

# McGREGOR & LEGERE

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August 7, 2015

The Honorable Maura Healey, Attorney General  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
McCormack Building  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

Attention: Mary Beckman, Chief  
Non-Profit Organizations/Public Charities Division

**RE: Prouty Garden/Boston Children's Hospital**

Dear Attorney General Healey:

This Firm represents the Friends of Prouty Garden, a group of individuals dedicated to the preservation of Prouty Garden at Boston Children's Hospital ("BCH"). Prouty Garden was established on the grounds of BCH by a gift from Olive Higgins Prouty (1882-1974). Dedicated in 1956, it has been a precious sanctuary for the children who are patients, their families, and staff ever since. BCH plans to demolish Prouty Garden in order to construct a new building. Based on our review of the evidence, we believe that this would be a violation of the terms of Mrs. Prouty's gift.

BCH has publicly admitted that the terms of the gift were that the Garden was to be maintained in its present location in perpetuity. BCH erected a plaque in the Garden that says: "Mrs. Prouty insisted on perpetually maintaining this location as a haven for patients, parents, and staff...Because of Mrs. Prouty's vision, this Garden will exist as long as Children's Hospital has patients, families, and staff to enjoy it." This plaque remains prominently displayed in the Garden to this day. (Copy attached as Exhibit A).

The intent to maintain the Garden forever is also revealed in an excerpt from a publication about the Prouty Garden issued by the Public Relations Department of BCH: "Ensured perpetuity on Hospital grounds, the Prouty Garden will exist as long as the Hospital has children to enjoy it." (Copy attached as Exhibit B).

Mrs. Prouty left \$150,000.00 in her Will to the Olive Higgins Prouty Foundation, Inc. (the "Foundation") for the benefit of BCH for the care and upkeep of that portion of the BCH property known as the "Prouty Terrace and Garden." She did not give the Foundation discretion



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to agree to the destruction of the Garden (copy of relevant portion of her Will attached as Exhibit C).

The Attorney General is responsible for ensuring that charitable funds are used in accordance with the donor's wishes. G. L. c. 12, sec. 8, *Weaver v. Wood*, 425 Mass. 270, 275 (1997), cert. den. 522 U.S. 1049. As of this writing 11,528 people have signed an on-line petition to save Prouty Garden.

In our opinion, this is a matter of significant public importance worthy of your attention. We urge you to take such action as is necessary to prevent the destruction of Prouty Garden. This letter supplies a summary of the relevant facts and law.

### **History of Prouty Garden as Gift Requested By Hospital**

Olive Higgins Prouty and her husband, Lewis Prouty, had four children. The two youngest, Anne and Olivia, died in infancy and early childhood. In 1925, Mrs. Prouty donated funds for the rehabilitation of Ward One at BCH in memory of her daughters, which was renamed the Prouty Ward. Mrs. Prouty continued after 1925 to donate funds for the upkeep of Ward One and later for the rehabilitation of Ward Two, which was added to the Prouty Ward.

In 1953, the wards were torn down for the construction of the Farley Building. The then-BCH Director, Dr. Guy Brugler, showed her the space where the Garden now stands, which was planned to be a parking lot, and suggested she fund a garden terrace there instead.

In 1955, Dr. Charles Janeway of BCH wrote to Mrs. Prouty to encourage her to fund the garden: "Our grounds very much needed a fairy godmother, like yourself, who loves growing things...Beauty is as important an element in getting well for the patient, and keeping the staff in a good, constructive frame of mind, as good facilities...Three cheers, and I hope you will go ahead and do it."

A letter dated May 23, 1955 from Mrs. Prouty's attorney to BCH shows that Mrs. Prouty was concerned about the permanence of the Garden: "She questioned the permanence of such a terrace in case the hospital required enlarging." (Copy attached as Exhibit D). The plaque (Exhibit A) shows that BCH satisfied Mrs. Prouty that the Prouty Garden would be maintained in its present location in perpetuity.

Mrs. Prouty was instrumental in all aspects of planning the Garden. She arranged to have the noted landscape architectural firm Olmsted Bros. design the Garden. The Massachusetts Horticultural Society awarded the Garden a gold medal in 1960.

A letter dated December 23, 1957 from William Wolbach, then-President of BCH, to Mrs. Prouty (copy attached as Exhibit E) described the importance of the Garden to the young



pediatric patients and assured her that there should never be a problem with future maintenance of it:

Now a few words about the Garden,--still in a preliminary way. To begin with, I cannot imagine anyone having any opinion other than that the Garden is a great asset. Of course, we can run the Hospital without it—just as we could without paint on the walls, if necessary. However, as you well know a Hospital can be a pretty bleak place, and staying there can be an uncomfortable and unhappy experience for young children, most of whom have never been away from home before.

Your Garden represents beauty, serenity and nature itself and is a wonderful and I believe almost necessary contrast to the institutionalized impersonality of the Hospital bricks and mortar, and the stress of pain and uncertainty. We are most fortunate to have such an attractive complement to our new building, and I hear reports on all sides concerning how much it is appreciated by patients, their parents, and the Staff...

The truth of the matter is, because your garden is so generally appreciated, there should never be any problem in working out the mechanics of its future care.

Carroll B. McNeill, whose father, Dr. Guy W. Brugler, was Director of BCH during the late 1950s and early 1960s, wrote to the BCH Board of Trustees on January 15, 2015. She told the Board that she fondly remembers Olive Prouty as a family friend and said: "The possibility that her bequest, which has clearly benefitted many thousands of people by now, might be destroyed is unthinkable...An on-line commenter who observed that this garden is the 'soul of the hospital' had it right!" (Copy attached hereto as Exhibit F).

### **Hundreds of Testimonials Attest to this Sacred Space**

The Garden plaque's declaration that it is a haven for patients, parents, and staff is an understatement, to say the least. Many parents have chosen the Garden as the place to hold their terminally ill child as he or she passes away.



Attached as Exhibit G are on-line comments by the 11,528 signers of the on-line petition, each providing powerful testimony to the importance of the Garden.

At least one child's ashes are scattered in the garden, based on the family's understanding that the Garden will remain in perpetuity, demonstrating that people have acted on the promise stated in the plaque which BCH now threatens to break.

Attached as Exhibit H is a copy of a letter from D. Elliott B. Martin, who worked as a psychiatrist at BCH, describing how the Garden meets the needs of young psychiatric patients, who are a particularly vulnerable and disenfranchised population, in addition to those who are medically ill.

Prouty Garden is the lead example cited in the article, "How Hospital Gardens Help Patients Heal," *Scientific American*, March 2012 (copy attached as Exhibit I). Prouty Garden is "one of the most successful hospital gardens in the country," according to Clare Cooper Marcus, emeritus professor in landscape architecture at the University of California, Berkeley, quoted in the article.

Professor Marcus further described the Garden in Clare Cooper Marcus and Marni Barnes (Eds.), *Healing Gardens for Children: Therapeutic Benefits and Design Recommendations*. New York, John Wiley and Sons, 1999 (copy of relevant section attached as Exhibit J). She described, among other things, the many small sculptures set into the plantings and on the lawns, including sculptures of a nurse and child and small figures of a goose, a cat, an owl, a boy holding a cat, a bear, a squirrel, two frogs, and a fox, half-hidden in the shrubbery, and small life-size figures of a rabbit and birds set on the lawn. She noted that children taken into the Garden take great delight in finding and naming these figures, more so because they are half-hidden.

### **The Prouty Will Does Not Give the Foundation Discretion to Terminate the Garden**

Mrs. Prouty's Will left \$150,000 to the Olive Higgins Prouty Foundation, Inc. for the benefit of The Children's Hospital Medical Center to be held, managed, invested and reinvested as a separate fund, under the title "The Prouty Terrace and Garden Fund of The Children's Hospital Medical Center," the income to be used for care and upkeep of that portion of Children's Hospital known as "Prouty Terrace and Garden." Exhibit C.

According to the Will, any income not currently used was to be accumulated and added to the fund. The "Prouty Fund" then existing "with" the Hospital was to be added to this fund. If accumulated income exceeds the amount reasonably needed for future needs, said accumulated income could be withdrawn and used as unrestricted funds of said Foundation, but in no event should any principal that does not consist of said accumulated income be withdrawn.



The Will includes a provision that, “notwithstanding anything to the contrary, in the event that said ‘Prouty Terrace and Garden,’ including the real estate and tangible personal property hereinbefore specified, shall for any reason whatsoever cease to exist as a unit or be maintained in a manner substantially comparable to, and not less extensive than the manner in which the same is being managed at the time of my death, then and in such event the ‘Prouty Terrace and Garden Fund of the Children’s Hospital Medical Center,’ including any accumulated income, shall no longer be managed as aforesaid but, in lieu thereof, shall be dealt with as an unrestricted gift to said Foundation for its general purposes.”

It appears that the present President of the Foundation may be mistaken as to the duties of the Foundation. Enclosed as Exhibit K is a copy of a page from BCH’s response to comments included in its Final Environmental Impact Report (“FEIR”), filed under MEPA. It says that “the Foundation has expressed a willingness to work with the Hospital’s planners and designers to incorporate the artifacts and memorabilia now within the garden, into one or more locations within the proposed BCCB [Boston Children’s Clinical Building], in an effort to keep the ‘spirit’ of the garden alive in its new environment.” This implies that the President of the Foundation and BCH believe the President of the Foundation has discretion to accede to a request from BCH to discontinue Prouty Garden.

The “notwithstanding ...” clause in the Will does not give the Foundation discretion or authority to elect to discontinue the Garden or to accede to BCH’s requests to discontinue it. Rather, it contemplates an event in the nature of a “force majeure” occurrence, completely outside of the control of the Foundation and BCH.

Nor does the Will authorize BCH to violate the terms of Mrs. Prouty’s gift. “One may make a conveyance or devise to a charitable corporation and, if accepted, the latter would be bound to use the property for the purpose in accordance with the terms of the trust...[In that case], the property is held by the corporation not as its own but in its capacity as a trustee and as an instrumentality of the settlor or testator in carrying out his directions in its use of the property.” *Animal Rescue League v. Assessors of Bourne*, 310 Mass. 330, 334 (1941).

Mrs. Prouty’s gift creating Prouty Garden was impressed with a charitable trust limited to a specific charitable purpose; it was not a gift with a general charitable intent. See *Hillman v. Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River*, 24 Mass. App. Ct. 241, 241-243 (1987). Mrs. Prouty’s gift to BCH was for the specific purpose of creating and maintaining Prouty Garden in its present location. It was not a gift to BCH with a general charitable intent for BCH to decide how it sees fit to use.

### **The Hospital’s Proposed Replacements Do Not Come Close To Duplicating Prouty Garden**

Prouty Garden is approximately one-half acre, with an expanse of grass and other natural vegetation, a rare 65-foot Dawn Redwood Tree, flowers and other plantings, walks and pathways, a fountain, and statues. As indicated in BCH’s responses to comments in the FEIR,



## McGREGOR &amp; LEGERE

BCH asserts that it plans to retain the "spirit" of Prouty Garden. It proposes a number of so-called "green spaces" to be scattered throughout the Hospital, some of which appear to be patient lounges, hallway plants, or plants shielding ventilation ducts. BCH's plans do not retain or come close to retaining the spirit of Prouty Garden.

The "notwithstanding ..." clause in Mrs. Prouty's Will refers to a circumstance in which Prouty Garden "cease(s) to exist as a unit or be maintained in a manner substantially comparable to, and not less extensive than..." As discussed above, we disagree that this authorizes the Foundation or BCH to discontinue the Garden. However, if BCH may rely on this language, it imposes certain minimum requirements, namely, that the replacement be substantially comparable to and not less extensive than Prouty Garden in its present location.

At minimum, this language requires another garden at least as big as the Prouty Garden. It does not permit fragmented "green" spaces smaller in total or less useful than a unified Garden.

**Conclusion**

The Friends of Prouty Garden, on their behalf and as the voice for the thousands of patients, families, staff members, donors, and unity members who have urged that the Garden be preserved, and the public, urge you to prevent BCH from destroying Prouty Garden.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

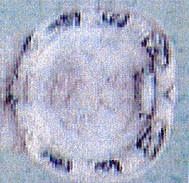


Gregor I. McGregor

Michael J. O'Neill



**A**



## Children's Hospital Boston

# HISTORY

### The Prouty Garden



The Prouty Garden is one of the most endearing areas at Children's Hospital and in the Longwood Medical and Academic Area.

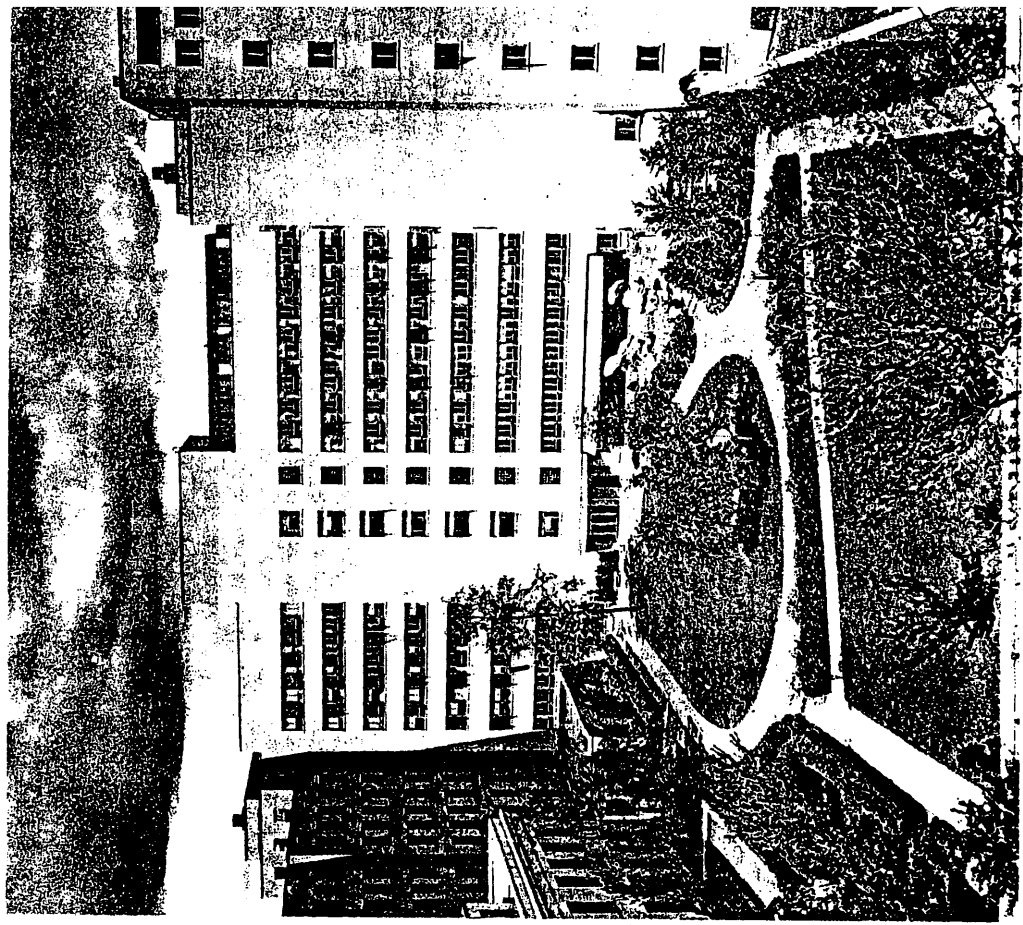
Named in memory of the daughters of author Olive Higgins Prouty, the Garden is supported by an endowment originally funded by Mrs. Prouty to rehabilitate two old hospital wards. When the wards were demolished during construction of the Farley Building, consideration was given to turning this area into a parking lot. However, Mrs. Prouty insisted on perpetually maintaining this location as "a haven for patients, parents, and staff."

The Prouty Garden opened in 1956 in the space between the hospital's then separate ward buildings. This area was used for many activities such as Circus Day shown here (c. 1920s). Designed by the famous landscape architectural firm, Olmsted Brothers, which was instrumental in planning New York's Central Park and Boston's "Emerald Necklace", the Garden was awarded a gold medal by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1960. Because of Mrs. Prouty's vision, this Garden will exist as long as Children's Hospital has patients, families, and staff to enjoy it.



**B**

# The Prouty Garden



The Children's Hospital Medical Center, Boston, Mass.

Public Relations Department



Wooden sandpipers

One of the most recent sculptures is a bear cub by Leslie Burden of Washington, D.C. It is seated on a rock and can be seen from the Farley Building entrance to the garden. Last but not least is Anne Ladd's bronze statue of St. Francis on loan from Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. The sculptures, as well as several of the rare trees, were given to the Hospital.

Since its opening, the Prouty Garden has been the scene of many special events. Sponsored by the Hospital's Department of Education and Recreation, groups of musicians and magicians, traveling zoos and circuses, and community actors have played to the children against a backdrop of vibrant greenery. In addition, a tree-lighting ceremony, held in the garden every Christmas, is watched through Hospital windows by children and staff alike.

Ensured perpetuity on Hospital grounds, the Prouty Garden will exist as long as the Hospital has children to enjoy it.



The wall of the garden, made of light brick, is tall, thick, and solid. On the garden side, it is shrouded in espaliered climbing hydrangea, pyracantha, and wisteria. The high wall is one of the charms of the garden, seeming to shut out the world outside.

To many an anxious parent, the garden is a merciful refuge at times, and to many more parents, a pleasant place to wheel a recuperating child on a hunt for the various sculptured animals. None of these animals is on pedestals, but on the ground under the trees or half hidden by shrubs. The meandering child is often pleasantly surprised by his discoveries.

## The Sculpture

In the pool, squirting streams of water at each other through their noses, are three bronze seals, the work of sculptor Sylvia Shaw Judson. Miss Amelia Peabody, a Hospital trustee and well-known artist, created the stone rabbit crouching on the grass near the pool, and also the life-sized little boy holding a cat, located in a shady nook among the rhododendrons. Seated nearby, beneath one of the shaggy cryptomerias, is another cat done by George Cerney.

A lead owl, an 18th century antique from England, is perched on the sawed-off trunk of a tree, while a frog, made of metal, sits on the edge of a small bird-bath. Running to shelter under the pine tree is a pair of wooden sandpipers, American antique decoys.



Boy with cat

St. Francis

**C**

ARTICLE THIRTEENTH: I give and bequeath to or for the benefit of each of the following hospitals which is in existence at the time of my death the sum or sums hereinafter specified as to it, to wit:

1. For the benefit of The Children's Hospital Medical Center, of said Boston, the sum of one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) dollars to the Olive Higgins Prouty Foundation, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation, of said Boston, to be held, managed, invested and reinvested as a separate fund, under the title of "The Prouty Terrace and Garden Fund of The Children's Hospital Medical Center", the income thereof to be used in such manner as the duly authorized representatives of said Foundation shall from time to time determine for the maintenance, care, upkeep, preservation and improvement of that portion of the property of said The Children's Hospital Medical Center which is known as the "Prouty Terrace and Garden" (including the real estate consist-

ing of the pool, walls, terrace, walks and plantings, and also including tangible personal property consisting of garden or terrace furniture, embellishments and equipment and such therapeutic and other medical or hospital equipment or other property which may be appropriately used in connection with such real estate), any income not currently required for said purposes to be accumulated and added to the principal of said Fund, but such accumulated income shall be subject to withdrawal and use, at any time or from time to time, in whole or in part, as current income for the purposes aforesaid, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that principal of said Fund may be used for the purpose of defraying costs and expenses occasioned by or incident to the replacement of plantings in said property, but only to the extent, if any, to which available current and accumulated income shall not be sufficient therefor and in no event to an extent which shall reduce the principal of said Fund below an amount which, in the reasonable judgment of the duly authorized representatives of said Foundation, shall be sufficient to produce income thereafter adequate for the purposes aforesaid. I hereby direct, to the fullest extent to which I may legally do so, that any sums, credits and other property at the time of my death comprised in the so-called "Prouty Fund" now established with said Hospital be added to, and thereafter administered as a portion of, the principal of said "The Prouty Terrace and Garden Fund of The Children's Hospital Medical Center".

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary hereinbefore

contained, if and whenever any portion, including the whole, of any accumulated income of said "The Prouty Terrace and Garden Fund of The Children's Hospital Medical Center", as and to the extent determined by the duly authorized representatives of said Foundation in their reasonable judgment, will not be required for any future needs, reasonably to be anticipated, for the purposes of said Fund as hereinbefore specified, said portion of accumulated income, but in no event any principal which does not consist of accumulated income, may be withdrawn and used as unrestricted funds of said Foundation for such of its general purposes as its duly authorized representatives shall in their uncontrolled judgment deem desirable.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary hereinbefore contained, in the event that said "Prouty Terrace and Garden", including the real estate and tangible personal property hereinbefore specified, shall for any reason whatsoever cease to exist as a unit or be maintained in a manner substantially comparable to, and not less extensive than, the manner in which the same is being maintained at the time of my death, then and in such event "The Prouty Terrace and Garden Fund of The Children's Hospital Medical Center", including any accumulated income, shall no longer be administered as aforesaid but, in lieu thereof, shall be dealt with as an unrestricted gift to said Foundation for its general purposes.

**D**

ALFRED L. FISH  
JOHN E. PEAKES  
HAROLD T. DAVIS  
BENJAMIN A. TRUSTMAN  
CHARLES B. NEWHALL  
EARL JOHNSON  
ROBERT W. MESERVE  
ROBERT VANCE BROWN  
LEWIS H. PARKS  
JOHN J. DELANEY, JR.

