



**THIS DEFINITIVE  
STUDY  
CHRONICLES  
ONE OF THE  
MOST  
IMPORTANT  
FIGURES  
IN AMERICAN  
LANDSCAPE  
DESIGN:  
BEATRIX FARRAND**

**Beatrix Farrand**  
**Private Gardens, Public Landscapes**  
Judith B. Tankard

“Beatrix Farrand embarked on her career in the 1890s, when she was in her early twenties, at a time when upper-class women typically did not take up a profession. She prepared by engaging private tutors, since there were no formal courses in the landscape arts at the time. Farrand’s early professional accomplishments and patrician background led to an invitation to be among the charter fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Today she is recognized as the earliest woman to maintain a successful landscape practice and the first to rise above the invisible line between garden design, to which women were often restricted in the early days, and landscape architecture, a field that was dominated by men.”  
—Judith B. Tankard

*Beatrix Farrand: Private Gardens, Public Landscapes* traces the life and work of one of the foremost landscape architects of the early 1900s. Born into a prominent New York family (she was the niece of Edith Wharton), Farrand eschewed the traditional social life of the Gilded Age to pursue her passion for landscape design and plants. Many of her clients were members of high society with estates in Newport, the Berkshires, Maine, and on Long Island, but ultimately Farrand became a consultant for university campuses, including Yale and Princeton, and for public gardens, including the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and The New York Botanical Garden. Perhaps her best-known work is the extensive grounds at Dumbarton Oaks, originally a private residence and now a research institute for Harvard University.



Deeply influenced by the English garden designer Gertrude Jekyll, Farrand was known for broad expanses of lawn and deep swaths of borders planted in a subtle palette of foliage and flowers. Her gardens have been photographed at their peak especially for this book. These contemporary full-color illustrations are complemented by beautiful watercolor wash renderings of her designs, now preserved at the University of California at Berkeley, archival photographs, and design plans.

**Judith B. Tankard** is a landscape historian and the author of six books on historic gardens and garden designers, most recently *Gardens of the Arts and Crafts Movement*. Other books include *The Gardens of Ellen Biddle Shipman* and two works on Gertrude Jekyll. Tankard teaches at the Landscape Institute, Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University and is a board member of the Beatrix Farrand Society, based at Garland Farm in Maine.



**Beatrix Farrand**  
**Private Gardens, Public Landscapes**  
**Judith B. Tankard**  
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