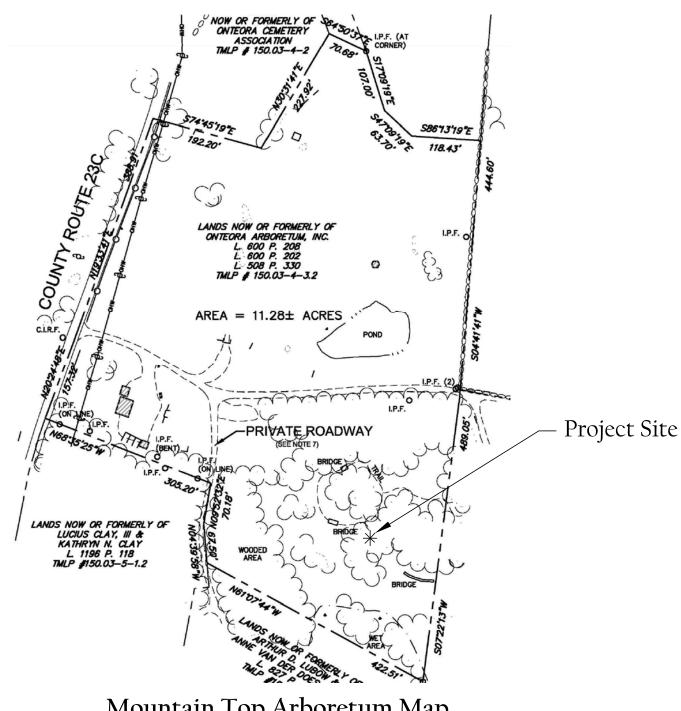
Map courtesy of NYC DEP Bureau of Water Supply







Mountain Top Arboretum Tannersville, NY

November 5, 2010

Woodland Walk Outdoor Classroom A Partnership Program of the GCSWCD and NYCDEP Jamie Purinton Landscape Architect

Location Plan Sheet 1 of 7

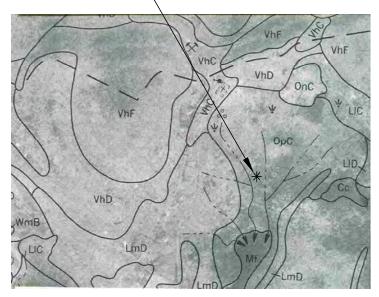
### Site Description

The proposed outdoor classroom is located in a natural amphitheater within the Mt Top Arboretum Woodland Walk. This site is a perfect place to provide visual access to the wetland without disturbing it. The outdoor classroom space will be located within the shade of the woodland setting looking south towards the open marsh and directly between two seasonal streams. An intermittent stream that lies directly to the east of the proposed space overflows from the West Meadow pond and feeds the wetland. Another seasonal stream, that lies to the west of the proposed space, is one of the headwater streams that flows directly into the marsh. This surrounding forest system plays an important role in filtering and purifying the waters in this riparian corridor.

This space is defined by erratic boulders that were moved by the glacier 14,000 years ago. The tilted direction of the rock's sedimentary formation lines, the weathered shapes of the boulders and the jumbled layering of rocks, tell us that these boulders were moved by the glacier – plucked from one location and then plopped here. The smoothed bedrock surface of the adjoining West Meadow shows how the glacier scraped that area to its bare bedrock and then dropped the boulders and glacial moraine here in the location of the outdoor classroom area. The glacial movement halted directly above the adjoining low marsh creating a dramatic natural area that overlooks the wetland. (Information based upon site visit with geologist Robert Titus)

This forest was logged at the turn of the century and now the Woodland Walk is a mixed decidnous forest including maples, ash, beech, oak and linden. Circuit walkways take visitors through the upper woodland area and down to a beautiful feature marsh. The oaks and maples surrounding the boulders help to define a natural circular space. The understory shrubs in this area include witch hazels, hornbeams and serviceberry. The natural occurring ferns and perennials include the new york fern, wood fern, interupted fern, baneberry, jack in the pulpit, white wood aster, herb robert, hawkweed, jewelweed, golden zizia and false soloman seal. In this Woodland Garden, The Mt Top Arboretum showcases a native Catskill woodland habitat and has added over the last few years many associative plantings including bloodroot, yellow foxglove, ginseng, trilliums and thalictrum.