JACOB J. KAPLAN  
GEORGE P. DAVIS  
ARTHUR E. WHITTEMORE  
E. CURTISS MOWER  
ROGER E. ELA  
JOHN D. MERRIAM  
LEONARD KAPLAN  
FREDERICK S. LANE  
WILLIAM SHELMEDEINE, JR.  
IRVING J. HELMAN

THE EIGHTH FLOOR  
75 FEDERAL STREET  
BOSTON 10, MASS.

May 23, 1955  
HTD/R

HENRY B. COLEMAN  
JOSEPH J. GEEHERN  
JOHN R. HALLY  
NATHANIEL P. RUTTER  
EDWARD C. MENDLER, JR.

GRAFTON J. CORBETT, JR.  
JERRY M. BROWN  
HARRISON F. LYMAN, JR.  
BENJAMIN H. LACY  
RAYMOND R. CROSS  
WILLIAM B. GRANT

*PAT*  
*telephoned*  
*May 26 -*  
*will see Mrs Prouty*  
*next week -*

Mr. Parkman D. Howe  
The Children's Hospital  
45 Milk Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Howe:

I reported to Mrs. Prouty the two suggestions which you made regarding use of the Fund now designated as held for the use of the Prouty Ward and sent her the architect's plan.

She replied with enthusiasm about the suggested "Prouty Terrace", but had a number of questions regarding it, such as - would the Hospital authorities think that such a terrace would fill a real need, as distinct from being merely an afterthought to provide a substitute for the discontinued Prouty Ward? She studied the plan and wondered if the space allotted for the terrace provided opportunity for sunshine and for a certain amount of landscape gardening. Also, she questioned the permanence of such a terrace in case the hospital required enlarging. I suggest that we can best make progress if she sees the space suggested for the terrace and if you or someone in authority at the Hos-



- 2 -

pital and enthusiastic for such a terrace talks with her personally about it.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold T. Davis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Harold T. Davis

Copy to Mrs. Prouty

**E**

Mrs. Lewis L. Prouty

- 2 -

December 23, 1957

The truth of the matter is, because your Garden is so generally appreciated, there should never be any problem in working out the mechanics of its future care.

December 23, 1957

Finally, I want to thank you for the remarks in the last paragraph of your letter. It is the interest and devotion of people, like yourself, that makes being President Mrs. Lewis L. Prouty a rewarding experience. I do hope that when our house is moved in, that we can persuade you to pay us a visit. We would be glad to receive your advice on the very obvious problems of landscaping.

Dear Mrs. Prouty:

Sincerely,

On behalf of the Trustees and Staff I would like to express our tremendous gratitude for your magnificent gift of \$10,000--\$9,000 of which we have credited to your Garden and \$1,000 for our Clinic and Research Wing. We are also appreciatively indebted to you for your previous gift of \$5,892.00 to cover reimbursement of various charges by Stone and Webster.

WILLIAM W. WOLCASH  
President

Now a few words about the Garden,--still in a preliminary way. To begin with, I cannot imagine anyone having any opinion other than that the Garden is a great asset. Of course, we can run the Hospital without it,--just as we could without paint on the walls, if necessary. However, as you well know a Hospital can be a pretty bleak place, and staying there can be an uncomfortable and unhappy experience for young children, most of whom have never been away from home before.

Your Garden represents beauty, serenity and nature itself and is a wonderful and I believe almost necessary contrast to the institutionalized impersonality of the Hospital bricks and mortar, and the stress of pain and uncertainty. We are most fortunate to have such an attractive complement to our new building, and I hear reports on all sides concerning how much it is appreciated by patients, their parents, and the Staff.

Now as to its future maintenance. This is no problem for the present. However, I know that you are concerned with the time when you no longer wish to give it so much personal attention yourself. I am sure it would be possible to get an estimate of what it will cost to operate the Garden once it has been completed, and we wouldn't have to contend with much more than the normal planning and replacements. Needless to say, it would be most helpful to have as much as possible of this expense covered by special income from endowment. I would think that general supervision for the proper maintenance of the Garden could be given to the Women's Committee, who would appoint a special committee of their best qualified members for this purpose.

As far as the actual work is concerned, Mrs. Hovey, with whom I have compared notes briefly, suggests that it is not reasonable for the Hospital to have a gardener or two among its employees and that the work could be done under contract by a landscape firm.

The truth of the matter is, because your garden is so generally appreciated, there should never be any problem in working out the mechanics of its future care.

Mrs. Lewis I. Prouty

- 2 -

December 23, 1957

The truth of the matter is, because your Garden is so generally appreciated, there should never be any problem in working out the mechanics of its future care.

Finally, I want to thank you for the remarks in the last paragraph of your letter. It is the interest and devotion of people, like yourself, that makes being President of the Hospital such a rewarding experience. I do hope that when our house is completed and we are moved in, that we can persuade you to pay us a visit. We would greatly welcome your advice on the very obvious problems of landscaping.

Sincerely,

William W. Wolbach  
President

WWW:w

**F**

January 15, 2015

Board of Trustees

Boston Children's Hospital

300 Longwood Avenue

Boston, MA 02215

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Board,

My father, Dr. Guy W. Brugler, was Director of the Children's Medical Center during the late '50s, and early '60's. Although I was just a child at the time, I fondly remember Mrs. Olive Prouty who became a family friend. The possibility that her bequest, which has clearly benefitted many thousands of people by now, might be destroyed is unthinkable. I so hope that the decision-makers who are currently dealing with the (indisputably beneficial) planned expansion which would eliminate the Prouty Garden will reconsider. Surely a balance between finance-based expansion and humanitarian understanding of "the right thing to do" can be achieved through creative re-design. An on-line commenter who observed that this garden is "the soul of the hospital" had it right!

Sincerely Yours,

Carroll B. McNeill

22355 Regnart Road

Cupertino, CA 95014

**G**

Recipient: Boston Children's Hospital

Letter: Greetings,

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Boston Children's Hospital.

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Preserve Prouty Garden

The Prouty Garden is a priceless treasure. Designed by the Olmsted Brothers, it opened in 1956 as an endowed gift from Mrs. Prouty, who was a devoted friend and benefactor of Children's Hospital . Mrs. Prouty insisted on perpetually maintaining the garden "as a haven...for as long as Children's Hospital has patients, families and staff to enjoy it". Awarded a gold medal from the MA Horticultural Society in December 1958, it was recently featured in a Scientific American (3/19/12) documenting the healing benefits of outdoor hospital gardens. Our garden was offered as the gold standard to which new hospitals should aspire.

Did you know that BCH is currently planning to bulldoze the Prouty Garden in order to build a new building? While alternate architectural designs have been offered that preserve the Prouty Garden, they are not considered to be "as practical" . "Alternate green spaces" will be included in the building's new design, but how can potted plants on a rooftop or solariums replace the towering dawn redwood, the hundreds of flowering plants, fresh air and blue sky, or pathways that nurture the spirits and healing of our patients, families and staff? For many, this garden is the spiritual refreshment that sustains us through another day of hospitalization or a 12 hour shift? Bulldozing the garden also violates our promise to Mrs. Prouty and the intent of her generous gift.

We do not have to choose between hospital expansion and the garden. Let's pursue other architectural options and save the Prouty Garden's beauty, healing and heritage. It is priceless.

