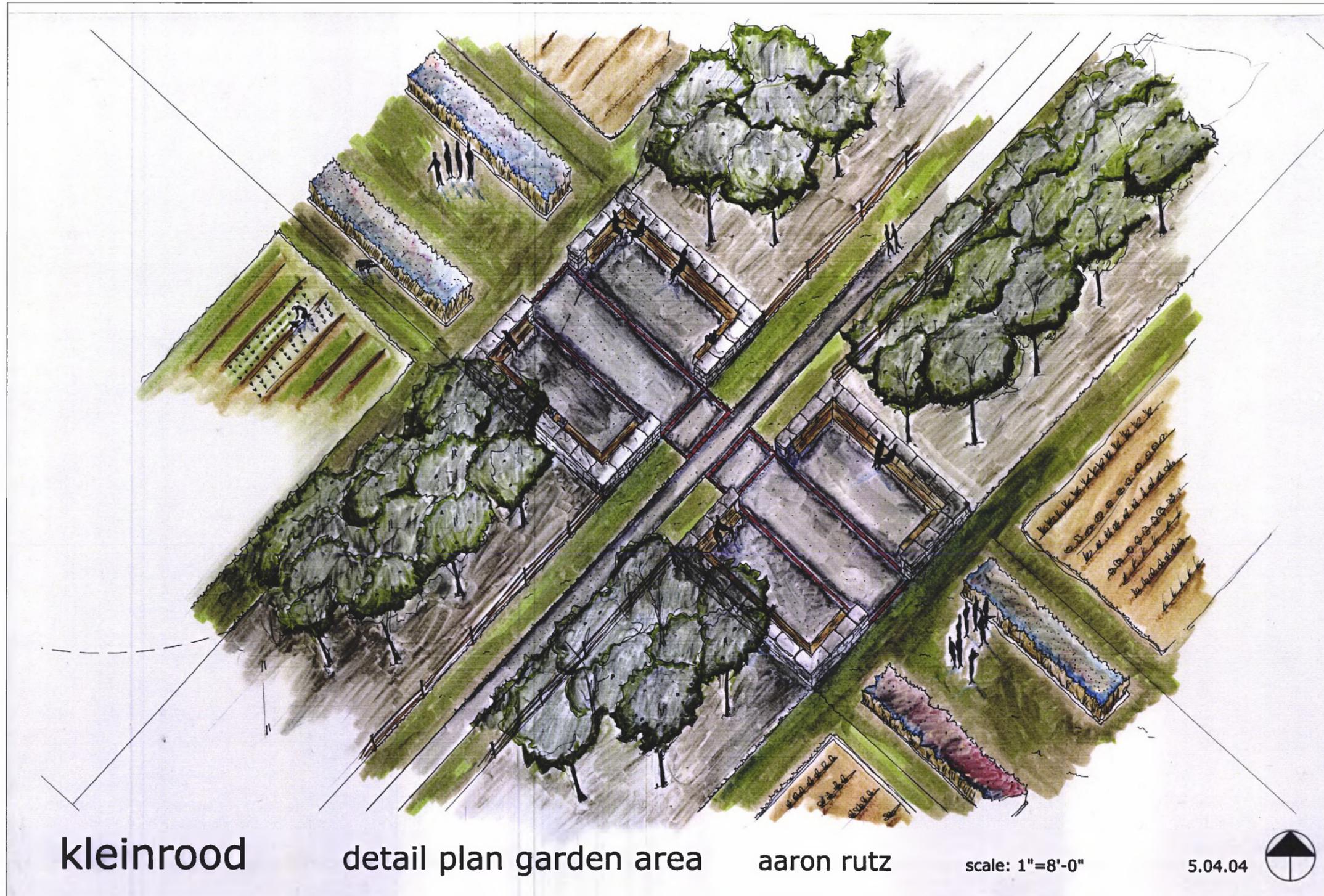
upper terrace plan

aaron rutz

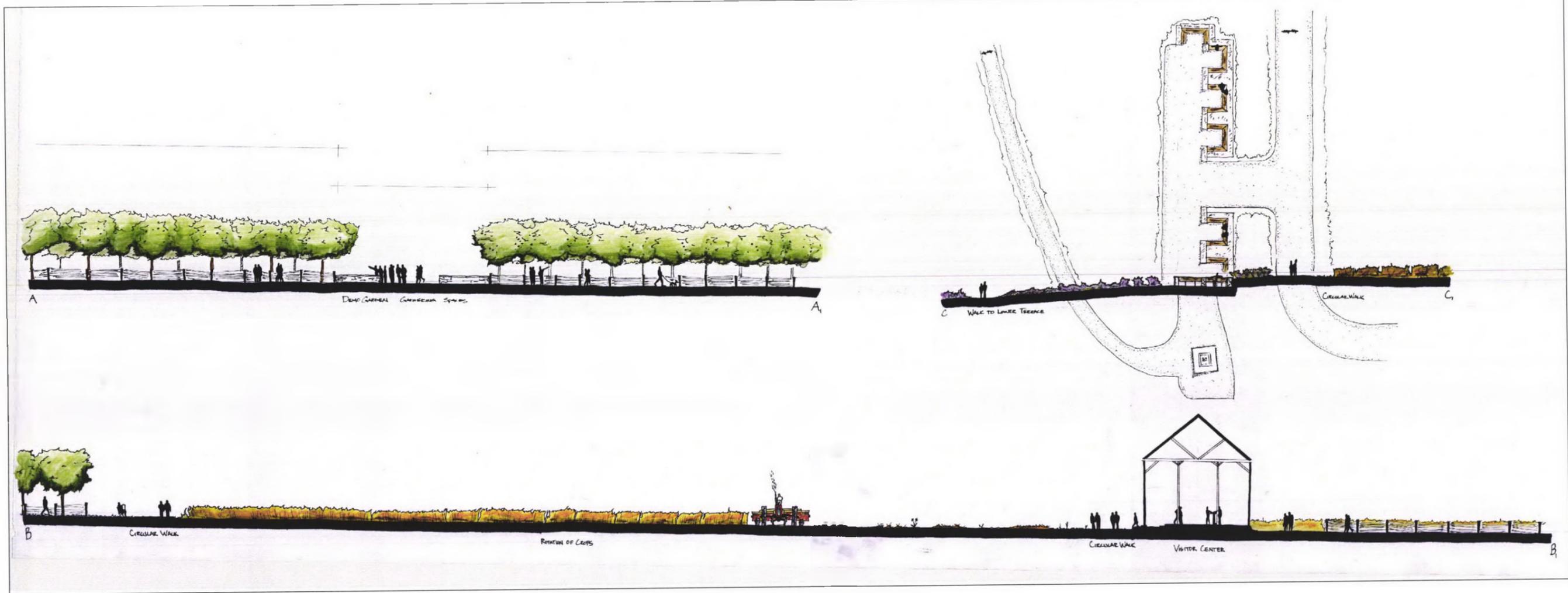
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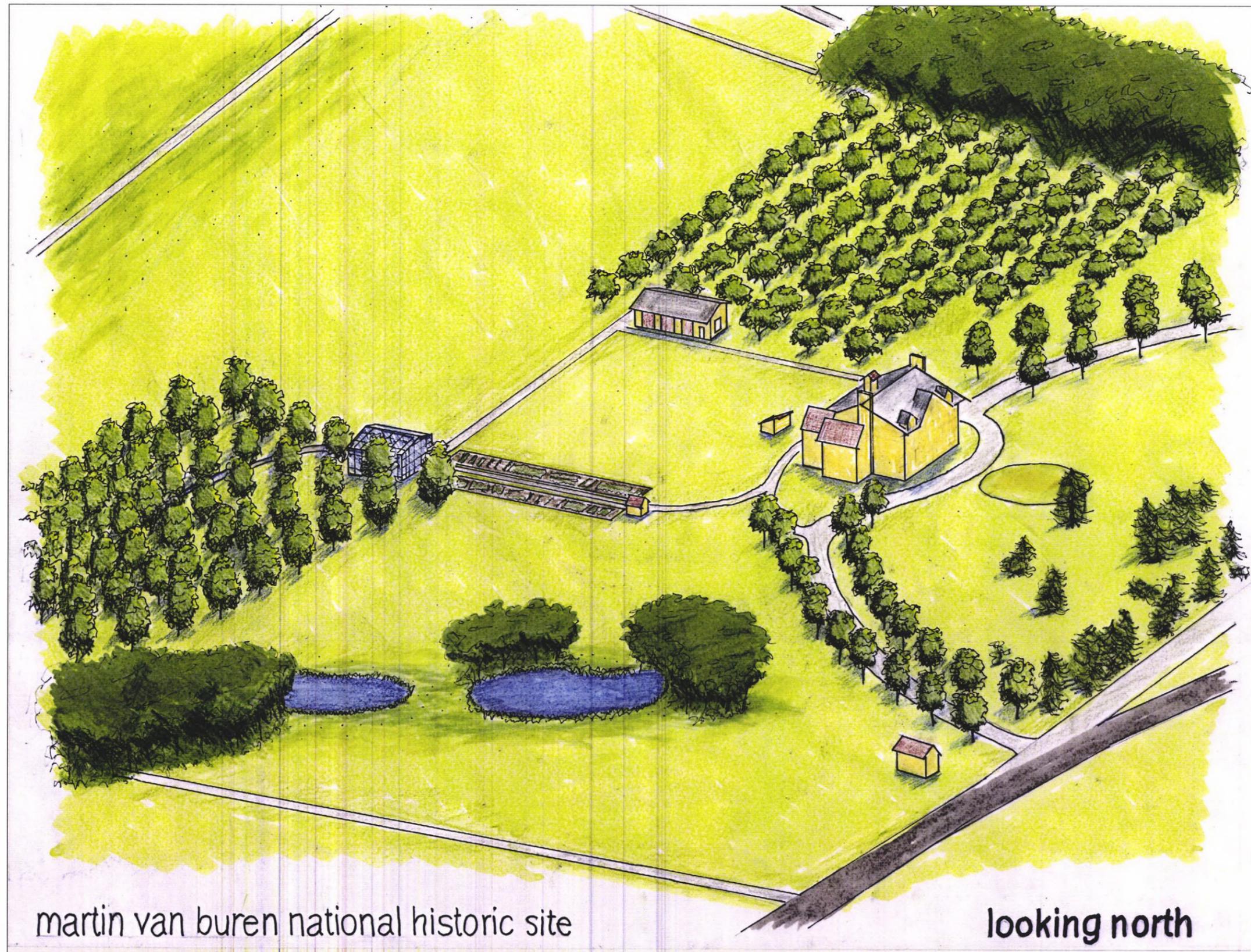