## Project Site



The soil is classified as OpC or Outcora Silt Loam derived from glacial till of shale, sandstones and siltstone. Large boulder outcroppings are characteristic of these soils. The surface, subsurface and substratum are loaded with rock fragments.



False Solomon Seal



Erratic Boulders & Glacial Moraine



Jewelweed



View to Marsh from Upper Classroom Space



View to Natural Woodland Amphitheater from Marsh



Mountain Top Arboretum

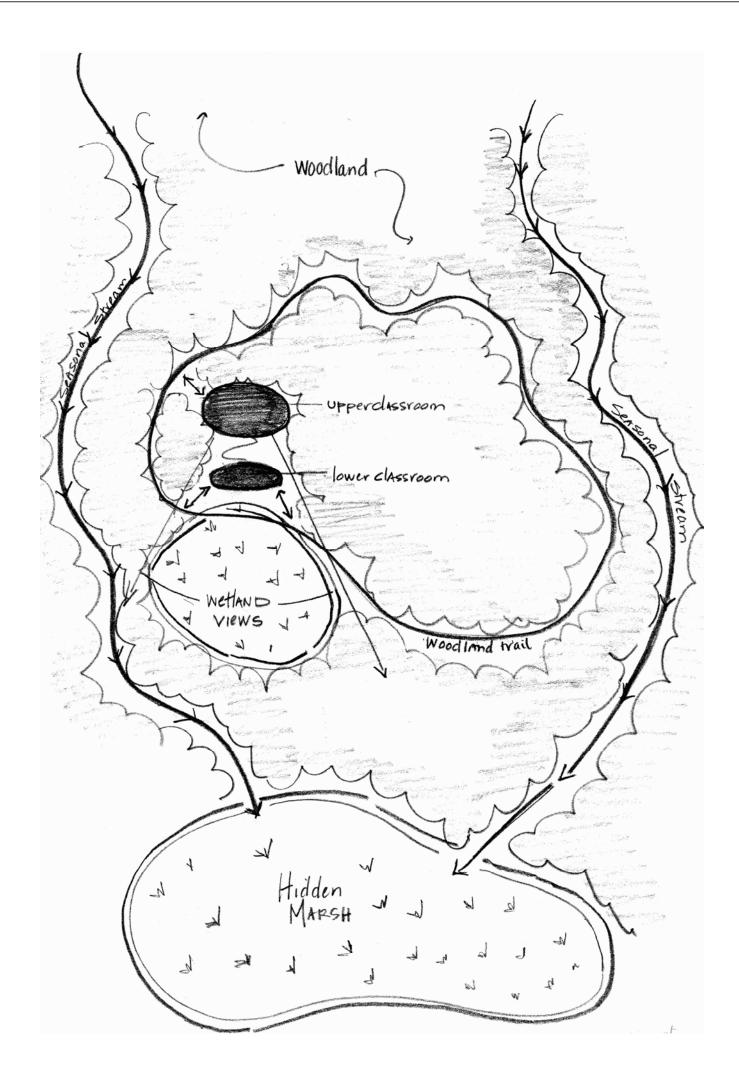
Tannersville, NY

November 5, 2010

Woodland Walk Outdoor Classroom
A Partnership Program of the
GCSWCD and NYCDEP

Jamie Purinton Landscape Architect

Site Description
Sheet 2 of 7



### PROGRAM

- Provide a space that allows visitors to view and understand importance of woodland habitat to filtering headwaters.
- Provide an outdoor classroom space, with permanent seating, for 40 children or adults.
- Provide a second and small classroom space that fits groups of 5-15 visitors for tours and smaller educational events.
- Provide handicap access to the proposed main outdoor classroom space.
- Create an important landscape architectural feature to draw visitors to the only regional public garden that features educational programs on the watershed of Catskill Mountains.
- Integrate proposed space with existing Woodland Walk trail system.

