

Client: Pine Street Inn, Brookline

Designer: Sally Muspratt

Design Completed: April 2001

Installation: September 2003

The Pine Street Inn/Paul Sullivan Housing Trust provides permanent homes to formerly homeless men and women. The backyard of the Jenks House at 1043-45 Beacon Street in Brookline was full of weeds and crumbling bricks at ten feet below the street level. A shed topped with trash barrels dominated the space, yet it had the potential to be a pleasant outdoor space for the residents.

The COG designer met with the residents and presented examples of small city garden spaces and plants that would flourish in an urban environment. Some residents wanted an interesting view from the common rooms. Others desired a cool oasis to escape from the summer heat with a variety of gathering places for smokers and non-smokers.

Implementing the COG designer's plan transformed the shed into a screened porch with a pergola for shade and privacy, and included new plantings, and a large and small gathering space – thus creating a sanctuary for the residents of the Pine Street Inn's first affordable housing residence.