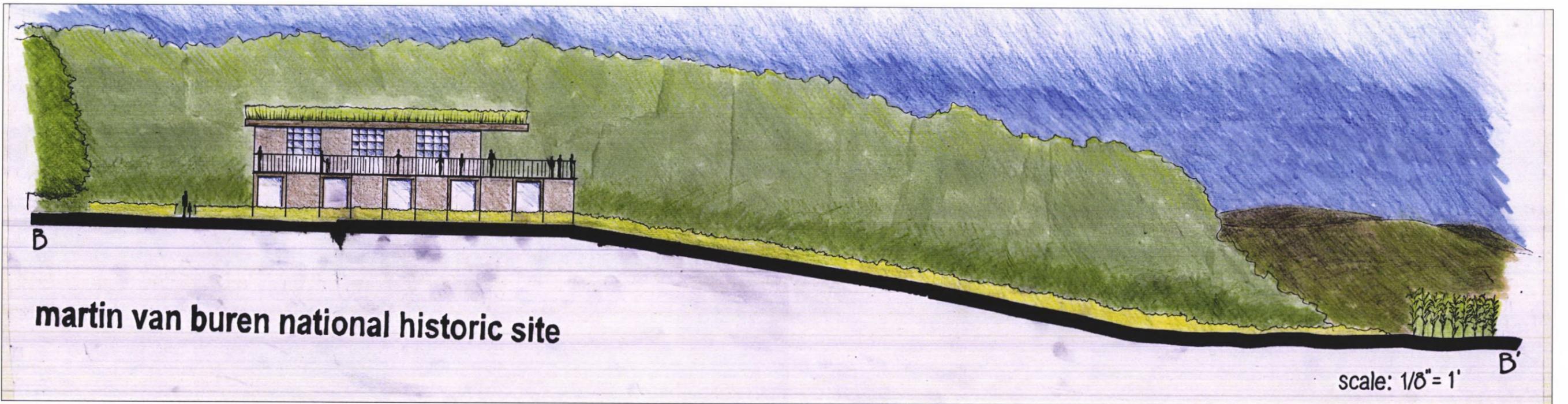
The design articulates the juxtaposition of the upper terrace to the lower terrace with the incorporation of two demonstration gardens. Today Jean-Paul works the lower terrace using the method of biodynamic farming, similar yet different to the methods used by Martin van Buren 150 years ago. The upper terrace comprises of various elements similar to the period of significance, i.e. the north orchard, circulation north of the house, gardens, greenhouse, ponds and views.

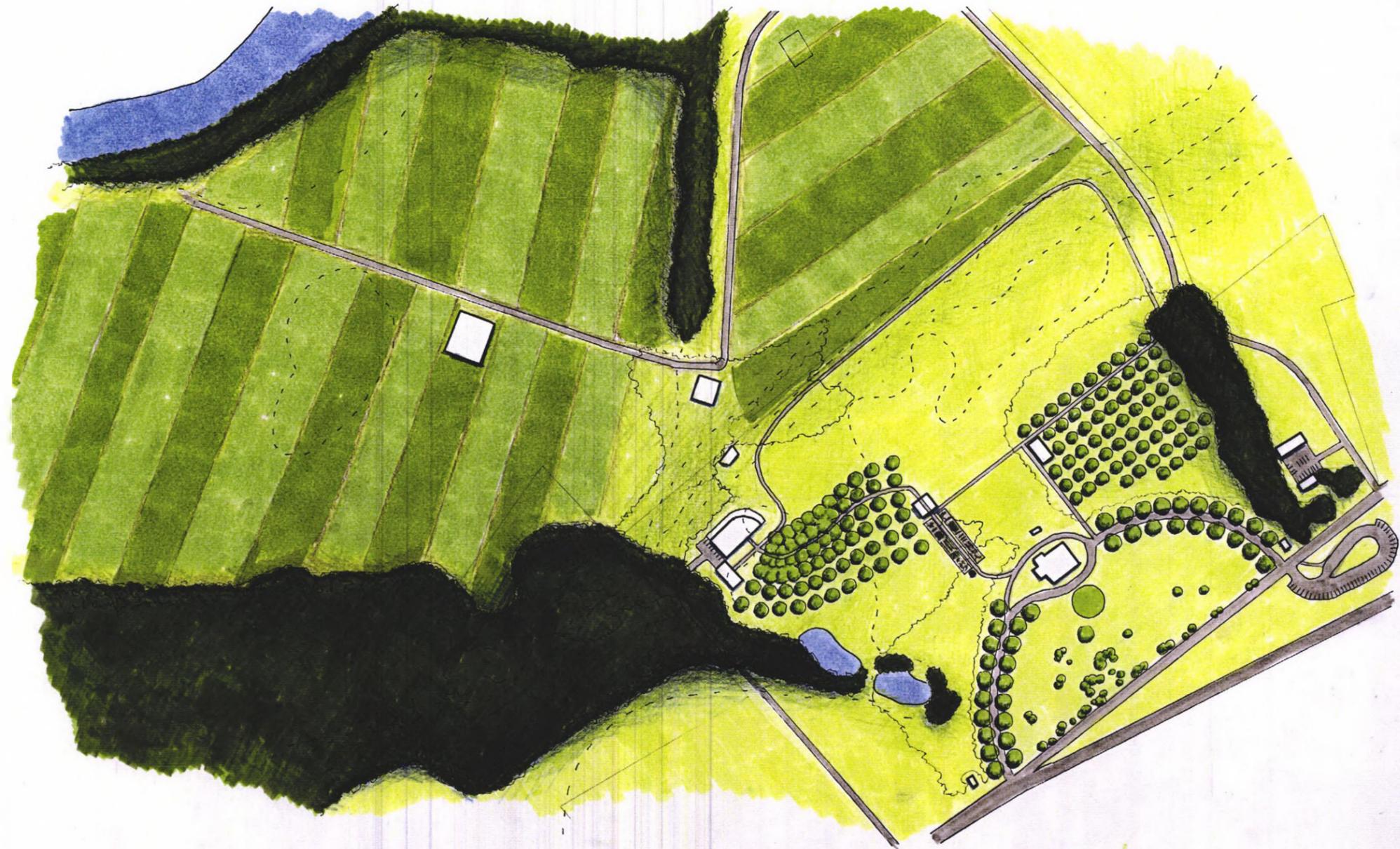


Martin Van Buren Homestead

This design makes a connection between the past and present. Martin Van Buren's political views and lifestyle from the late nineteenth century are first revisited in his home and adjacent property. His belief in progressive agriculture is highlighted in the garden and greenhouse; upon exiting the greenhouse, the visitor begins a journey forward back into the present and arrives at an interpretive center that examines the progressive farming practiced today on the lower terrace. Views from the deck allow the visitor to witness a working farm that is based on similar philosophies that Van Buren held in his time on this property.