#### **DESIGN CONCEPT**

- Create an outdoor classroom on high dry ground that overlooks the wetland without disturbing it.
- Connect the woodland habitat with the wetland habitat by creating a series of spaces that goes from the woodland to wetland.
- Continue to develop the emphasis on Catskill native flora by using native ferns and wildflowers planted in natural groupings.
- Reveal the geological history of this site by using the native bluestone boulders. Arrange the boulders in ways that tell the story of the glacial action that moved these sedimentary rocks a mile from their original location.
- Design the space so it is naturalistic. The boulders, to the maximum extent possible, will be collected from the Arboretum site and will appear to be placed by nature, not man. Plantings will also appear to be naturally occurring.



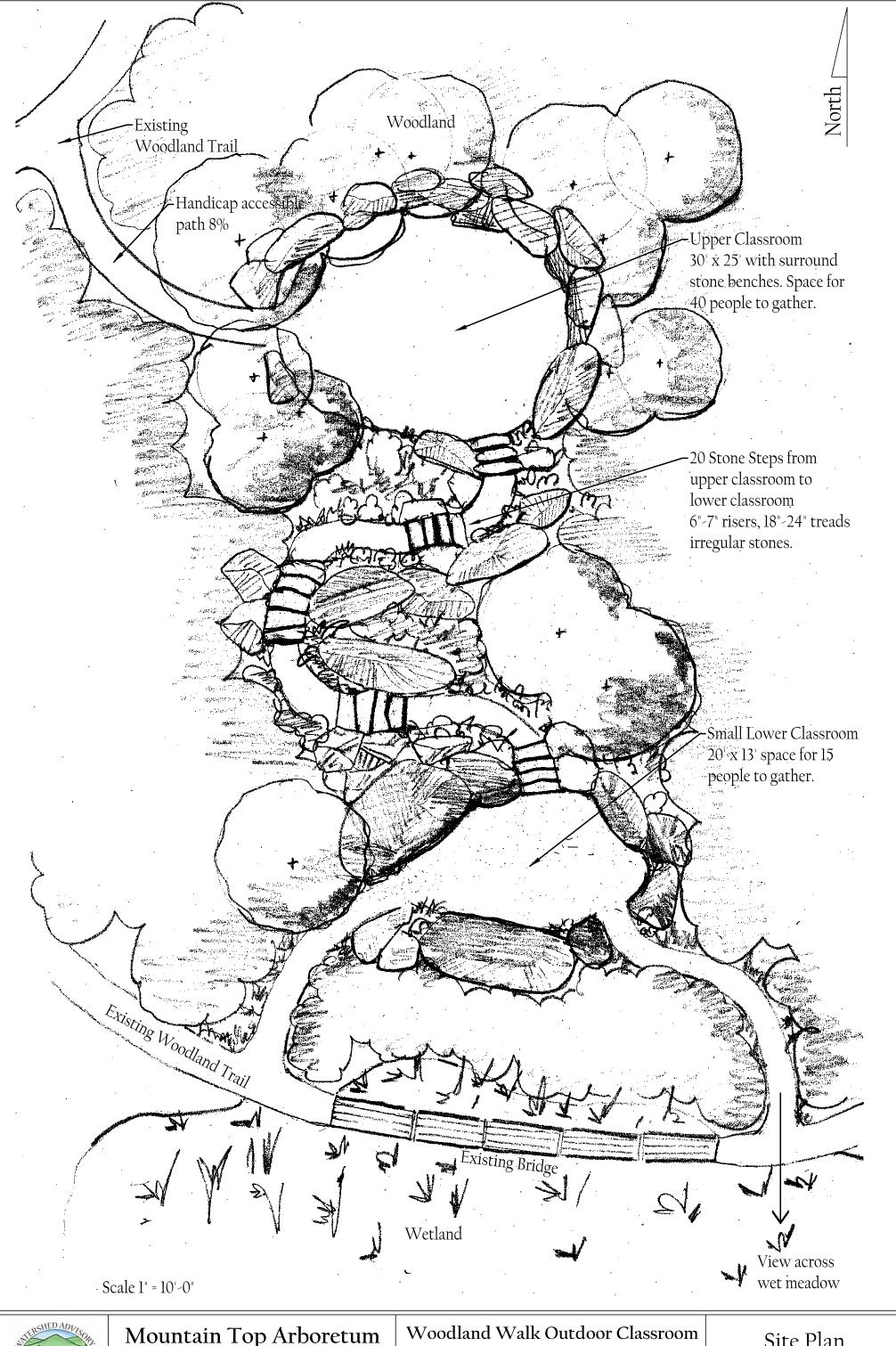
Mountain Top Arboretum
Tannersville, NY

November 5, 2010

Woodland Walk Outdoor Classroom A Partnership Program of the GCSWCD and NYCDEP

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Program/Concept
Sheet 3 of 7





