Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present the 2021 Annual Financial Report and List of Contributors. On behalf of the board of directors and the National Park Service, it is my great privilege to express our gratitude to everyone, who through their generosity and involvement, has made it possible for the Friends of Fairsted to continue to support Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site and advance the Olmsted legacy during the past year.

In spite of the ongoing global health crisis, with your help, the Friends were able continue to fulfill their mission. Over 400 people participated in our outstanding virtual lectures; we awarded two grants to support important new scholarship through the Charles Beveridge Research Fellowship and helped make it possible for Brookline school children to safely visit Fairsted and participate in the National Park Service’s award-winning Good Neighbors education program.

The past year also stands out as a singular moment when organizations from across the United States came together to plan for commemorative events celebrating the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr.’s birth in April 2022. With allied organizations, particularly the National Association for Olmsted Parks and the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, the Friends of Fairsted are excited to be part of a national coalition of communities and organizations that have united to work together to ensure that the Olmsted legacy lives on across the country by advocating for renewed commitments to the preservation and maintenance of historic parks and places. In just under 50 years, great strides have been made in understanding and caring for Olmsted’s great public parks, especially in the Boston area where the entire character of the city owes its public spaces to the genius of Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. We hope that the Bicentennial year will be a launchpad from which another 50 years of inspired stewardship will make it possible for succeeding generations of Americans to enjoy these places as much as we do today.

The Friends of Fairsted are especially proud to be partnering with the National Park Service and the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training to host an important symposium, Olmsteds: Landscapes and Legacies, which will take place on March 30 – April 2, 2022 in Boston. This program will be the Friends’ capstone project during the bicentennial year and we need your help to make it a success! **We have committed to raising $50,000 for the symposium and we hope that as you are planning your end-of-year giving, you will consider making a generous donation to help us reach our goal.** Please make your online contribution here.

We are grateful for all donations, large and small, to help us bring this group of scholars and practitioners together to explore topics ranging from Preservation and Adaptive Reuse to Community Engagement and Adaptation for Climate Change.

Thank you again for being part of our community and in advance for your support.

Lauren G. Meier ASLA
President, Friends of Fairsted
Virtual Lectures
In December 2020, the Friends of Fairsted Lecture Series presented a virtual lecture with 2015 Beveridge Fellowship recipient Christine O’Hara titled, The Olmsted Brothers’ Planning in California: A Prescient Approach to Ecological Design. The spring lecture featured a fascinating talk titled Ecologies of Memory by Sara Zewde, founding principal of Studio Zewde and Assistant Professor in Practice of Landscape Architecture at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design. In August 2020, the Friends co-sponsored the California Forever virtual screening and panel discussion with producers David Vassar and Sally Kaplan, and Lauren Meier.

2021 Charles E. Beveridge Fellowship Award
Jonathan Kuhr, Malden, MA
Building Wilderness: Lessons from Olmsted’s Forest Landscapes. Jonathan will be studying the design, construction, and reception of the Olmsted office’s densely planted, urban woodlands, particularly the role such landscapes might play in creating spaces for people and programs otherwise marginalized by the prevailing forms of open space found in contemporary cities.

2021 Charles E. Beveridge Research Grant Recipient
Emily Vance, Charleston, WV
Olmsted Brothers and West Virginia University: A Contextualized Look at Woodburn Circle. Emily will be researching one of the Olmsted Brothers’ lesser-known projects: a proposed campus plan for West Virginia University in Morgantown (1898–1901). Her project seeks to confirm whether the Olmsted plans were acted upon and to amend the current National Register nomination of Woodburn Circle, WVU’s beloved quadrangle, to provide thorough landscape descriptions and context regarding the Olmsted Brothers’ role in its design.

Additional Grants
• Performance award to NPS intern Katie Burke in recognition of her contribution to the Olmsted archives.
• Library of American Landscape History to support the forthcoming publication of Olmsted and Yosemite: Civil War, Abolition, and the National Park Idea by Ethan Carr and Rolf Diamant. This new book, anticipated in early 2022, builds on the Olmsted NHS historic resource study, “The Olmsteds and the National Park Service.”

FY21 Highlights from the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site:
• Completed landscape work on the Green Hill parcel including repairing the historic stone wall, replacing the spruce pole fence, irrigation and planting.
• Planning and design for an upcoming construction project that will address roofing, windows, painting and exterior wood features, anticipated to start in 2022.
• Good Neighbors recommenced, allowing Brookline students to have an outdoor experience at the park for the first time in 18 months!
• Archives staff scanned an additional 9,179 historic archival documents resulting in 119,000 of 139,000 plans from the collection available remotely to researchers. They also commenced work on scanning the historic Records and Reports collection.
2021 Financial Report
October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021

Starting Balance $ 81,817.83
Revenue $ 37,891.62
Expenses $ 22,340.16
Net Revenue $15,551.46
Ending Balance $ 97,369.29

Expenses
- Programs, Projects and Public Outreach $ 8,291.66
- Administrative Expenses $ 3,548.50
- Beveridge Fellowship $ 4,000.00
- Additional Grants $ 5,250.00
- Fundraising $ 1,250.00
Total Expenses $ 22,340.16

Expenditures
- Programs, Projects & Outreach 37%
- Administrative Expenses 16%
- Beveridge Fellowship 18%
- Grants 16%
- Fundraising 6%

2021 Donor List
(gifts and gifts-in-kind received between October 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021)

Gifts of $1,000 or more
- Robert and Evelyn Doran
- Sarah and Josh Greenhill
- Lauren G. Meier
- Tom Woodward and David LePere

Gifts of $500 – $999
- Kyle Zick

Gifts of $250 – $499
- Phyllis Andersen
- Sarah Freeman
- Friends of the Muddy River
- Newton and Arleyn Levee
- Margaret J. McKee
- Sally Muspratt
- National Association for Olmsted Parks
- James Olmsted, Olmsted Design LLC
- Reed Hilderbrand
- Pat Surhcke
- Ben and Kate Taylor
- The Trustees of Reservations

Gifts of $100 – $249
- Julie Arrison
- Terese D’Ursso
- Charles Cooney
- Rolf Diamant and Nora Mitchell
- Florence Everett
- Marjorie Greville

Gifts of $1 – $99
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- High Street Hill Association
- Camille Larson
- Mauney-Brodek Giving Fund
- Michael McConnell
- Jackie Moran,
  in honor of Tom Woodward
- Deborah Rivers
- Jackie Royce
- Carlo Rotella
- Betsy Shure Gross
- Gerry Wright

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- David Holden
- Henry Lukas
- Tess McHugh,
  in honor of Tom Woodward
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Sarah and Josh Greenhill

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