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Sincerely,



# Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Berericce Torres	Medford, MA	2012-07-13	This beautiful garden is not only vital for the health of the employees but at any given time you can see the Hospital's young patients getting some much needed sunshine and fresh air. I think that can be an integral part of healing for any human. To take away the option for patients to be able to leave the constrictions of their rooms and have this peaceful spot would truly be a disservice.
Susanne MacLellan	Bridgewater, MA	2012-07-13	I watch patients, families and visitors using this garden. We even see snowball fights during the winter. What a shame that CH feels this sanctuary is expendable. In addition, that fabulous tree, which is supposed to be a rare commodity in our area will be gone!
Fr. Bob Nee	Cambridge, MA	2012-07-13	The new branding indicates that Boston Children's Hospital is here until all children are well. The Prouty sign indicates that it will be there and cared for as long as the hospital exists!
Christine Monterio	Beverly, MA	2012-07-13	Healing requires more than the practical.
Elaine Meyer	Cranston, United States Minor Outlying Islands	2012-07-13	I am signing this petition to urge our hospital leadership and community to rethink our expansion plans. It is my hope that we can accomplish the dual goals of building expansion and preservation of the Prouty Garden. In my nearly twenty years as a clinical psychologist at BCH I have many times witnessed the healing value, wonder and respite of the garden.
Deb Anderson	Billerica, MA	2012-07-13	Priceless!
Heidelise Als	Boston, MA, Israel	2012-07-13	Prouty Gardens is an invaluable treasure for the emotional refuelling, recovery and healing of stressed parents, families and staff. It provides the opportunity to deal with pain, loss and grief and to offer recovering, ill and dying children a place for the much needed connection with nature, trees, wind, soil, sun and rain, and snow. It provides for the restoration of an inner equilibrium, and equipoise, for families and staff who work tirelessly in the most intense often highly stressful care situations. It is a place of healing, courage and hope and therefore an unequalled, highly treasured resource for our hospital that prides itself in being in the national leadership role in assuring the best care 'until every child is well'. Let us put our minds and creative thinking together and identify an alternative site for the much needed new clinical building and the single family room goal for all our patients including the NICU. We can do better than sacrificing such an outstanding, invaluable asset for another. Once Prouty Gardens is gone it will never come back. It cannot be replaced by 'healing green spaces with planters', it is not acceptable and not in keeping with our commitment to excellence and integrity, our promise to our hospital community of children families and staff. I know we can and will do better. You may count and call on me for my full support to save Prouty Gardens. A Garden is a terrible thing to lose. Heidelise Als
Melissa Matisoff	Milton, MA	2012-07-14	This garden is a priceless piece of memory for many patients from our hospital. Sometimes it is the only outdoor space they have to remember their child in. To take it down is a tragedy.
Daniel Wallace	Medway, MA	2012-07-14	It is an oasis for our patients and family.
Natasha Byars	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	Prouty Garden provides a much-needed, outdoor sanctuary for patients and staff in the midst of busy days, stressful situations, and difficult circumstances.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Cathleen DeSouza	South Yarmouth, MA	2012-07-14	We have spent a lot of time at Children's with our daughter and the garden has not only helped us but our daughter. Just to feel an escape to nature in the middle of the city. To clear your mind and continue the good fight -- please do not take this treasure away!
Megan Gallery	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	There are many parents who maintain persistent vigils at their children's bedside, as they are often afraid to leave them. At times the garden is their ONLY refuge because it is close enough that they feel they can have a moment of rest and not be far from their child. It also provides some of the only moments of normalcy that our parents and children experience during a hospitalization. It is a healing place in many ways.
Jamie Ambach	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	If you take away the Prouty Garden you take away a piece of mind and serenity for all the patients, families, staff and employees at BCH!! These people need a space to "get away" from daily routines and a breath of fresh air!
Giulia Lamiani	Milan, Italy	2012-07-14	I came to Children's Hospital as a Fulbright Scholar many years ago but I still have a lot of memories linked to the Prouty Garden...It would be a pity to destroy such a peaceful and relaxing place.
Emily Holman	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	Working in transplant, we see patients who are in the hospital for a prolonged amount of time, and are often on precautions as well. The Garden is often the only opportunity these patients and their families have to have any outdoor/green space or fresh air. It is a beautiful treasure tucked away among the tall buildings and medical procedures bringing a sense of safety and happiness to stressed families.
Rita Fountain	Weymouth, MA	2012-07-14	It is a little spot where patients, families, and staff can recharge. Where you can step or be wheeled away from everything for a moment and be in nature, away from technology, lights and beeps. It is a sacred and cherished place to many.
Cecilia Matos	Newton, MA	2012-07-14	Because it has been an oasis for the patients and families thru the years while in the hospital or even for outside visits, especially when they have been here for a long time. Some children at the end of their life to be taken there. It is also loved by the staff to relax and get more strength to continue taking care of the children and families.
Phoebe Chase	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	The Prouty Garden provides our patients with the chance to feel the sun on their faces when they otherwise would not have such an opportunity. For some patients, our garden is the only opportunity they have in their short lives to have such an experience. The garden's value to patients, families and staff is beyond measure and it would be tragic to see it destroyed.
Matthew White	San Francisco, MA	2012-07-14	As a former employee and supporter of BCH, it's mission and its patients and staff, I too see value this garden has brought to those who have sought it. Particularly, I recall a family who used this space daily as they waited nearly a year as their 3 year old son awaited a much needed heart transplant. I spent time with them there - and could see how this family needed this escape. Let's not move this or diminish its value - it truly is the gold standard and should be a place of refuge and serenity for future generations. Modern architecture, without a doubt, can find a way to keep this treasure intact.
Rachel Tunick	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	The Garden is a sacred space for countless patients and their families. It would be a true tragedy to lose this precious, meaningful, and healing space. Please, please save our garden!!
Amanda Johnston	Kansas City, MO	2012-07-14	Lunch or a walk around the garden was often my only refuge during my daughters long and difficult hospitalization. It is one of the few good memories we have of CHB and it would be sad if other families were not able to enjoy this treasured place.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Robert Lebowitz	Newton, MA	2012-07-14	Bulldoze the priceless Prouty Garden for yet another building. You have got to be kidding.
Amy Pratt	Canyon Lake, TX	2012-07-14	it is what kept my sons going
Laura Routh	Hannibal, MO	2012-07-14	A close friend of mine spent most of her daughter's short life at this hospital, and remembers this garden as one of very few bright spots far from home. That is reason enough for me to want to save it.
Denise Gray-Hodge	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	This is a beautiful garden and it should be preserved.
Helen Lebowitz	Newton, MA	2012-07-14	The powers that be at Children's should be ashamed of themselves for considering building on the garden site.
Selin Tuysuzoglu	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	Prouty Garden has immense historical (circus elephants! rodeos!) and humanistic significance to Boston Children's Hospital. It is a place of sunshine and respite for families, and is often the only place where children with long-term hospitalizations can see a bit of sunshine and grass. Providing humanistic care and a beautiful environment are the types of factors that set BCH a step above - please don't get rid of the garden!
Zachary Baer	New York, NY	2012-07-14	<p>Not only does the garden serve as a haven for patients and families, but it is the home to so many memories of loved ones who have spent time or lost battles at Children's Hospital. The proposal to destroy this garden, along with those memories, is unimaginable.</p> <p>In "Children's News" interview with Prouty gardener Peter Carlsen, Children's Hospital states, "In 1956, Olive Prouty, an American novelist, and her husband gave an endowment for the garden, with the stipulation that the land would NEVER be built on and remain a tranquil space for patients and families to visit."</p> <p>In addition, in "Arthur's Guide to Children's Hospital," a WGBH/Children's Hospital Boston collaboration, it states, "It turns out that this woman named Olive Prouty saved this space from becoming a parking lot...Way to go, Olive!"</p> <p>I completely understand that ECH needs to grow to better serve its patients, but don't violate a promise, don't shatter thousands of cherished memories, and don't ignore the true healing powers of the Prouty Garden.</p>
Jan Stryker	Boston, MA	2012-07-14	This is an asset for the families and patients that should be maintained. Being able to go outdoors cannot be replicated by an indoor space. We have creative architects that can figure out a way to do this!
Liz Cox	Springfield, MA	2012-07-14	My daughter has s
Katelyn Laracy	brookline, MA	2012-07-14	fresh air and the ability to get out of the room and walk in a serene space is just as therapeutic and crucial as medicine
Elaine Racheotes	Allston, MA	2012-07-14	The Prouty Garden is a wonderful oasis for the patients, families, and Hospital staff, and Hospital visitors in order to escape from the daily rush and it also gives solace to people that are going through very difficult times in their lives.
karen nugent-brennan	randolph, MA	2012-07-14	The garden is a beautiful legacy and provides an outside space for patients and families to get a breath of fresh air while remaining in the Hospital. There is no similar locale that they could visit while in the inner city and hospital. The prospect of it being demolished truly saddens me.
Karen mendys	Chapel Hill, NC	2012-07-14	work in peds oncology and know how important these hidden treasures are to children and their families.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
valerie Lowenstein	Newton, MA	2012-07-14	Boston Children's Hospital is the mecca of advanced research and care in medical technology in children's health. However, the holistic approach to healing is significant. The Prouty Garden provides a unique connection to the natural world, so often lost in a hospital setting. It provides an element that can be helpful in the healing process for the patient, the family as well as the staff.
Nicolina Calfa	Brookline, MA	2012-07-14	The Prouty Garden should be maintained for families as it is a valuable healing space. These do not exist throughout the hospital and are also important aspects of care and recovery. This space is used frequently for patient and family care whether children are on medical inpatient, psychiatric inpatient, or outpatient medical floors. The Garden is often the only serene healing space to be found on hospital grounds. Please do not rob patients and families of this invaluable resource.
Susanne MacLellan	Bridgewater, MA	2012-07-17	If our word is what makes and defines us how can we go back on our word after receiving this wonderful donation and gave our word to maintaining the garden "as a haven...for as long as Children's Hospital has patients, families and staff to enjoy it". If you go back on your word on this what else will be give our word to and go back on who else will we lie to have what qwe want.....
Nancy Karthas	Boston, MA	2012-07-24	I have watched patients, families, staff and visitors sit in the garden in sadness and in celebration. It is a haven that provides a peaceful place to reflect
Libby Schaefer	Boston, MA	2012-07-24	I am a resident at Children's and took care of a patient while on the oncology service who only wanted to spend time in the garden with her family. I would like to see this or another outdoor space preserved for our patients, their families, and staff who need an outdoor place for a moment of reprieve during stressful situations. thank you.
Ashley Atkins	Boston, MA	2012-07-24	I was a fellow on the PACT team. This garden was such a magical place to bring some of the sick children. Please don't take this away from all the children.
jen buxton	Waltham, MA	2012-07-24	When my daughter had kidney surgery she was in a lot of pain...pushing her in the kid cart to the gardens was the highlight of each day for her and me during our 8 day hospital stay. I can only imagine the comfort it provides to those who need to be hospitalized longer..it is the only accessible outdoor space on the campus as well, and should be kept for all to enjoy.
Deborah Haglund	Worcester, MA	2012-07-24	I have seen smiles on the children who are able to use this beautiful garden if only for a few minutes while recuperating. The chirping of the birds, the beautiful flowers in the spring, and the sound of the fountain is priceless for the children, their family and staff.
Bob Magner	Scituate, MA	2012-07-24	I am a 22 year volunteer. Over the years I have taken a countless number of children to the garden...the relief it gives to our long term patients is God Sent. I have also witnessed the comfort and solace it has given so many families. I have been part of birthday parties...and have also helped families release ballons in honor of loved ones. This Sunday I was out there with a patient who simply needed a break from her room. We watched the birds, the wind blew in her face...and her smile never left! The fact that this even a consideration astounds me!
Emily Hayden	Atlanta, GA	2012-07-24	This beautiful garden is where my beloved sister, Hannah, spent some of her final hours before her untimely death from leukemia. It holds a very special place in my heart.
marsha joselow	chestnut hill, MA	2012-07-24	As the social worker with the PACT team, the Prouty Garden is "sacred ground" where many patients have spent their last time with their families. It is a place of healing for our patients and healing for our families regardless of their medical outcomes.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Pam Roe	Marietta, GA	2012-07-24	This garden has provided a respite for many families since 1956. Please keep it available for families in the future.
Michelle Doulette	Putnam, CT	2012-07-24	Precious Memories should never be erased. We advocate (GREEN) then want to destroy what already is this would be such a shame!
John McNeil	Boston, MA	2012-07-24	I love eating lunch in the Garden, such a nice break from the fluorescent hospital
B C	Reading, MA	2012-07-24	When my son was treated for terminal cancer and his 120 days overnite the only place I could cry..please,please keep this healing place. Steven 1988-2004
Carla Baker	malden, MA	2012-07-24	The garden is a place of hope.. my son has so many good memories during times where he has almost not made it. When he's inpatient it's his safe haven.
Sara Hart	Woodstock Valley, CT	2012-07-24	I was a patient from 1983 through 2002, taking many trips to the garden (often as incentive for enduring painful pt sessions)) I now bring my children there as a speical oasis in the midst...I simply cannot imagine why the hospital would even consider replacing the garden with a building
nicole rogerson	woodbourne, NY	2012-07-24	My favorite memory of the garden is When My son Bryce(HLHS) rode his bicycle from the 8th floor to the garden chest tube and all!
Katie McKee	Somerville, MA	2012-07-24	"for as long as Children's Hospital has patients, families and staff to enjoy it"
Marcia Flynn	warren, MA	2012-07-24	It is very beneficial to those children and their families who are spending time at the hospital, a place to brighten a tough day.
Sarah Bidwell	Holland, MA	2012-07-24	Our beautiful neice had a heart transplant through this hospital and finds much joy within the garden during her extended stays there. It's great and imperative to have an area for the little ones to get out of their room and enjoy nature!!!!
amy lalondc	mahwah, NJ	2012-07-24	We will be travelling to Boston for surgery this Fall. I have heard from other parents how beautiful this garden is and was looking forward to seeing it. During such a stressful time, it would be nice to have such a relaxing place to go and forget about why you are there.
Megan Green	Boston, MA	2012-07-24	Spent one of the last days of my sister's life with her in that garden. It's a special place.
Brian Kimball	Plymouth, MA	2012-07-24	I am a 20 year old cardiology patient that has been going to Children's Hospital since I was 8. Further, my uncle and grandmother are long time volunteers. Having a beautiful place where long term patients can escape to for even a few minutes if of great importance to my family and the many families at Children's Hospital each day. Keep this sanctuary alive.
pamela ertel	Canterbury, CT	2012-07-25	I rember spending time here years ago while my nephew was in the hospital. Please don't destroy this garden. We all really need a place like this during these difficult times.
Kim Fallon	Buzzards Bay, MA	2012-07-25	It isn nice to have a little retreat for kids in the middle of the city...it makes them forget where they are, I hope!
Rupi Legha	Denver, CO	2012-07-25	Because I knew someone whose family spent their last moments with her there. It's too precious to destroy.
Alexys Wilbur	Cornish, NH	2012-07-25	Green spaces are so limited in an urban setting, and this spot has and will bring respite in a way no indoor hospital setting can to families and individuals during difficult times.
catherine distler	brookline, MA	2012-07-25	there are many great things about our hospital, but prouty garden tops the list, and reminds me that everything we do should be about the children and their families.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Lindsey Vezina	framingham, MA	2012-07-25	Bc my friend passed on and this is where I said goodbye to her.
Mary Mottolo	Dracut, MA	2012-07-25	In memory of Hannah Green
Nathaniel Messier	Palmer, MA	2012-07-25	It was such a relief for my niece and her family to have a place to go during long stays at the hospital. She is a heart transplant recipient.
Carolyn Bjork	Westborough, MA	2012-07-25	It is enjoyed by so many families and patients!
Julia Rosenfield	Arlington, VA	2012-07-25	In memory of Hannah Green
Grace LeBlanc	boston ma, MA	2012-07-25	I have been a nurse at Childrens for over 25 years and the garden has always been the best respite for patients and families who are very ill. Long hospitalizations for patients need the fresh air and the sun. Windows do not open in the main building so the garden is it! Florence Nightingale would be disappointed. One story... a patient from the NICU came to our comfort room, a place families can spend the last precious moments together. The garden was the first and the last stroller ride they had together ever outside the patient room. I have many, many stories of nurses who spent very special time with their patients in the garden, a place where the most tightly held secrets can be told to caregivers. Please preserve this very special area. It is a one and only.. forever for many people
elaine prestipino	kingston, NH	2012-07-25	my son was hospitalized at Children's for 4 months. That garden was at times our saving grace!
Iris O'Donnell	Pelham, NH	2012-07-25	Many of our patients spend some of their final moments there. Some of them have had months and months of hospitalization, if they have ever been outside at all in their very short lives. I don't think it is right to take this place away from them.
Lisa Kynvi	Concord, MA	2012-07-25	I am a parent with a child with intensive health care needs. He has been a Children's Hospital patient since he was 12 weeks old. Over the last 8 years, we have spent many inpatient months at Children's, and every single day of those admissions--rain, shine, or snow--I have made sure to get to the garden. Many, many days I brought him with me, even for a few minutes.  It was the only place for me, as a single parent of such a complex child, to find respite, earth, healing, and solace. It was my little island of sanity. Without it, I think we would transfer his care to a hospital that has an outdoor garden space. I simply cannot live for weeks at a time in the hospital without it. Healing doesn't have just one dimension; the garden has to be there if we believe in the many dimensions of healing.
April Wilmar	Dedham, MA	2012-07-25	It is an amazing place for solace and healing when you are in the hospital for an extended stay with a child with significant needs. It helped calm me many a times and I can't imagine our stay without it!
Chas Bicking	Andover, MA	2012-07-25	Healing and history go hand and hand at Childrens.'s. Some history can be preserved in photos or exhibits, but neither the history of caring symbolized by the Prouty Garden nor its refuge of quiet healing power can be replaced by something more 'practical'.
karen rapallo	wakefield, MA	2012-07-25	Patients love that garden. It is a peaceful safe haven for our patients and their families. The calm and tranquility found there promotes healing. I have run into families treated at Childrens many years later who told me how much that garden meant to them during the most difficult times of their treatment. What a terrible, irreversible mistake to give up such a valuable resource and symbol of peace and healing at our hospital.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Julie DiBona	Holbrook, MA	2012-07-25	The Prouty Garden offered me and my daughter a place to go to get away from the sounds of machines beeping, medications being distributed or any other procedures that were to be done at any given time. It would be a big mistake to let this beautiful place be destroyed! I can't tell you how many times during my daughter's 8 month hospital stay, I went to the garden to just breathe, cry or escape from the ugly thoughts that went through my head having a child face cancer and then a bone marrow transplant. I have some beautiful memories of The Prouty Garden and I hope other families who are suffering can enjoy it for years to come.
Leslie Gilbert	Casa Grande, AZ	2012-07-25	Hannah Green
Jill Slocum	Mexico, NY	2012-07-25	It was a haven during my sons Bone marrow transplant. We will be back in three weeks for his second transplant...it is a place to escape from the hospital. It is a place to pray. It is a place of hope. Please do not destroy.
Kristen Mantel	tewksbury, MA	2012-07-25	Bridgette Kaiser
Karen Livernois	Londonderry, NH	2012-07-25	My family spent countless hours in the Prouty Garden. It was the only place for my boys to "play" while their sister spent weeks and months in the ICU many times. We have a bunny decoration in our own memorial "Yvie Garden" as a reminder of the bunny statues the boys regularly played with in the Prouty Garden.
Cynthia Hartman	Whittier, CA	2012-07-25	I am signing this petition in honor of a little girl name Brigitte and all of her friends that are/have been patients at CHB. Prouty Garden is a place where these families have had to spend too much time as their families endure the countless number of hours of waiting, hoping, praying for their loved ones. This garden is a haven for these families! It gives them a place outside of those hospital walls, the beeping and other noises of the machines, the bustling in the halls, the confinement of the rooms and the small space and a place to just breathe. It gives them a beautiful place to spend time regenerating their souls so that they can go back in and face their realities. Many of these families have other siblings and this gives a place for children to let out some energy. Can you imagine this on a rooftop? I certainly can't. Prouty Garden was built to be a timeless, enduring and sacred space for all families to use and enjoy forever. To take it out for a building would be disgraceful!
Laura Basili	Cornwall, VT	2012-07-25	It was a staff psychologist at Children's for a decade and I took children and families to the garden daily.. It was vital to their psychological well being during hospitalization and treatment. It is imperative that the garden be preserved.
Nick McAllister	Boston, MA	2012-07-25	This is a much needed place of comfort at the hospital. For many it is the first place of beauty their children will experience outside of the walls of the hospital. Also, for many parents it is the much needed outside escape from the confines of the hospital. Obviously Boston has many great sites, but the prouty Garden is a great place for inpatient families who cannot otherwise leave the grounds. It would be a shame to remove it.
Joan Goulet	Milton, NH	2012-07-25	There are so many people who need a place like this, who have critically ill children.
Marion Adams	Exeter, NH	2012-07-25	It is beautiful and should be preserved for the patients and their families
Mike Travers	East Bridgewater, MA	2012-07-25	To protect the important things in our lives. Children in need and seldom found beautiful places like the Prouty Garden. Both, gifts from God!
Maddy Parmentier	Coventry, RI	2012-07-25	I was a patient here in the mid-70's. When I was finally able to go outside, my mom took me here to enjoy a beautiful summer day. It was better than therapy!!!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Michelle Waller	East Patchogue, NY	2012-07-25	This is the place I go to get away from the hospital. It is a place of serenity for me. And it allows a quick get away from doctors and needles for my daughter when she is inpatient.
Courtney Goldwasser	Newton, MA	2012-07-25	My nephew is being treated there for ALL - we love walking around the paths and he loves seeing the birds. It's a quiet place in the middle of the chaos we are living right now.
DENISE MORTON	WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA	2012-07-25	WHEN MY SON WAS IN THE HOSPITAL THERE WAS NO GREEN SPACE AND IT WAS SO DEPRESSING. FOR 6 WEEKS I WAS STUCK IN THE SHRINERS HOSPITAL IN BOSTON WITH HIM AWAY FROM HOME WITH NO GROUNDS TO WALK OR GARDEN TO MEDITATE OR CRY IN. SOMETIMES YOU NEED THAT QUIET GARDEN TO GO TO INSTEAD OF JUST A CHAPEL.
David St. Jean	Huntington Beach, CA	2012-07-25	A close childhood friend spent a ton of time here during her fight with cancer. She is no longer with us, but I'm positive that this tranquil area helped recovery and gave friends and family a space to visit. Don't destroy the garden!
Suzanne Sippel	Houston, TX	2012-07-25	Many of my friends and family live in the Boston area, and this space has been a special place during very difficult times.
Rachel Kantrowitz	Sherborn, MA	2012-07-25	I stayed at Children's for about 3 months, a waiting process during my stay as the garden offered me a respite and fresh air, an escape from the white walls of the hospital
Jason Penkethman	Medford, MA	2012-07-25	The Prouty Garden is a place where patients can go to get clean air and to get out of the inpatient unit. Its also a place where staff can go to take a break. It a great meeting place for families to meet their loved one who are at BCH and not meeting in the stressful hospital bedside. Yes in the new addition to the main building has plans to put a small garden on one of the floors but nothing that can be built can ever take the place of what the Prouty Garden does and means for the patients, families, visitors and hospital staff.
Kristy Smith	Upton, MA	2012-07-25	for the many times we have used that garden...somehow sitting outside in that area just makes the day a little more bearable.
Paula magnasco	abingotn, MA	2012-07-25	God Bless, can not even believe this is being considered- the garden is an oasis and should not be touched- ever!
Amy Baker	Huntington, NY	2012-07-25	This garden was the only ray of light in some very dark times. It is an invaluable source of peace and serenity in times of crisis. My son saw his first daylight here. It makes me sad to think it may not be there for our next visit.
timothy thomas	taunton, MA	2012-07-25	my son has been in garden several times and it has helped him heal
Ruth Kennedy	North Reading, MA	2012-07-25	The Prouty Garden is a tranquil place for families like ours to breathe and relax while coping with the incredible stresses of a child's long hospital stay. We brought our son in a kid cart out to the garden and breathed the fresh air, listened to the calming fountain, and spent time in reflection. Please save the garden! As another said, it is sacred ground for many families, providing the last place for many to gather as a family.
Nicole Gallant	manchester, NH	2012-07-25	my daughter is at CHB approx every 7 weeks. If it wasnt for this beautiful garden, she would be "stuck" in the hospital everyday. Its nice to be able to bring her outside so that she can enjoy the sun and the peacefulness of the garden. She's just a baby but even babies need a change of scenery and to "get away" from all drs sometimes. As a mom, its nice to get out and enjoy some peacefulness, without being to far from my daughters room.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Deb Sackett	South Windsor, CT	2012-07-25	I've spent many many hours in the garden with my son and my family. It's a welcome change from the air conditioning in the summer and it makes for some nice winter pictures. CHB would not be the same without the garden. At other hospitals the only outside option is the parking lot or driveway. The Prouty Garden is CHB's Jewel. Something the nationally ranked hospital should not dismiss with a bulldozer. Many friendships have been made in the garden and moments of grief has been lessened on it's benches. Parents take time to clear there heads from the stress of being "in the room". For patients a trip to the garden is often the highlight of their day. Sometimes it's the first outdoor experience a baby has, and sadly, I know, for some patients it's the last time being outside before they pass away. I would cry if they cut down my beloved Ginko tree. This would go against Mrs Prouty's wishes. It's just so wrong. How could I ever explain to my son that the garden is "gone"?
Norma Hancock	West Yarmouth, MA	2012-07-25	This garden was a peaceful refuge for our beautiful friend Hannah during her courageous battle with cancer. Preserving this sanctum is a perfect way to honor her.
Cristin Lind	Somerville, MA	2012-07-25	Nature is so healing, not only for patients, but for caregivers and staff. Please don't take this away. Longwood is an area devoid of anything living and we ALL need this space.
Katherine Mead-von Huene	Woolwich, ME	2012-07-25	Gardens heal and they take a long time to mature
Brenda Allair	Ludlow, MA	2012-07-25	My daughter has spent countless days in the hospital. She is totally blind, and the only relief she gets is to go outside and feel the wind, hear the birds and feel the grass. Her sibilings have spent many hours there with here, and alone, trying to ease the pain and heartache. To destroy beauty in the name of "progress" gives me pause to consider whether or not this is the best hospital for my child and family. How can the #1 rated hospital even consider such a thing??
Karen Gaeta	Winthrop, MA	2012-07-25	This is a beautiful peaceful area of the hospital for both patients and their families to visit and enjoy while dealing with the stress that comes with visiting their loved ones in the hospital that are sick, recovering or dying.
Heather Brodeur	Southampton, MA	2012-07-25	I had 2 heart babies that spent months and months at CHB. We found the garden to be the solace that we needed during very difficult times. It was an "escape" from the hospital not only for my sick children but for my other children and family as well. If it weren't for Prouty Garden my daughter (who was terminally ill) would have never seen the fresh air and sunlight. It would be a great loss to patients and their families if this were destroyed. Even know when I go back for checkups we always stop by the garden. I beg you to reconsider.
Laura Beck	Framingham, MA	2012-07-25	I believe in the healing power of nature.
Louise Conant	Cambridge, MA	2012-07-25	As a priest and a chaplain, I have seen the enormous importance of healing space in the midst of hospital tension and pain. This garden is renowned as a model, widely known. Do the trustees know this? Would they demean their hospital by violating this sacred space?
Heather M	arlington, VA	2012-07-25	This garden provided solitude and comfort to a friend of mine whose children were staying at the Children's Hospital.
Mary Messina	Wilmington, MA	2012-07-25	Please save this beautiful space. It is the one place where children can feel normal! My nephew spent many days in that Garden in the Sixties and Seventies with many of us beside him reishing the beauty and normalcy of this beautiful garden. There are somethings that should never be replaced and the Prouty Garden is definetly one of them!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Laurence Sloss, MD	Auburndale, MA	2012-07-25	I have been at Children's as fellow and staff for 40 years as of this month. The Prouty Garden is and has been not only a jewel as a place of beauty but a refuge of serenity and mental and spiritual refreshment and sustenance amid the sometimes harsh and dispiriting realities of work, illness and mortality. The Prouty Garden is an exquisite and irreplaceable component of the humane and healing essence that has made Children's Hospital a beacon of excellence and of hope.
Shoshannah Naiman	CHAPEL HILL, NC	2012-07-25	I have worked with individuals living in an Alzheimer's facility, and it is so important for people whose lives are so lacking in control to have the option of going outside. The health benefits of being in an environment with birds, large trees and running water cannot be underestimated or replaced by something that is less. Please don't destroy this beautiful garden because it is not practical- actually it is!
Nicole Altieri	Rockport, MA	2012-07-25	My son waited for a new heart in bch for months. This was the only way he was able to experience the outdoors. So very many children have seen grass or trees or flowers for the first - or last- time here. Please please preserve this magical place.
Elizabeth Tov	Dedham, MA	2012-07-25	I think others have already noted the many peer reviewed studies that demonstrate the role that outdoor, calming spaces such as the Prouty Garden can play in helping patients heal physically. This is the sort of attribute that a world class hospital such as Children's SHOULD have. Other hospitals add such features if their budgets allow — don't get rid of it if we already have it! On a more personal note, many years ago when I was a young child and my younger sister was being treated for a brain tumor, my family and I would often visit this garden. It is one of the few memories I have from that time that isn't wholly awful, and I know my parents went there virtually every day. Children's should be so proud to have such a garden that they would never even consider destroying it. I understand space is tight in Longwood, but there has to be another way.
Elvin Burton	Roxbury, MS	2012-07-26	This garden is important to both patient and employee morale and well-being. It is a shame that getting rid of this space is even being considered.
Karen St. Jean	Woodstock, CT	2012-07-26	I am signing this in memory and honor of Hannah Green and all those who have found peace and comfort in this beautiful garden. Please maintain this garden.
Nancy Sherman	Woodstock, CT	2012-07-26	A garden brings peace and a place to meditate; A quiet space to get a grip when your life has been turned upside down
Laurence Magner	Norfolk, MA	2012-07-26	In 1987, when my 2 year old daughter was being treated for a brain tumor, our family used to visit that garden every day. Sometimes just one of us, and then when my daughter was up and about a bit, all of us would walk the garden paths. She loved the hidden statuary, especially the little rabbit sculptures. I am convinced to this day that that garden did as much to get us through those long, long days as did the dedicated doctors and staff. Please don't take away one of Children's greatest healing assets.
Ann Labiedz	Southampton, MA	2012-07-26	We spent many hours in this peaceful garden with two of our grandchildren who had surgery at Children's. It was a peaceful, calming place where you could escape the trauma of the hospital. We also met one of our sons in law there for the first time.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jeanie Pettengill	Tewksbury, MA	2012-07-26	We spent 2 months in Childrens and our daughter was so sick that she didn't get out of bed for weeks. The only way she rewalked again was by going out to the garden. This was a happy calming place that was therapeutic in so many ways for all of us. We still visit it today and it brings a smile back to my daughters face.
Daria Haskell	Fort lauderdale, FL	2012-07-26	The garden helps heal...which I believe is the goal of the hospital! It needs to stay and other options pursued.
Laura Wrisley	Haverhill, MA	2012-07-26	A couple of potted plants on a concrete pad cannot replace the refuge that the Prouty Garden represents. This space allows you to escape the clinical, sterile hospital feel and get some fresh air. In the numerous times we have been there, it has allowed as a refuge not only for the patients but for the brothers, sisters, cousins and friends of patients. I have had a niece and a nephew in the hospital for several months. Without this space, you are losing a powerful connection to the outdoors.
Sarah Fegan	Londonderry, NH	2012-07-26	The patients, families and staff of CHB need this beautiful, peaceful, amazing sanctuary! My daughter is only 2 years old and has spent countless nights at the hospital. We are fortunate to be enjoying life at home right now, but we will be back for future open heart surgeries. To be able to have a place outside the hospital walls, which one can walk out the door and in one step be there has been an amazing gift for 56 years. One that my family has taken full advantage of. Please don't take it away, it is irreplaceable.
Gil Wernovsky	Philadelphia, PA	2012-07-26	wonderful place for peaceful reflection in the midst of chaos
johanna barrett	bangor, ME	2012-07-26	My young son is a brain tumor patient at Children's/DF and this garden has been the one green space we both could access during his hospital stays. There is sufficient and peer-reviewed data available that speaks to the need for access to nature during times of stress, the healing power of the outdoors, etc. That an architect whose priorities are markedly different than those of patients, their families and caregivers would deem the garden 'impractical' is not a good enough reason to destroy such a vital asset. Please, please do consider the views of those of us who have to visit this hospital, and those who choose to spend their time there helping us. Don't wipe out this invaluable resource.
Ron Sisco	Boxborough, MA	2012-07-26	Our son has spent numerous long-term stays at CHB including one stay over 6 months. My wife and I were "living" at CHB for much of the time. One of our daily goals was get him out to "The Garden" no matter what the weather. Even to pop out just to check the weather. He would light-up at the mention of "going outside to the Prouty Garden!" Even hooked-up to pumps and tubes, we went to The Garden as much as possible as the nurses would let us. We even had a Dr. visit/follow-up exam in the Garden! We would sit under the trees in the shade on a hot summer day to marvel at the flowers and listen to the birds and the water fountain, or just visit the Garden in winter for a few minutes of fresh air and to soak up the sun. Nurses had our cell phone numbers and could summon us up to the floor in minutes.

Without it we would not have been able to maintain our sanity throughout these long and difficult stays. It is the only way a patient can get outside without leaving the premises as an inpatient. DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE HEALING THAT HAPPENS OUTSIDE IN THAT GARDEN! It is a true treasure that we strongly believe should be maintained as it was initially intended, and is one reason that we believe that CHB is the best pediatric hospital in the country/world!