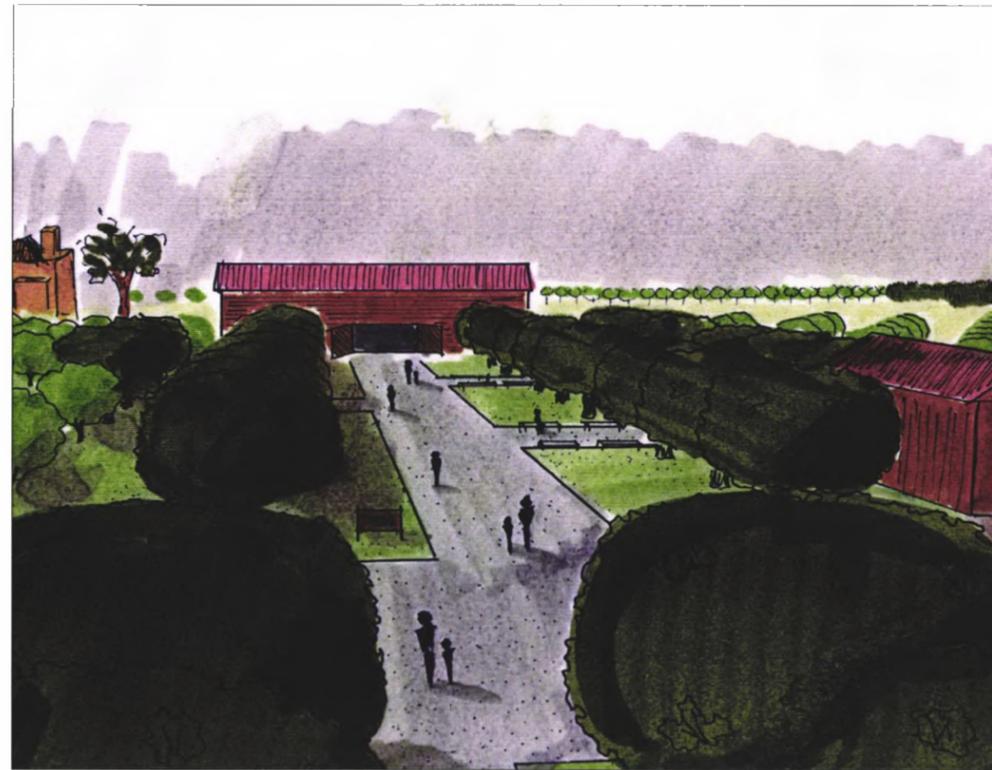






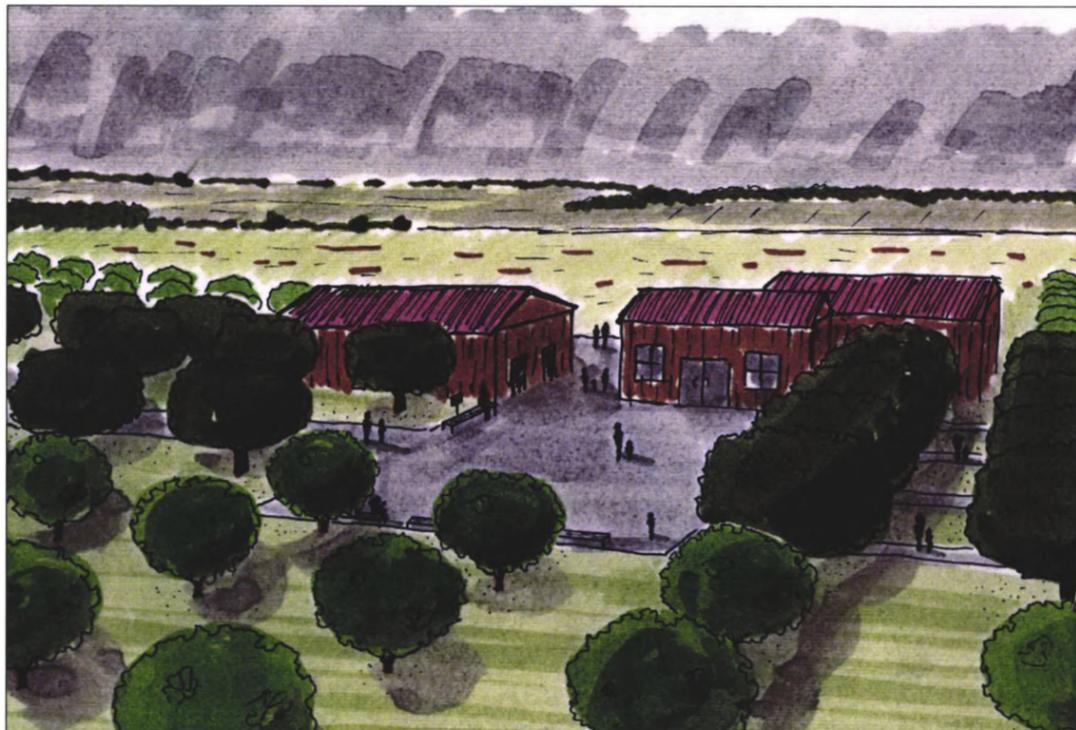
martin van buren national historic site kinderhook, new york
sarah tindall - may 2004

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Martin Van Buren Farmstead

By providing for new and expanded park program within restored orchards, it becomes possible to restore and recreate the historic Martin Van Buren Farmstead on the remainder of the property. The North Orchard provides for public facilities and becomes a decentralized visitor center orchard. Views from the North Orchard also allow the public's first glimpse of the park to be one of the entire upper and lower terraces, reinforcing the connection between the two areas. The South Orchard provides for NPS Maintenance facility and farm access on the previously disturbed site of the 1950's farm complex. The remaining property, including the lower terrace is redeveloped according the standard interpretation of the Roxbury/NPS easement, with portions of the upper terrace leased for continued agricultural productions.





