

# Suburbia Transformed

The modular and repetitive nature of suburbia requires that any conversation about its transformation focus on the larger continuous environment as much as on the finer grain of individual dwellings. This residence in Newtown, CT is offered here as a precedent for the “edited landscape,” where human intervention is an integral part in the shaping of the existing natural site without any wholesale shift in its native character.

Like a stone sculptor discovers and reveals form through chiseling away the excess, this designer approaches landscapes with an eye for the beauty that exists natively in the environment. The vision and process are based on a thoughtful reworking of the materials in and of the site. Using the existing environment as the backbone for the design, plants are selectively removed and native growth is allowed to determine the form of the landscape, creating an environment that exists in direct contrast to the excesses and banality of the typical suburban landscape.

Sustainable choices such as re-purposing stones from the septic system to create, in one instance a stone path, in another a natural seat and bird bath, create a landscape that is unique to its environment. This subtractive method of landscaping creates an elegant environment that fosters a deeper relationship with the environment and creates a condition that could potentially carry through an entire neighborhood--where residences are no longer patches or even modules, but points within a field of continuous natural systems.

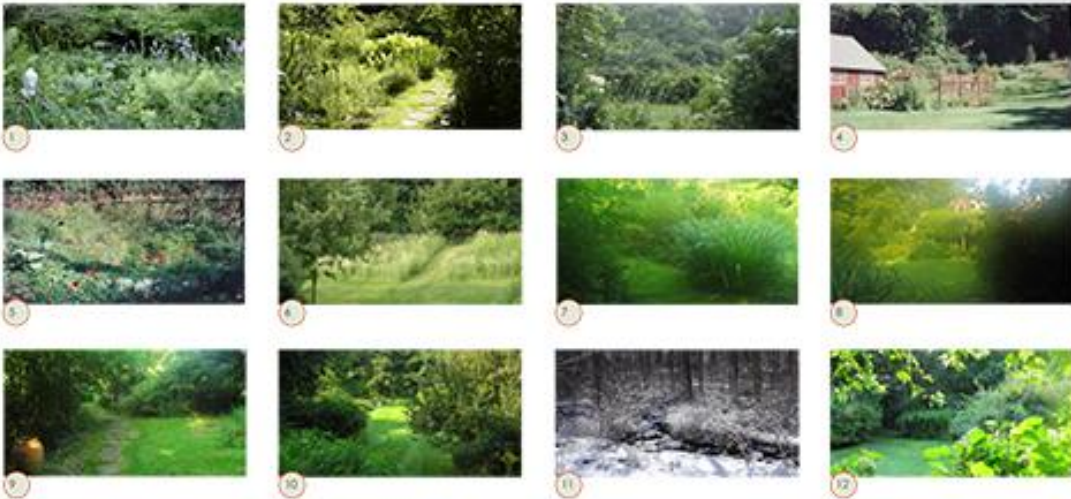


Across from each other, the stark differences between the two landscape approaches are apparent.

RESIDENCE  
30 Taunton Lake Rd  
Newtown, CT



1.08 Acres  
SCALE : 1"=20'



SITE DESIGN PLAN

SCALE : 1"=20'