Thank you for your understanding and consideration.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Gerald Koocher	Chestnut Hill, MA	2012-07-26	After more than 40 years on staff at Children's, and after having used the garden therapeutically with hundreds of Children, I am deeply pained by this thoughtless plan. If it moves forward my planned bequest to the hospital will go elsewhere.
Jennifer Nickerson	Milford, NH	2012-07-26	My son goes to Boston Children's Hospital. Though we haven't needed to stay over night, I see many who do. They really do deserve something beautiful to see when they are standing in the middle of hell. Boston Children's is a wonderful place but no parent wants to spend any time there with their child...ever.
Julie Hinkley	Somers, CT	2012-07-26	In memory of a little girls whose family sat there to gain some peace over her loss.
Donna Marie Travis	New Boston, NH	2012-07-26	Everyone needs a peaceful place to retreat to -- especially those who are suffering with an illness.
Jeanine Maglione	Boston, MA	2012-07-26	This is a treaure for patients and staff. The benefits of this open space in an otherwise congested area can not be overstated. please save The Prouty Garden!
Kandace Tanner	Conway, SC	2012-07-26	Hannah Green
Ann Carlson	walpole, MA	2012-07-26	I have been a nurse here for 30 years. My service award lthis year was the picture of the Prouty Garden which I will treasure. I cannot express in words what this space has meant for staff and patients though the years. It is a sacred space that should be preserved. It feels like Childrens is going back on its word.
Phaedra Thomas	Boston. MA	2012-07-26	I am employeed as a health care provider at BCH. The garden serves as a tranquil place for both patients and staff to enjoy and it is the only green space left! It would be horrific if this garden disappears and is replaced by concrete. This is not what The Prouty Family had intended. PLEASE SAVE THE PROUTY GARDEN!!!
Darcy McBride	Manchester, CT	2012-07-26	A good friend Hannah Green from CCSU spent her last days there at this garden with her family when she passed away in 2006. Please keep as it holds a true memory for Hannah and her loved ones.
Jennifer Morin	Londonderry, NH	2012-07-26	Though it was years ago I still have a wonderful memory of my family and I sitting out in this garden with my sister. She was too weak to get out of bed and so the nurses pushed her in her bed out to the beautiful garden so she could enjoy it with us. This garden isn't just a santuary for the families but for the patients. A major part of what families love about BCH is the care and support you give to us. This garden is part of that. When families need a moment to of reflection, guidance and prayer they come to this garden. Destroying this garden would be a major loss to families, patients, staff and community. I hope you reconsider. In memory of Heidi Pratt.
Ivette Dejesus	Boston, MA	2012-07-26	The garden is beautifu!
Theresa Adams	south boston, MA	2012-07-26	Its so historical and its such acalming, serene, and beautiful spot for famlies to decompress and visit. it would be a shame.
Allison Boncek	Boston, MA	2012-07-26	The Prouty Garden is a peaceful and healing place. It would be extremely unfortunate if it was replaced with a building. Many sentimental memories have been made here..families and staff would no longer have a comforting place like this to go. Another building isn't necessary.
Jessica Casey	Shrewsbury, MA	2012-07-26	There is nothing like the Prouty Garden. As an employee at BCH for almost 9 yrs I can't imagine the hospital without the Prouty Garden. The solace it offers io families is irreplaceable.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Richard Ferber	Washington, DC	2012-07-26	Mrs Prouty was correct in insisting that the garden, a small area of calm and beauty, be maintained forever for the children treated at Children's and their parents.
Jeannine Marr	Lowell,, MA	2012-07-26	We as a renal family had to spend alot of time at Childrens' hospitaal sometimes 2-3 weeks at a time. Even once 21/2 months. Our only way to enjoy the outside was going to the Prouty Garden. This is a wonderiul way for familys to still enjoy the outside while having to be in the hospital away from home. Please keep the Prouty Garden for our PATIENTS and family to enjoy. Thank you, Jeannine Marr Timothy Marr's - (mom)
Katharine Eglee	Wallingford, CT	2012-07-26	This garden is a haven for sick children, their stressed parents and overworked staff. I was a student in the school of nursing '72-'75 and spent many hours relaxing in the garden. Per Mrs. Prouty's instruction, she insisted on "perpetually maintaining the garden "as a haven...for as long as Children's Hospital has patients, families and staff to enjoy it". " How can you violate her wishes??? A friend of mine's daughter was a patient at Children's for 5 months before she died at age 7, and she had such wonderful times with her family in the Prouty Garden. The day this garden is destroyed is the day that I will contact my attorney and remove Children's Hospital from my will.
Susan Thomas	Riverside, RI	2012-07-26	As someone who has experienced firsthand how a garden can transport you to a place of peace and harmony, I feel it would be a travesty to remove Prouty Garden from the people who need it most.
Eli Zimbc	Boston, MA	2012-07-26	A beautiful, therapeutic respite for so many not only at Children's but in the Longwood area. Once gone it could never be restored. A roof top garden will actually be a terrarium next to a helipad. Certainly not an equivalent replacemnt for the space we have now.
Julia Kahrl	Arrowsic, ME	2012-07-26	Nature, outdoors, even a small part of it, has been shown to have a healing value for those who are ill, or caring for an ill person. The spiritual aspect of healing has a great impact on the physical healing of all. Let us give patients, staff, parents, friends, relatives this green space that will support them all. Please let us save the garden.
Catherine Field	Portland, ME	2012-07-26	My daughter was a cancer patient as a teenager; we travelled from Maine for several surgeries and procedures. We believe in the healing powers of gardens - especially ones placed, as this one is, where families are in deep need of its gifts.
Bob Pascucci	Wellesley, MA	2012-07-26	Can't add too much to all the previous comments. I happened to be at a meeting in the conference dining room yesterday, and was watching activity in the garden. In the course of a few hours, I saw a faculty mentor meeting with one of her fellows, a number of parents and staff simply walking about for a break, several kids (IV poles in tow) walking around the circle, many folks having lunch, a gathering of touring dignitaries pausing in the green space, two clowns doing their thing with patients and staff, and one rock band. All seemed very happy to be there. We all know that this garden is important to staff, parents, and kids alike. More than once, I've been asked by staff to accompany patients and families to the garden (yes, intubated and being hand-ventilated) for a last visit. That our families should want this, and that our staff should go so far to accomodate such requests, should be testimony enough that it is a treasure that can't be replaced.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
janet weaver holleran RN	hingham, MA	2012-07-26	For over 25yrs the garden has been a place of PEACE for me, and a break from thectic environment inside. A place to see a pt or a family member SMILE> Tranquil.
Carlos Rivera	boston, MA	2012-07-26	is a space where patients,parents and employees alike can find a little peace of mind during difficult and trialing times.
Robert Petersen	Cambridge, MA	2012-07-26	I love the garden. The patients love the garden. Did not Mrs. Prouty endow the garden? Are you suing to break her will?
Maureen Beaton	Saugus, MA	2012-07-26	There is little I can add to the sentiments already posted except to say that the Prouty Garden is a big part of what makes this Children's Hospital the best.
Johnye Ballenger	Cambridge, MA	2012-07-26	Over the years, the green space the Prouty Garden represents, has been a sanctuary, a haven to reflect, renew asrestore
Ludwik Szymanski	Newton, MA	2012-07-26	I have been working at CHB since 1965. I cannot imagine it without the Prouty Garden. The quality of care is not measured only by newest technology but also by the quality of the environment. This garden makes the difference between us being a technology haven and healing place for children..
Erin Maneely	Malone, NY	2012-07-26	This garden is the only place in the chaos of the city where you can go and clear your head when your child is inpatient. This was the first place my son was able to go outside. I can't imagine the hospital without it!
maryellen leeman	peabody, MA	2012-07-26	just way too beautiful to destroy this landscape, especially in the city and when people need a place to meditate.
Sabrina Hammons	Malone, NY	2012-07-26	Because the garden is an integral part of the healing process for many families
Jennifer Lubao	Derry, NH	2012-07-27	The garden was such a place of peace for me the four months I stayed with my infant son at the hospital. The chapel was the only other place where I felt such peace. Both gave me the strength to deal with the chaos surrounding my inani son's extended illness and death. I can't imagine a proposal to tear down the chapel so why the garden where so many of us pray and meet one another as a community?
Mary Thiel	Brookline, MA	2012-07-27	The Prouty Garden is a beloved spiritual resource to patients, family, and staff of Children's Hospital.
Michelle Diffenbach	Lititz, PA	2012-07-27	My daughter was a patient for 4months plus multiple other admissions. The Prouty Garden was such a reprieve from the stress. Please, please do not allow it to be taken away.
Melissa Takvorian-Bene	Amesbury, MA	2012-07-27	Our patients not only need medicine going through their veins, but they need the healing effect of greenery, sun and air. It's quiet, beautiful and should not be taken away from our patients and staff.
Andres Ramirez	Brightwaters, NY	2012-07-27	There are a number of families and patients that will be negatively affected by such an action. The Prouty Garden brings relief and solace to the people of the community, and to tear down the garden and strip it of its beauty and function is senseless. Replacing it with "alternate green spaces" around more buildings will not in the least make up for the loss of relief and comfort felt by those who currently frequent the gardens. We need to preserve more of the treasure landmarks that beautify the city of Boston!
Danielle Weber	Gardner, MA	2012-07-27	My son has been a frequent pt at Children's since he was 9months old, he is now six. Children's is so great at providing the distractions and things to make being sick a whole lot easier, Prouty garden is a huge piece of that.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sue Wheeler	Hopkinton, MA	2012-07-27	When my three year old son was diagnosed with cancer, his childhood changed in an instant. During our many, many weeks of hospital stays we visited the garden every day he was able. He would take a slice of bread and feed the birds. The birds came to recognize the sound of his carriage coming through the door and would come to greet us. It was the brightest moment of every day. For those few moments every day he was just a child playing, he was free. Last week we visited the garden again. He has now finished chemo and he wanted to show the birds how strong he is now! This garden is a place of peace for so many of us. An indoor or manufactured space could never create the natural environment of our special garden.
Pamela Liu	Lynn, MA	2012-07-27	My nephew enjoyed this garden when he was at Children's. He spent many months of his life at Children's and I feel that a part of him is there.
Joseph Trombley	Chandler, AZ	2012-07-27	Friends have benefited from this serene and comfortable spot. It should be preserved and maintained for the families and children who are still, sadly, to come.
Terisa Brakefield	Rock Hill, SC	2012-07-27	Keep the garden. It's such a treat something e all look forward to when we get the okay to take our kiddos out to the garden. Such a peaceful place in a very scary place.
Patrick Lacey	Braintree, MA	2012-07-27	Is that how endowed gifts are treated by Children's orice the benefactor is no longer here? What message does this send to anyone else looking to make a gift?
Janet Bither	Kennebunk, ME	2012-07-27	Spent many hours there when my grandson was being treated at Children's for neuroblastoma. Please do not take This away! It was a haven for him during his long hospital stays
Adam Riccio	Boston, MA	2012-07-27	The garden is a therapeutic spot for patients, family and staff. Eliminating it is a short-sighted idea and I am sure other ideas to expand the hospital are possible with more collaboration. I am all for expansion, but not at the risk of losing our sacred garden.
Amanda Boyea	North Bangor, NY	2012-07-27	after listening to a mother who has been through so much with her baby say it needs to stay and seeing the smile on his face while he is visiting the garden there is no question in my mind that it needs to stay..I don't think adding on to the garden would be a bad idea!
Ellen Cohen	Boston, MA	2012-07-27	I work with children needing psychiatric care. The garden is a place to heal mind, body and spirit. We are teaching coping skills and use the garden for therapy groups, to practice and learn ways of being that can't be taught inside a building. The hospital staff also go there for respite from the intensity of the work we do here. I was shocked to hear this could be destroyed against the wishes of Mrs Prouty, and the needs of the children, families, and staff.
Jennifer Ortiz	Brookline, MA	2012-07-27	the garden is a special place used by so many patients and their families. esp those who, for many reasons aren't able to spend much time out doors. the Garden not only serves as a place for staff to take a break , it also is place for everyone at BCH (staff, visitors, volunteers, patients and thier families) to get in touch with nature during times of sorry, joy, uncertainty and recovery. eliminating the Prouty Garden would mean taking away one of the gems of the longwood medical area! Dont do it! please save the Prouty Garden!
Ronald Hindelang	Framingham, MA	2012-07-27	I work as a hospital chaplain and often bring families and myself to the garden for spiritual nourishment which helps "make the unbearable, bearable."

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Krysia Bereday Burnham	Newton, MA	2012-07-27	As a chaplain and writer, I feel strongly that we need to preserve sacred space in our communities. Because one day, it will be us or someone we dearly love in that hospital bed. When that happens, we will want to do everything humanly possible to help heal and comfort the afflicted. Another skyscraper won't do that; Prouty Garden will.
Kathleen Gallivan	Boston, MA	2012-07-27	Please do not destroy this sanctuary. BWHers find refuge there often and we then support Children's cafeteria. We have so little natural space in the Longwood area. Honor Mrs. Prouty's gift
heather McArthur	west townshend, VT	2012-07-27	This is where friends of the family spent their final days with their daughter and sister before she passed away from leukemia a few years ago...
Anthony Compagnone	Milton, MA	2012-07-27	The Prouty is a treasure. I have fond memories of many pleasant moments there during my residency at Children's. I can't imagine what it has meant to patients and their families over the years.
Melissa Kleinman	New York, NY	2012-07-27	I worked at CHB for 5 years as a clinical social worker and during that time I witnessed many moments of grief, healing, joy and love in the prouty garden. Relocating that space would be a tragedy and disservice to all the patients, families and employees who hold CHB in their hearts. I would urge those considering a move to remember that what is practical isn't always what is right!
Lucy Murray-Brown	Cambridge, MA	2012-07-27	This garden is a sacred place, offering peace of mind and proximity to nature, both of which promote healing. It is irreplaceable in its contribution to, and role in, curing patients and comforting their families. I am signing because of my belief that it is vital the garden not be destroyed or altered in any way.
Jennifer Hutchins	malone, NY	2012-07-27	because it was a gift of beauty and freedom for my friend's son who had a heart transplant at that hospital.
Hildegard Cummings	Lexington, MA	2012-07-28	Sometimes "practicality" is not practical at all. The benefits of this beautiful and established garden are well documented. An alternate new green space has little or no chance of being as effective.
Reema Baniabbasi	Boston, MA	2012-07-28	As a student who used to intern at CHB, I would hate to see families lose this beautiful space in which they may find a temporary sanctuary from the difficulties they are experiencing with having a child in treatment at the hospital.
Colleen Johnston	Lunenburg, MA	2012-07-28	My daughter has been a patient since she was 7 weeks. During her admissions, this little space was so helpful. It is the one spot that you can go to that does not scream hospital. The air is clean and it's quiet. Please, please, do not destroy this beautiful space. So many NEED this space as much as they need the healing provided inside the walls.
Nancy Lear	Franklin, MA	2012-07-28	the garden is an extremely valuable asset to the patients and family's at BCH, and is also very therapeutic.
Cheryl Messier	Palmer, MA	2012-07-29	There is no medicine more powerful than what the garden gives to anyone that is lucky enough to wander its pathways. Its healing power goes directly to your soul. I will forever be grateful for the respite the garden gave me in dealing with a very stressful period in our family.
Alvan Kaunfer	Providence, RI	2012-07-29	I heard several moving stories of what the garden ment to families and individuals struggling with disease and illness.
Lorie Wilson	lowell, MA	2012-07-29	It is were patients, family and staff go to seek comfort, peace and rest so that they may heal or assist in the healing of others. To remove the Prouty Garden is to remove the heart of Children's Hospital it is a more than a garden it spiritual place to be treasured, protected and preserved for all those who pass through our doors to heal or be healed.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Leslie Lehmann	Newton, MA	2012-07-29	the garden is a unique feature of BCH that provides a link to the history of this institution
nancy kleiman	Dedham, MA	2012-07-29	As the harpist for the BWH and BIDMC, I visit the Garden daily between my rounds to restore my own peace so I can HARP...Harmonize And Radiate Peace for our patients, staff and families. The Garden is essential for my work!
theresa hein	Stanton, MN	2012-07-29	To preserve the only place at the hospital that allows us a chance to be anything other than a patient and a mom of a patient...to remove the green ...the open space .....the smell and the flowers..... is to remove our life jacket ....
Doris Fina	Natick, MA	2012-07-29	For many children and families who spend months at Children's Hospital, Prouty Garden is the only place they can see and touch nature- green grass, flowers, and trees. Standing on a roof top or on the corner of Longwood Avenue with the busses and smokers just won't cut it. For staff- who need a few moments to replenish their spirit- see friends- take in the sunshine and fresh air regardless of the season, there is no other option. I am horrified that the administration could even consider the possibility of choosing commerce over humanity. Shame on us!
Joan Hutchinson Newell	Evergreen, CO	2012-07-29	Why would anyone consider making a substantial, endowed gift to Boston Children's Hospital or any other worthy organization if this is the respect shown to a benefactor's priceless gift?
Debra Boyer	Boston, MA	2012-07-29	The only opportunity many of my patients have to go outside is to the Prouty Garden. It would be very difficult for those patients with long stays in the hospital to lose this place to be outside.
Doris Fina	Natick, MA	2012-07-29	Caring for the whole patient is an important part of good medical care. To me, this includes creating opportunities for esthetic pleasure, seeing a setting different from a hospital room, and enjoying the company of others in a non-medical environment, as an important part of that care. It is my opinion, and that of all to whom I have spoken, that the Prouty Garden is a wonderful place to receive the gains that are possible with these experiences. I have read the opinions of others who are signing and could not agree more. I cannot imagine any use for this wonderful space than is what is available now.
Sheila Morehouse	Chelmsford, MA	2012-07-30	I'm a pediatrician and strong nature conservator
Katharine Rooney	Brookline, MA	2012-07-30	It means so much to people, and has been a wonderful, relaxing spot for me. It sets Children's apart and makes me even more proud to work there.
Carlotta Hayes	Boston, MA	2012-07-30	The garden is the hidden jewel of this Hospital, a unique sanctuary where patients and staff alike can step out of the fast-paced environment inside the Hospital and deeply relax. The Garden is tranquilizing and healing in a lot of ways. I didn't know it was designed by Frederick Law Olmstead, that makes it even more of a heirloom.
Cris Doderer	Cumberland, RI	2012-07-30	The pts. need a place to go to get fresh air, beauty and a break from their hospital rooms-
Laurie Bittmann	Cambridge, MA	2012-07-30	This garden is a beautiful oasis and a place of refuge for so many patients, families and staff. To see it go would be a shame. Please reconsider your plans to build a new building here. This space is essential to the healing and well being of all who enter.
regina sullivan	walpole,ma, MA	2012-07-30	The loss of this garden would be profound! It is serene and accessible, provides peace and comfort. Please don't destroy it!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jennifer Rein	Boston, MA	2012-07-30	The Prouty Garden is an oasis within the hospital - a magical place for families to find peace and solace during times of emotional hardship. It would be an incredible loss to our patients and their families to remove the Prouty Garden.
Lynne Grady	Sharon, MA	2012-07-30	The Prouty Garden has provided countless hours of relaxation and therapeutic solice for patients, families and staff for many years. The garden has always been a focal point and almost an identity of Boston Children's Hospital. When my brother was an inpatient in the 60's, the Boston Police Horses came thru the garden to visit him; this put a smile on my dying brother's face. Last year I had friends here from California for significant surgery. He and his wife made a daily sojourn from the Brigham to the Prouty Garden to escape the pressures of a terminal diagnosis and painful treatment. If the Garden goes anywhere it will be the biggest travesty in the holistic attitude of treating our patients, families and staff. What are we thinking?
Evelyn Dixit	Newton Center, MA	2012-07-30	There is nothing like a lunch in the garden to refuel for a productive afternoon. I love this garden to read, when the lab is too busy.
Audrey Macleod-Pfeiffer	Middletown, RI	2012-07-30	This garden is one of the features that makes BCH unique. It provides a respite for patients and STAFF alike; to destroy it for the purpose of building a hospital addition would be a tragedy and a move that I view as being reckless and irresponsible. BCH SON Class '74.
Susan Boudreau	Boston, MA	2012-07-30	Utilization of this sacred green space for healing of patients, families, and staff provides immeasurable healing and sustenance. Mrs. Prouty's intent is clearly displayed at the garden entrance. To dishonor her intent would jeopardize relations within the Children's community and introduce mistrust into the minds of any potential equally generous benefactors. No space could replace the Prouty Garden. Please reconsider any plan to diminish or demolish the garden.
Loretta Dickerson	Boston, MA	2012-07-30	The Prouty Garden is a priceless treasure. It opened in 1956 as a gift from Mrs. Prouty, who was a devoted friend and benefactor of Children's Hospital. Mrs. Prouty gave to us as an endowed gift and insisted on us perpetually maintaining the garden "as a haven...for as long as Children's Hospital has patients, families and staff to enjoy it". WE as a world class hospital of caring for the sick gave our word that would happen.....If our word is our bond and we stand by our word because our word is what defines us, and what makes us who we are for the world to see, promising to do all that we can to until all children are well how can we go back on a word we gave to Mrs. Prouty? What happens to patients, families sharing a peaceful and beautiful place together.....Have we come to the point where the dollar has come to outweigh the health and happiness of our patients? If that is true then what good is giving our word .....
Claire Murley	Dedham, MA	2012-07-30	Children's Hospital had a nursing school of which I am a proud graduate. The Prouty Garden is certainly a gem and needs to be retained. I also hold a Masters in Holistic Counseling. During my studies I wrote a paper about healing and sited many articles of the healing powers of nature. Was proud to always think of the garden at Children's and all the healing that it provided for patients, parents and staff!
Suzette DiTonno	Haverhill, MA	2012-07-30	My son was treated at Children's Hospital for Leukemia.
William Hennrikus	Boston, MA	2012-07-30	I'm a researcher who gets to feeling pretty cooped in my floor/basement computer life. Unless the promised green spaces in the new building really exceed expectations and the elevator ride from the cafe to a rooftop garden is shockingly convenient, I will miss the garden very much!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Raquel Casillas	Santa Fe, NM	2012-07-30	As a designer of a Hospital Healing Garden, I see first hand the healing serenity that is spiritually exchanged between patient and nature. I strongly urge all supporters to take further action by voicing our collective disapproval directly to those who are considering such a terrible act of destruction and violation of trust. The inability to appreciate the important role of these green retreats must be addressed and contained here at Children's Hospital. The economic potential spread of further destruction to vulnerable hospital patient gardens, is simply not acceptable from all of us who care about our communities, and especially, on behalf of those in need of healing.
Alexis Higginbotham	Santa Fe, NM	2012-07-30	I am so, so sick of companies and organizations who forsake every little bit of goodness and beauty for the \$\$\$ bottom line. It also irritates me no end that they are not honoring a cherished and valuable legacy, given as a gift. I'm sure Mrs. Prouty would never have given this had she known it would eventually be bulldozed.  Get a grip, people. This is a priceless sanctuary that serves the needs of the people. You should be ashamed of your greed and thoughtlessness.
Rick Bourne	Revere, MA	2012-07-30	I worked at CHB for 35 years. Whenever I needed to defuse, I went to the garden. It was always a place of such peace and beauty, that everyone- patients, families, and staff- enjoyed. Please keep it so.
Carol Powers	Rowley, MA	2012-07-31	The garden adds a dimension of health care that no building can provide. We are all restored by the outdoors and those who must spend time inside the walls of Children's Hospital sorely need the respite provided by the Prouty Garden. The grass and trees and space outside are as essential to individuals' well-being as are all the marvelous technologies inside. I am a parent who lost a child at Children's - he never knew a breath of fresh air - I often think of the blessing that the Garden space provides those little ones who are able to be outside. Please preserve the Garden.
Tara Bastek	Raleigh, NC	2012-07-31	Although I am no longer at Children's Hospital, I still speak of the Prouty Garden on a regular basis. It played a key role in my formative training, revealing the powers of simple nature, rain or shine, to improve the human condition and soothe the human spirit. It is where I learned the power of listening and stillness, the joy of rebirth and the hope that the sun will indeed rise again. I join those voices imploring CHB to find another solution, to not destroy such a simple thing of beauty and solace that sets it apart from other world-class pediatric facilities.
Rosanne Buck	Northfield, NH	2012-07-31	Worked at TCH for 26 years, the garden was a refuge on many a stressful day. When my own son was a patient, I brought his beloved dog to the garden for a very therapeutic visit.
Jessica Lindberg	Caledonia, IL	2012-07-31	My son spent many many months at Children's and the garden was such a place of joy and respite. PLEASE preserve it!!!!
Simon Shimshon Rubin	Haifa, Israel	2012-07-31	The importance of green space for Children's is incredibly important. From my year's sabbatical at HMS and the Children's in 94-95, and on later visits, I have felt the space to be an important part of what the Hospital offers families and staff. Think green if at all possible. Best to all, SSR

