



# **Presentation to Municipal Heritage Committee**

April 12, 2023

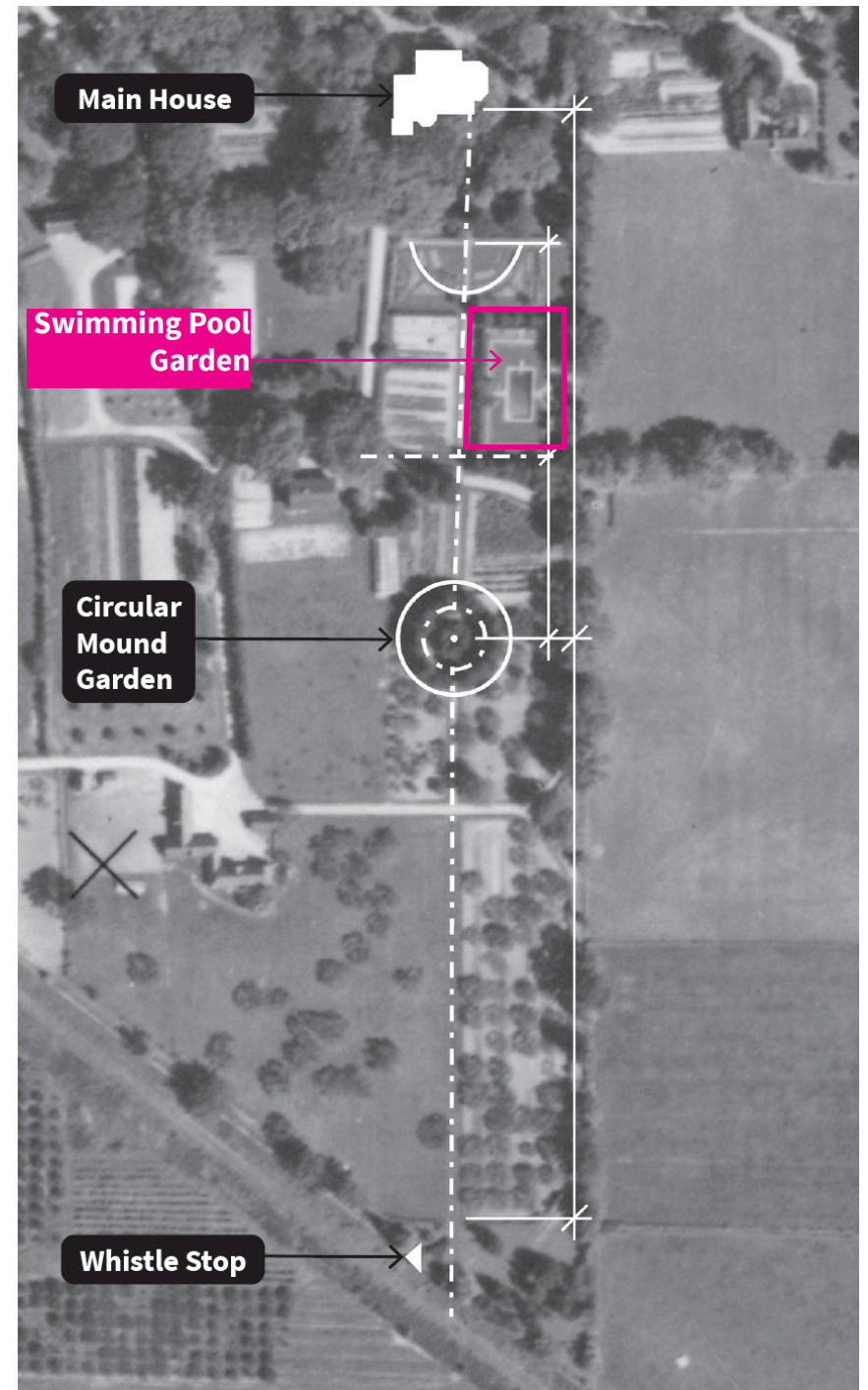
Brendan Stewart



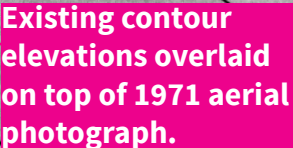


**Image:**  
 (above) Howard and Lorrie Dunington-Grubb c.1911  
 (Source: thestar.com)

(right) Diagram overlaid on 1953 aerial showing the garden rooms organized along the Main Walk between the Main House and the Whistle Stop (Source: Brock University/ERA)

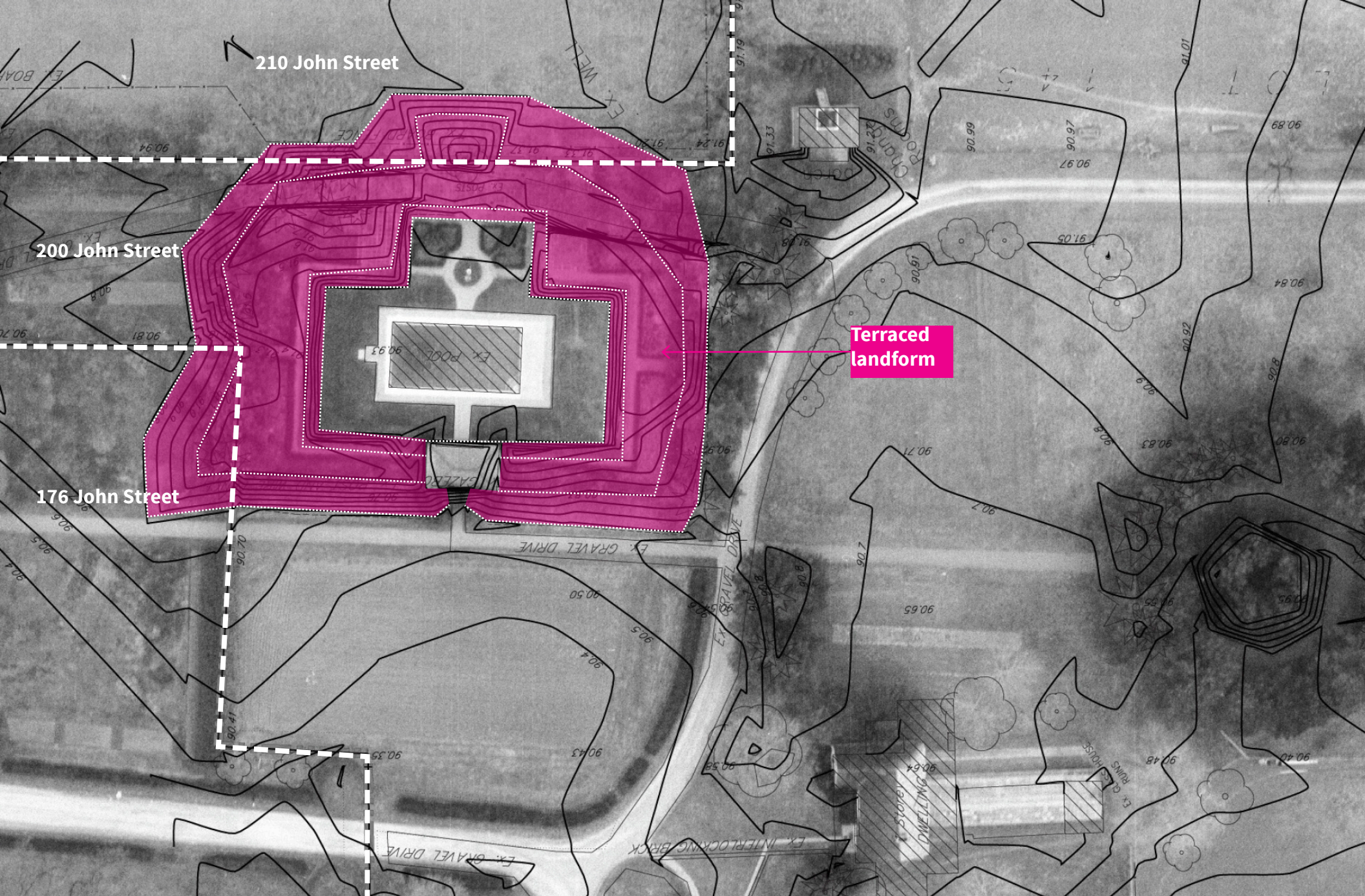






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(above) Existing contours overlaid on top of 1971 aerial photograph (ERA).