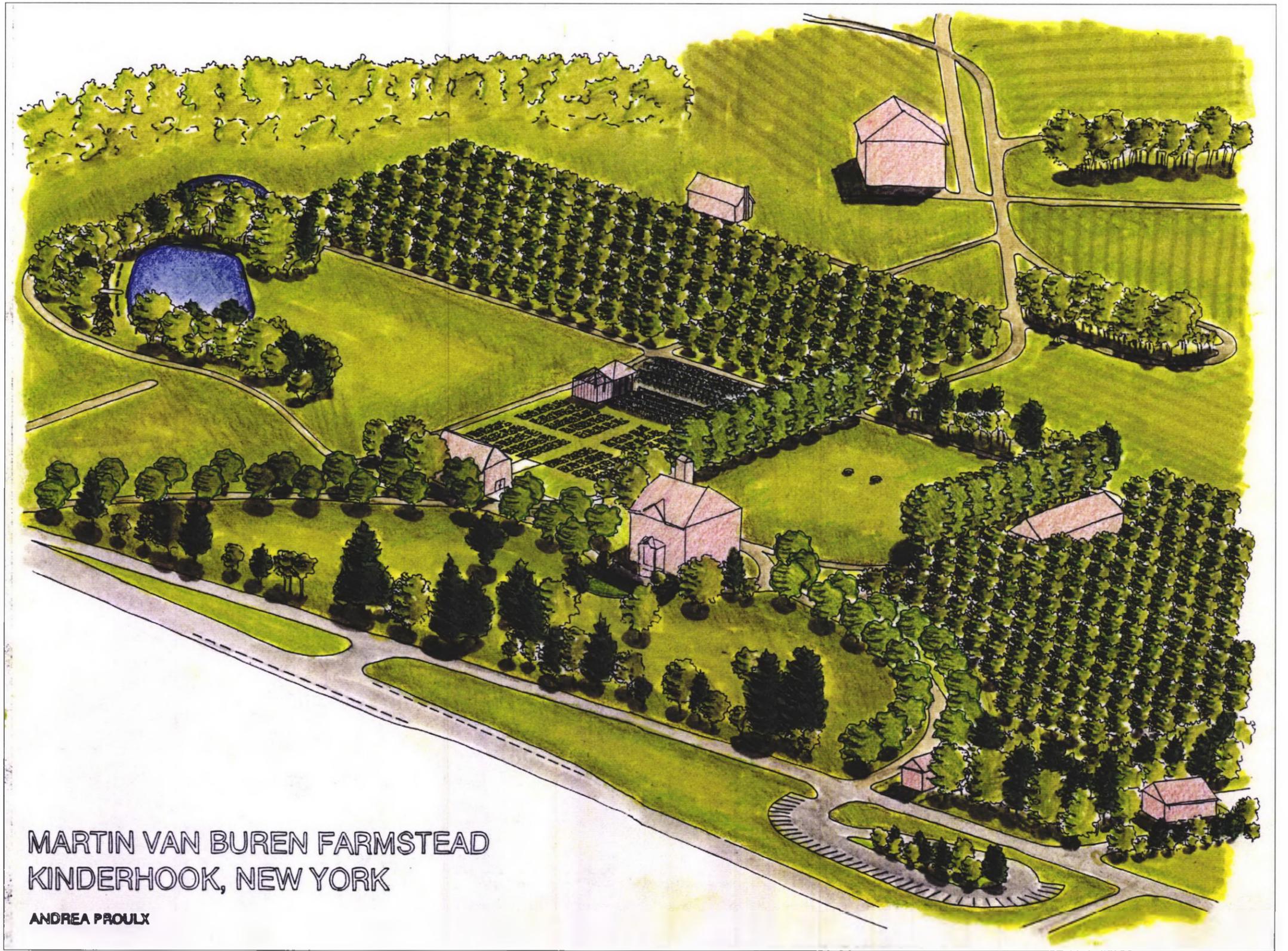
Martin Van Buren Farmstead

This design proposes a new mode of perception for the Martin Van Buren Farmstead. The proposed circulation system for the site emphasizes the visitor's perception during the period of significance. The upper terrace is predominantly reserved for pedestrians, with a select few trails being used for horse and carriage access from the restored carriage barn to the lower terrace. On the upper terrace, people can stroll through the restored orchards, pastures, and kitchen gardens just as Martin Van Buren may have guided his guests on foot. Visitors can choose to walk, ride horseback, or take a carriage ride through the lower terrace just as Martin Van Buren may have given his guests a farm tour. Visitors arrive through a new automobile entrance in front of the main house to glimpse a view of the landscape they are about to experience. They park in the existing NPS parking lot and stop at the restored North gatehouse to learn how to proceed through the landscape. After walking along the locust allee, they can enter the Visitor's Center and Museum just beyond the house before embarking on the farmstead tour of their choice.



MARTIN VAN BUREN FARMSTEAD KINDERHOOK, NEW YORK MASTER PLAN

ANDREA PROULX



MARTIN VAN BUREN FARMSTEAD
KINDERHOOK, NEW YORK

ANDREA PROULX

Lindenwald General Management Plan

The park has three identifiable cultural resource zones that need to be managed according to a subset of management practices. The three zones can be classified as 1) an agricultural management zone 2) an ornamental management zone and 3) a facility development overlay zone.

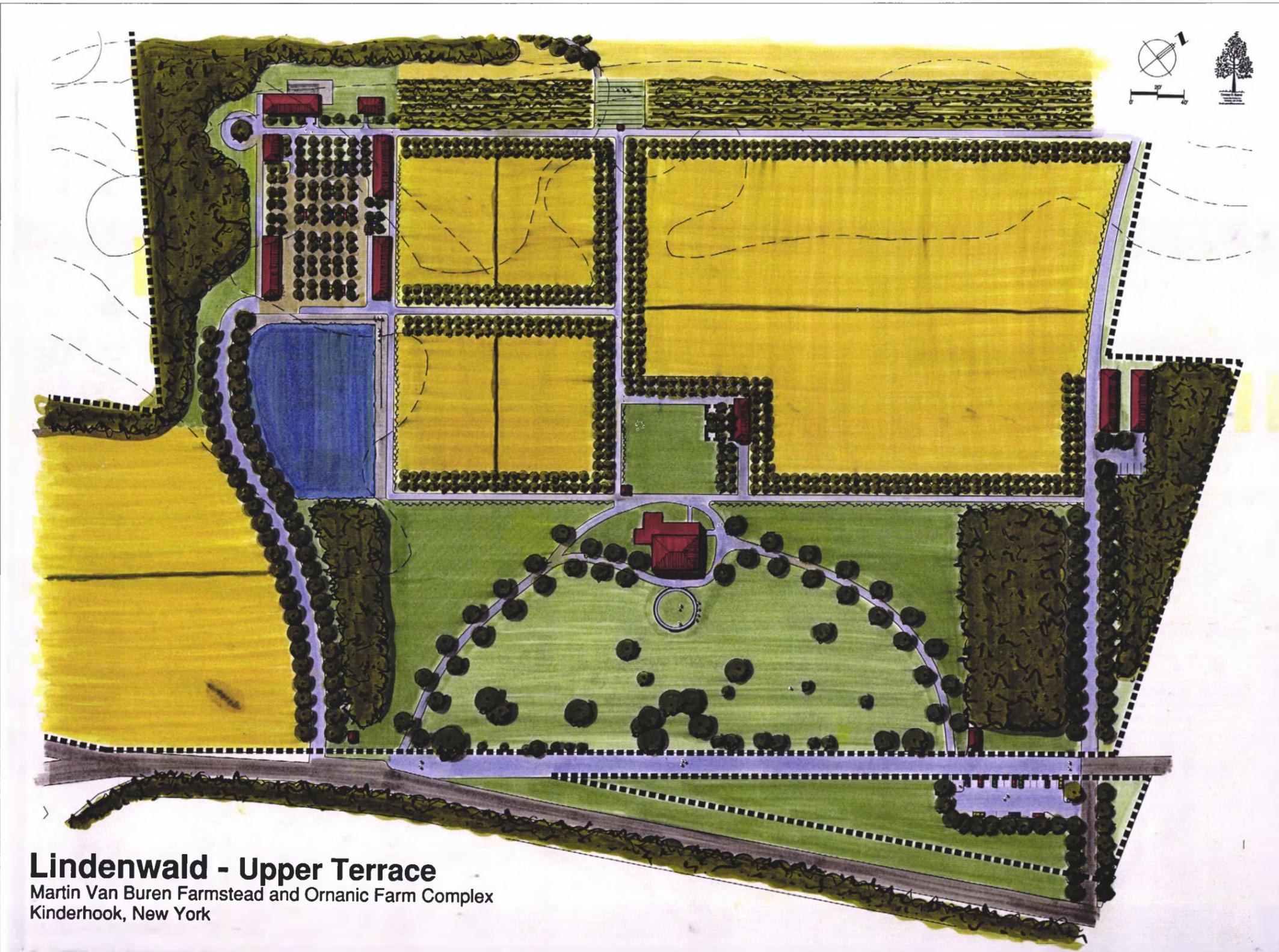
The Agricultural Management zone is identified as the rye and wheat fields, the north and south orchards, and any included pedestrian pathways.

Agricultural Management Plan

Rye and Wheat Fields
Agricultural fields should be rotated between wheat and rye crops on a biannual basis. To suggest historic farming practices, one field should be left fallow to suggest how the property may have looked when crops were in rotation. When crops are in rotation, NPS needs to plant clover in the fallow fields to reinvigorate soil, as farmers would have done in the 1850s.