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Rita Teele	Queenstown, New Zealand	2012-07-31	<p>Prouty Garden is used as the shining example in the introduction to the following article:</p> <p>» Scientific American Magazine » March 2012 How Hospital Gardens Help Patients Heal</p> <p>No building could ever replace this garden in terms of its ability to heal. Buildings do not make a hospital great. Has the institution lost its soul?</p>
Katie Kirsh	Melrose, MA	2012-07-31	I am horrified that the higher ups whose job it is to optimise the patient care experience would be blinded by their spreadsheets and forget why the hospital exists, its mission, and what matters most.
Gretchen Doonan	Boston, MA	2012-07-31	<p>I have been a nurse for 29 years at childrens and the prouty garden has been a retreat for patients and their families for long hospital stays. The garden is a slice of "home" offering green grass, open sky, trees, flowers and tranquility. The patients love to go on a treasure hunt for the many bronze statues around the gardens, offering a moment to enjoy the outdoors from the concrete and brick walls of the hospital. Many families awaiting long surgeries walk around the garden to relieve some of their "stress." Childrens is a place about preserving our commitment to families and patients. Mrs. Prouty expected that her generous gift would be preserved and the hospital would maintain her commitment of a "haven" for the families and patients. This garden is one of the unique characteristics that makes Childrens Hospital so special-why do we want to remove a "signature" emblem? In this longwood area of concrete, metal and bricks there are minimal places of beauty and retreats, for families and patients. Why do we want to remove such a unique characteristic from our foundations of care?</p>
Sheila Fiske	Taunton, MA	2012-07-31	To help a friend keep some peace while at the hospital with her son.
James Ojo	Brookline, MA	2012-07-31	It is an amazing place. In the pain and sorrow of many patients and their families, it offers them and the rest of us some peace, hope and comfort. That which is simply beyond us and stretches our individual and collective imagination.
Stacey Tarrant	Quincy, MA	2012-07-31	The Prouty Garden is an oasis for both employees and families.
Laura Nash	Cambridge, MA	2012-07-31	Gardens heal families and staff. Also fits with progressive building standards. Consider roof top garden too. Mass General did this with help from Beacon Hill GC.
Kimberly Polhemus	Pownal, VT	2012-07-31	My son spent 7 months at CHB along with many other long term patients (most of which will all be back inevitably at more than one point). Prouty garden is a chance for them to actually go outside and see the grass and sky!! The kids get soooo excited to go out to the garden. It makes them HAPPY and that is priceless. Please do not take this away from them. I am literally in tears at the thought of this.
Sarah Teele	Dover, MA	2012-07-31	<p>&lt;a href="http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=nature-that-nurtures" rel="nofollow"&gt;http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=nature-that-nurtures&lt;/a&gt;</p> <p>Prouty Garden featured in opening paragraphs of Scientific American article "How Hospital Gardens Help Patients Heal"</p>
Grady Scholl	Eastham, MA	2012-07-31	As the parent of a child who has endured 37 surgical procedures we have sought and gained solace in this beautiful space, which enables one to escape the sterile, stressful atmosphere that a hospital can bring. The words to Joni Mitchell's song "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot" come to mind.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Maureen Lundy	Hopkinton, MA	2012-07-31	My daughter was a brain tumor patient at Children's Hospital and went from being a totally normal, healthy child to spending the better part of nine months in the hospital. The garden is where we took our daily walks and was the highlight of our day, every day. Please do not be so short sighted as to remove or try to replace this gem. It is so very important to the people who use it daily.
Laura Amar-Dolan	Boston, MA	2012-07-31	This garden is such a special place for families and children to get fresh air and have some respite from their hospital rooms. For residents it is often the only time and place we get some sunlight during our on call times.
Charles Contant	Boston, MA	2012-07-31	A good friend went to the Garden to hold her terminally ill daughter as she died. The garden provided her some comfort at that terrible time.
Kathleen Bean	Highland, IL	2012-07-31	for my friends's little brother Ashton
Bethany Carchedi	Upton, MA	2012-07-31	Healing is obtained through a holistic approach. Let's keep some of the things that set us apart from other medical centers, Prouty Garden is one!
Jeremy Seaman	Fort Drum, NY	2012-07-31	For the kids
katie dastoli	Taconic Lake, NY	2012-07-31	Because kids matter!
Lori Moseley	Aloha, OR	2012-07-31	Please give the children and their families this beautiful garden so they have a place of beauty to go to and to enjoy when they struggle every day just surviving.
barbara luscia	pownal, VT	2012-07-31	For my little friend Davin. He LOVES it out there, and so doesn't his Mom.
shoshana friedman	Boston, MA	2012-07-31	I work at the Brigham, and this garden is a very important place to be outside, see some green space, and restore my sense of well-being in the middle of a day at the hospital. Many patients also use the space, especially kids and parents at Children's.
Shailyn Metcalfe	Jewett City, CT	2012-07-31	It was a sanctuary for my while my son was still living and in the ICU at Boston Children's hospital.
christine mitchell	Brookline, MA	2012-07-31	The most important reason--the soul-soothing serenity of the garden for our patients, families and staff--is already so well stated. I'm sure this is valuable real estate, but some things are priceless and irreplaceable...and we have promises to keep.
Heidi Caruso	Framingham, MA	2012-08-01	I'm signing this petition because I was employee of Children's from 1975-1991. The Prouty Garden was a beautiful, peaceful, historic garden in the middle of a hospital that dealt with sickness, procedures, operations, discomfort and sad faces. It is a refuge from all this; it's an oasis, a beautiful natural space surrounded by concrete. It was endowed with good will and all the best of intentions. It was endowed with the promise to be there as long as Children's has patients. What is wrong with Children's that it can't leave part of its historical history alone. Isn't it big enough? Doesn't it have the ability to plan around this place? Do not allow this mammoth institution to forget where it came from; its roots, its gifts, its thoughtful benefactors who have vision. What ever happened to vision? Does vision always mean destroying the past to move forward? And once it's gone and people realize that it was a mistake, will they bulldoze the new addition and put back the original Prouty Garden? You all know that that will never, ever happen. And these people who want to go forward with this plan? They'll be gone in a second compared to the lifespan of this hospital. Forgotten people who destroyed something and moved on. And what will the patients and families and employees be left with? Nothing but a momentary bad idea.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jill Beverly	Quincy, MA	2012-08-01	As an employee of BCH I see the patients who long to go outside and sit in a peaceful serene garden. For a few moments they may forget they are patients and forget their illness even for a brief moment. Parents enjoy taking their children from the hospital environment into a tranquil setting where sunlight, flowers, and the sound of water can transform their troubles into possibilities and give them a little peace of mind.
Cathy Bacon	Easley, SC	2012-08-01	I hear what a difference this has made in your patients stay!
Stephanie Bowman	Ogdensburg, NY	2012-08-01	For Davin
Nidya Arsenault	Boston, MA	2012-08-01	I take my lunch break there, I love it
Ann Marie MacKinnon	Natick, MA	2012-08-01	The Prouty Garden is a therapeutic area for patients, families, staff. It is an area where children can step on soft, green grass. No building with any amount of solariums, natural light, potted plants can duplicate the uniqueness of the Prouty Garden
Stacy Roberts	Boston, MA	2012-08-01	Please don't get rid of the garden! I'm not only an employee of childrens and loves the beauty of the garden but I was a patient for many years as well. Going way back as far as the early 80's and loved the garden when I was a patient going through many surgeries. My sister had surgeries hear as well (major hip) and the garden was a nice and relaxing ride in her wheel chair out of her bed from up on the floor.
Heather MacWhinnie	Quincy, MA	2012-08-01	This is a very special place to our family for many reasons. My son Cody has been in the hospital more times than I can count and the garden is the only place we can go to get away even if only for a little while. My son who is now 17 years old started taking photos in the Prouty Garden when he was hospitalized. I think he was about 8 years old. He's been taking photos ever since and will graduate this year and move on to college where he plans to study photography. The Prouty Garden gave him inspiration at one of our worst times, and he seems to have taken this inspiration with him for all these years. I myself can not imagine being in the hospital for weeks/months without having this special place to go, to get away and get a fresh breath of air. This space means more to patients and families than the hospital will ever know. It should be kept sacred!
Kristin Leonard	Rockland, MA	2012-08-01	After a particularly difficult or exhausting day at work, it is a place of beauty and solace. I often look around at patients and their families enjoying the same space and am again reminded why I work there.
Meghan Tracewski	Decatur, GA	2012-08-01	My cousin was a patient of Children's. He would have been 20 years old this week. My family and I return to the Prouty Garden to celebrate his life. This was our place of solace in times of great struggle and sadness. It is where many of our memories remain. I returned to Children's as an employee with PACT and was able to facilitate many priceless experiences for my patients and their families. Visits to the garden are part of what gets everyone through. To destroy this garden for the purpose of creating clinical space would be devastating. It is not about the quantity of care provided but the quality of care provided. First rule of business, the customer is always right. Have compassion for the people who, in the worst times of their life, access Children's to make a difference.
Sarah Downs	Waco, TX	2012-08-01	I am a master gardener in Texas. Natural green spaces are important to me and help to others, especially in times of need. Please keep Mrs. Prouty's garden intact.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Terrell Clark	Boiton, MA	2012-08-01	The original bequest was made to assure the garden would be perpetually maintained. Who (going forward) will trust that the intent of a future bequest will actually be honored (if the garden is bulldozed)?
Kristin MacCutcheon RN	North Scituate, MA	2012-08-01	It's the only green space left around the hospital! The long term children need a place to go when they can go outside! Staff can go out and take a break, and most of the time if staff leaves the floor, they really need a break! It's a place of peace in a crazy world!
Nancy Webb	Chester, NH	2012-08-01	Unfortunately, everything has become about revenue and since the Prouty Garden does not generate revenue...they are replacing it with a building. That garden is referred to as "the heart of the hospital" and rightfully so. There are certain things that money can't buy...and the Prouty Garden is one of those things. How can this hospital let that happen??? Nancy Webb
david macwhinnie	Quincy, MA	2012-08-01	This garden means a lot to me and my family. it's the only place to get peace when your stuck in the hospital for days or weeks. it would be a shame to loose such a wonder area.
Robert Sacco	Franklin, MA	2012-08-01	This garden is essential to providing a few moments of peace to children and their families at Children's Hospital. I remember taking my sister to the Garden in the 80's while she was undergoing chemo. It was a few moments of normalcy for her in an otherwise horrible time. The Garden must stay.
Evelyn Jakub	Greenfield, MA	2012-08-01	An oasis away from your hospital room for patient, parents and visitors. A place to energize, reflect, relax, connect, heal body, mind and spirit. To honor the vision of Mrs. Prouty and continue to make her gift part of the future of all those who come to Children's Hospital.
Donna Giromini	Winthrop, MA	2012-08-01	As an employee of Children's this garden offers me infinite "peace". I go frequently or look at through the library window when I need some quiet time to "re-connect" with myself. In today's really hectic environment, it is an infinite source of solace. We need to offer employees and patients this repose.
Raymond cunningham	Brookline, MA	2012-08-01	My wife and I are awaiting a new addition to the family!!! Little man doesn't seem ready yet though so we are using the garden to do laps so that we can encourage him to come out. Thanks Mrs. Prouty for your donation that has provided this opportunity to my wife and I. Otherwise we would be limited to corridor laps in the air conditioning verses fresh air. We can only hope that this will be available for generations to come.... Again the problem arises in the search of quantity verses quality of life.
Lynne Showers	Plymouth, MA	2012-08-01	This garden is so theraputic to our patients and families that are seen here at BCH. Many families are inpatient for a long time, it is the only connection to the outside for many children who are unable to leave the hospital. At times it has been the only connection to the outside just before their passing on. It would be a shame to let such a beautiful part of BCH be turned into a building.
Rita Johnson	Sharon, MA	2012-08-01	I m a nurse at BCH and I have seen the wonders that this garden provides to our patients and families
Valerie Miller	Medford, MA	2012-08-01	I have been on staff at Children's for 40 years and the most relaxing time of any diffucult day is the ability to view the beauty of the Prouty Garden from the hall window. Watching the seasons change in the garden and being able to venture out even for only a few moments can bring much calm and joy to any stressed staff member, worried parent or sick child. Please do not take away this quiet and beautiful space that was generously given to the hospital as a most precious gift that gives on and on each and every year.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
patricia hoover	Everett, MA	2012-08-01	For staff, a really stressful day can become more tolerable with fresh air and a breeze in your face. It's wonderful to see patients and their families take advantage of the beautiful area to temporarily escape from the whole hospital atmosphere and get re-centered. The spectrum of colors and the scent of the flowers provide visual and aroma therapy for all who enter Prouty garden.
Jacky Steiding	Medway, MA	2012-08-01	It is 20 years of history for me. It is where patients, families and staff go to in order to find "peace" or "comfort" in their day.
Virginia Knowles	Boston, MA	2012-08-01	Prouty Garden is a beautiful oasis. We need to preserve this Garden for a healthy balance from the sirens, traffic and though vital, the impressive buildings that continue to be built on every corner and street in the Longwood Medical area. We need to preserve Prouty, respect and appreciate the healing and respite it offers our patients, families and those that work here. Mrs Prouty would be very disappointed should this garden go away.
Lori Kennedy	Lynnfield, MA	2012-08-01	I have been an employee of BCH for 15 years and I recently spent 6 days on the inpatient unit with my son. Being able to take him out to the Prouty Garden was a God send. It really made a difference in the day to be able to escape the four walls of your hospital room and be surrounded by the beauty of the garden.
Patricia Davis	Medford, MA	2012-08-01	This garden is a haven for patients and their families. Shame on the BCH planners and Board for their insensitive attitude.
Andrew Atherton	Candler, NC	2012-08-02	During our daughter's first three years of life she spent nearly 900 days at Boston Children's with my wife. My two other children and I where mostly back home in Asheville, NC over 900 miles away. When we could travel and stay for a few days our time in the Prouty Garden was very special and was the only time our daughter was able to just play with her brother's in the open air and green grass.  While we support the grand design of Boston Children's and really want nothing more than that hospital to expand so large that no sick kid in the World would be turned away from it's excellent care, please do everything you can to save that beautiful garden. By all means take down that horrible hotel next door that charges too much money for rooms but save the garden.
Anne Castner	Groton, MA	2012-08-02	It was a gift, and should remain as such.
Rebecca Lekowski	Boston, MA	2012-08-02	The garden is the only respite from the bustle, noise and chaos of the time we spend here at Children's, whether as a patient, family, or clinician. Change and growth are not positive when something beautiful and irreplaceable is destroyed to achieve them. Please think about other solutions to the space problem and avoid making a short-sighted decision that will create acrimony and ill will. in our community.
susan repucci	Merrimac, MA	2012-08-02	this is a priceless addition to our hospital, patients, staff and families to take a precious moment to share our history, our environment.
Beth Delaney	Easthampton, MA	2012-08-02	We have been going to the garden from the time my little girl was 3months to 3years and the garden was fresh air for her and an escape from everything in side the hospital! She loved it! the sun shining on her face! She was always happy to get out to the garden!



