Dear Friends,

On behalf of the board of directors of the Friends of Fairsted, I am pleased to present the 2015 annual report and annual list of supporters. Last year was another exciting year for the Friends as they continued to offer a rich slate of programs and activities that advance the mission of the National Park Service to preserve and protect Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site and its unique resources.

While the year saw many successes, one of the most profound experiences for me was the gathering of over 100 people in a grove of evergreens at the Arnold Arboretum on Sunday, August 9 to hear readings from Frederick Law Olmsted’s *Yosemite and Mariposa Grove: A Preliminary Report, 1865*. This special event, supported in part by a grant from the Friends of Fairsted, was the first of several commemorations of the Centennial of the National Park Service; a moment when we pause to reflect again on the important role played by Frederick Law Olmsted and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. in creating this wonderful system of parks, monuments and historic sites — all for the public benefit.

Special moments like this and the continued good work of the Friends would not be possible without the generosity of our growing community of Friends. In addition to your gifts, we are indeed fortunate to share in your abiding interest, even passion, for the ideals and extraordinary places that bear the indelible imprint of Frederick Law Olmsted and his successors in the landscape architecture firm he founded in Brookline.

As the Friends of Fairsted launch a new year of programs in the centennial year of the National Park Service, we hope we can depend on you to continue your involvement and support. Thank you in advance and we look forward to another productive year in 2016.

Sincerely,

Tom Woodward

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**HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015**

**The Friends of Fairsted Lecture Series**  
*Perspectives on Place* moderated by Keith Morgan with presentations by Daniel Bluestone and Gary Hilderbrand

**Two Beveridge Fellowships awarded**  
- Christine O’Hara, *Proto-Ecological Planning by the Olmsted Brothers in 1920s Los Angeles: Using Georeferencing as a Mapping Tool to Understand Spatial Reasoning and Ecological Function*  
- Spencer Tunnell, *The Lesser Known Work of the Olmsted Firm in Atlanta: A Contextual Study*

**Friends of Fairsted website**  
The redesign and launch of an enhanced and expanded Friends of Fairsted website:  
www.friendsoffairsted.org

**Grants to the Olmsted National Historic Site**  
Good Neighbors: Landscape Design and Community Building for the fabrication of a new model

**Centennial event**  
Yosemite/Mariposa Grove readings at the Arnold Arboretum and student writing and art competition

**Congratulations**  
to the National Park Service for their first place award from the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) for the interior exhibits Design for the Future: The Olmsted and the American Landscape and for a second award for their short video, “The Lasting Legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted”
2015 DONOR LIST
(gifts and gifts-in-kind received between October 1, 2014 and September 30, 2015)

With many thanks to the following contributors:

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Wheelock College  

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Frances Shedd Fisher  
Jean Stringham  
Patricia Suhrcke  
Carol Winkler  

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Notes on photography: The photograph in this annual report was created by Xiomáro, a nationally recognized artist, curator, writer and speaker. His images have appeared in many catalogues, books and journals. In addition to his work at Fairsted, Xio’s commissions from the National Park Service include Sagamore Hill NHS; the estate of William Floyd, at Fire Island National Seashore, Weir Farm NHS, Longfellow House Washington’s Headquarters NHS; and Boston Harbor Islands. In 2016, Xio was also commissioned by the National Park Service, the Connecticut Forest & Park Association and the Appalachian Mountain Club to create an artistic photographic collection of the 215-mile New England National Scenic Trail.