# Mountain Top Arboretum

Tannersville, NY

November 5, 2010

A Partnership Program of the GCSWCD and NYCDEP

Jamie Purinton Landscape Architect

Site Plan Sheet 4 of 7



Perspective of Upper Outdoor Classroom from Woodland Walk Trail



New boulders to be placed as if to appear that they have always been there.



Some stones will have mossy tops with wildflowers, ferns and spleenworts growing between the stones. All proposed plantings to be native to Catskill region.

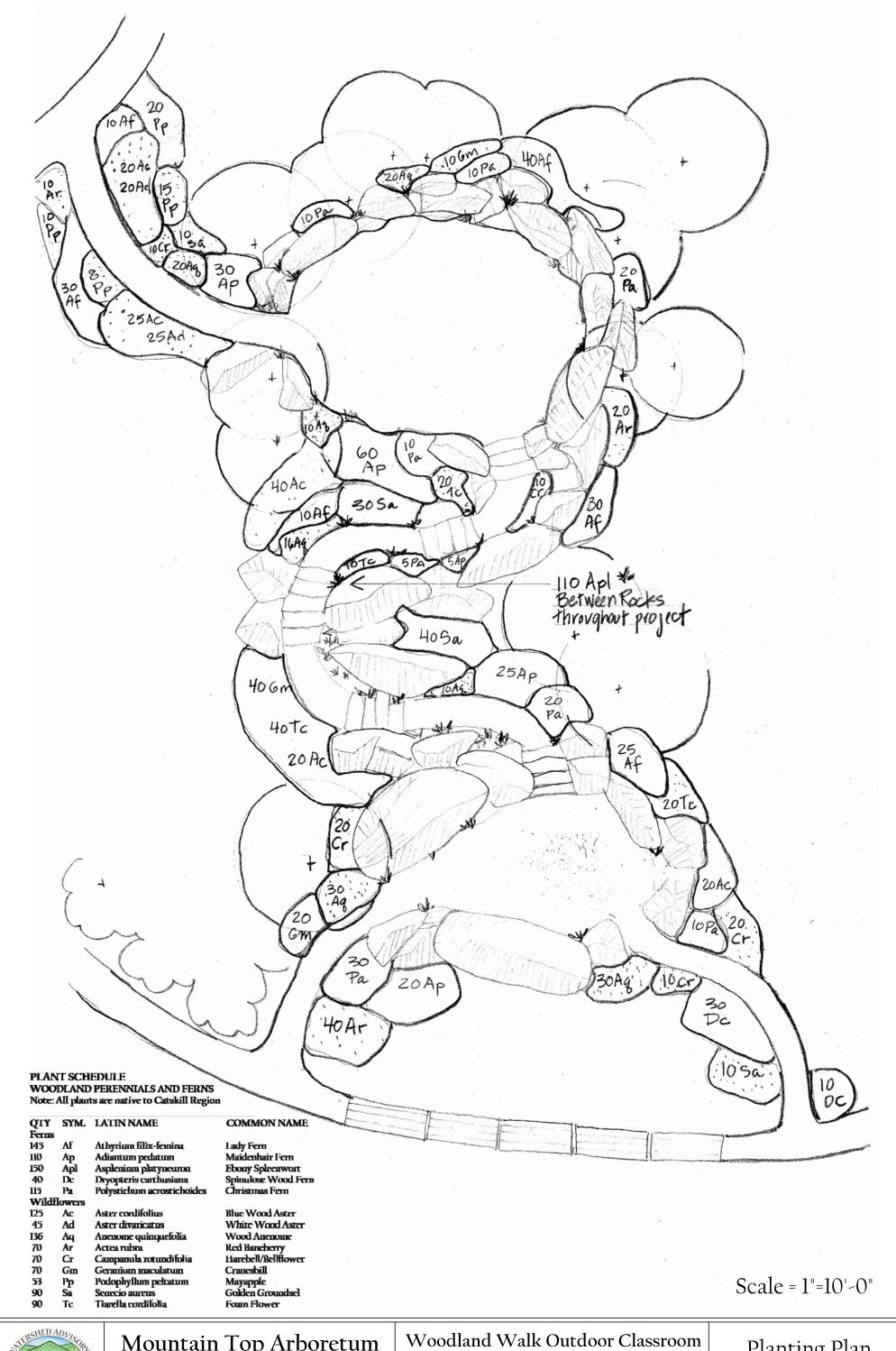


Lay stones to appear as if erratic boulder moved by glacier.



This stone amphitheater shows how there will be multiple levels for seating. Photo courtesy of Olympia Washington website, Bigelow Park, Artist Karen Lohmann and Mark Osborne.







Mountain Top Arboretum

Tannersville, NY

November 5, 2010

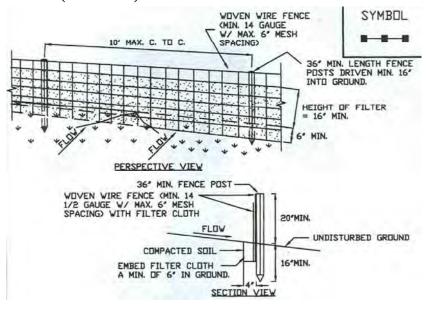
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Jamie Purinton Landscape Architect

Planting Plan Sheet 6 of 7

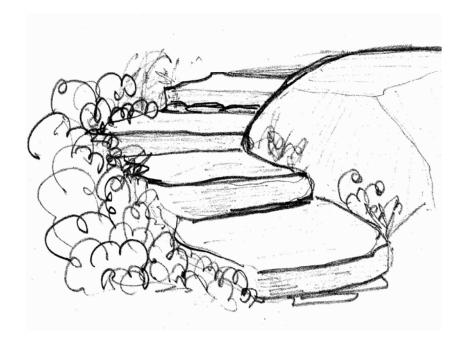
## **Erosion Control**

- 1. Erosion control fence to be placed around all disturbed ground to prevent erosion into streams and wetland.
- 2. Filter cloth to be fastened securely to woven wire fence with ties spaced every 24" at top and mid section. Fence shall be woven wire, 6" maximum mesh opening.
- 3. When two sections of filter cloth adjoin each other they shall be over lapped by six inches and folded. Filter cloth shall be Filter X, Mirafi 100X, Stabilinka T140N, or approved equivalent.