North Orchard
In order to re-establish the North Orchard without harboring pests, crab apple trees should be planted on the back part of the property according to the grid pattern established in Treatment

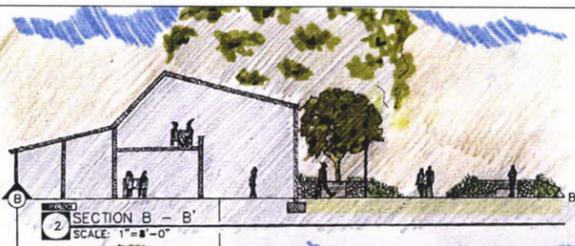
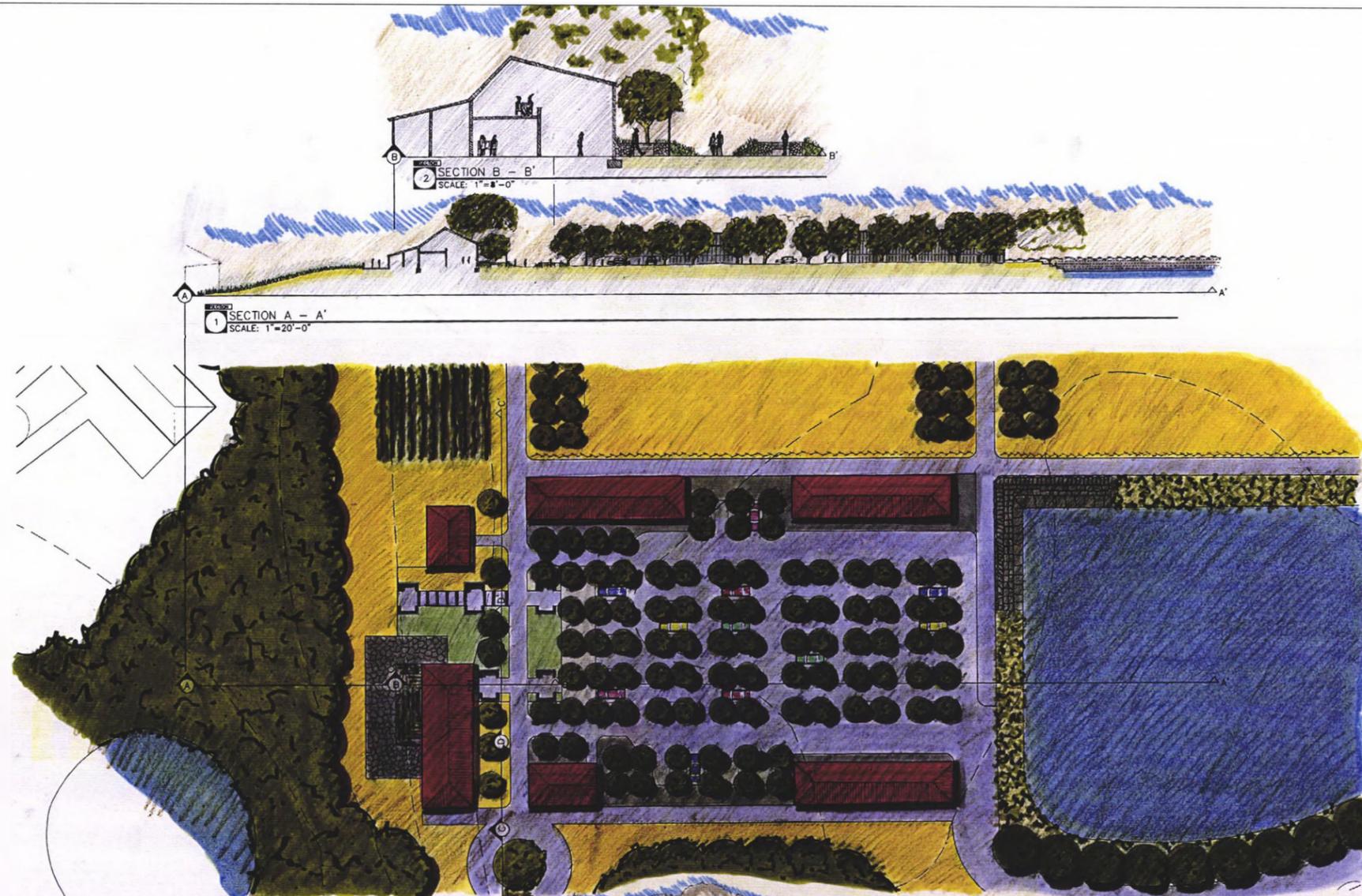




Lindenwald

Martin Van Buren loved to entertain his guests. Produce from his fields and wine from his grapes provided for the meals, and the agricultural productivity of his fields provided for the conversation. It is hard to imagine that today one could visit Lindenwald and not have this type of connection with the landscape. The following concept for Lindenwald acknowledges this particular site history, and proposes that a small scale organic farm and restaurant would afford the visitors to the national historic site the opportunity to dine on the produce of the very farmstead which they experience. The partnership with this new non-profit will not only diversify the sites stewards and functions, but will also increase the economic viability and social progress of the entire Kinderhook region.

Lindenwald - Upper Terrace
Martin Van Buren Farmstead and Organic Farm Complex
Kinderhook, New York



1 SECTION A - A'
SCALE: 1"=20'-0"



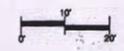
3 SECTION C - C'
SCALE: 1"=20'-0"