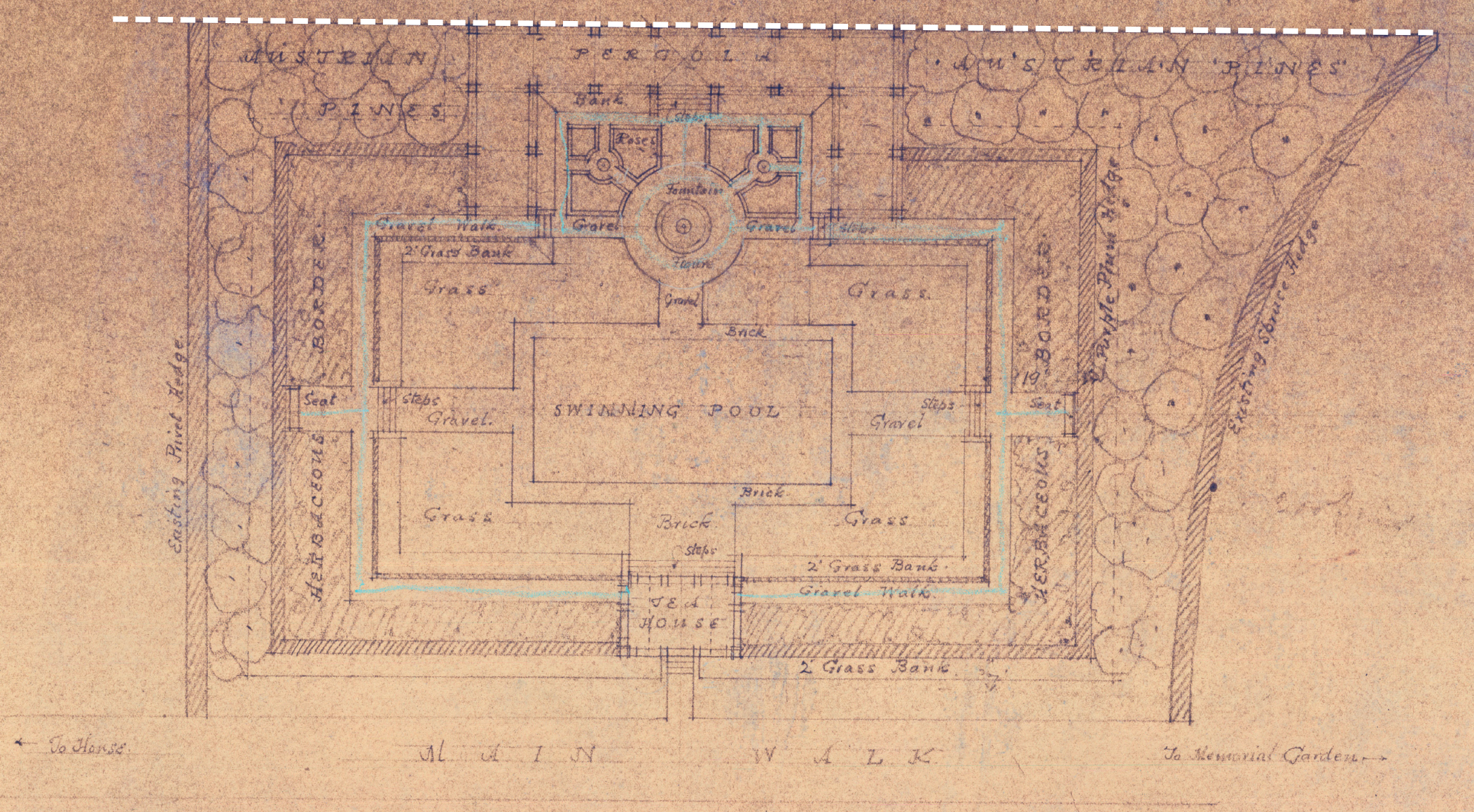


Image:  
 1928 Plan for the Swimming Pool Garden designed by  
 Dunington-Grubb. (Source: University of Guelph Archives)



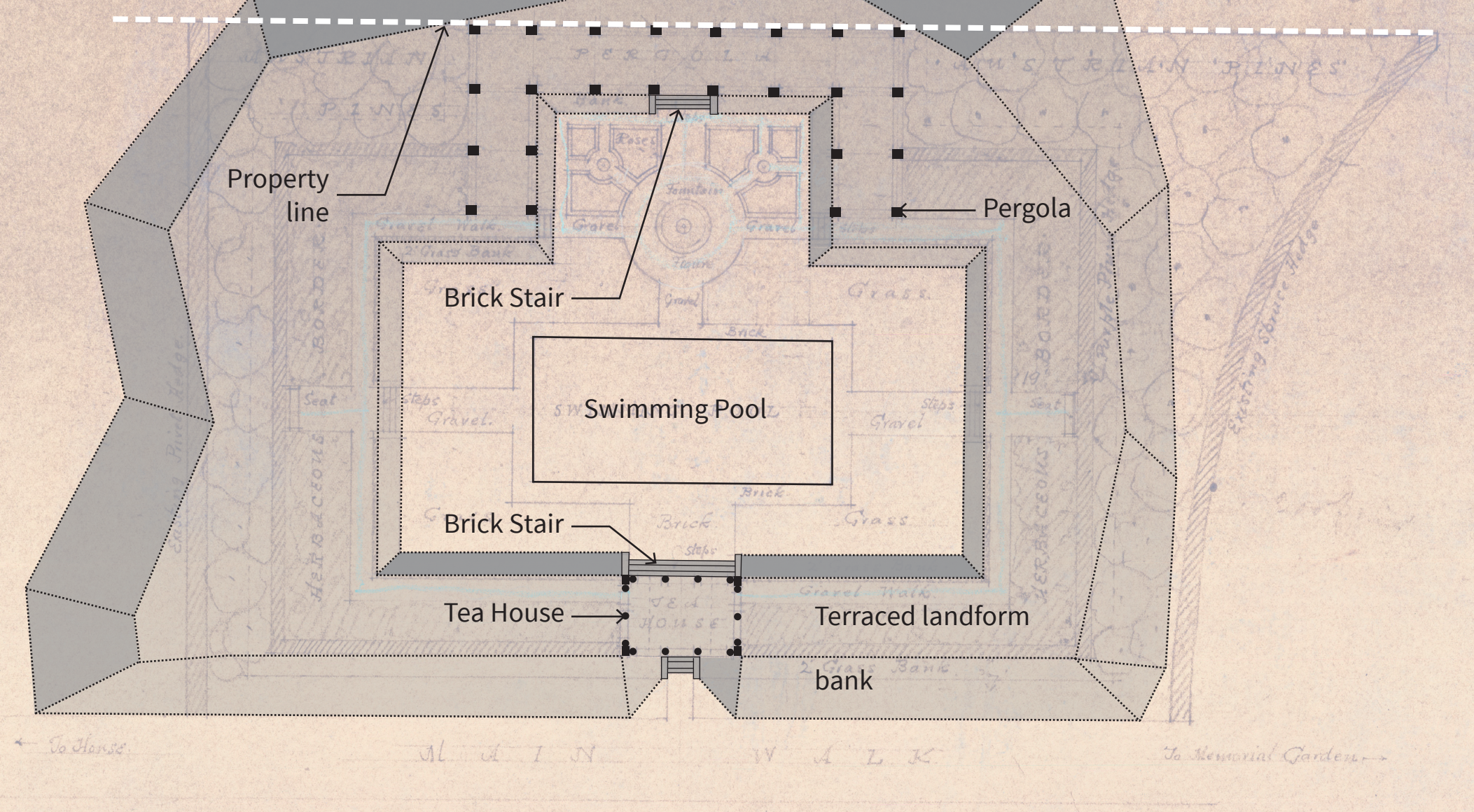
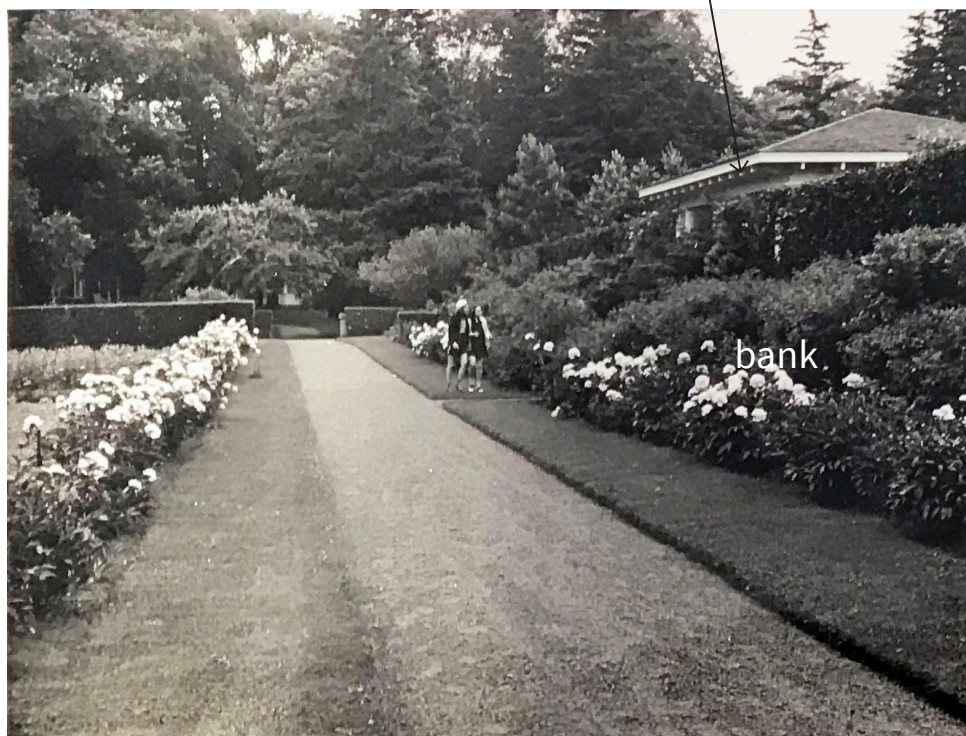
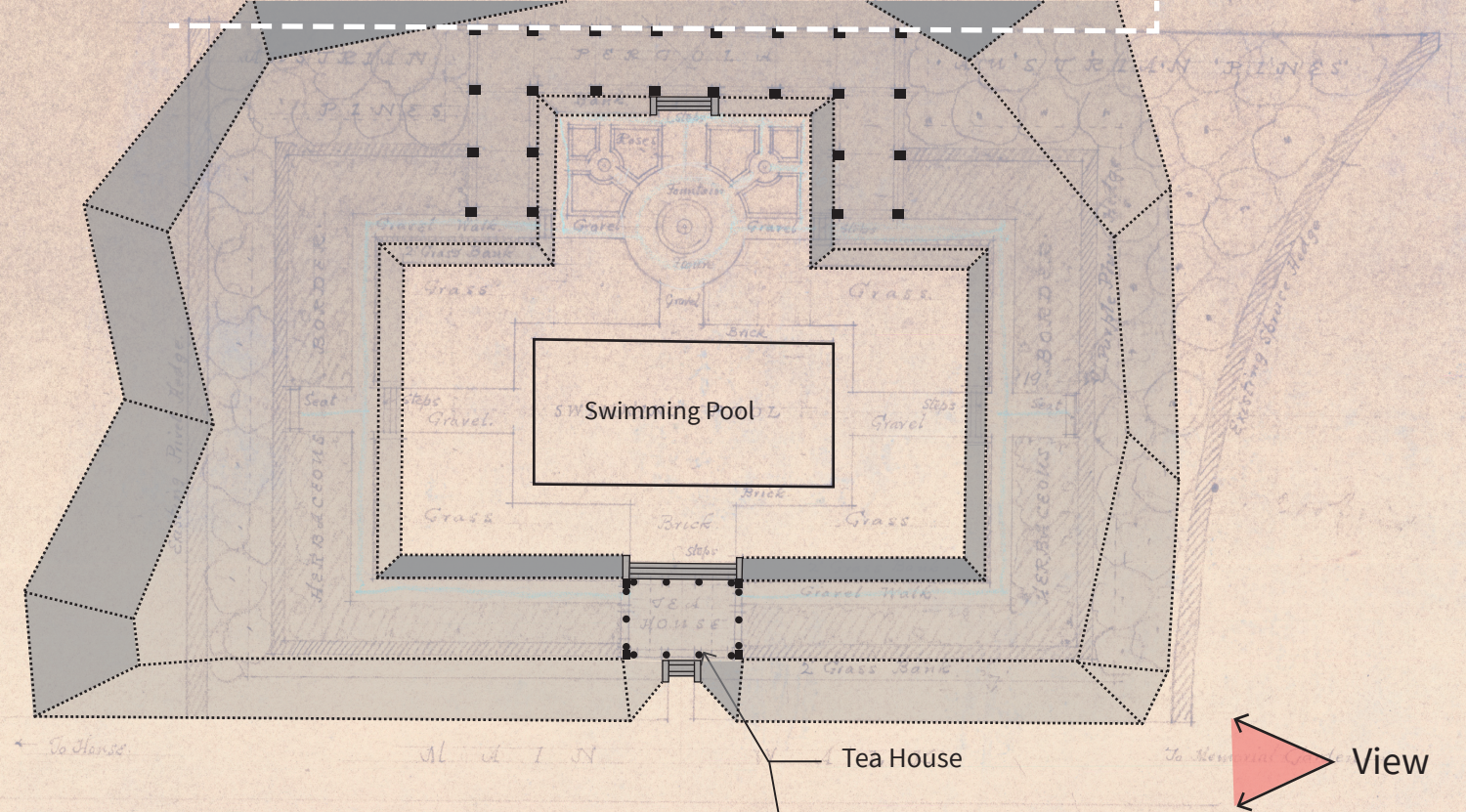


Diagram showing how the Dunington-Grubb's designed a **terraced landform** around the swimming pool garden.

