

KEY PLANTINGS



Salix babylonica

This dramatic weeping willow defines the edge of the Mid Pond, offering graceful year-round interest.



Parrotia persica

The Persian Ironwood tree, with its unusual blossoms and striking fall foliage, makes an impressive addition to the landscape.



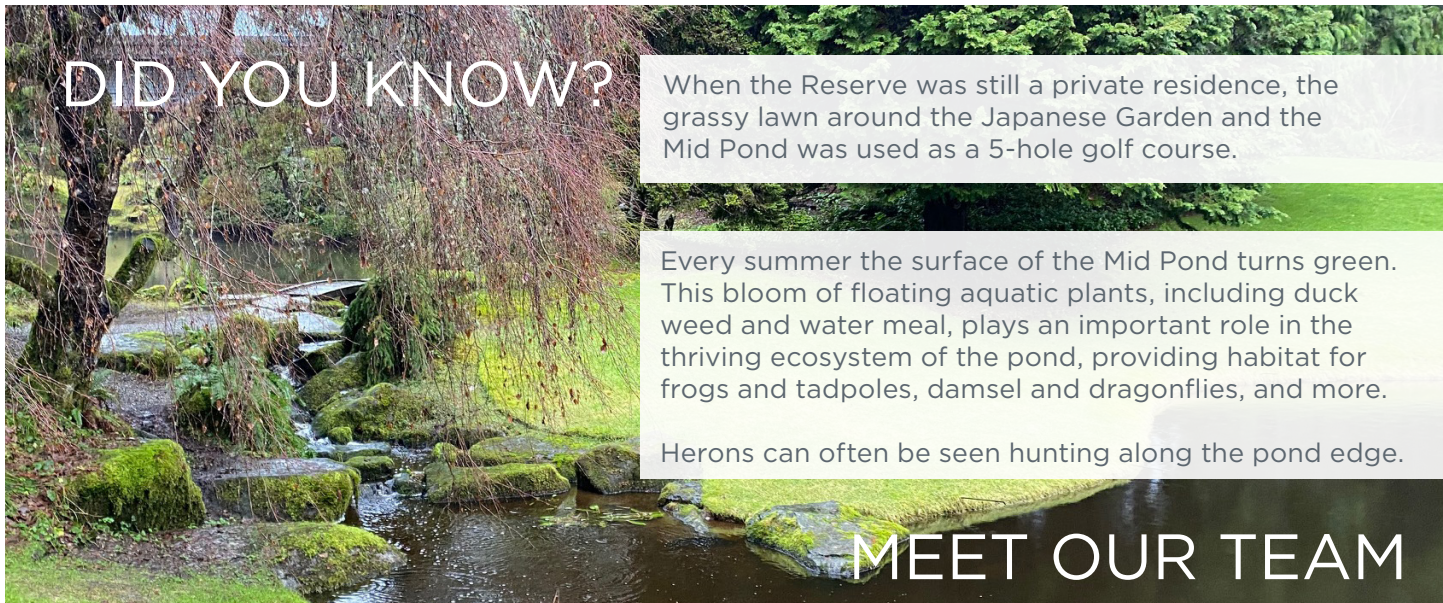
Mixed species

Our lawns won the "We Seed America's Great American Lawn" Contest in 2015. (We even beat the White House!)



Gunnera tinctoria

Also known as Dinosaur Food, this large-leafed perennial has an incredibly rough texture.



DID YOU KNOW?

When the Reserve was still a private residence, the grassy lawn around the Japanese Garden and the Mid Pond was used as a 5-hole golf course.

Every summer the surface of the Mid Pond turns green. This bloom of floating aquatic plants, including duck weed and water meal, plays an important role in the thriving ecosystem of the pond, providing habitat for frogs and tadpoles, damsel and dragonflies, and more.

Herons can often be seen hunting along the pond edge.

MEET OUR TEAM



Dave Amos has worked at the Reserve for over 24 years taking care of the lawns. He volunteers at Center Valley Animal Rescue in his spare time.



Joe Picuch is the Director of Facilities and Interim Director of Horticulture. He has worked at the Reserve for more than 35 years.



MID POND



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'utiḡdubuf ti swatix wṡəd | This land takes care of us

1930 - 1950

The Entry Court and Residence were constructed with access to the house running approximately east/west from Dolphin Drive.

1951 - 1954

After purchasing the property, the Bloedels dammed an existing stream to slow water flow under the bridge and into what is now the Rhododendron Glen.

The extensive regrading effort led to the creation of the Swan Pond, the first man-made pool on site.

1954 - 1957

Landscape Architect Thomas Church proposes new entry drive layout, including the creation of Mid Pond.

1960s

Extensive planting is done along edge of the Mid Pond, including heathers, *Parrotia persica*, maples, and Douglas firs.