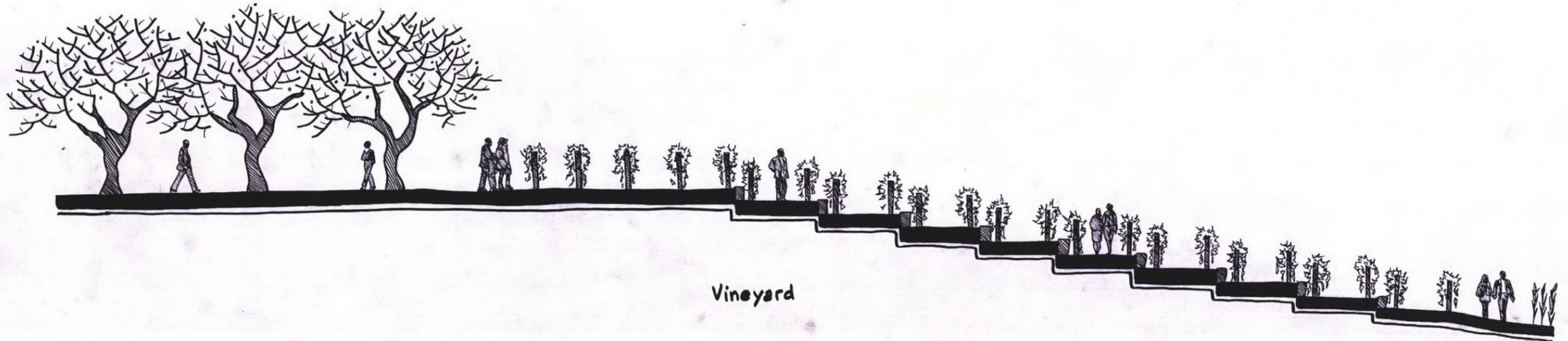


4 SECTION D - D'
SCALE: 1"=8'-0"

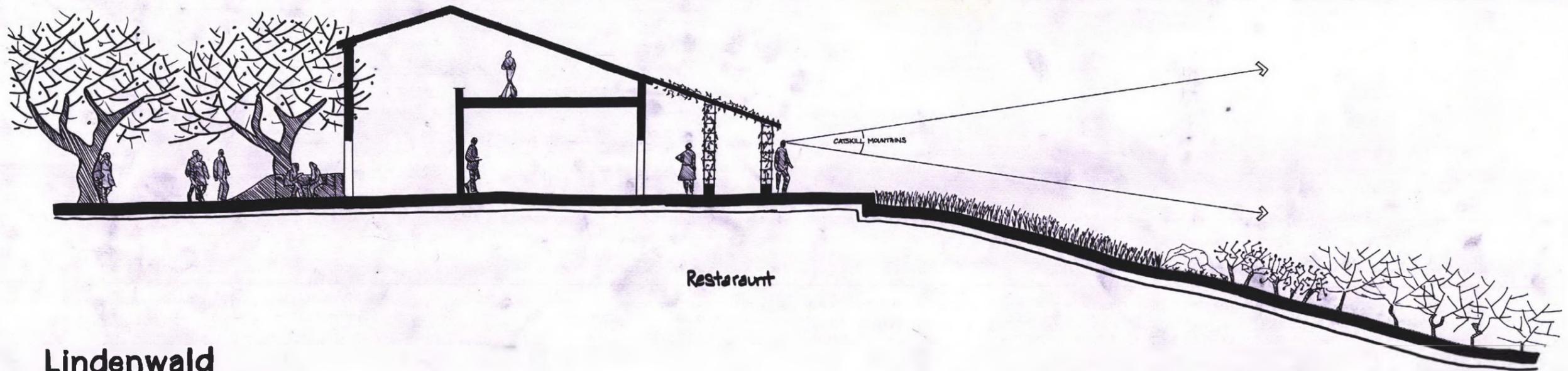
Lindenwald - Detail

The Martin Van Buren Farmstead
Kinderhook, New York





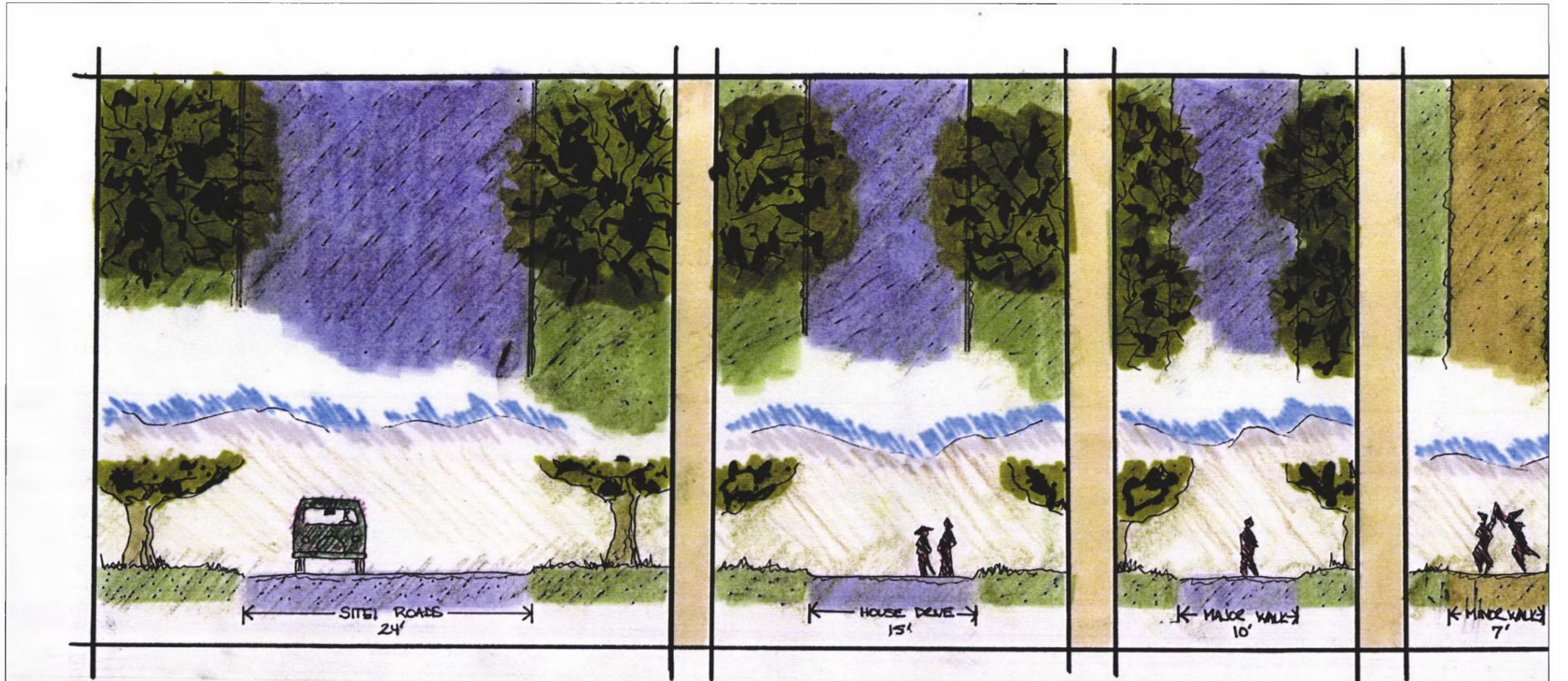
Vineyard



CATSKILL MOUNTAINS

Restaurant

Lindenwald
The Martin Van Buren Farmstead
Kinderhook, New York

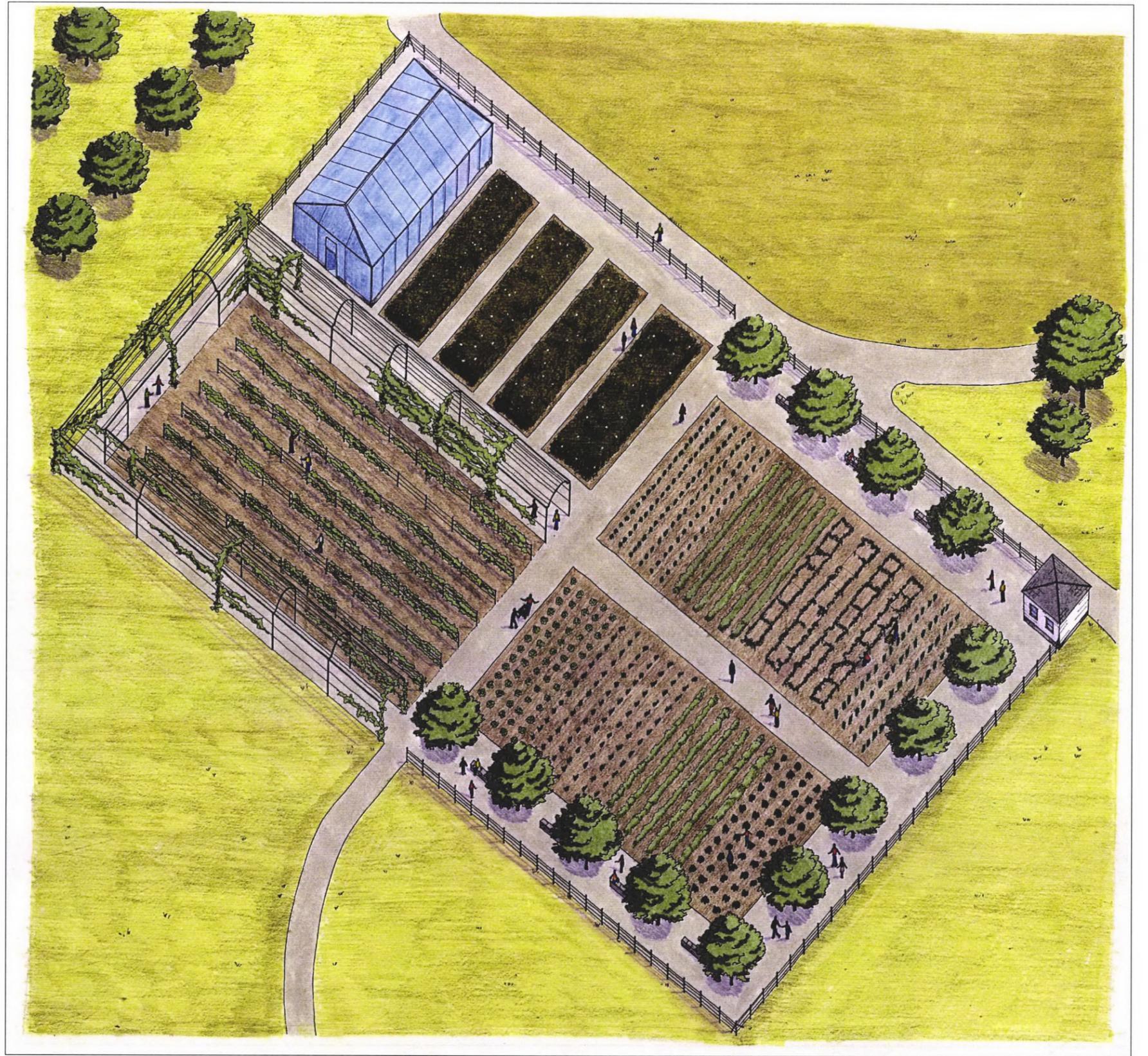


Lindenwald - Surface Treatment
The Martin Van Buren Farmstead
Kinderhook, New York



Martin Van Buren Farmstead

The goal of this design is to provide visitors today some of the experience visitors in the 19th century would have. Not being a restoration, this will be achieved by recreating some of the features of the Martin van Buren's period. Anticipating the diverse wills of nowadays visitors, three different levels/experiences of visitation will be provided: the house and garden tour, the upper terrace tour and the lower terrace tour.