The **Pergola** and the **Tea house** stand on top of the **landform**.



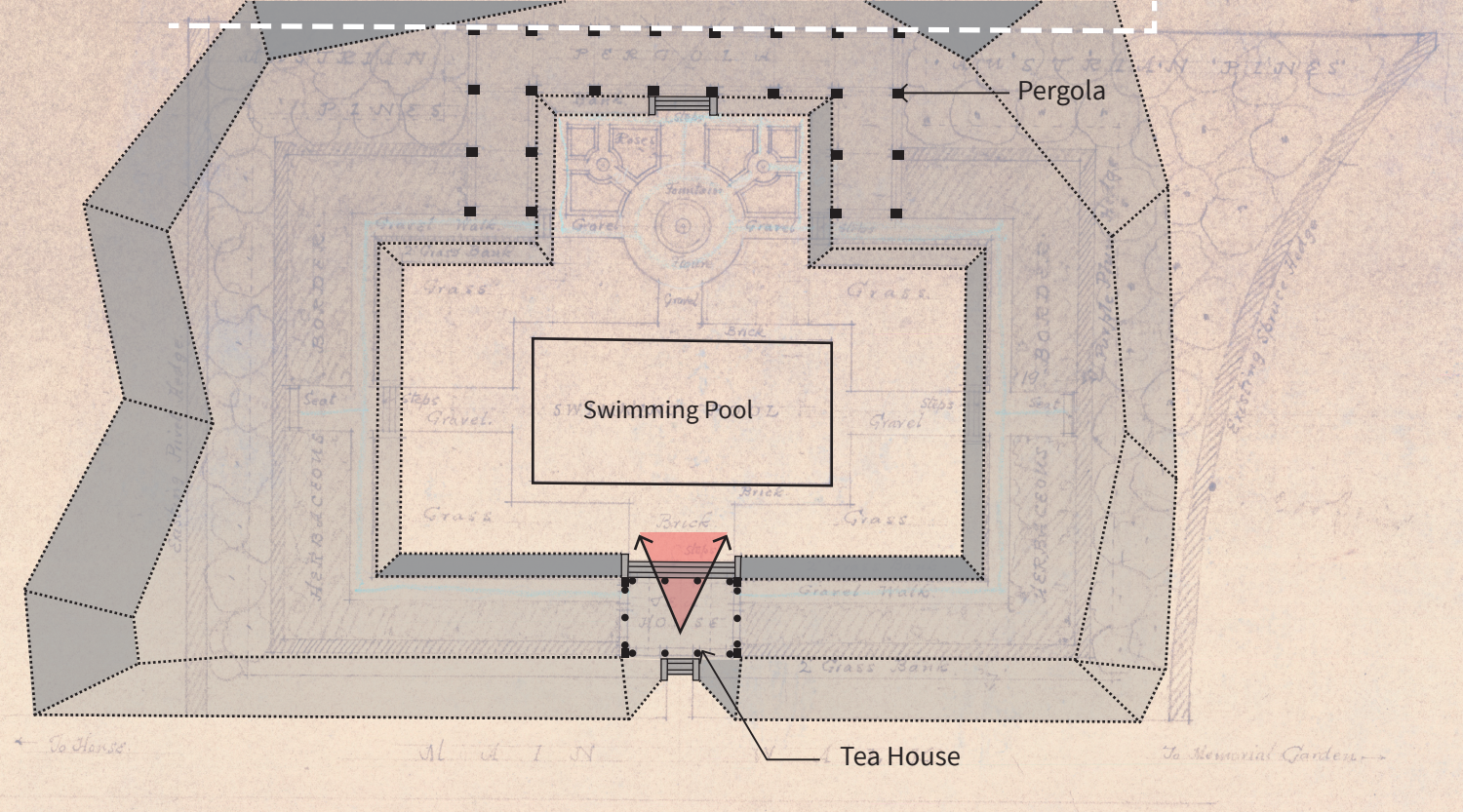


Arriving at the **Swimming Pool Garden** along the Main Walk

Image to left:

View along the Main Walk toward the Randwood House with the Tea House visible to the right, and the Swimming Pool Garden beyond. Date unknown. (Source: Rand Family).





## Arriving at the Swimming Pool Garden

The Pergola and Tea House were laid out symmetrically as an integrated composition of landform, architecture, and planting design.

The Pergola served as a visual backdrop as one entered through the Tea House.

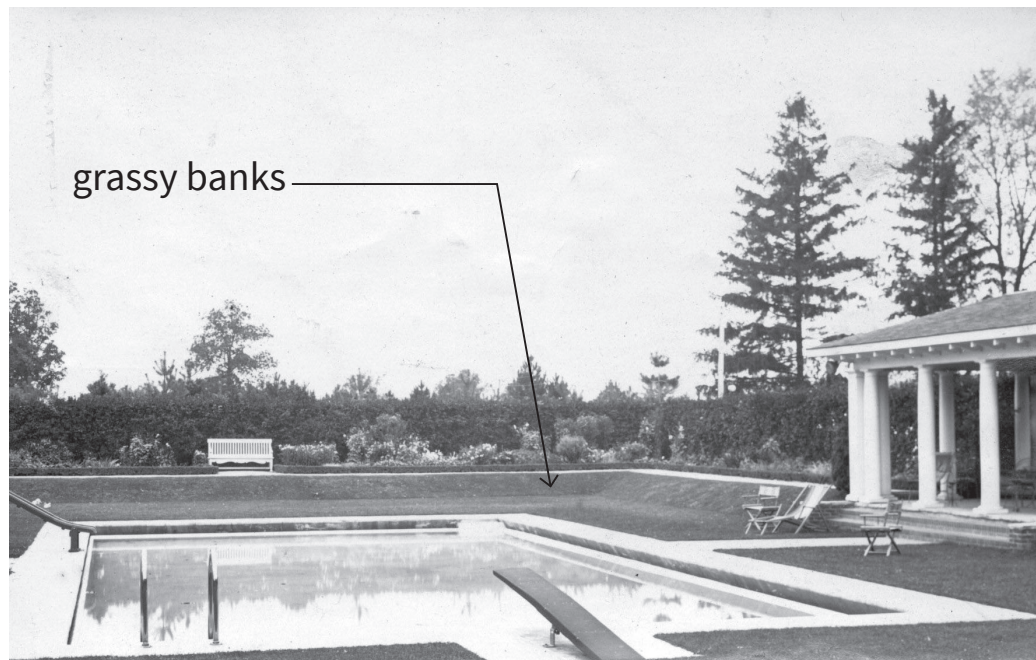
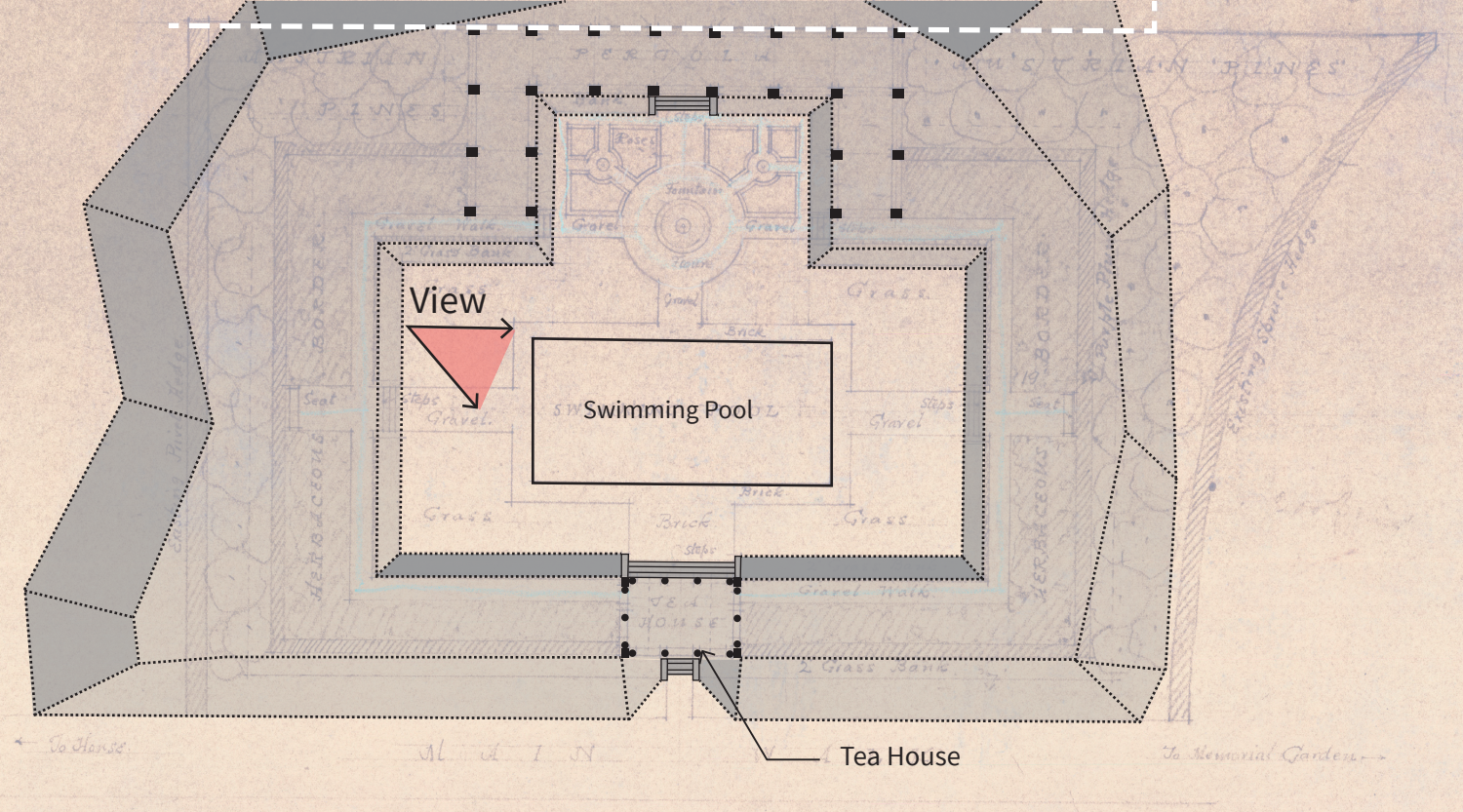
**Image to left:**