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Julius Cruise	Clearwater, FL	2012-08-02	My wife, my daughter, and I have spent much of the last year at CHB for multiple surgeries for our little grandson. The garden is more than a beautiful and historical artifact. To us it has been a lifesaver. It is a place where this two-year-old, confined to a hospital, can go to delight in the plantings, the fountain, the birds and squirrels, and the statues. It is a place of mental and spiritual peace that we firmly believe has made a significant contribution to his healing. Please, please do not take it away from him and from the other children.
Anne Cruise	Clearwater, FL	2012-08-02	The garden is tremendously important to the welfare of many of the children who have to be patients at CHB, and especially to those who may have extended stays there. It is a place where they can escape for a little while from the institutional atmosphere of the hospital. No matter how capable and caring the staff or how attractive the decor, nothing can replace this beautiful and peaceful little piece of the outdoors for these children.
Patricia Longo	Sudbury, MA	2012-08-02	This garden brings so much comfort to staff and patients it would be very sad to see it dissolve.
Robert Stickgold	Cambridge, MA	2012-08-02	There is more and more NIH funded work showing the impact of stress not only on the sick, but on their family caregivers as well, on patient outcome. The garden holds medical importance as well as everything else that people are talking about.
Constance Keefer	Cambridge, MA	2012-08-02	The Prouty Garden is a precious aspect of the Children's Hospital's healing environment; As a member of the faculty and as a trianee, many years ago, I have personally experienced it's calming and renewing powers. Even more importantly I have observed the irreplaceable comfort it has provided thousands of patients over these years.
kristin clark	Pensacola, FL	2012-08-02	To keep the garden
Cheryl Monroe	Jefferson, MA	2012-08-02	this garden is a treasure and a delight to those of us and our children who have spent long days in BCH as both in and out patients. It is a wonderful space to escape the hospital environment, and my daughter and I enjoyed many loops around for a bit of much needed fresh air and exercise while cooped up receiving chemo etc.
Stephen Smith	Roslindale, MA	2012-08-02	A friend's child was just successfully treated at Children's for Leukemia. They found this garden to be a lifeline during their difficult journey.
Amy Vinson	Wakefield, MA	2012-08-02	This is a place of peace and memories for the families we have served here.
Louise Baraw	Southern Shores, NC	2012-08-02	I was a Night Supervisor at CH from 1962-1980. The Prouty Garden was my place of solace during hard times. Please, don't destroy the precious place that helped parents, children & our nurses. It is priceless. Save it!!!
James Lock	Boston, MA	2012-08-02	I love the Prouty Garden.
Elizabeth Herrington	San Diego, CA	2012-08-02	We have a family member whose son spent 7 months at CHB. Prouty garden was a chance for him, and all the other long-term patients, to go outside and see the grass and sky - a wonderful change from the inside of the hospital. The kids get so excited, and it makes them happy!
alicia wein	albany, NY	2012-08-02	This was a sanctuary for my cousin and her baby for the many months he was in the hospital. It would be sorely missed.
Christina Gagliano	Meiose, MA	2012-08-02	There's medicine for the body, and there's medicine for the soul. Both are critical to keeping a human being alive and healthy, and a garden is medicine for the soul.
Danielle Barton	Ogdensburg, NY	2012-08-02	Super Davin!
Jennifer Pratt	Ogdensburg, NY	2012-08-03	One of my dearest friends has and is struggling with a little one, she is one of the strongest women I know to have such a life changing battle.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Marilyn Ray Smith	Brookline, MA	2012-08-03	I had the privilege of spending a few hours with Olive Prouty in the mid 1960's. She was a remarkable woman -- intelligent, insightful, independent, tolerant, inquisitive, compassionate. It is shameful that Children's Hospital is considering violating the spirit of her gift and the trust she placed in the Hospital to ensure that her gift would last as long as the Hospital was in existence!
Julia Pettengill	Concord, MA	2012-08-03	My daughter was treated for leukemia at Children's Hospital. We spent many days in the garden...it offered a beautiful, safe haven for us.
ceci king	brookline, MA	2012-08-03	I can only imagine the many patients and families that found solice in the Prouty Garden while at the Childrens Hospital and the many more that will in the future.
Jennifer McGonigle	Concord, MA	2012-08-03	Friends of ours' daughter (age 4) is recently cured of Leukemia. The Garden was the family's refuge, safe haven and very precious to them families during long, tedious days in the hospital. Please keep it as is. Thank you.
Jennifer Gallant	Tiverton, RI	2012-08-03	the garden was a gift from Mrs Prouty and should be maintained as she wished. Her intention was for it to be used by sick children, their families and hospital workers. I also believe that violating Mrs Prouty's wish would put future donations at risk.
patricia braniff	Golden, Canada	2012-08-03	The reason is clear
Lisa Crane	Sudbury, MA	2012-08-03	Our family greatly enjoyed the Prouty Garden while my child was inpatient. It was a lovely and serene place for patients to visit.
C Kate Aengenheyster	Melrose, MA	2012-08-03	My son was a patient at CHB and this garden was a wonderful place to re-energize, find peace, and some calm during a very rough few days. Please don't tear it down.
Cate Tressy- Murphy	Dracut, MA	2012-08-03	<p>i am able to eat dinner in the garden 3 eves a week - I see families , together enjoying peace in otherwise complicated and overwhelming days. As a staff nurse for 30 years @ BCH i can not count the number of times that I have offered the garden as a refuge and a prize. "I know this is hard but if we get this done you can go for a ride to the garden"</p> <p>The other day I saw an email of a young family with a decanulated child the quote " Her first breath through her mouth and nose in the Prouty Garden on a wonderful summer eve" No matter how hard you try this can never be replaced.</p> <p>I am sure if there is a will there is a way to PRESERVE THE PROUTY GARDEN</p> <p>Please make the right choice - Cate Murphy</p>
Elizabeth Fracchia	Hebron, CT	2012-08-03	This garden gives children and their families a place of peace and remembrance of life during difficult times.
Carol Huckle	Potsdam, NY	2012-08-03	It meant a lot to a friend and her son. I imagine it gave them a little happiness and hope in an unimaginable struggle with a child who is ill.
Eli Dow	POUGHKEEPSIE, NY	2012-08-03	With friends who have used this space pleading so passionately to keep it, and the strong connection to such an acclaimed designer, one must think of preserving the past for current and future generations. I suspect the alternative building proposals will become feasible if the plans were to be scrutinized appropriately.
Eve Porter-Zuckerman	Center Sandwich, NH	2012-08-03	Because this place helped a friend's child heal, and helped the family heal, too. I have every confidence good architects can find a solution that addresses BCH's needs and preserves this place, which should be considered essential.
Jay Clookey	Brushton, NY	2012-08-03	every kid should get to see the sky, especially sick ones!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Michael Gagnon	Dover, NH	2012-08-03	Saving special (green) places such as this one is of the utmost importance!!
Chloe Green	Los Angeles, CA	2012-08-03	<p>As a childrens hospital employee from 2007-2010 I ate my lunch in this garden many times with coworkers and friends who would come from the neighboring hospitals to share a ray of sunshine. I have also gone there with patients and it is truly HEALING to be in that space. When I worked as a case manager for some very difficult emotional cases, I also went to the garden for restoration and relaxation so I could be a better caregiver. Please please please do not do away with this source of spiritual strength, beauty, and joy for all of us.</p> <p>Sincerely, Chloe Green</p>
Brigitta Schmid	Cape Town, South Africa	2012-08-03	So that kids like my dear friends daughter Sophie will have a refuge
Patti Hackett-Hunter	Norwood, MA	2012-08-03	The Gardens are more than beautiful flowers. It is a place of serenity during a time of chaos.
Mary Millerd	West Vancouver, B.C., Canada	2012-08-03	There is something so healing by simply walking in nature. It brings us home to ourselves.
Michael Vincelette	Ogdensburg, NY	2012-08-03	Because of the children like Super Davin who have enjoyed it !!!
Caitlin Grogan	Amesbury, MA	2012-08-03	This garden was our refuge and allowed my daughter to have some time outdoors during a 6 month hospitalization. The garden was as important to her treatment as her chemo. Please do not destroy this sacred place.
Theresa Gaetjens	Limerick, ME	2012-08-03	It is imperative that patients have this connection to nature while at the hospital! Nature soothes the soul...
Maryellen Matteson	East greenwich RI, American Samoa	2012-08-03	Green space is important for peace,healing,stress and just a better state of mind when overwhelmed by illness. Big business would not understand. The bottom dollar is to important. Hospitals=Business
Beth Cook	Marshfield, MA	2012-08-03	My granddaughter is a patient at Children's Hospital, and when she was an in-patient, my daughter and her family We're able to access this green space, even in winter. Please save this garden!,
Nicole Lantery	MOntgomery, ctr, VT	2012-08-03	For Lucy and all the others who need that beautiful space.
Erika Baum	Webster, MA	2012-08-03	When "living" inpatient the Prouty Garden is truly a safe haven and breath of fresh air. It is an important piece in helping to maintain a balanced life.
Adrienne Harris	Amesbury, MA	2012-08-03	<p>I am signing because I myself am still a child. I spend 80% of my day outside; whether it is just to look around and feel the breeze and the warm sun or to excersize and be free. I can't imagine living my life under treatment in a hospital while being a child. If it were me this garden would be a place where I could let my mind wander, away from the treatments and the sickness and bring me back to a place where I am just like every other kid, and I think that is what is it for the kids who are there. From what I know and the experiences that I have had ( through Lucy's Love Bus - &lt;a href="http://www.lucyslovebus.org" rel="nofollow"&gt;www.lucyslovebus.org&lt;/a&gt; ) this garden is a huge part of recovery for the children being treated and taking it away, would be like taking away their freedom and their happiness. I'm not sure if any one will read this but if you do please think twice before getting rid of the garden, because it is a lot more than just that. Thank you.</p>
Jodi Paciulan	Newburyport, MA	2012-08-03	This is a wonderfully beautiful garden. What an awesome treasure to be able to step into, away from the sterility, the machines and worry of having your child in the hospital. When my youngest daughter was in the NICU from being born prematurely and having to have surgery 2 days after being born. This was a wonderful place to get away when things became overwhelming. Also, having been a cancer patient myself, I understand what it is like to be confined inside for long lengths of time. Don't take this paradise away from the children!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sarah Jennings	Concord, MA	2012-08-03	The healing power of a garden cannot be compromised in the care and medical treatment of these children. Reconsider the plan.
David Rcberson	West Roxbury, MA	2012-08-03	Prouty is a special place that completely sets Children's apart. Building in that space is unbelievably short sighted.
Carole Arenge	beimont, MA	2012-08-03	Just sad...very sad
Marcy Minty	Airdrie, Canada	2012-08-03	I have a friend who's daughter has been a patient, and if she thinks the garden is worth saving for the kids then so do I
Nancy Holiland	Kingston, RI	2012-08-03	We spent thousands of hours in this garden when my cousin Stephanie was a patient there. Some days it was the only place to find sanity.
gary bradwin	norton, MA	2012-08-03	There are children out there, I'm sorry to say, this will be the only green grass they will see in their short lifetime
Barbaa Baker	medfield, MA	2012-08-03	a former patient who visited the garden
sarah howe	providence, RI	2012-08-03	I am a graduate of CHB and just retired from thee last November.The garden is a source of peace and comfort for so many
Fran Carleton	Canton, MA	2012-08-03	I am a Master Gardener and former elementary school counselor. I'm fully aware of children's need for time outdoors, especially in wide green spaces. (Recess for children is both therapeutic and restorative!) Substitutes are less than satisfactory when a child is struggling with physical illness.
Frank Streeter	Lancaster, MA	2012-08-03	I have been a patient at Children's and elsewhere and in every case access to some green space has been essential to making a decent recovery. Please reconfigure your design to preserve this essential part of the healing that happens at Children's.  Plus, what about the donor, whose express wishes you are ignoring less than 60 years after accepting the gift and its associated restrictions? That's not the message you should be sending to your donors and those who are considering bequests. If the hospital hadn't wanted to keep the garden then it shouldn't have accepted the gift. As the hospital accepted a generous gift, it needs to honor the commitment it made at the time and not ignore its promises later when they become inconvenient.  I realize that the hospital wants/needs to expand, but this isn't the way to do it. Please reconsider this proposed design and preserve this garden for the future generations it was intended to benefit, and on whose behalf Children's accepted the bequest in the first place. Stewardship matters!
Kathleen Dempsey	Natick, MA	2012-08-03	Obviously, "Bulldozing the garden also violates our promise to Mrs. Prouty and the intent of her generous gift." This is a promise that must be kept. Is nothing sacred?
Elizabeth Parker	Monmouth, OR	2012-08-03	Super Davin and all of the other CHB kids and thier families!
The Rev. John Hay	New Haven, CT	2012-08-03	Beecher and Lucy asked me.
Carey Clark	Tyler, TX	2012-08-03	My daughter was there for 14 months before she died. That was the only place she ever saw outside of her room.
Caitlin Parker	Durham, CT	2012-08-03	In remembrance of Lucy who enjoyed the garden.
Carrie Googins	North Andover, MA	2012-08-03	The Prouty Garden is a phenomenal healing space; it has been a refuge for patients and their families as well as staff for decades. As a past nursing employee at BCH, it is heart-wrenching to think this legacy could end. Prouty Garden is irreplaceable; it is the Gold Standard of healing gardens.
Maureen Foiey	Austin, TX	2012-08-03	Previously worked at BCH and know the benefits of this garden area to patients, families and staff!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Shannan Wierzbicki	Port Orange, FL	2012-08-04	Please DO NOT bull doze the garden. I spent six months at Children's Hospital Boston for 6 months with my son recovering from multiple open heart surgeries. The Prouty Garden was the first place my son took his first breath of fresh air in April 2009 and felt the soft grass under his tiny baby feet. I also loved going out there with him when we were allowed to leave the floor. To feel the sun and air on our faces, and grass beneath our feet might seem insignificant to some people, but to us families that lived there and still do, it was and is our place where things didn't hurt and stress left us for just a little while. There are plenty of spaces you can put another building. PLEASE, PLEASE, do not take away from us the only place that gives us some sense of peace and tranquility while we are there. You have no idea how much this place means to us and it would be a tragedy to destroy it!!! I am in tears right now thinking that this amazing place that holds some of my most special memories could be taken away just like that! PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE save this place!!!!
Jennifer DeFrancesco	Lunenburg, MA	2012-08-04	I feel that all children need fresh air and a peaceful place to "just be". Children and families who are at the hospital for longer periods need this special space even more! Nothing like the beautiful outdoors to aid in recovery and healing! Please protect this precious space!
Elizabeth Jimenez	Woburn, MA	2012-08-04	We were in the hospital for two months. The best part of being down-graded out of the ICU was being able to walk around, and the fresh air in this garden was like having a few minutes to let go of the stress of being in the hospital. It's so, so important. I know it's expensive real estate, but it makes a huge difference in the lives of patients and families.
Jacqueline Hazel	North Easton, MA	2012-08-04	Peace of mind is powerful medicine
James Kersey	Lunenburg, MA	2012-08-04	I'm signing for the bravest little girl I know, and for her strong parents whom would move a mountain if it was in the way.. I can only imagine the serenity this garden has brought and continues to bring in a moment of need.
Mary Beth White	Norfolk, MA	2012-08-04	for the families peace of mind...healing of their loved one...
Kerri Woolbert	Bradford, MA	2012-08-04	My son has been inpatient at Children's Hospital Boston, many times over the past 15 years and continuing. Through these years having the Prouty Garden to walk out to relax and find solace, has been a god-send. Without it many patients, families and employees will be without a special spot to get a bit of fresh air to ease their pain or thoughts.
Jean Canty Schwartz	Falmouth, MA	2012-08-04	I graduated from the Children's Hospital School of Nursing in the Prouty Garden. My husband is a patient at Dana-Farber and on occasion we visit the garden for comfort and a break in between visits on a long day. I remember patients and their families enjoying the garden when I was a Nursing Student at CHB and as a RN working there for 4 years after I graduated. It would be such a loss if it was bulldozed. Why would anyone ever donate anything to CHB if total disregard is shown at a later date and the gift is destroyed. Newer is not always better and tradition should have some value in our culture.
Susie Taylor	Boston, MA	2012-08-04	The kids need somewhere to walk around outside once they can leave their rooms! This is a very private and serene place for patients, family and staff! Don't take this away!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Shannon Reedy	cumberland, RI	2012-08-04	The tree, the birds and the squirrels in the garden are a source of joy to both my boys. This garden is helping my 8 year old interact with his very ill 2 year old brother normally. They sneak on to the grass and smell the flowers and watch the wildlife. This garden is helping my oldest deal with his brothers illness. The breeze and the sunshine and the open air lift my youngest's spirits every time he is well enough to be outside. I cannot fathom not having this garden to take them to. There is talk of building a rooftop garden, how would they salvage that ancient winding tree? Would a rooftop garden be safe for those patients on watch? There has got to be a Plan B here. Move the administrators to the top floor of the parking garage, Build around the perimeter of the garden in an octagon and go up, but leave it intact. Some traditions are not made to be broken.
Pam Legault	Hudson Falls, NY	2012-08-04	My great nephew spent his first 6 months at the hospital and he loved being outside in the garden. I spent time with him out there too. It's beautiful.
Joan Kingsbury	Eastham, MA	2012-08-04	The Prouty Garden was established the year I graduated from the CHSN. It holds great meaning to me, for I remember how much it meant to the patients I used to take there. Please do not destroy it.
Caleb Stewart	Belmont, MA	2012-08-05	Until today, I'd never heard of the garden. It sounds lovely and just what a family and patient would need to find a moment of calm amid stressful times.
Michèle Charbit	Chestnut hill, MA	2012-08-05	I have heard so much about the garden from a very dear friend of mine, Miriam Riits, who worked managed a lab in the hospital and knew all the plants in the garden. Sadly she died of brain cancer in the space of three months, nearly 17 months ago.
Beth Winbourne	Wrentham, MA	2012-08-05	We do not have enough greenspace in Boston, but very important for a Children's Hospital. My son was at Children's in 1996 and it was a good experience.
Keri Parker	Alexandria, VA	2012-08-05	Health practitioners partner with the three great healers nature, time, and patience to save the lives of children at this historic hospital--this garden is a critical and proven part of that tool box. Further, through dishonoring the wishes of a generous and benevolent benefactor, decision makers will break faith with all that support the hospital.
Ulrich Willi	Baltimore, MD	2012-08-05	Beauty is enhancing health. Destroying a beautiful garden is being careless with respect to health. Health is the reason for being a doctor. How can a doctor not be opposed to the destruction of beauty on purpose?
Richard M. Miles	Ipswich, MA	2012-08-05	Quality green space in a tight city like Boston has a spiritual quality and must be preserved...especially when it is a space designed by Olmstead.
Sue conrad	S.Natick, MA	2012-08-06	After reading the proposed plan, I feel those who have the expansion plans need to look again.
Judith L. Brewer	Danbury, NH	2012-08-06	Having graduated from CHSON and worked there for 25 years the Prouty Garden is the one constant that joined everyone. To destroy it would be a travesty. If this were to happen I would pull my support for any future funding.
Lisa Buckley	Waltham, MA	2012-08-06	This is a beautiful garden. When my son was a patient here it was so nice to bring him down to the garden for some fresh air and a great break from his room.
Michele Brogan	Boston, MA	2012-08-06	It's obvious the spiritual connection that gardening provides. Sharing this experience or making it a private time for reflection is, as important to the recovery process as the medical procedures. Thinking outside the box can satisfy the need for expansion and healing.
Sarah Oxnard	Exeter, NH	2012-08-06	Children with illnesses and their families need gardens to catch their breath and refresh their souls

