

ASTICOU AZALEA GARDEN

- 1 Entrance Gate** – The entrance gate, designed by local architect Robert Patterson, leads to a corridor of moss and hemlock trees, recalling features of both Acadia and Japan.
- 2 Streamside Garden** – A seasonal stream passes by a stand of graceful enkianthus, peonies, Japanese anemones, and azaleas. Framed by the Asticou cherry, the Tom Hall bench captures views to the pond and a stone lantern by water's edge.
- 3 Mountain Path Loop** – This path offers views from the Blake Bench of native pines, azaleas, and stone. The path drops down to water's edge, ending at the Straus Bench with views across the pond.
- 4 Pebble Point** – Comprehensive views from the path at Pebble Point highlight Asticou Pond and its shorelines, with the western mountainscape to one side and the South Bridge to the other. The South Bridge was one of the first garden features created in 1958. Made from a single piece of granite quarried locally, the sound of water from the curtain waterfall here is soothing. Looking east from the bridge, the historic weeping hemlock brought to Asticou from Reef Point Gardens is visible. Having reached maturity before transplant, it is more than 100 years old today.
- 5 Birch Bench** – This quiet resting spot offers views of the Lily Pond and surrounding landscape.



- 6 Stepping Stones** – This crossing offers steps of varied heights for visitors to step carefully over the Asticou stream.
- 7 Sand Garden Viewing Area** – Nestled within pines and mosses, the traditional viewing stone offers optimal views of the Sand Garden, and a bench for rest.
- 8 Sand Garden** – Artistry meets local materials with brilliance in this garden of sand and stone. Designed by Charles Savage in 1958 and meticulously maintained ever since, the Sand Garden offers a distilled view of the Maine coast, suggesting islands in the sea. Following traditions of the abstract dry gardens of Japan, Savage's creation captures a hint of infinity and space, bending harmoniously with the adjacent stream.
- 9 Stone Basin** – Stone seats permit a small gathering to enjoy the stone water basin, with views to the stone ledges and fall color planting beyond.
- 10 South Pond View** – Comfortable chairs offer a splendid garden view from the birchwood, with smokebushes and native azaleas creating a quiet spot for conversation. From here, the path leads onward to Asticou Terraces and Thuya Garden, a pleasant 15-minute walk along Peabody Drive.

MAP KEY

- Restroom located in the Meeting House
- Parking
- Accessible Parking
- Lantern or Sculpture