Symmetrical view of Pergola from Tea House  
(Source: Canadian Homes and Gardens).









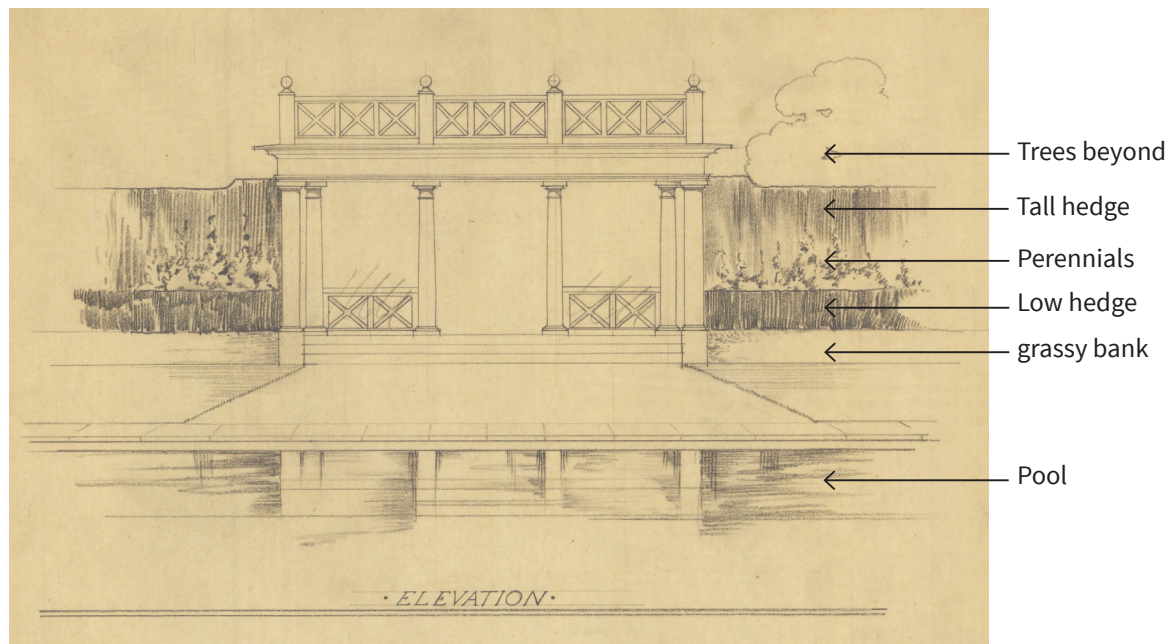
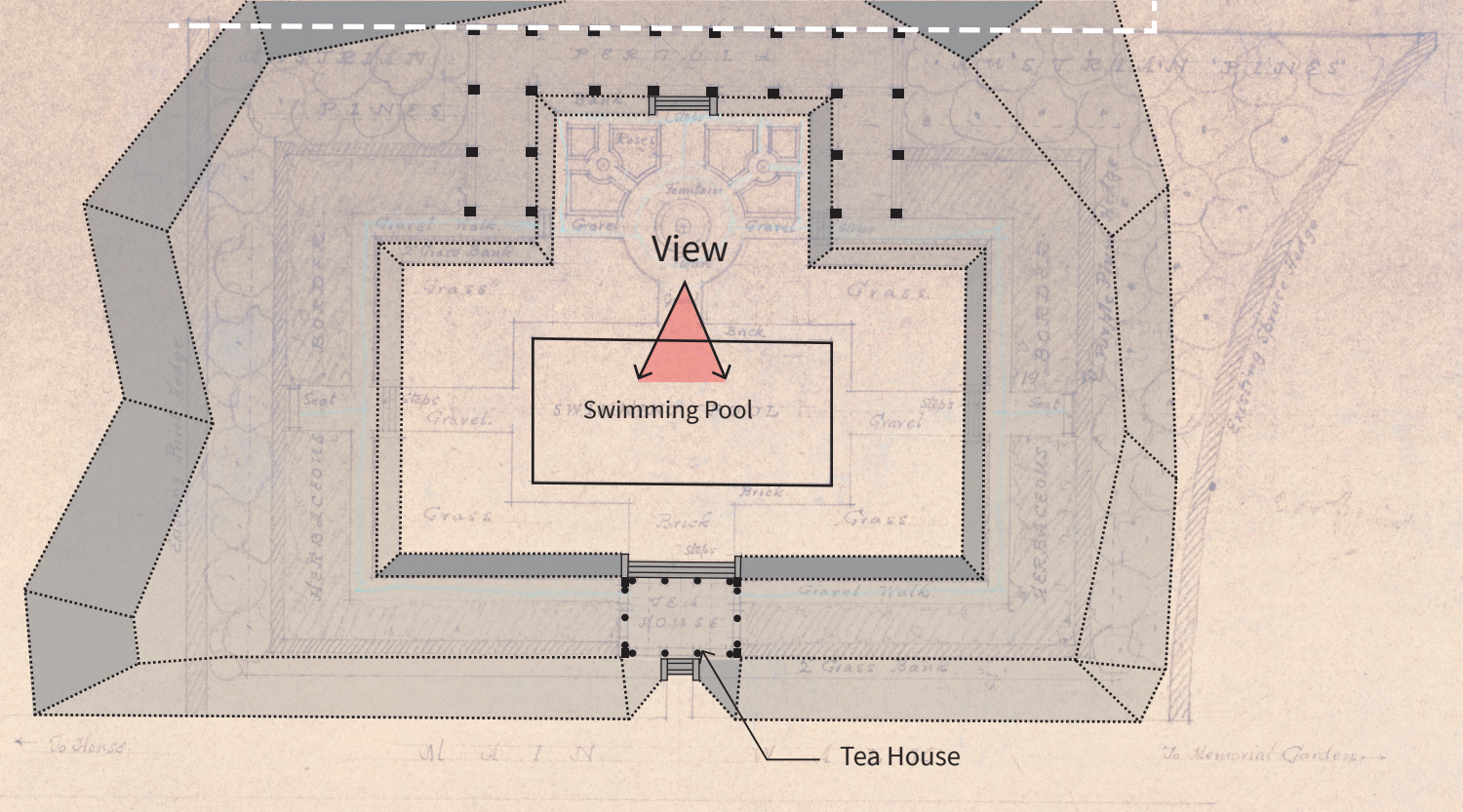
## Landform

The terraced landform creates a sense of enclosure within the swimming pool garden, helping define it as a garden room.

### Image to left:

Images from scrapbook of Randwood project  
(Source: Sheridan Nurseries Archives)