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Rob Tourville	Stratham, NH	2012-08-06	During my daughter, Sierra's 5 month in-patient treatment for AML, the Prouty Gardens were a beautiful sanctuary in which we could escape the rigors of hospital life for brief moments of fresh air and peace. Sierra enjoyed walking the paths and watching the squirrels as part of her PT. We even danced in the new-fallen December snow at midnight, and hid valentine clues among the trees and statues. To destroy the gardens would be an incredible disservice to the children and families at Childrens, and a breach of a promise to the Prouty's for their generous gift.
John Walters	Waltham, MA	2012-08-06	I have only been at BCH for 2.5 years, but I have walked through the garden, and it's definitely an asset for the patient/family population. It's palliative, serene presence seems so critical for healing. I would be surprised if they went forward with the construction.
Lois DeBlois	Warwick, RI	2012-08-06	When there is an alternative to bulldozing - why not?
Kathleen Thornton	N. Scituate, RI	2012-08-06	Please do not demolish a thing of beauty to replace with brick and mortar, especially since there are alternate designs. Shame on you for dismissing the intent of Mrs. Prouty's wonderful gift.
Donald Salisbury	Temecula, CA	2012-08-06	My youngest sister was a patient for many years at BCH in the early 1970's. Please preserve this beautiful garden and respect what was promised to Mrs. Prouty.
Peter Karlsson	Helsingborg, Sweden	2012-08-06	I've worked at CHB before and want to preserve the garden as it is a very nice and calm place.
Suzanne Gerard	North Wales, PA	2012-08-06	My niece and her family really enjoyed this garden and found peace and comfort in going there while dealing with my niece's medical condition.
Patti MacGillivray	Dracut, MA	2012-08-06	This garden has been a life saver for my granddaughter who has been at CHB since February. It has also allowed family a beautiful place for reflecting and rejuvenation.
Anne Tisdale-Ashford	Concord, MA	2012-08-06	I spent time in the garden with Sophie Pettengill and saw how much it cheered up her little life. Please try to keep it as a refuge for those in pain in body and spirit. It is truly a sacred place.
Esther Morales	Norwood, MA	2012-08-07	During my son's treatment during 2011-12 he had to stay at Children's Hospital. Whenever he could ,he would receive visitors there. We went for walks and took pictures by the tree and with the flowers. Don't take it away please, the patients and families need it.
SUZANNE MATTOX	JOHNSON CITY, TN	2012-08-07	For a sick little boy and his parents and others who need the garden for their haven.
Laurie Naughton	West Bridgewater, MA	2012-08-07	If the garden was a coffee shop would it be removed? No. Do not take away a magical place for children and their families. A rooftop garden would not be the same.
Susan Paltrineri	Auburn, GA	2012-08-07	I have been coming to this hospital since the 1960's and it is one of the most beautiful memories I have ever had about the Boston Children's Hospital ever. I loved going here to get out of the hospital for some fresh air... Please keep this area .. try to start a foundation for this. its much needed for those precious memories for the children..
Kevin Mckenna	Hanson, MA	2012-08-07	These beautiful gardens helped my son KC and my family escape to a beautiful place even tho it was only 15 minutes at a time. We made to to together, It was so beautiful to sit outside under a tree and feed the birds and squirrel. This is a happy place to go.Please don,t destroy this beautiful garden.
Sally Ann penney	Kirkland, WA	2012-08-07	Nothing can and should replace this beautiful place!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Phyllis DiNatale-Roussell	Burlington, MA	2012-08-07	I believe that this land was given to us in perpetuity. Mrs. Prouty's wishes need to be honored. Most importantly, this gives children and their families comfort. The garden should remain until every child is well.
Molly (Buhlman) Gearn	Dundee, OR	2012-08-08	How can a building take precedence over this haven for patients and family and staff? Graduates of the CH School of Nursing worked hard to place a statue of a student nurse with a child in this garden to highlight the mission of the school. Please leave this garden intact. Molly Buhlman Gearn class of 1956 (2)
Johanna Medeiros (Macaione)	Norton, MA	2012-08-08	Children's Hospital School of Nursing grad class of 1960
Kari Ritchie	Ogdensburg, NY	2012-08-08	For a former patient
Julie Sewell	Walpole, MA	2012-08-08	My daughter has been a patient at Children's for the past 2 1/2 years. She had her second surgery just 7 weeks ago. The only thing that would get her out of bed was a trip to the the garden. It is a special space that transports you out of the confines of the hospital into a place of serenity. As a parent who stayed with my child, the garden provides a brief escape to collect your thoughts and emotions without being too far from your child. It is one of the things that makes this hospital special.
Robert Stymeist	Arlington, MA	2012-08-08	Mrs. Prouty I'm sure would NOT approve!
Grace Sewell	Walpole, MA	2012-08-09	This garden is a place where people like me could escape to when staying at the hospital...it provided a calm environment for me to go to when I was down to collect my thoughts. If the prouty garden was replaced with a building, there no longer would be a place to go to get away from everything inside and forget about what is happening.
Mary Burton	Dedham, MA	2012-08-09	An oasis of peace for sick children and their families is priceless in the healing process.
Maggie Mansfield	Medway, MA	2012-08-09	I grew up in this garden. They can't take it away
andria buco	methuen, MA	2012-08-09	Provided our family and our daughter with an escape and a sense of peace during our stay at Childrens
Lisa Ricketts	Texarkana, TX	2012-08-09	I believe in promises kept. I believe in the beauty of nature. I believe in history. I believe in the healing serenity of God's beautiful gardens. Progress without any of that is not progress but a decline in our priorities. Our number one priority the healing of our children and families.
Jessica Moaratty	Seabrook, NH	2012-08-10	I am signing for all the children and parents (past, present and future) that have, had and will enjoy this beautiful garden during there stay at the hospital.
john carr	canton, MA	2012-08-10	A spirit exists in every blade of grass, every tree, flower and plant, at peace in the Prouty Garden. The nearby, and too often lost voices of children; some happy, some sad, sing in harmony with the wind and ancestral trees clinging to this sacred ground. The greatest honors of respect and memory would be extended by redrawing the future to remember the past. jcarr rn
Marie Bell-Manchester	Hull, MA	2012-08-10	This garden has given so much to our young children and their families...Please leave the Prouty Garden ..... it gives such peace and happiness to everyone who visits this magical place. It would be an atrocity to bulldoze this magnificent garden to build another wing.... find somewhere else to build.
Melissa Behrle	Roxbury, MA	2012-08-11	to save teh Prouty Garden as a healing space for all who walk in it.
Janet Myers	Dedham, MA	2012-08-12	I am a Childrens Hospital Graduate 1960 and would like to see the garden continue.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Samantha Rudofsky	Brookline, MA	2012-08-13	Why would take something beautiful away?
Tamara Pacher	Franklin, MA	2012-08-14	During the MANY months Alexandra spent at Children's, she could not "mix" with the general population since she was a BMT patient. The garden afforded her countless opportunities to run around and play outside, and be a kid.
Barb Ernisse	Waltham, MA	2012-08-14	I am signing because during the years I worked at CH I saw so many faces of patients, parents and staff find solace and inspiration in this space. Please, keep this space. The healing it has added to patients, parents, staff, visitors can not be replaced. Barb E Waltham
Steve Brown	Germantown, TN	2012-08-14	a garden at Vanderbilt Childrens Hospital was where our son spent his last day before he died. He was in the nicu. it was a "last wish" of my wife and I. Palliative care is important. Please consider the families and end of life opportunities in this decision.
Paul Mendelson	Newburyport, MA	2012-08-15	How thoughtless, destroying a place of Nature created for repose and reflection!
Anne-Marie Herron	Seattle, WA	2012-08-16	This is an important space for patients and their families as they are dealing with their pain and healing. Please do not bulldoze the Garden
Naomi Sachs	Beacon, NY	2012-08-16	This is one of the best healing gardens in the country, and it serves an important population in a critical metropolitan area. The hospital will be doing itself and the community a HUGE disservice by destroying it. No "replacement" garden will replace what has been created here. - Naomi Sachs, ASLA, EDAC; Founding Director, Therapeutic Landscapes Network
AMAL BEJJANI	LINCOLN, NE	2012-08-17	WE'RE AT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WITH OUR SON FOR AN EXTENDED TIME. WE'VE ENJOYED THE BREATH OF FRESH AIR MOST DAYS IN THE GARDEN. WE'VE SAT AND TALKED, AND ARE JUST SO THANKFUL FOR A LITTLE BIT OF NATURE IN THE MIDST OF THE CONCRETE JUNGLE OF THE HOSPITAL... WHERE ELSE WOULD A PATIENT AND HIS/HER FAMILY GO TO FIND SOMETHING LIKE THIS, REFRESHING, RESTFUL, AND GREEN?
Jim Vlahos	Stoughton, MA	2012-08-17	I believe, like so many others, of the healing powers of Prouty Garden for patients and families alike. Our family lived it. My position is not sentimental or intended to memorialize. It is sacred ground for what it can mean to so many now and in the future, just as it did for those in the past.  Until you have a credible plan to DOUBLE the magnificence of this outdoor space built into any new plan, you will never have my support. Like you, I want Children's to be the best of the best and support your plans to meet your changing needs. But the net result of the loss of this magnificent outdoor space must be and even greater, more magical outdoor space.
David Balogh	Beacon, NY	2012-08-17	While I have not been to this specific garden, I can say that calm and serene places like this offer a huge haven to us that have children going BCH. I have enjoyed many other green areas in Brookline in between our daughter's appointments. Please keep good on your promise, and we'll continue to love your care for our daughter.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jerry Smith, FASLA	Columbus, OH	2012-08-17	I worked at Payette Associates when we designed the Medical Library which overlooks the Prouty Garden. We took extreme care to not take away from the garden and instead considered it as a valuable amenity for the library and BCH. It would be a great loss to lose this garden to development. Thank you for starting this petition, and let me know if I can do anything else to help. - Jerry Smith, FASLA
Stephanie Simpson	Queenstown, MD	2012-08-17	Retired mental health therapist...People need more nature places of refuge to heal, not less.
BENJAMIN SACHS	STORRS, CT	2012-08-17	Because there's clear research evidence that hospital gardens promote healing and shorter hospital stays.
Catherine Portrie	Dennis, MA	2012-08-17	Gardens are healing places; in the hospital setting, patients, staff, and families can take time to recharge, relax, and refresh both the mind and the spirit. Green spaces are very limited in the Longwood Medical area - especially around the Children's Hospital complex. Please reconsider the direction of the architectural design and preserve this green space.
geoge brooks	washington, GA	2012-08-17	promises should be honored!! Also, the garden is sure to aid in healing the emotional and spiritual parts of a person.
Clare Cooper Marcus	Berkeley, CA	2012-08-17	I have visited and studied many hospital gardens and this is one of the most beautiful, the most successful, and the most therapeutic for staff, visitors, and child patients. It was featured as an exemplary case study in a book I co-edited (C.Cooper Marcus and M.Barnes, "Healing Gardens: Therapeutic Benefits and Design Recommendations" New York: John Wiley, 1999). I am shocked and dismayed that the hospital is considering demolishing this important garden space at a time when healthcare organizations all over the country are recognizing the healing and stress-reducing power of nature, and adding garden spaces to new and renovated facilities. Please do the right thing and select an architectural alternative that preserves this healing oasis.
Peggy Moody	Winchester, KY	2012-08-17	As a child psychologist and gardener I know the value of healing spaces in nature for children and families.
Kathleen Grube	Woodinville, WA	2012-08-17	I live in the city and yet tolerate an 1.5 hours commute either way to my home solely so I can be in my garden amongst the trees and flowers. Gardens are healing in and of themselves - they are passive healers that allow people/children to unwind. It has been shown that there are bacteria in the soil that increase serotonin levels in the brains. Why would anybody even look at eliminating something with this much power.
Cam Villar	Marietta, GA	2012-08-17	I support the concept of healing gardens and therapeutic landscapes.
Nedra Westwater	Albemarle Road, Norwich, Norfolk, United Kingdom	2012-08-17	All therapeutic gardens are important. Not only was this one an endowment, but it was designed by a man considered to be the father of US landscape architecture. Surely it is worthy of preservation. I am a US citizen living in England, a land enriched by its historic gardens.
Karan Hatzenbeler	Rancho Cordova, CA	2012-08-17	To destroy the legacy of Mrs. Prouty's astounding generosity & one of Mr. Olmsteads gardens is utterly depraved. It sickens me that BCH is considering such a thing - and for the sake of "practicality". For shame. This is an act of sacrilegious should not be allowed and I imagine if nothing else it is a direct violation of the conditions of Mrs. Prouty's gift.
Judith Morse	Cambridge,, MA	2012-08-17	Nature is a great healer. Preserve this beautiful piece of earth, PLEASE.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Kaitlin Murphy	Winthrop, MA	2012-08-18	<p>as a former patient who spent her fair share of time @ Children's, I feel the prouty garden played a key role in my healing and recovery process. I looked forward to getting outside daily, and getting a little air and breaking away from the hospital setting. I have some great memories of the garden and I would hate to see it go.</p> <p>- Kaitlin Murphy (former patient- future child life specialist! =))</p>
Angeia Carver	ustin, TX	2012-08-18	it's important for the children
Pamela Urciuolo- Hurd	The Villages, FL	2012-08-18	Too many reasons to list. My first reaction is anger . Just one more thing taken away from the hospital. One more thing gone that made BCH more special than any other place to work or bring your child when they are sick . A lot of good things gone. Please think long and hard about this one.
Therese Schmieg	Wilmette, IL	2012-08-18	To replace this healing space with a man-made structure would be an act of desecration. "Alternate green spaces" are a poor substitute for and cannot replicate the healing found with our feet on the earth, the caress of a breeze, the warmth of sun: or even the brisk, cold energy of a winter's day, the sparkle of sunlight on snow.
Lisa Stanley	Ballston Spa, NY	2012-08-18	Because I have been to BCH with my son and enjoyed the garden and know how many other people enjoy it as well
Terri Rancourt	Hopkinton, MA	2012-08-18	Why would you consider destroying the one source of relief for a patient stuck in the middle of the city, in the middle of a health crisis? That would be a sad day.
mildred emanuel	marshfield, MA	2012-08-18	I cannot believe that there are folks that do not understand the value of this magnificent Garden. Where is the wisdom , where is the insight, foresight, of why this Garden is so necessary for the children,families,staff of all those who walk through this magnificent,memorable Garden which can never be replaced and is forever memorable to those of us who had the pleasure of seeing the Prouty Garden developed from day one. Please,please do not raze this invaluable treasure given to Childrens for a memorable purpose.
Amy Sullivan	Wenham, MA	2012-08-18	This is a beautiful retreat that is important for staff, patients, and families. There is no other place like it in the area, and it is vital to preserve small sanctuaries like this in such an urbanized area.
Stowe Boyd	Beacon, NY	2012-08-18	The historic importance of FLO's works, and the healing benefits of gardens combine to make destruction of the garden a terrible idea.
Helen Eggenberger	Scotia, NY	2012-08-18	My son has been a patient at Children's for 23 years, spending a great deal of time there, including countless holidays. Prouty garden has enabled him, and our entire family, a beautiful, healing environment of serenity during a time of great worry, and of discomfort for my son. It is a place where patients can be removed from the stresses of hospital life and believe for a little while that all is well. Such a place has a tremendous and necessary effect in the healing of the patients of Children's. (A great deal of documentation is established stating the importance and healing benefits of nature.) It would be a display of great disrespect to Mrs.Prouty to demolish the garden she so thoughtfully endowed to Children's Hospital. Please pursue the other architectural alternatives!
Ernest J.P. Muhly	Walkersville, MD	2012-08-18	Horticultural can reach levels that pills and talk can not. Destroying this resource is a travesty.
Cathi Lamoreux	Spokane, WA	2012-08-18	The people/nature connection is paramount to our overall health and quality of life and should be preserved at all costs.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Dawn Jacobs	Melrose, MA	2012-08-18	I can't imagine Children's Hospital without the Prouty Garden. This oasis of peace and calm must be preserved for the children, their families and the staff who work at Children's. As a CHSON alum and former employee, I experienced joyful celebrations and comforted families in loss and great sadness. The garden is a much needed place of calm in a stress filled concrete jungle. Please reconsider your options.
Marie Morrison	Walnut Creek, CA	2012-08-18	Memories and tradition
Marianne Nyhan Ravenna	Sanibel, FL	2012-08-18	For children the garden is a magical place it provides fresh air and beauty away from a sterilized hospital environment. Please save the Prouty Garden!
Alex Pirie	Somerville, MA	2012-08-18	There is so little that is green and beautiful in the Boston urban landscape bulldozing it to add yet another building would be a crime. "Practical" may equal taking the easy step, but "healthy," "restorative," and keeping the promise seem to be more important. A follow up letter to the editors of Scientific American on the failure of a major hospital to consider the social determinants of health would seem to be in order should BCH decide that it just can't twist the architect's arm a little - aren't these people supposed to creative?
Marsha Grant	San Rafael, CA	2012-08-18	I went to school at CHSON, and we would bring our patients there to get some normalcy. Being in a hospital bed is so depressing, and being able to see green, the lawn the sky, it is a picc of paradise for kids and families and staff during tough times. Please Save the Prouty Garden
shawn sunderland	ogdensburg, NY	2012-08-18	for sick people away from home that can enjoy this
marlene breene	Palos Verdes Estates, CA	2012-08-18	As an environmental designer, I create therapeutic gardens in a variety of venues. Excellent examples of mature healing gardens are few and far between. I also live in a community designed by the Olmstead firm and have first hand experience in the importance of these integrated outdoor spaces in creating health and a sense of community.
leslie green	JAMAICA PLAIN, MA	2012-08-18	I feel the garden is a needed respite for tired workers, and a symbol of vitality and beauty for families and patients struggling with chronic or life-threatening illnesses. I never see the garden empty, attesting to its importance and significance. I think that in the name of "progress" we start believing that advancement is more important than retreat. However, if enough BCH "front line" employees and/or families and patients were asked what is important for their well-being, I'm guessing the majority would say "retreat" from the realities they're having to face on a regular basis. Thanks.
Robert Smyth	Somerville, MA	2012-08-18	The healing power of "The Natural World" needs to be part of any hospital.
Victoria Waite	Nahant, MA	2012-08-18	We have spent the past two weeks at Children's Hospital Boston while my daughter is recovering from
Helen Bridgewater	Warren, VT	2012-08-18	Gardens in cities are so special and make not only adult happy but also show children about the world around them. Nature, not pavement.....
Dorothy Enos	Marshfield, MA	2012-08-18	I was there when the garden was dedicated by Mrs. Prouty. Since then the garden has been a refuge for patients, their parents and hospital personnel. It has given moments of tranquil relief from the daily traumas of the patients and their caregivers.
Yvonne Allen	Andover, MA	2012-08-18	I'm a CHMC School of Nursing grad and I have personally observed the healing powers of that magnificent garden and fountain. To have a private green space, away from traffic and noise and a award winning one at that is something that CAN'T be duplicated and definitely not replaced!
Isabe; Baley	concord, MA	2012-08-19	The garden provide healing and nurture nowhere else in the medicai area

Name	Location	Date	Comment
joan wardwell	gloucester, MA	2012-08-19	i think that the spiritual and healing potential of the space is extremely important to preserve. Additionally, I have a sentimental attachment to the space as a graduate of the nursing school(1958)
Deborah LeFrank	Victoria, Canada	2012-08-19	As a landscape architect who designs healing gardens, I am acutely aware of the significant need and health benefits from well designed landscapes that are part of a health care facility. This garden is also historically important as it was designed by one of the founders members of the landscape architectural community in North America. Please reconsider your plans and find a way to preserve this national and local treasure.
Sabrina Velandry	New Castle, NH	2012-08-19	My daughter Luna healed in this garden after her Fontan operation (open heart surgery), at the age of 2). <a href="http://lunaandwe.blogspot.com/" rel="nofollow">http://lunaandwe.blogspot.com/</a>
Rita Krolak	Dover, MA	2012-08-19	This was a gift for the children and their families and the people who cared for them. Does anyone in the corporation running the hospital know the meaning of the word "perpetual"? Is this the way you treat the wishes of those who make such generous gifts? Please do not go forward with this plan.
Mary Louise Braney	Farmington, CT	2012-08-19	I worked at Children's for many years and always viewed the Prouty Garden as a beautiful oasis for the children, families and staff. How sad it would be if this treasure is lost.
Carlos Torres	Charlton, MA	2012-08-19	The family deserve to have a place where to get together and talk about their situation in the hospital,also a place for relaxing!!
Hilda Jordan	Anchorage, AK	2012-08-19	A space like this can work wonders for a patient and their family, providing a much needed break from what can be a very emotionally & physically grueling stay and reminding most of them of a reality outside of their hospital room , diagnostic procedures and tests. It can lift spirits, or help some come to terms with their ordeal and offer some serenity. It's been proven that nature has a positive effect on patients' outcomes and this garden should be considered by Boston Children's Hospital's (powers that be) in the same way they consider other treatment options such as physical therapies and counseling.
gail marshall	York, ME	2012-08-19	I was present at the dedication--it is a beautiful place.
Ann Knowles Iacobucci	Amesbury, MA	2012-08-20	As a second year student at Children's Hospital School of Nursing, I along with all of my classmates were present for the dedication of the garden. It meant so much to us all of our years there and we all contributed to the statue of the Nurse in the garden. Later when three of my children had orthopedic Surgery there, we made a lot of use of the Prouty Terrace over many years. It should stay as it was intended as a beautiful respite for all the patients and parents and staff who use it often in times of stress.
Jack Carman	Medford, NJ	2012-08-20	The Prouty Garden is essential to the healing of patients within this healthcare facility and must be preserved - for the health of future patients and their care givers!
Helen Snively	Cambridge, MA	2012-08-20	Why important? How can a major hospital not undertand the healing power of gardens?
Estherann Grace	Needham, MA	2012-08-20	It has always been a special refuse not only for the patients and their families but also for the staff especially the young and exhausted doctors in training

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Joy Kuebler	North Tonawanda, NY	2012-08-20	As a supporter of healing spaces and healing spaces for children, I understand the profound loss this would represent for thousands of children and families. We have swung so far to the side of thinking that only buildings and technology heal people and have forgotten the basics, that nature and the connection to the natural world came first in medicine and that they continue to add immeasurable benefits to our healing process. You MUST keep the Prouty Garden, for the generations of children yet to come.
Christine Stewart	Brighton, MA	2012-08-20	Space/silence/tranquility is essential to Peace and Healing.
Kelly Kristof	boston, MA	2012-08-20	its a serene place that gives me the essential quiet and zen refresh I need during a busy hectic day! Its irreplaceable.
Barbara O'Pray	Cohasset, MA	2012-08-20	I always enjoyed getting a little fresh air in the garden during my fellowship year at CH. Later as an attending ,walking by the garden, I noted that there always seemed to be several patients sitting outside in the garden. It is a special place.
George Bard	Cambridge, MA	2012-08-20	I believe in honoring the gifts of benefactors and sustaining their vision for the use of their gifts.
Meredith HAMILTON	Harwich, MA	2012-08-20	I was a student nurse when it opened, and met Mrs. Prouty. Have admired its beauty over the years!
Lori Greene	Hamburg, NY	2012-08-20	It is important on several levels, some of them include:  A place of established beauty is an emotional touch stone. A garden established specifically at a hospital, perhaps more so. The anxieties of people who use them may be lessened in a place where quality, well designed , enduring materials and sentiments have been established. to know that generations MEAN something and that generous endowments will be appreciated and honored is rather a nice thing. ( It wouldn't encourage me to make a large and generous donation to Boston Children's Hospital if the gift was destroyed. IMAGINATIVE and creative people can come up with alternative solutions. It is likely that the decision makers in this situation are "outdoor deprived" and ignorant to tasteful and quality design. ).... A Gold Standard park I see--even considering destroying it is unacceptable. I do not know what the land constraints are, and I know that there are certain to be challenges associated with this project or they wouldn't be considering destroying it. The benefits of a fine outdoor space, one with an established history are myriad. Anytime just one healthy tree is cut down to make way for a project, it really needs to be evaluated.
Alaina Huxtable	Woburn, MA	2012-08-20	Being in touch with Nature especially during stressful tense times is healing - it helps to calm the soul and let it breathe. Come little children and fly free in the garden.
Leanne Puccio	Buffalo, NY	2012-08-20	Why take this beneficial space away from sick and dying children?
susan mcombs	bedford, MA	2012-08-20	to preserve an endowed gift, beautiful garden, a place for relaxation and reflection, repair and healing. Please do not bulldoze this place which was intended to be there for all as long as there are children and staff..
Susan Iannitto	Ipswich, MA	2012-08-20	I was a patient at Children's many times during my formative years. The nature of my condition/recovery required that I was confined to a full body cast for a month at a time. Going out into the garden, being able to see the lush green, the colors and scents of the flowers, and the blue sky got me through a very difficult time. Imagine a four year old child trapped in a cast! The garden was a place of solace for me and my mom who left 7 children behind to visit me
kathy felgran	Watertown, MA	2012-08-20	anyone suffering through the illness of a child needs every soul-healing thing that can be provided. A garden is a blessing and a peaceful place to pray.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jane Sheehan	South Yarmouth, MA	2012-08-20	Back in the 60's I was a staff nurse and head nurse on division 28 (in pt for Jimmy Fund patients). For those children going through painful times the garden was a place of "no Pain". One lovely teenager with a terminal illness just wanted to put her feet in the fountain. We gave her that wish and it brought her great joy. I am sure that as time has gone on many patients have also experienced that special garden peacefulness and I would hope that Mrs. Prouty's wishes would be maintained to ensure that future children can have that "escape" also.
Gannon Hastings	Brookline, MA	2012-08-20	It's part of the Emerald Necklace that she never be touched, it's perfect just the way it is.
Laura Montgomery	Boston, MA	2012-08-20	As a Resident of the Longwood Medical, Fenway and Mission Hill I must urge Children's to preserve the Prouty Garden! We have enough concrete, tar, steel and glass within this roughly square mile area. What is lacking is green space, some semblance of nature, plant material that help scrub the urban air and offset the pollution created by such large physical plants. It is a historic garden whose designer is world famous. Further the garden was a gift, it is unethical to choose to buildover such a generous gesture of giving that was meant in the spirit of providing a haven for healing and was meant to do so perpetually. There are lots of other ways the hospital could expand without the wholesale destruction of a valued green space that serves the insitutions patients, clients, staff and community. It will become a PR nightmare along the lines of the Rose Art Museum at Brandies selling of its donated/gifted art collection. People are less likely to give if you bastardize their giving in the name of building now or as a survival means. KEEP THE GREEN, KEEP THE PROUTY GARDEN!
john bach	cambridge, MA	2012-08-20	because I love children
alice christian-burroughs	crown point, NY	2012-08-21	now, more than ever- children need a place to get in touch with the healing powers of mother earth
Anthony Carpinelli	Boston, MA	2012-08-21	As a resident in the area and visitor to the hospital, I recognize the therapeutic and rare beauty of a gem of an area like this.
Debra Candeloro	Tewksbury, MA	2012-08-21	My Daughter whos is 13 has been in and out of CHB for all of her life and when in patient she enjoys visiting the garden to help make her feel like she is at home.
Mary Summers	Newton, MA	2012-08-21	The Prouty Garden is the one green space at Children's Hospital that offers parents a quiet, natural setting in which to come to terms with the challenges their children face while inside, at Children's Hospital. It would be a sad day when another structure, a stone building with more services inside, would replace this place for solace. Please reconsider this decision. Thank you.
Julie Norton	Wayland, MA	2012-08-21	As a former inpatient Dietitian, I know firsthand how this therapeutic space can help patients leave their medical issues behind for 30 minutes as they enjoy the sunshine (or rain) during a prolonged hospitalization.
Susan Holden	Rockport, MA	2012-08-21	It was a gift from Mrs. Prouty wo insisted on perpetually preserving the garden. It is an oasis in the midst of the bustling hospital and a wonderful place for patients, their family and staff to go for a moment of peace and quiet.
Lynn Eckhart	southborough, MA	2012-08-21	Hisotorical significance of beauty from outstanding desinger Frederick Law Olmstead should be preserved.
Martin Federman	Somerville, MA	2012-08-22	The importance of the garden can't be minimized and, especially given other options ["practical" or not] the insult to Mrs. Prouty's wishes is one more example of our spurning of collective commitments.
MICHAEL MULLOY	SALEM, NH	2012-08-22	BEAUTIFULL NATURE HEALS