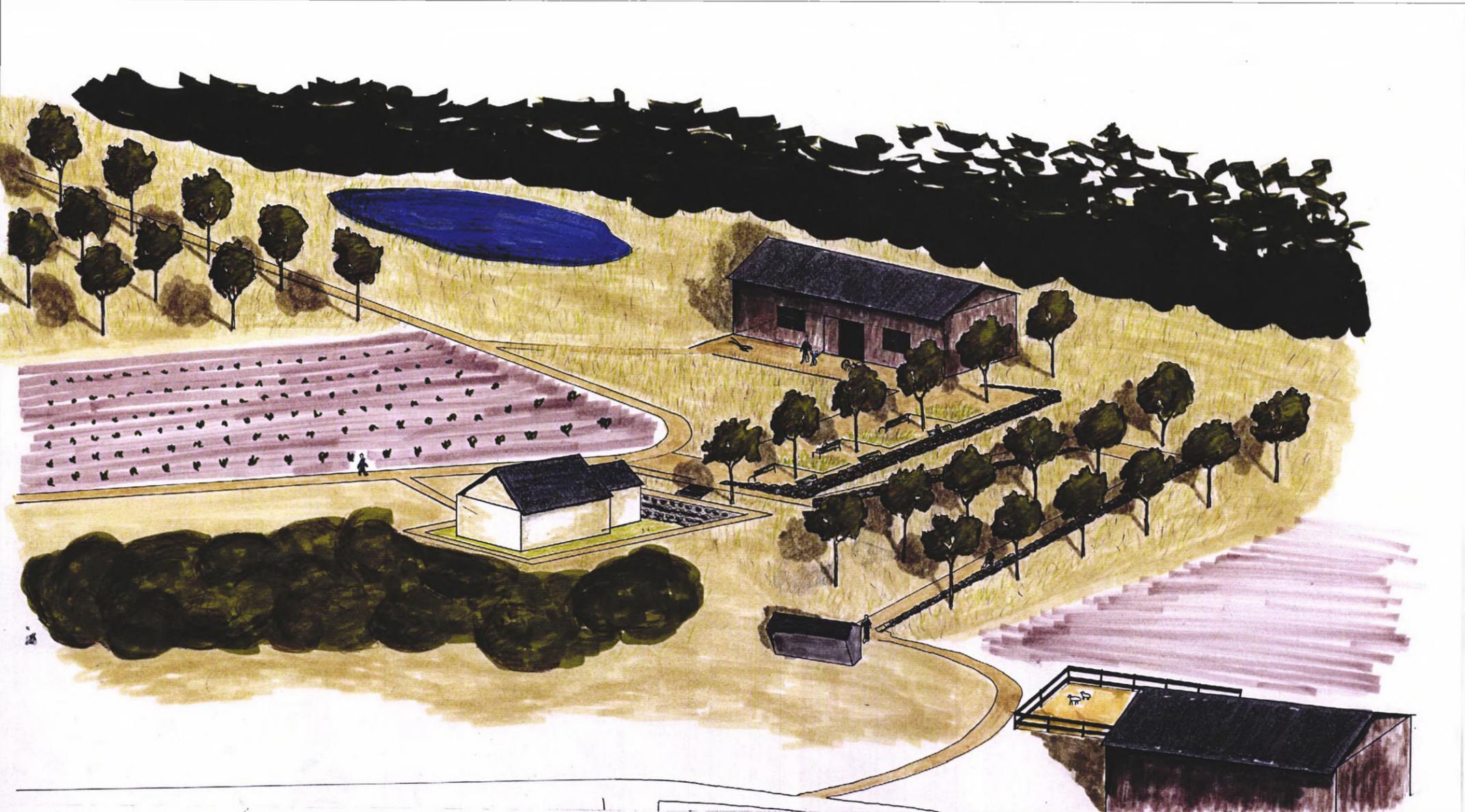




Lindenwald

For 23 years, Martin Van Buren received visitors at Lindenwald to discuss politics, agricultural innovation, and other pressing matters of his day. This design represents a hypothetical tour on which Van Buren may have taken his guests, based on site features and issues that were important to him. The circulation takes visitors through three zones of restored landscapes and buildings. They begin with a formal approach up the main drive to the house and garden areas, where Van Buren's domestic and political life would be interpreted. Visitors then follow a sinuous walkway through a sweeping pastoral landscape of meadows and fish ponds before arriving at the edge of the escarpment.

There, perched on an extended terrace, sit buildings that interpret agriculture at the Van Buren farm, which extend in a dramatic panorama. Access to the lower terrace fields wind down a switch-back to through a restored pear orchard, or via a separate greenway trail from the parking area.