## Layered planting

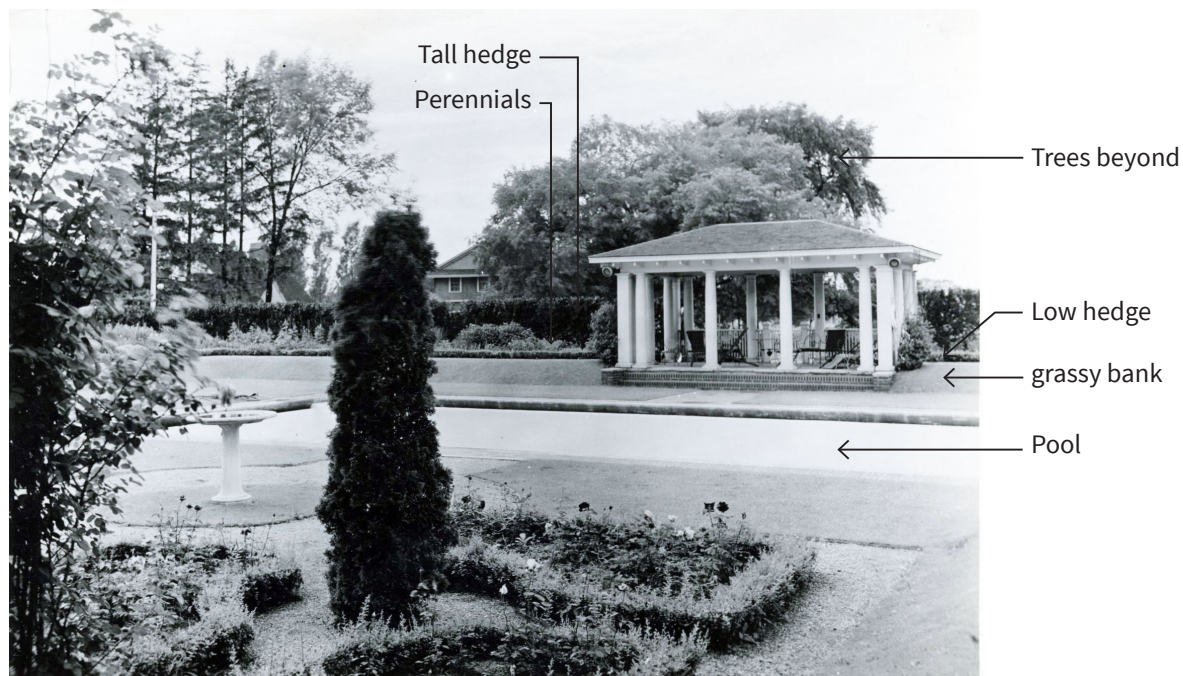
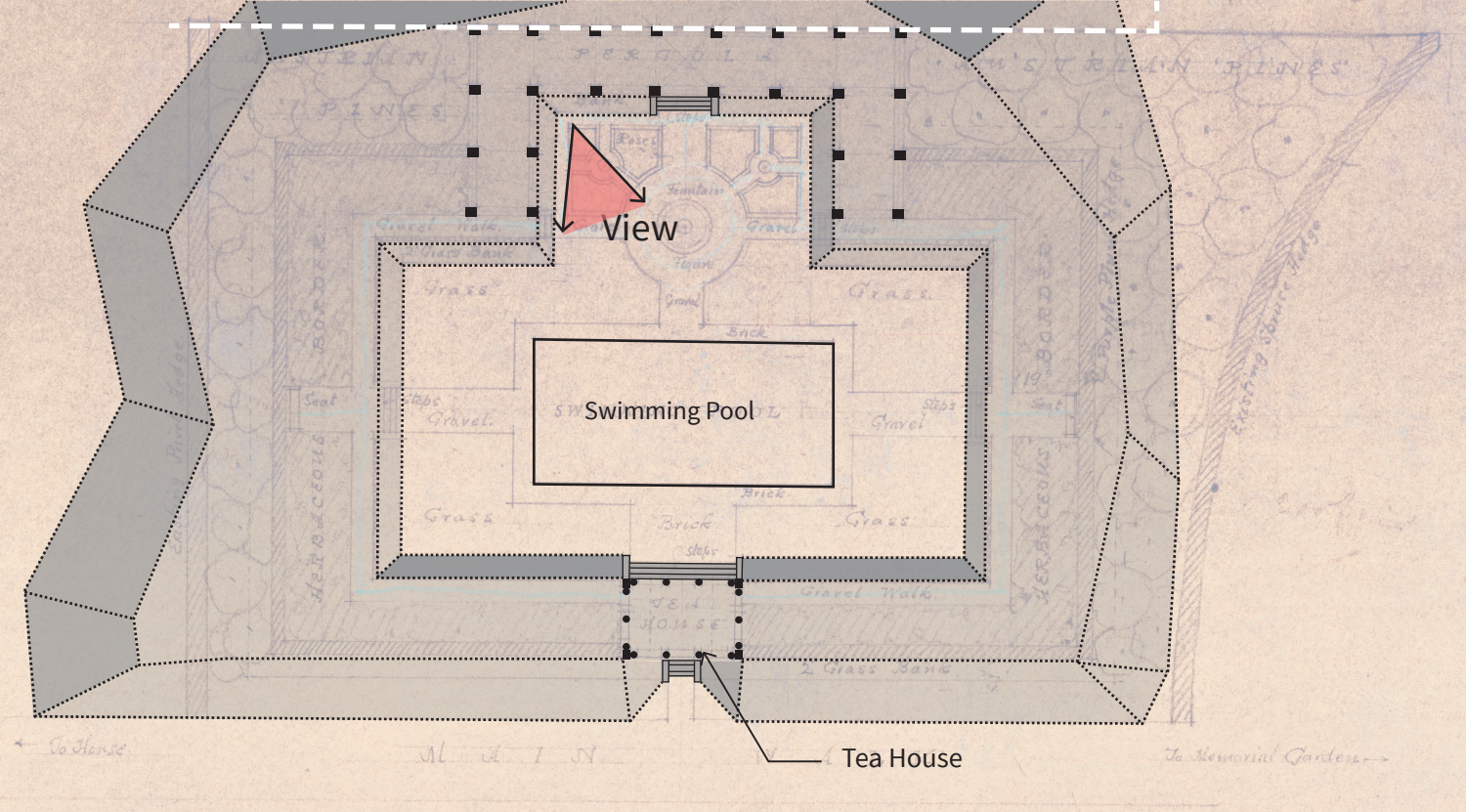
Plantings were designed on top of the terraced landform to embellish the architecture.

Low and tall hedges added additional 'structure' to the composition of the room.

### Image to left:

Elevation for the Tea Pavilion  
(Source: University of Guelph Archives).





## Layered planting

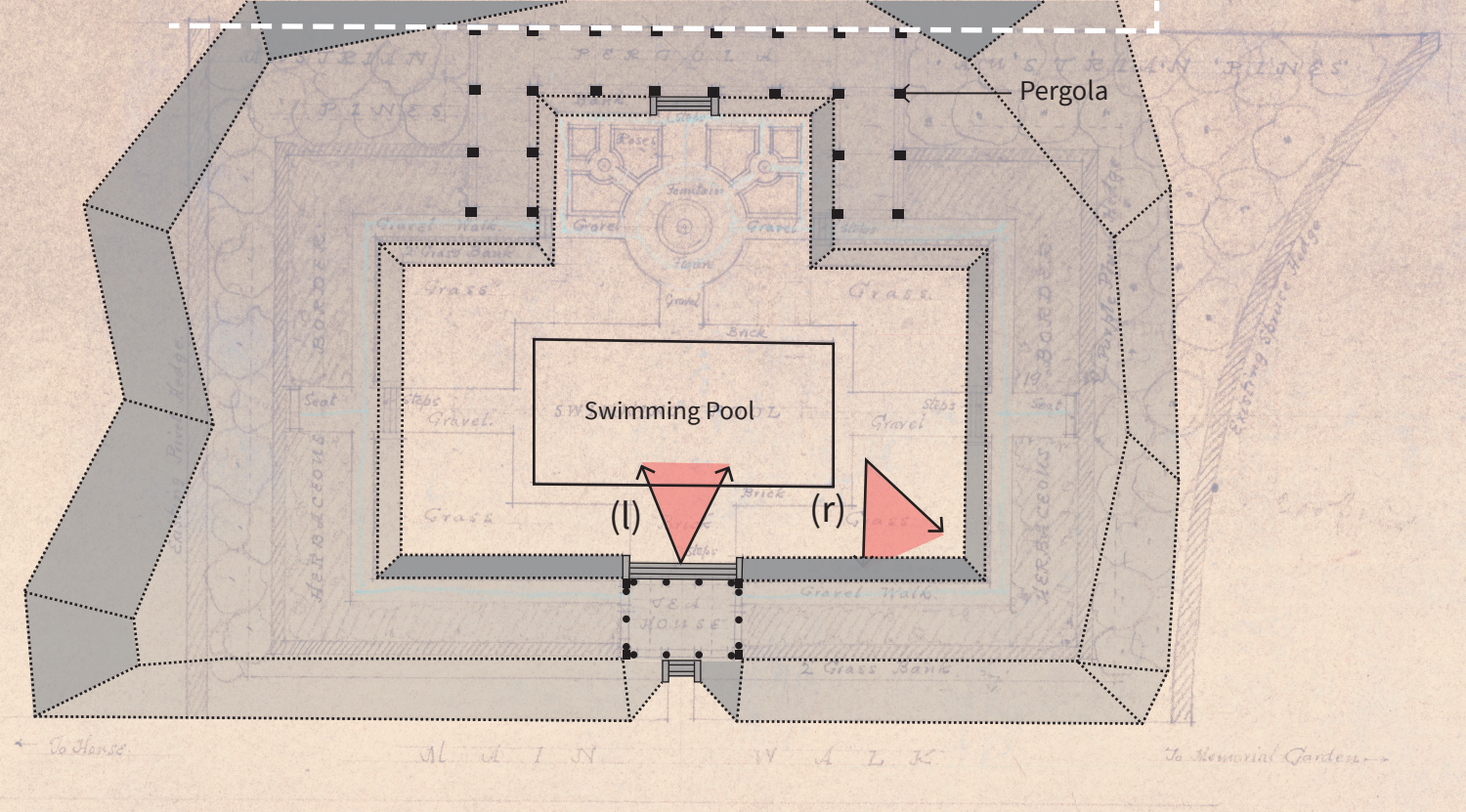
Plantings were designed on top of the terraced landform to embellish the architecture.

Low and tall hedges added additional 'structure' to the composition of the room.

### Image to left:

View of the Swimming Pool Garden with Carriage House and Lodge visible in the background c.1930 (Source: CCHHS Archives at the Royal Botanical Gardens).





