

State Historic Preservation Review Board
Regular Meeting
June 16, 2023
Agenda Item IV.B.

**RESOLUTION HONORING MR. RUDY J. FAVRETTI (1932-2023) FOR HIS SERVICE
TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD**

WHEREAS, Rudy J. Favretti, was an esteemed landscape architect who shaped the field of landscape design history, helped establish the concept of historic settings as significant resources, and set standards for the restoration of historic gardens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Favretti's life experiences began in Connecticut as the child of Italian immigrants and with exposure to skilled carpentry and farming; and

WHEREAS, he earned a Bachelor of Science in horticulture from the University of Connecticut, a Master of Science in ornamental horticulture from Cornell University, and a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Favretti began his career as an Extension Garden Specialist at the University of Connecticut and subsequently established the country's first nationally accredited academic program devoted to historic landscapes during his 33-year tenure as a professor there; and

WHEREAS, he completed around 600 individual and collaborative design, master planning and preservation projects that resulted in the restoration and rehabilitation of a wide range of significant historic landscapes during a 50-year period of private practice; and

WHEREAS, he restored hundreds of gardens throughout the U.S. and Europe including many nationally significant historic landscapes at Old Sturbridge Village, Monticello, Mount Vernon, Montpelier, Strawberry Banke, the Emily Dickinson house, Bartram's Gardens, the Nathaniel Russell house, Shelburne Farms, and Spanish Point; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Favretti restored numerous landscapes in Connecticut including those at Roseland Cottage, in Woodstock; the Jonathan Trumbull house, in Lebanon; the Governor's Mansion, in Hartford; and the Captain Nathaniel B. Palmer house, in Stonington; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Favretti published more than 20 books for professional and general audiences, some of them written in partnership with his wife, Joy Putman Favretti, and, including some of the first how-to manuals for the treatment and management of historic sites, and titles such as *New England Colonial Gardens* (1964), *Colonial Gardens* (1972), *Highlights of Connecticut*

Agriculture (1976), *For Every House a Garden* (1977), and *Landscapes and Gardens for Historic Buildings* (1979), and *Jacob Weidenmann: Pioneer Landscape Architect* (2007); and

WHEREAS, his remarkable collection of plans, drawings, client files and more than 4000 photographs are filed in the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Gardens; and

WHEREAS, he won an ASLA Merit Award for the Recreation of the garden terrace and grove at Monticello in 1984, was inducted into the American Antiquarian Society in 1987, received The Garden Club of America's Historic Preservation Medal in 1990, became a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects 1992, received the Janet Jainschigg Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation for 2008; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Favretti was recognized by The Cultural Landscape Foundation as a Pioneer of Landscape Design, TCLF's list of people who have shaped the environments in which we live; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Favretti served on the State Historic Preservation Review Board for 29 years from 1989 until 2018; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the members of the State Historic Preservation Review Board, meeting in Hartford on June 16, 2023, go on record as recognizing Mr. Favretti for his exceptional service to the State of Connecticut, its historic landscape, and its citizens; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution is recorded in our minutes.