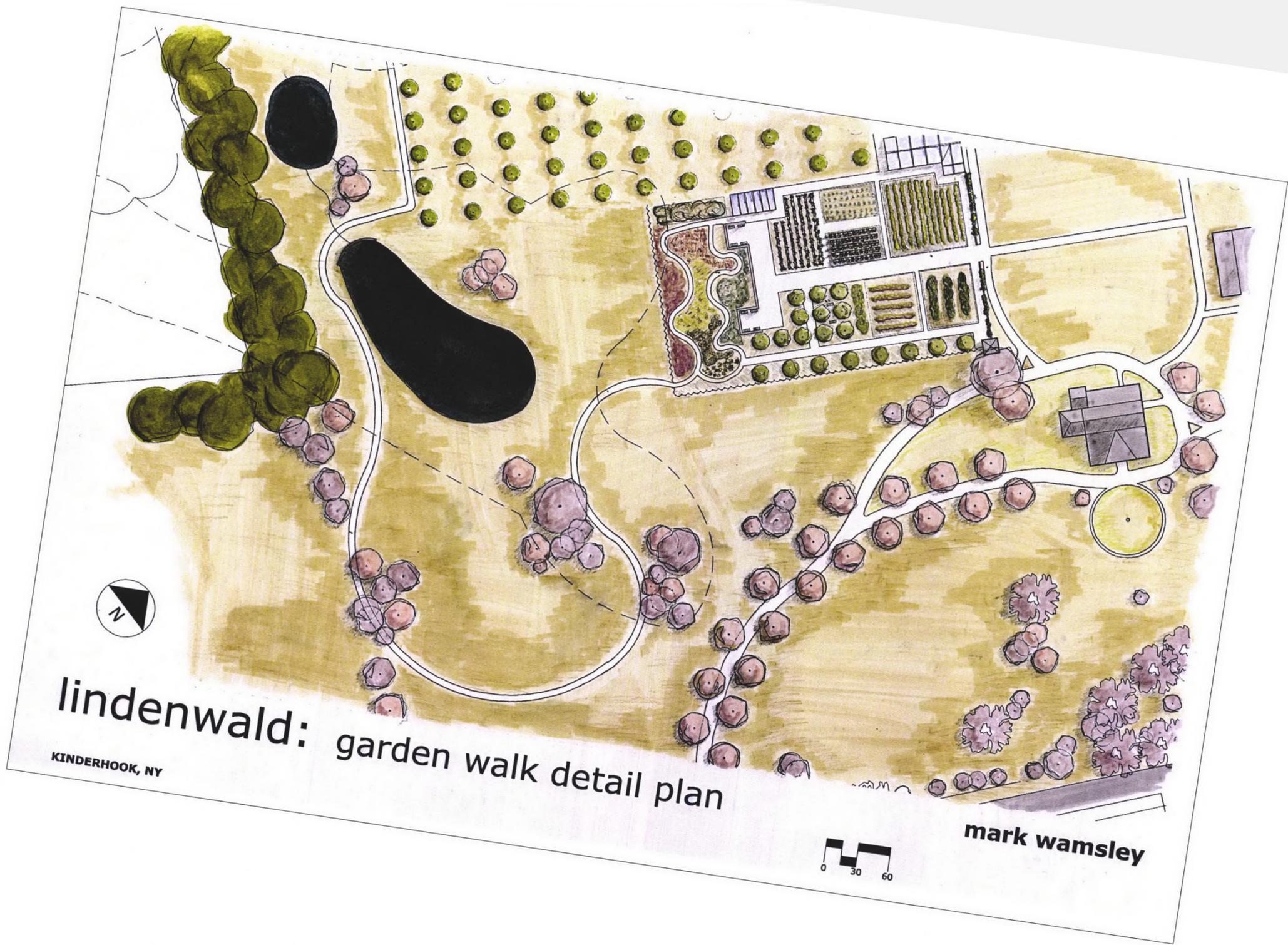


lindenwald: Farm Complex Aerial View

mark wamsley

KINDERHOOK, NY





lindenwald: garden walk detail plan

KINDERHOOK, NY

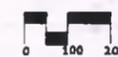
mark wamsley



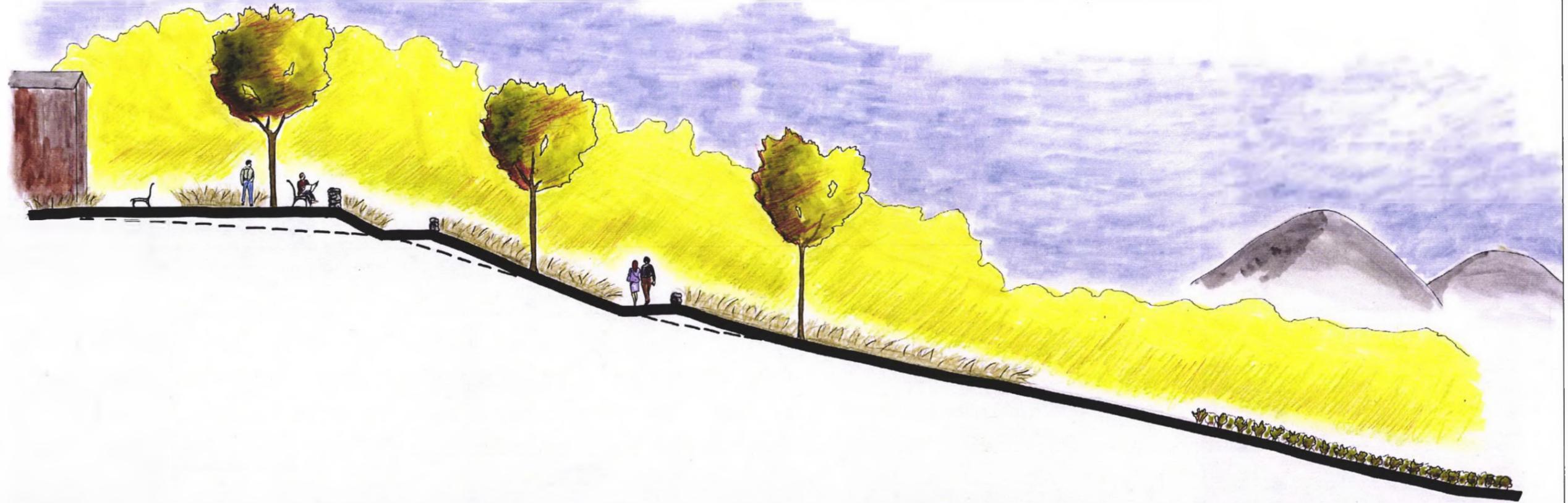


lindenwald: master plan

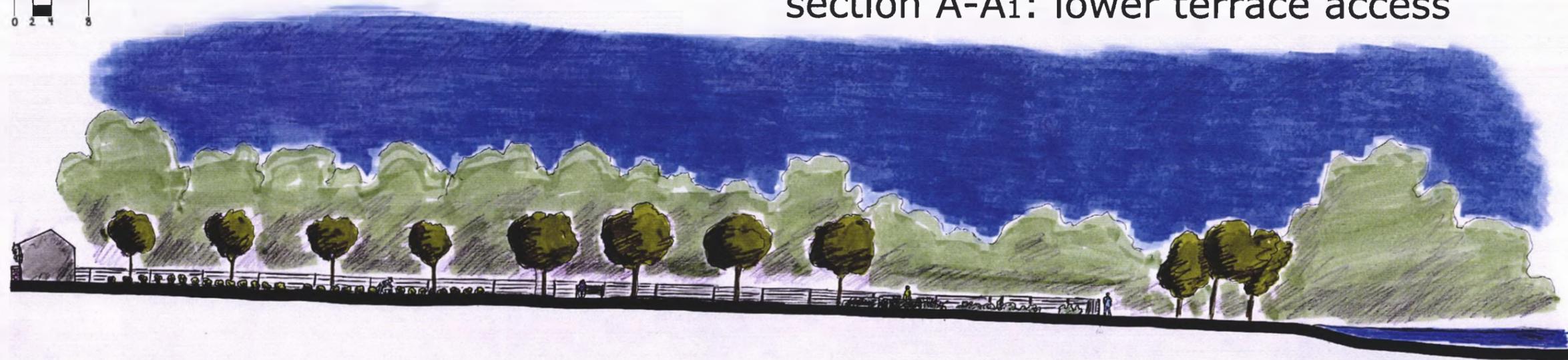
KINDERHOOK, NY



mark wamsley

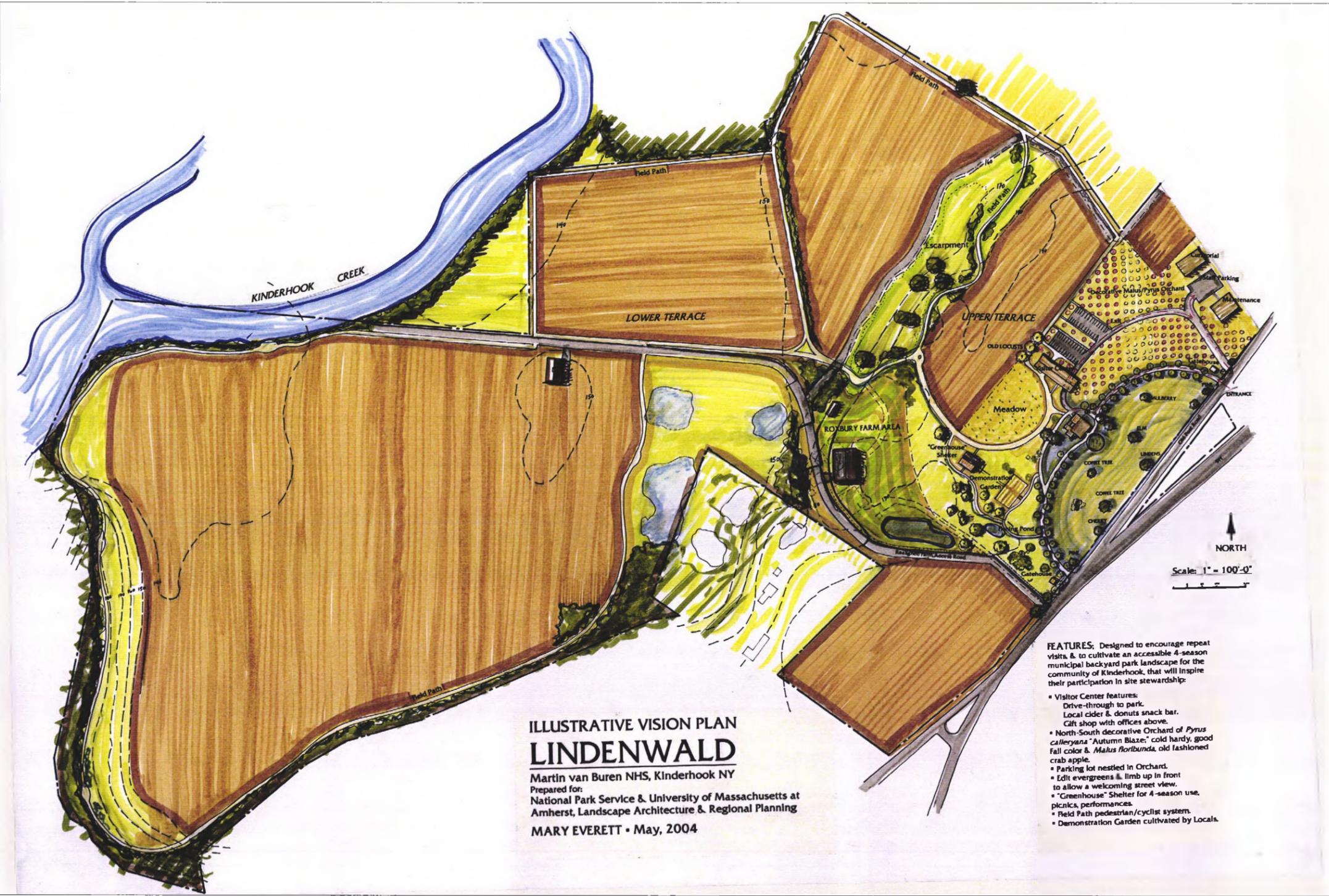


section A-A₁: lower terrace access



Martin Van Buren Homestead

The established period of significance encompasses a time of contented domesticity for van Buren, when Lindenwald was filled with his sons and their families, as well as the multi-cultural families of the farm help. This concept presents Lindenwald as a rural yet sophisticated progressive gentleman farmer's family homestead. The first time visitor will approach the historic mansion, then have a welcoming experience of entering an active farmyard. The intention is to encourage repeat visits, and to cultivate an accessible four-season municipal backyard park landscape for the community of Kinderhook, that will inspire their participation in site stewardship. The complimentary farming activity of Roxbury Farms will be a back drop to Lindenwald, operating independently, and linked by traditional field paths.





BIRD'S EYE VIEW FROM FARM
LINDENWALD

Martin van Buren NHS, Kinderhook NY

A welcoming four season domestic farmyard park
landscape for visitors & the people of Kinderhook.

Prepared by Mary Everett May, 2004 for the National Park Service & University
of Massachusetts at Amherst, Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning.



Scale: 1" = 30'-0" + or -



Lindenwald "Irish Help" Gatehouse Interactive Domestic Scene