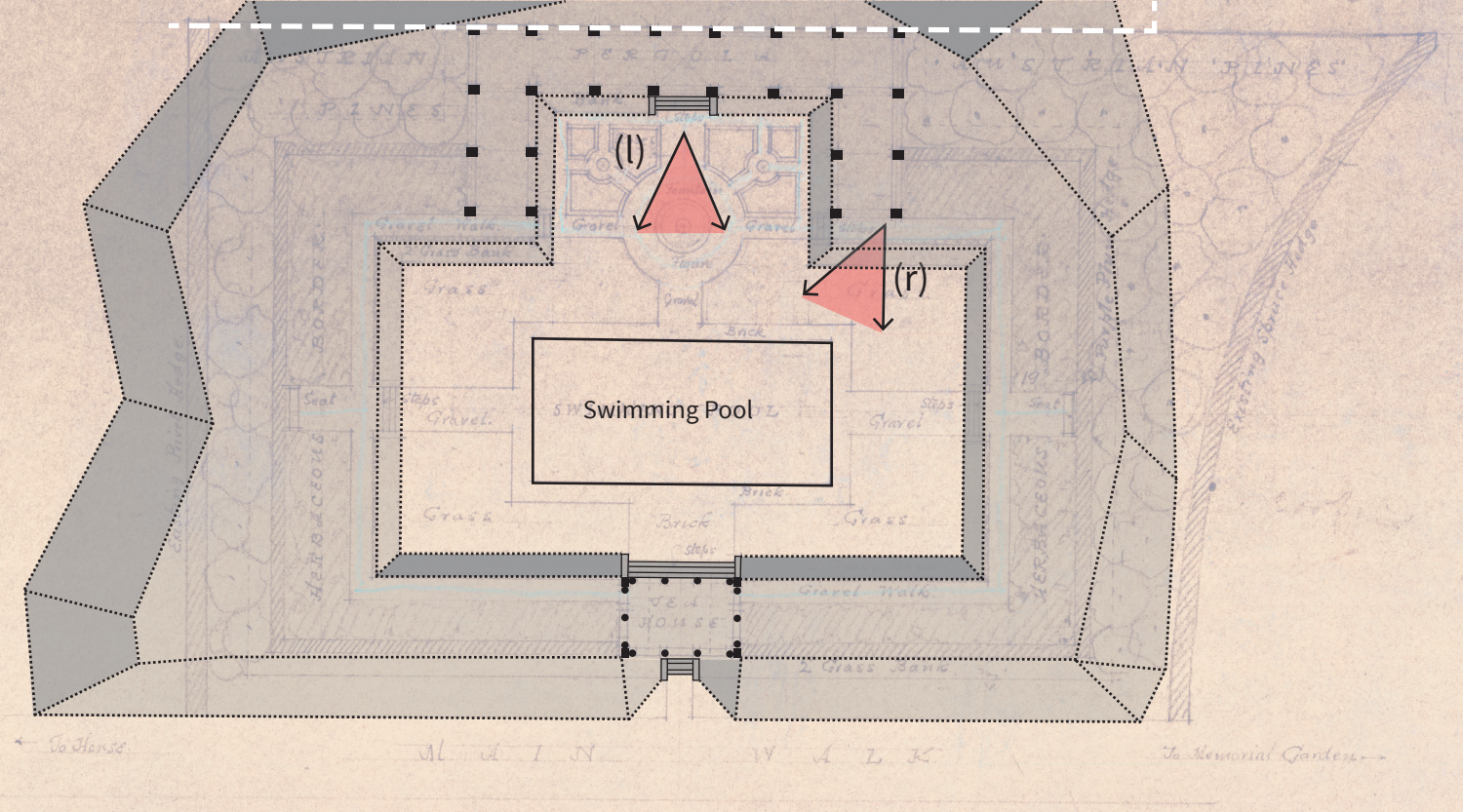
## A hub of social life

The Swimming Pool Garden is thought to have been the first swimming pool in Niagara on the Lake and was a hub of recreation and entertainment during the Rand period of ownership.

### Images:

(left) Adults swimming and children watching from the base of the Tea House; (right) women posing on the grassy bank. Dates unknown. (Source: Rand Family).





Planting is overgrown,  
but the structure of the  
garden remains

These images were taken  
from the top of the terraced  
landform toward the Tea  
House.

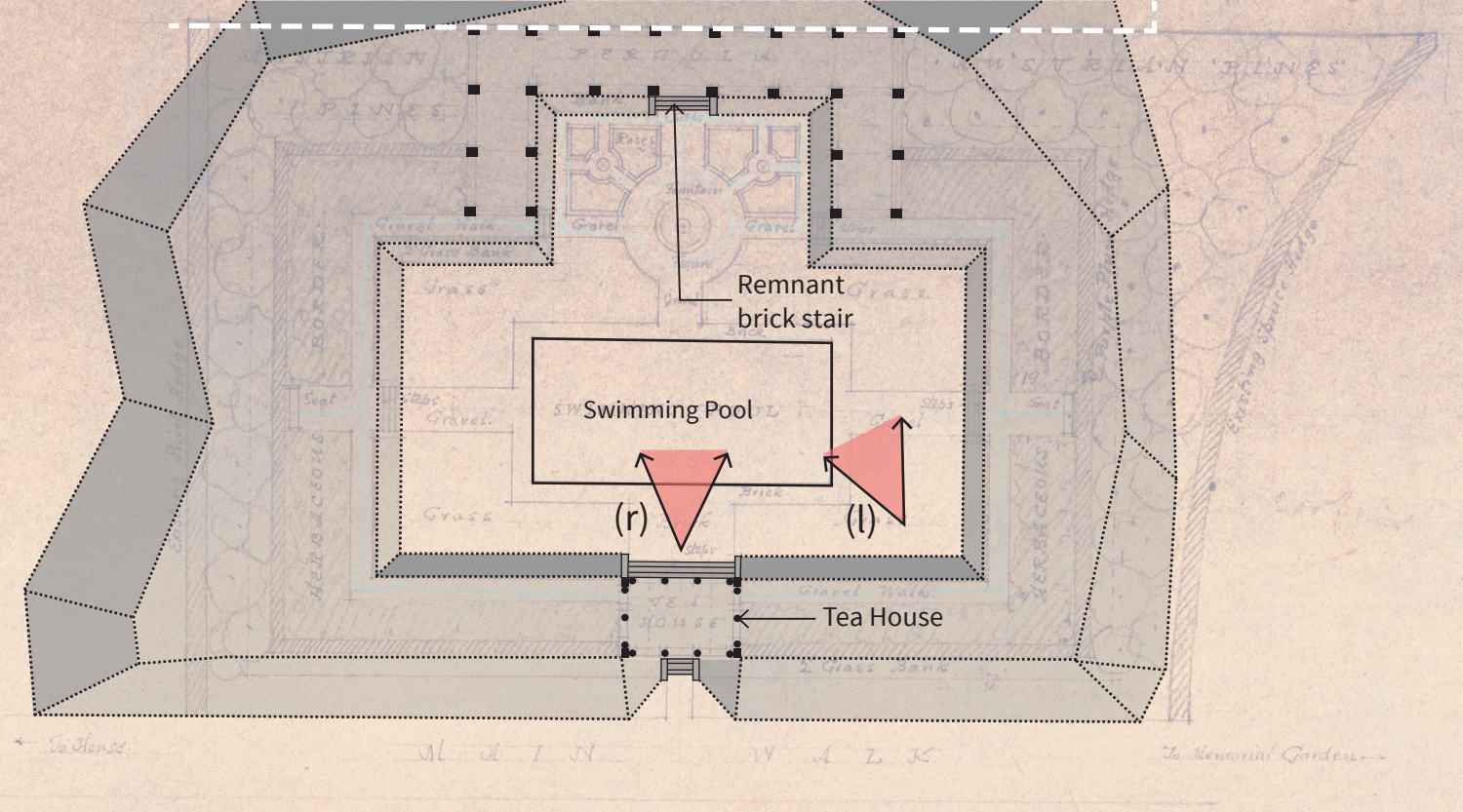


Photo from **summer 2016** (Rita Brown).



Photo from site visit in **July 2020** (Stewart).





Planting is overgrown,  
but the structure of the  
garden remains

These images show views  
toward where the Pergola  
once stood.

Overgrown formal gardens  
remain on either side of the  
remnant brick staircase.



Photo from April 2019 (ERA).

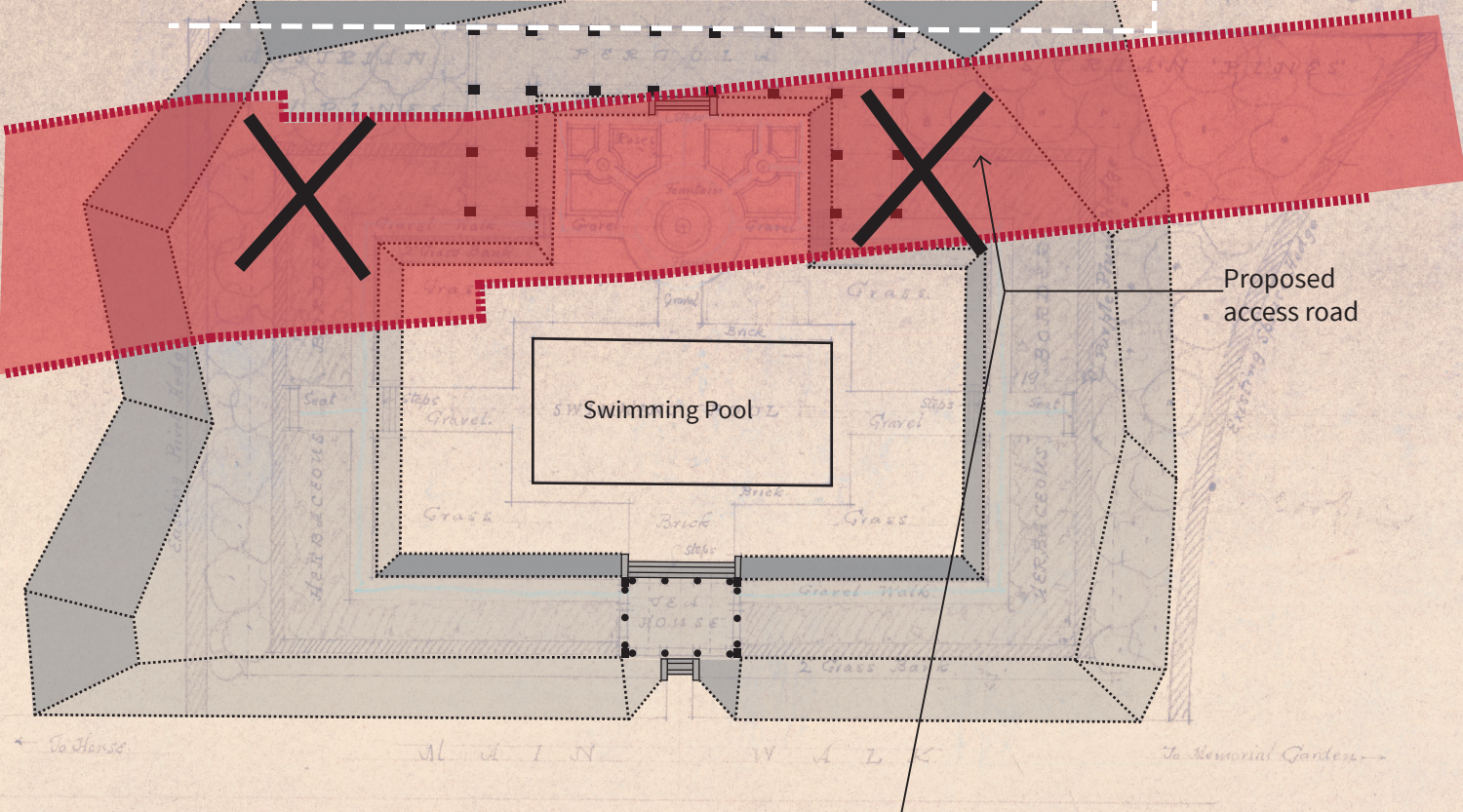


Photo from site visit in July 2020 (Stewart).









A new roadway is proposed that will have a significant impact on the swimming pool garden.

The garden will be significantly reduced in size, and its spatial composition will be severely compromised.