- 4. Prefabricated units shall be Geofab, Envirofence, or approved equivalent.
- 5. Maintenance shall be performed as needed and material removed when 'Bulges' develop in the silt fence. (NYS DEC)



## Step Details

- 1. Take flat stepping stones at least 30" wide and six to eight inches thick and set them into a well tamped base of crushed rock and coarse builders sand.
- 2. For stability and ease of walking, lap each step over the one below, making sure at least 18" of tread remains exposed for foot placement.
- 3. For extra stability, stones can be set into a 1" layer of mortar which is spread at the back of the preceding stepping stone.



# Preparation and Details for Terrace Areas and Paths

- 1. Match details of Mt. Top Arboretum paths for all
- 2. Terrace areas to be porous and well drained.

## Design and Construction Process

- 1. At the commencement of the project the Contractor will mark out with the Mt. Top Arboretum and their Landscape Architect the exact location of classroom areas, paths and steps.
- 2. The Contractor will assemble stones for project from both the Arboretum property and local stone supplier. The Contractor will identify which stones are to be used for steps and benches. The Mt. Top Arboretum and the Landscape Architect will review and approve the Contractor's selection of stones prior to construction of the project.
- 3. The Contractor will construct a simple step and a sample 10' long section of the upper classroom space for approval of Mt. Top Arboretum and their Landscape Architect prior to proceeding with entire project.