A portion of recently completed Mid Pond was dammed and turned into the Japanese Garden Pond.

1976 - 1985

Working with Landscape Architect Richard Haag the Bloedels regrade the drive and surrounding lawn.

1986 - 1994

The formerly gravel Ceremonial Drive was paved in asphalt, and concrete curbs replaced stone ones around the house.

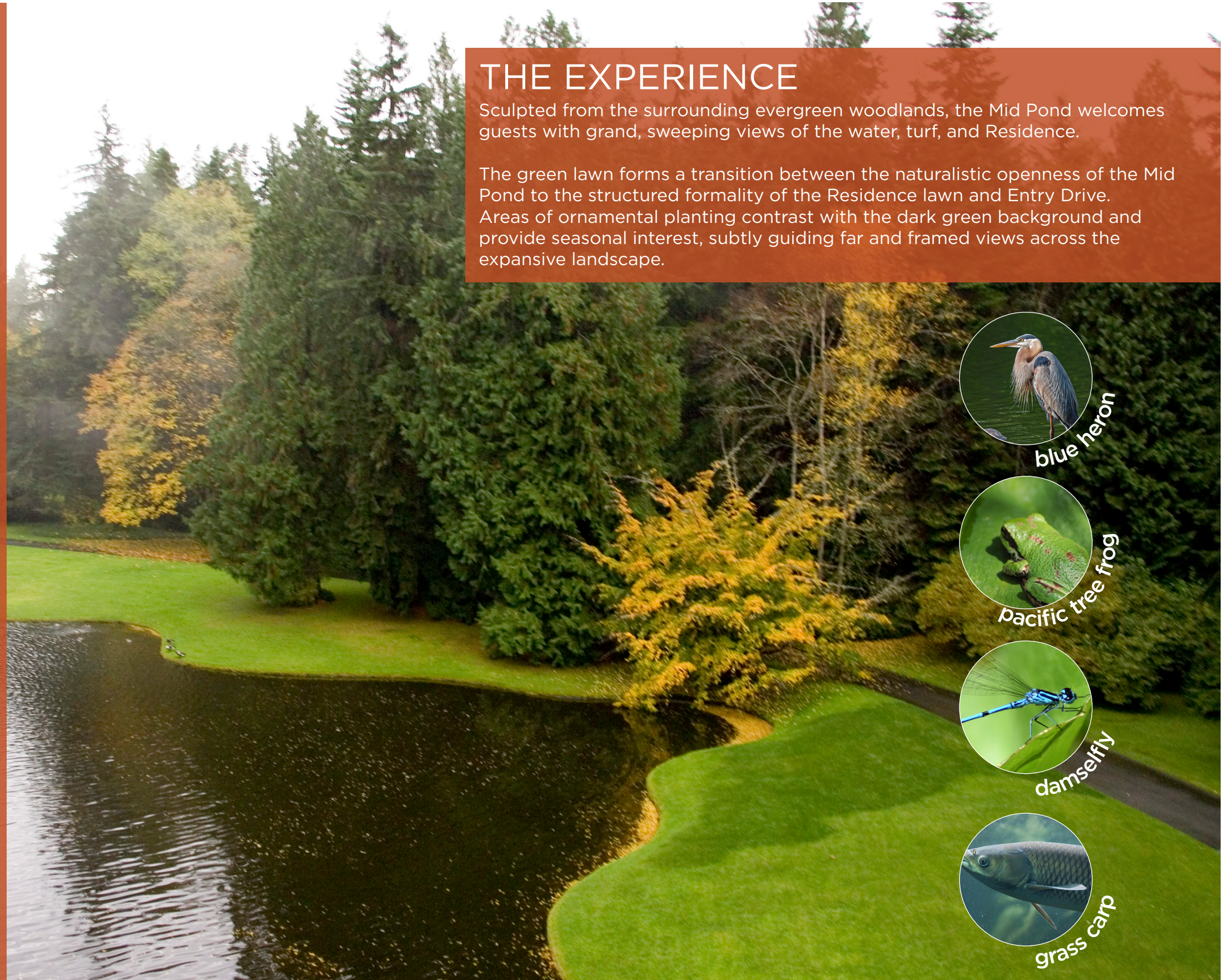
1995 - Today

Much of the vegetation remains the same around the Mid Pond, with the addition of salal and *Fothergilla* along the western edge.

THE EXPERIENCE

Sculpted from the surrounding evergreen woodlands, the Mid Pond welcomes guests with grand, sweeping views of the water, turf, and Residence.

The green lawn forms a transition between the naturalistic openness of the Mid Pond to the structured formality of the Residence lawn and Entry Drive. Areas of ornamental planting contrast with the dark green background and provide seasonal interest, subtly guiding far and framed views across the expansive landscape.



blue heron



Pacific tree frog



damselfly



grass carp

GRASS, FOREST & WATER