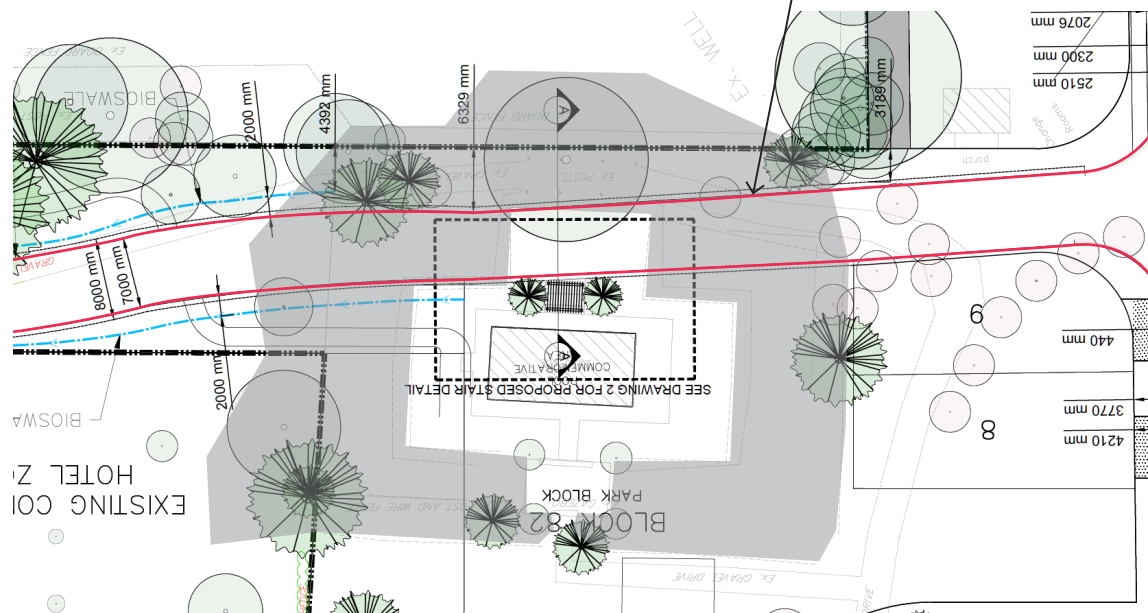
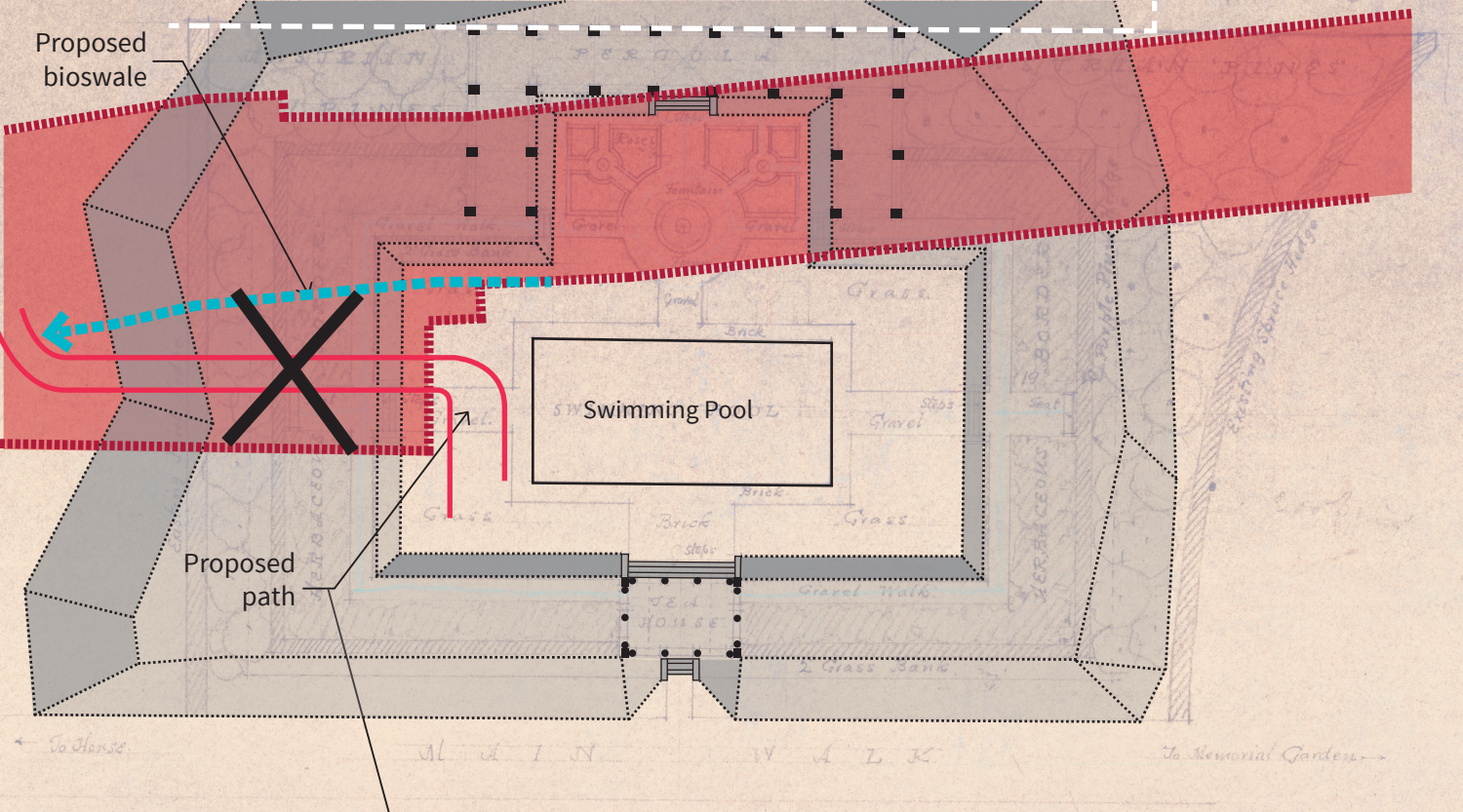


Diagram based on 'L2 - Draft Re-Aligned Proposed Driveway Re-Located Heritage Element' (SGL March 27, 2023).





## Regrading will have significant impacts

\* In addition to the impacts of the road, the plan proposes a path and drainage swale which appear to cut through the existing Dunington-Grubb designed terrace landform.

\*these impacts have not been assessed in the HIA.

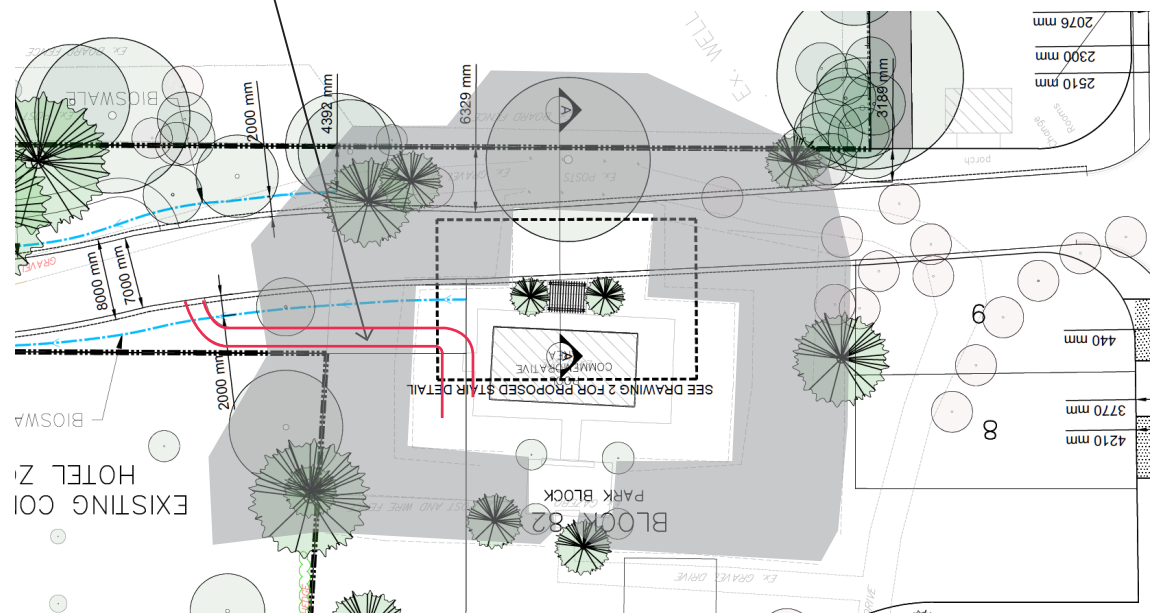
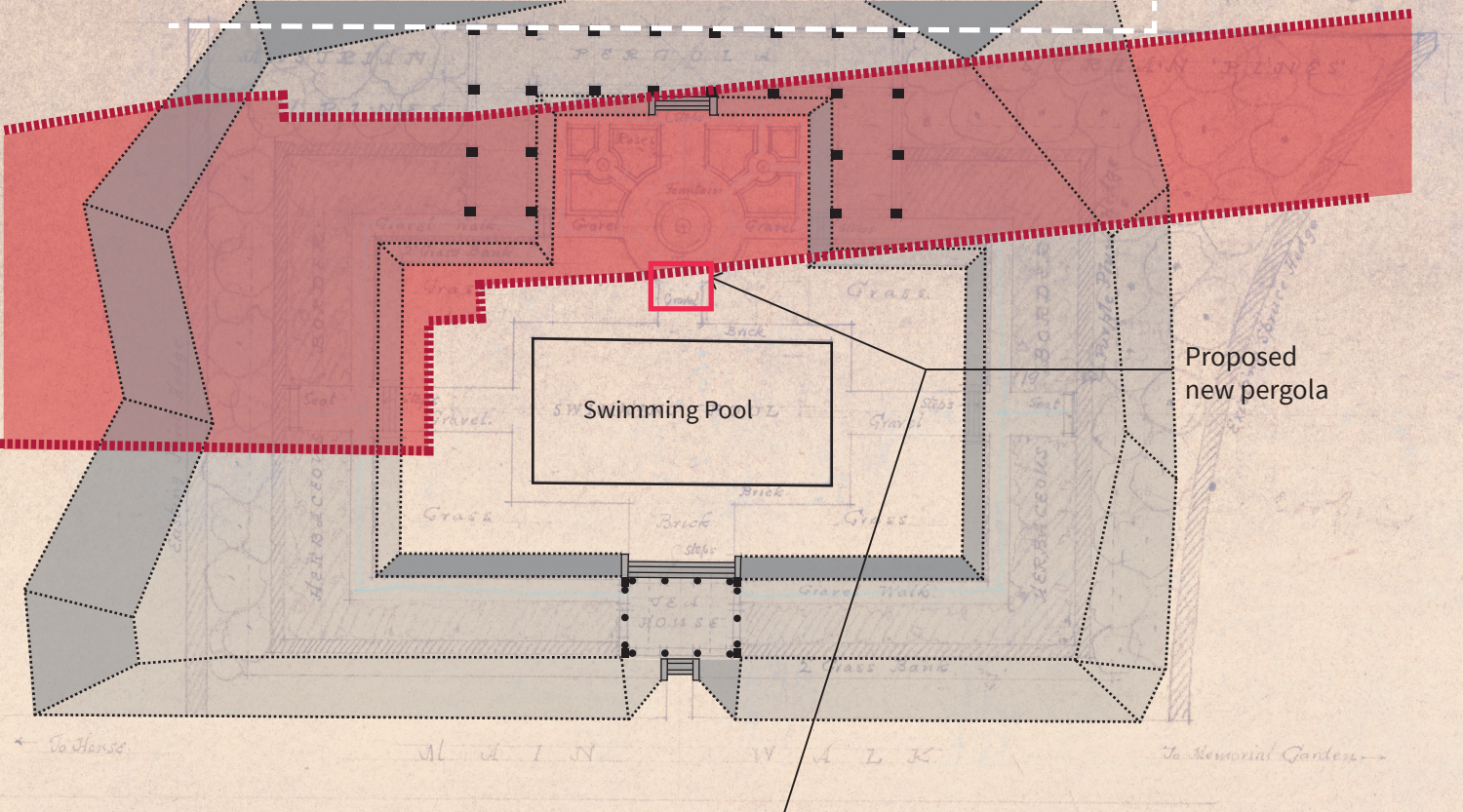


