

# *Suggested Locations for Your Special Event*

The panoramic views, historic terraces, hydrangea walk, perennial gardens and sweeping lawns make gracious settings for your wedding and photographs. Chesterwood staff will work with you (and your wedding coordinator and vendors) to plan an easy to manage and memorable wedding.

## **RECEPTIONS AND DINNER PARTIES**

Note: Capacity estimates include tables, dance floor, buffet.

### **Studio Field**

This site boasts beautiful views of Monument Mountain, and on clear days Mount Everett can be seen in the distance to the south. This area will accommodate tents up to 80'x150'. Capacity: 500 people.

### **North Lawn of Barn Gallery**

This lush, 80'x110' lawn area is nestled in an area bordered with birch and hemlock trees, and the French family Woodshed (1919), now a functions facility. French's standing *Abraham Lincoln*, a heroic size bronze for the Nebraska State Capitol, dominates the northeast corner of the lawn.

The area will accommodate a 60'x80' tent (east-west) or 40'x100' (north-south). Capacity: 250 people. The adjacent Woodshed has a large covered wooden deck. The deck can be used as a dance floor, catering venue, or for band or entertainment functions.

### **Woodshed**

The Woodshed is a rustic 18'x40' structure built in 1919 from Chestnut lumber cut on the estate. The renovated Woodshed provides both indoor and outdoor space (the deck is 12'x40'). The Woodshed has a movie screen, sound system, ceiling fans, air conditioning, heating and a kitchenette. Chesterwood will provide tables, chairs, lectern for an additional fee. The structure can be used for a small party and reception or, as a service facility when a function is being held in an adjacent tent. A marquee is frequently used to connect the Woodshed and tent. Capacity: Seats 50 to 60, auditorium style, 6 tables/48 people, or will accommodate 75 standing.

### **Residence Terrace and Lawn**

The terrace is a graveled area, 17'x75' that stretches across the south face of French's elegant stucco Residence (1901). It is enclosed by a barberry hedge punctuated with boxwood trees in terra cotta jardinières resting on stone piers. Like the Studio Piazza, the terrace provides a beautiful vista of Monument Mountain and Mount Everett to the south. A 20'x60' frame tent can be erected on the terrace Capacity: approx. 50 people. Adjacent to the terrace on the south lawn a 40'x60' tent can be installed. Capacity: 150 people. The terrace and south lawn can be used together or separately, depending on number of guests or event functions.

## **WEDDING CEREMONIES**

There are several lovely areas that are very fitting for wedding ceremonies at Chesterwood. While the following four locations are the most often used, the client is welcome to explore the use of other areas of the property that may suit their needs (although Chesterwood reserves the right to deny the use of an area you may choose).

### **Studio Garden Straight Walk**

This Straight Walk, bordered by standard hydrangeas, peonies, and annuals in season, provides a natural procession aisle. The ceremony may be held beneath a wrought iron arch at the north end with the forest and nature trail as a backdrop or at the fountain at the south end. Florists may decorate the archway with fresh flowers or float flower petals in the fountain. The archway can serve as a chuppah or a florist can install one for the ceremony.

### **Studio Garden Pergola**

This handsome landscape architectural feature was used by Daniel Chester French to grow grapes for use at the table or making wine. It also served as a bower for garden parties. Situated along the south edge of the garden, it affords a breathtaking view of historic Monument Mountain. Wedding ceremonies are performed in front of the pergola with guests seated on the fish pond lawn that stretches from the Studio wall garden. This area will accommodate a 30'x80' tent. Capacity: 150 people.

### **Residence Terrace and South Lawn**

This area, designed by Daniel Chester French, features a manicured lawn, bordered with trees and shrubs, that gently slope to a broad vista of Monument Mountain and Mount Everett to the south. This quintessential Berkshire view provides a majestic backdrop for a wedding ceremony.

### **Studio Fountain and Exedra**

This area designed by Daniel Chester French, features a sculpted fountain bordered by an Italian marble bench (exedra) and formal English long border perennial gardens.

## **VERY SPECIAL SITES**

### **Studio Piazza - Wedding Ceremonies Only**

This broad, 13'x50' porch extends along the full south side of the historic Chesterwood Studio and affords a breathtaking vista of historic Monument Mountain. The Piazza can be used for small, intimate parties, receptions and hors d'oeuvres. Capacity: 80 people standing or 40 people seated.

### **Upper Studio Garden Lawn for Reception/Dinner**

This lawn formerly a tennis court for Daniel Chester French's daughter provides a flat, rectangular area surrounded by the English long border gardens and the straight walk boasting hydrangea trees and peonies. This area will accommodate tents of up to 60'x100'. Due to the fragility of this historic landscape, this location is available for only one rental per season, weather permitting. Capacity: 250 people.

### **Studio Garden Fish Pond Lawn for Reception/Dinner**

This lawn measures 40'x80' and can accommodate a 30'x80' tent. This lawn generally used for ceremonies, can be rented for sit down receptions. Use of this area for receptions is limited to 4 times per season, and is contingent on weather and availability. Capacity: 200 people.