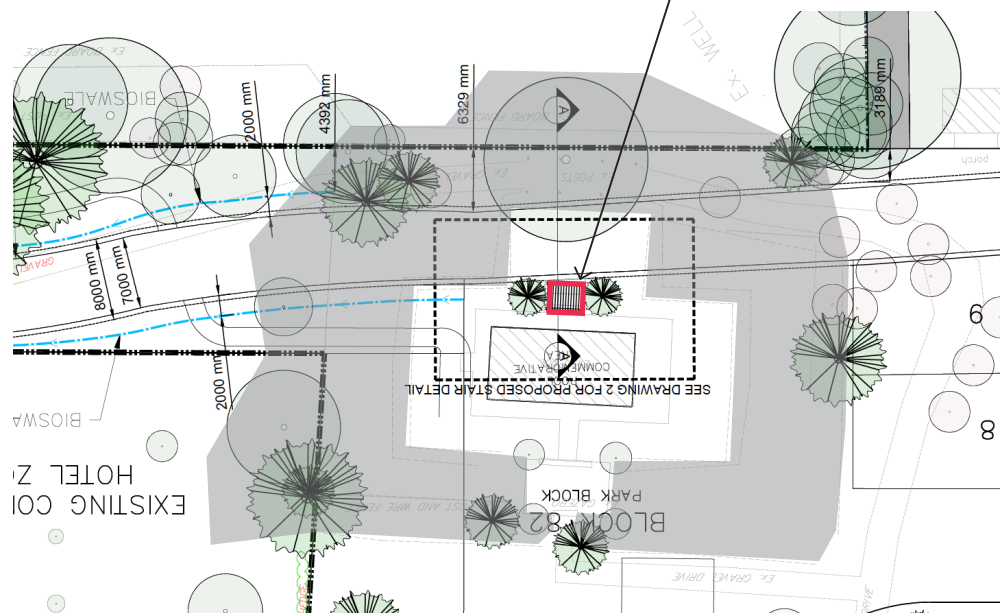
Diagram based on 'L2 - Draft Re-Aligned Proposed Driveway Re-Located Heritage Element' (SGL March 27, 2023).





## The proposed pergola

- \* A new pergola is proposed abutting the roadway and renderings show pedestrians passing through it.
- \* without a sidewalk and space for snow clearing, it is likely the pergola will need to shift further toward the pool, causing even greater impacts.



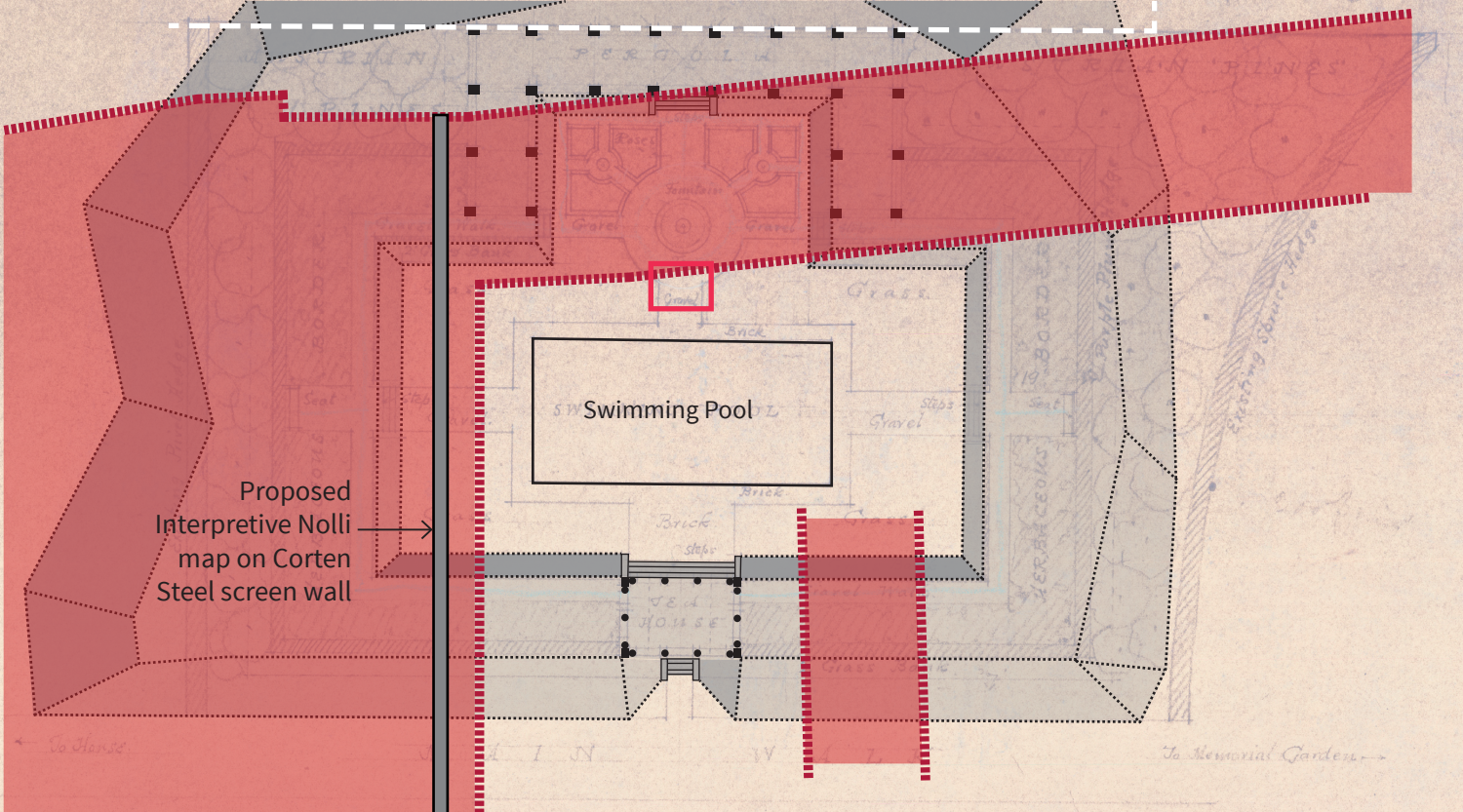
'Rendering of Pergola and Stairs' (SGL March 27, 2023).

Diagram based on 'L2 - Draft Re-Aligned Proposed Driveway Re-Located Heritage Element' (SGL March 27, 2023).

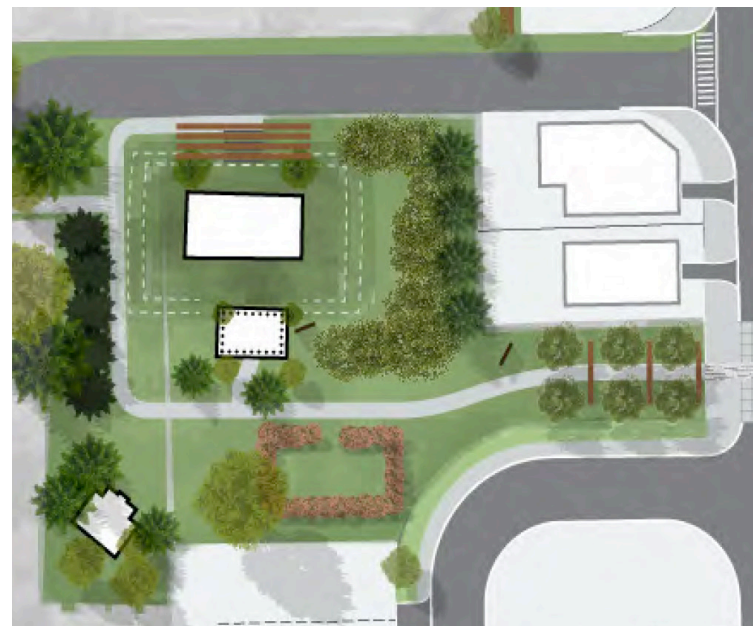








The heritage permit applications refer to at least two different plans for the Swimming Pool Garden area making it difficult to understand exactly what is proposed, and what the impacts will be.



(Left) 'Heritage Park Area' in *Heritage Commemoration Plan* (Stantec, September 29, 2022, drawing 7-2).

(right) 'Heritage Park and Preserved Heritage Structures' in *Urban Design Brief* (SGL, March 2022, p 28).









**Thank you**