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Steve kuttruff	jenkintown, PA	2012-08-22	Aside from the historical relevance, the peace that it provides to those who are there is a piece of their recovery. To see the seasons change, to feel the sun and hear the leaves, to be outside and part of nature, away from everything else for even a short time is so important to have when treatment is going on. It is the big picture for many. The clarity it provides in each individual while they are redefining their own clarity day by day, week by week or month by month should not be disrupted as so many things in their lives are.
Linda Foley	Wilmington, MA	2012-08-22	My 2 surviving triplets, born at 24 weeks, and my daughter, a 37 wker - with all of our trips to CH-boston, all of the appointments, surgeries, hospital stays, decisions and more - the Prouty Garden was an oasis to me and my family... Please save it - patients need a place for sunshine, fresh air and so do parents and siblings. Keep your promise and keep the garden. I found so much solice there when my children were at death's door.
Ellen Lowe	Clinton, CT	2012-08-22	It's important to me because I believe in the healing power of garden spaces as well as the best medicines. They go hand in hand.
Steve kuttruff	jenkintown, PA	2012-08-22	the opportunity for patients to get outside with nature during such a difficult time is therapy in itself. This garden gives a time to feel the breezes, the seasons change, the quite conversations with nature. It is just as important to see and be part of the outside for recovery to occur.
Chris Mulhall	Middlebury, CT	2012-08-22	My 17, almost 18 year old friend, teammate, and classmate is currently being treated for leukemia. He's in remission, and is undergoing his last round of chemo, but will still be in the hospital for many weeks to come. His mother has posted and talked many times about how much he loves this garden, and he has also talked about it. Further, when I visited him with friends, he took us out to the garden, where i truly understood its value. It is not just because of how beautiful it is, or because of the particular value to him, but to the overall great atmosphere. The minute I stepped out the door, I could feel the change from busy and cooped up hospital to stress-free, fresh air, and hope. In a hospital where most things are artificial and boring, kids and their caregivers need this natural beauty to get through whatever they're dealing with.
Heather Mogielnicki	barkhamsted, CT	2012-08-22	Nature is SUCH an improtant part of healing! Kids need to get outside, even just for a few minutes to remind them of what life is like outside of a sterile hospital!
Adrianna Merrill	Burlington, MA	2012-08-22	My mom was in the hospital for months at a time with stomach problems and she always wanted a place where she could get some fresh air and actually enjoy life during all her surgeries and procedures. Kids especially need this place to give them a place to go when being in a hospital room gets tough.
Justin Ouellette	Middlebury, CT	2012-08-22	A friend of mine, Tucker Gowen, is currently a patient at Boston Children's Hospital battling Leukemia. I have been following a Facebook support page for him since this ordeal sprang to reality. Recently his mom posted about the plans to bulldoze this garden and build something else. In her post she also expressed how much of a positive impact the garden has made for Tucker, along with all of the other children fighting for their lives in a constant battle. The beauty of the garden provides a tranquil oasis where patients can seem to get away from it all, even if for a moment. So please, understand that destroying the garden would also keep these kids from having this wonderful opportunity. Thank you for your time. -Justin Ouellette
Tracey Melin	Lexington, KY	2012-08-22	I'm an oncology nurse & these types of spaces are literally healing zones & relieves from the battles these amazing people fight against.
Tyler Anderson	Middlebury, CT	2012-08-22	Because I want Tucker Gowen to have a taste of summer
Robin Calvert	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	Because it has been important to Tucker Gowan during his sty in the hospital.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Kathy Blattenberg	Aurora, CO	2012-08-22	I've had enough time in hospitals to know how this wonderful garden heals!
Kendra Rivera	Lawrence, MA	2012-08-22	The garden is an essential component of many cancer patients healing process and contributes to their well-being. In many instances, it is the place cancer patients enjoy the outdoors while enduring extremely long hospital stays.
Laura Pfeifer	Ballston Spa, NY	2012-08-22	Fresh air heals.
AJ Paolino	Middlebury, CT	2012-08-22	My buddy Tucker
noelle morrison	ca, CA	2012-08-22	For Tucker
Stephanie Fitzpatrick	Tuscaloosa, AL	2012-08-22	Children need this outdoor space. The amazing healing power of the outdoors is documented through research and personal experiences a million times over.
Kery D'Amico	Holbrook, NY	2012-08-22	Theses sick children and their families need someplace special to go to just for a few minutes of normalcy in their otherwise tragic situations!! Please keep this garden for these very special people!!
Michelle Doyle	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	Whether it is one child or thousands...when you are told that this garden is a haven for those going through such a traumatic experience, great consideration must be given to the humanity of the situation and not looking at it from a business point of view.
Mary Ragonesi	Middlebury, CT	2012-08-22	Tucker Gowen
Jacob Bobay	Vancouver, WA	2012-08-22	Luck2Tuck, and all recovering children
Tim Tremaglio	Bookfield, CT	2012-08-22	Friend.
Carianne Fearn	Hamilton, OH	2012-08-22	When you are stuck in a hospital fighting for your life you need to be able to see, hear and smell the beauty of peace. The beauty that only a garden can provide. Haven't you ever heard of the phrase, "everything in the garden is rosy?" Well, when you're fighting for your life, things are no where near rosy. But even still, you go to the garden, you get to smell the fresh air, the fragrant flowers and you get to feel the sunshine on your face and for that moment, you are at peace. You are reminded that God does exist. That even though you feel alone in this fight, God does have your back. My guess is that you who think demolishing this little park is a grand idea, you have never experienced a SPOUSE or YOUR CHILD fighting for their lives because if you had you would know right away that demolishing this beautiful garden is the wrong thing to do. And, even though there is a part of me that thinks there has got to be some kind of evil running through your veins to want to do this, I will still pray that none of you ever have to go through what the rest of us have had (have to) endure. I do pray you will have mercy on this garden and change your mind.
SUSAN PETERSON	FALMOUTH, MA	2012-08-22	FOR ALL THE ARTICLE REASONS AND HAVE SEEN IT BENEFIT PATIENTS IN PERSON.
JoAnn Witek	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	I feel it is beneficial for patients to have an outdoor healing garden to enjoy all the seasons.
Susan DeWitt	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	Fresh air and the beauty of a garden are healing.
Kathy Brush	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	It's important to me because the garden is a small lifeline to those children battling illnesses who are at the Children's Hospital. Please keep the garden.
Dawn Dittberner	Branford, CT	2012-08-22	Healing comes in many ways. This garden seems to be a place of peace and happiness for so many patients. Taking it away will be disrupting the healing process to so many.
Jill Bond	Peachtree City, GA	2012-08-22	Admirer & Supporter of Luck to Tuck
Frances Tepperman	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	What is a greater healer than nature - earth, water and sky? Children and open space go hand in hand. You must provide an open space for a sick child to escape from their pain, if for just an hour, and breath.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Christine Sloan	Brookfield, CT	2012-08-22	Children and their families need an outside place to go to warm their hearts, feel the sun and breathe fresh air. It is ail part of the healing phase. They need some normalcy in their lives during this difficult time.
Roxanne Luciani	Woodbridge, CT	2012-08-22	Nature is healing
Julie Fennell	Acton, MA	2012-08-22	Although my son was only an outpatient at BCH, I remember clearly how any distraction to regard was welcomed. Please save this bit of heaing beauty for the patients and their families
Noelie Poik	Westmont, IL	2012-08-22	The children who are in the hospital NEED the garden for fresh air and a place to get outside!
nancy rnilewski	trumbull, CT	2012-08-22	Because it provides a small sense of tranquility amidst the chaos of living in a hospital.
noel reis	tamarac, FL	2012-08-22	because my niece spent 5 months at Duke undergoing cancer treatments and the outside spaces were so vital to her mental recovery. please consider keeping it!
Michele Pangle	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	I feel it is very important for the kids of CHOB to have a place t o go outside to help in their healing.
Cynthia Semmens	Somers, NY	2012-08-22	Green spaces and natural beauty are important in a city. A healing garden, with history behind it is critical.
Sandra Lavallee	Middlebury, CT	2012-08-22	I value and respect the experiences shared by a mother whose son has been battling cancer at your hospital since March. She expressed the importance of the garden as a place to feel what the temperature is, to catch a breeze on their faces and let the healing powers of the outdoors be a part of their day. The nurses have stories of how the garden is used for a holiday meal place, and I am sure they have many more stories. Being a part of the world when you are imprisoned to your room, separated from home, family, and life as you know it is so important, and a simple garden is suddenly becomes so important to you, and it may be the only good part of your day. Please leave the garden alone, and reconsider your plans, so that sick children and their families may get some relief. This seems to be an asset to your hospital, why would you want to lose that?
Caroi Galford	Collegeville, PA	2012-08-22	It was to be perpetual and it is important for the patients and families in their time of need for peace and prayer.
joan levy hepburn	Killingworth, CT	2012-08-22	There are healing properties in the communion with Nature that cannot be replicated by any substitutes. This garden is important to maintain as it was gifted to the hospital.
Kelly Dorie	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	It was an endowed gift which was accepted and should be honored as such. Also, it is a most important place where children can heal. Another location needs to be purchased and used. Preserve and protect rather than destroy just for the sake of convenience please.
Lisa Jewell	Middlebury, CT	2012-08-22	This garden was very important to Tucker Gowen during his nearly 5 month stay that it breaks my heart other children might not have the opportunity to enjoy a little peace of the out doors during the most trying times anybody can go through. Please hear the children when they say fresh air heals and they need this garden.
Bucky Poik	Westmont, IL	2012-08-22	The natural beauty of landscape is therapeutic for the patients. My God Son has been a CHOB for 4 months. The garden is one of his few joys! He loves it. It keeps him going

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Candace Platt	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	This garden have been an important component to a child's recovery who is from our community. My hope as a mother is that every child who is ill will have this special place available to them as well.
Michelle Behling	Brookfield, CT	2012-08-22	This garden has been a lifeline to my friend's son while he battles cancer.
eileen glah	Ambler, PA	2012-08-22	The friend jennifer gowen said the garden has been an important part of her son's recovery.
Amy Caudill	Georgetown, KY	2012-08-22	We need to preserve nature and care for it because nature is a part of our own health and wellness
Jamesd McCoy	Beacon Falls, CT	2012-08-22	As a cancer survivor I understand the importance of a quiet calm place to regroup.
Paula Manning	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	Please keep this beautiful park just the way it is. The patients at the hospital need to be able to get out in the fresh air and to be able to feel the grass or feel there first snowfall on there faces.
sue cummings	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	This is a peace haven for alot of people. You cannot destroy the outside beauty that comforts and heals. This is all they have.
Rosie Wilbur	Boston, MA	2012-08-22	As a former Children's Hospital patient, my family and I spent time in this garden. And now, as a lover of Olmsted-designed greenspaces I can fully appreciate hte artistry and history of the Prouty.
Sheryl White	Roslindale, MA	2012-08-22	As the spouse of a Children's Hospital employee, I have visited there and seen the way so many people use it. I also work at the Arnold Arboretum and experience daily how visitors find peace and calm in a green landscape.
maureen gallagher dever	largo, FL	2012-08-22	its a piece of peace to patients and staff...why would one go against mrs. prouty's endowment??
Eileen Raposa	Portsmouth, RI	2012-08-22	As a breast cancer patient, access to nature, gardens and fresh air are an important adjunct to healing. Pleasc preserve these gardens. Thank you.
Nancy Kowalski	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	I have read what this garden means to the many patients at the Boston Children's Hospital. It would be very sad to see something so beautiful be taking away from families and children.
Richard Curtin	Ft Myers, FL	2012-08-22	Children's Hospital Nursing Grad.1961 Why would anyone want to give a gift to CH if the intent is not honored for previous gifts.
PENNY MALONEY	SOUTHBURY, CT	2012-08-22	BECAUSE IF IT'S IMPORTANT TO JUST "1" SICK CHILD IT'S IMPORTANT TO ME. IT SOUNDS AS THOUGH MANY FAMILIES HAVE ENJOYED THESE GARDENS
dawn Kowalski	Southbury, CT	2012-08-22	Children like our Tucker need a sense of normalcy while living in the hospital setting. Please don't take away the only "outdoors" they have. It's bad for the spirit!
Heather Patchell	Thomaston, CT	2012-08-22	My son had a bone marrow transplant last year at children's and this garden gave us a piece of normalcy when we needed to get "away". I know many other patients and families that would say the exact same thing. When you have cancer patients there for a long extended stay you need some sort of place for them to retreat outside but still be a safe enough place while on chemo. Please don't demolish it, it's very important.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Kate Gurvis	Rotterdam, Netherlands	2012-08-22	If one is ever in a place such as a hospital for a long length of time, you can get restless. A garden such as this is a perfect place to escape to, even if it's only for a little while. Furthermore, it is a place that to some makes them feel farther removed from their situation and gives them peace, if anything, they deserve that. Everyone needs a place for a little down time or a moment of silence, etc. To each their own, and this is the perfect place to do so. If this was to be removed it would be destroying a place in which tears are shed, and happy times shared. It would be demolishing the only place kids, or parents of the sick and injured, have available to be their own person, and not have to worry for a few minutes.
Cameron Cook	Middlebury, CT	2012-08-22	My swim teammate and friend Tucker Gowen has been in Boston Children's Hospital since March. He has not left the hospital or been outdoors, unless he was in the garden. It is his only escape from being in the hospital and his only way to know that the weather is great. he uses it as a way to stay strong so he can get out of the hospital and be outside a lot more.
Anne Ring	Saint Cloud, FL	2012-08-22	My Best Friend's Son has been at your Hospital for the past 4 months with Leukemia . She says how much this area has meant to him and I am sure that it means a lot to other parents and there children as well.
Keith Frering	Southbury, CT	2012-08-23	It's Tucker's refuge.
Thea Mariano	Mullica Hill, NJ	2012-08-23	My son was a patient at Boston Childrens hospital years ago thankfully none of our stay were terribly long, however if they were we would have wanted to take him outside for peace and serenity of the garden. Fresh air and being a part of God's beauty (flowers, birds etc....) is so so so important tohealing and preserving ones spirit to fight their illness. Please keep this amazing garden for families to enjoy and escape the cold, sterile environment of the hospital.
Louise Caldwell	Birmingham, MI	2012-08-23	Hospitals can be so scary, and to have a place that is beautiful and peaceful to come to is so important. Our son is applying to medical schools for the Ph.D./MD program, and I know feels the same way, given the time he spends with patients at the Motts Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
michael stafford	hinsdale, NH	2012-08-23	preserve the commons
John Broderick	Wilbraham, MA	2012-08-23	Because the garden is a beautiful place and there are other options. It would be a shame to destroy it.
Kelley Taptich	Freehold, NJ	2012-08-23	Anything that touches people's lives for the better is worth saving!
Amanda Lahiff	Lansdale, PA	2012-08-23	Great Idea for these children
Maria Hornak-Houle	Southbury, CT	2012-08-23	Nature is HEALING!!
Sarah Gagnon	Franklin, MA	2012-08-23	This is important because it brings nature and beauty to a place where invasive and life altering procedures take place. This place of beauty provide respite, peace and calm for family, friends and patients. Because not enough hospitals hold these spaces to be sacred and that this place should be maintained and expanded to protect the wellness of patients, family, friends AND staff.
Kathleen Bragg	Southbury, CT	2012-08-23	Nothing is more precious than life, the mind body connection has been proven to be a powerful force in the healing process. Can you think of anything more resorative than sunshine on your face and fresh air to refresh the soul?

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Edgenie Rice	New York, NY	2012-08-23	This garden is a spiritual retreat and a key component for healing patients and caregivers including family, friends and professionals. The fact that it has been designed by renowned Landscape architects should raise it to the status of an irreplaceable landmark in the public domain. I urge the hospital trustees and planners to examine other alternatives while maintaining this unique treasure.
Isaac Tharpe	Boston, MA	2012-08-23	Besides it's beauty, history, and overwhelming feeling of serenity. It's not important to me in particular. It's important to our patients and families that find peace in challenging stages of their life.
Lalla McHugh	Roslindale, MA	2012-08-23	My physical therapy clients use the hospital and love the garden. It gives them an opportunity to get out with their children and gives peace and solace in difficult times. It is beautiful and therapeutic! Also, when I had children in the hospital myself, I found this space to be invaluable in our recuperation.
Kerry matthews	dedham, MA	2012-08-23	A place for parents and staff to see the outside and feel the sun's warmth is invaluable
Jenna Englund	Somerville, MA	2012-08-23	The garden is a welcome outdoor break for those who are not able to travel far from the main campus
Carolyn Evan	Newton, MA	2012-08-23	I've seen countless children and families enjoying this beautiful garden and the look of peace I see on their faces is just incredible. It is a truly sacred space and needs to be preserved.
Shannon Arbuckle	Urbandale, IA	2012-08-23	My nephew spent 6 months at BCH and when possible the pouty garden was a daily ritual. I made 4 trips to Boston from Iowa to stay with him and know first hand how important this outdoor space is to families with long term stays.
Antigoni Sinanis	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-08-23	It is a peaceful space for both patients, their families, and employees of the hospital
Laura Brown	Cambridge, MA	2012-08-23	beauty, healing, heritage
Lauren Robinson	Sedona, AZ	2012-08-23	Nature is pure, clean and inspiring. When children are sick, the area that surrounds them is often sterile and drab. Being able to go outside can restore their gift and faith in life and help to keep up their spirits. There is enough concrete, asphalt and noise in every city. Preserve this sanctuary of hope!
ruth farrugia	Marshfield, MA	2012-08-23	I graduated from the School of Nursing at CH in 1965. I have worked there for most of my 40 years of nursing. The garden was a haven for all of us, a place for families and patients to relax and to lose that would diminish the Hospital.
Linda Farris	Wakefield, MA	2012-08-23	because when my daughter was first born she spent the first year of her life going back and forth to children's and I love that Garden..
Nikki Ortiz-Tatarka	Rockland, MA	2012-08-23	I was a patient at BCH during my pregnancy and thanks to the wonderful staff there, my daughter never had to step foot in BCH once she was born. So many other children are not so lucky. However, if they do have to be at BCH, at least they have a beautiful place to go to escape the hardship of their illness. Don't let a pile of concrete replace the beauty and peace that the Garden brings!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
kathryn michalski	nottingham, PA	2012-08-23	My son and I have been coming to Boston Children's Hospital since December 2006. We came here from another hospital where he had been inpatient for seven months. Visits to the Prouty Garden were so uplifting for both of us who only had access to a parking lot or busy street at the other hospital. Over the years we have enjoyed this beautiful spot over and over again, in rain, snow, sun, cold, or heat. There are usually other people out in the garden too, regardless of the weather. My son and I visit the large trees, talk about the birds and squirrels, and the medical world melts away for that time. A trip to the Prouty Garden means more to my son than a visit to the Gift Shop, if that helps to put the importance of this garden into perspective. Please reconsider your plans to build here.
Linda Dittmar	Cambridge, MA	2012-08-23	Such a garden is a life-giving refuge, rare and all the more necessary. Mass General has a wonderful garden retreat on its roof. Please preserve this one.
Megan Beecher	Southbury, CT	2012-08-23	Our nephew has spent almost 6 months at CHOB and this garden has provided him, family and friends with a tranquil area to visit outside the hospital walls yet close enough for the excellent care provided
Amber Giove	Everett, MA	2012-08-23	Sick children, grieving families and hospital staff should enjoy this haven.
Meredith Menton	Southington, CT	2012-08-24	If a garden can help get someone through a tough time why remove it?
Courtney Dolan	Watertown, MA	2012-08-24	I work next door at BWH and see so many kids that are patients at Children's. They definitely need a space where they can be outside and enjoy the fresh air and sun.
Heidi Kossakowski	Southbury, CT	2012-08-24	The donor requested it be kept as long as people enjoy it. I'm sure there are people who continue to enjoy it. This this garden should continue on; don't defy the original intent.
Alice LaBeau	Port Richey, FL	2012-08-24	A parent with a sick child needs a place like this to regroup or just be sad, tired or stressed. They and their children need a place to be free.
Stacey Christie	chelmsford, MA	2012-08-24	It's a beautiful spot in a very busy place that patients can forget about the goings on for even 5 minutes!
Roswitha Strasser	Salzburg, Austria	2012-08-24	Here in Salzburg, I live next door to a hospital and its garden, and see the patients enjoying the flowers, benches and walkway. This garden was recently re-created on top of the new underground hospital garage. What a good idea to make the hospital stay a bit easier. Please don't bulldoze a garden for patients that is already there at Children's Hospital.
Nancy Christie	Lowell, MA	2012-08-24	40+ years ago my younger brother had an ulnar nerve transplant done at BCH and I remember the family going in to visit him and sitting in this park. I was probably around 13 but can remember it vividly.
Susan Grant	Amesbury, MA	2012-08-24	When my daughter was three, had surgery so was in the hospital for about a week, the garden was the place we both would go "to get away." She looked forward to it everyday and it helped me take a breather.
John Iacobucci	Amesbury, MA	2012-08-24	I have been a supporter of The Children's Hospital Medical Center since 1955. When any of our children were in need of medical care and treatment we always thought of CH first and foremost. When our children (3) were in long term for extended orthopedic surgery and rehabilitative care after surgery we relied on the Prouty Terrace as a place to wait and pray as our family took turns visiting the patient child. I can't imagine CH without Prouty Terrace. Please leave it INTACT!
yvonne wright-daddieco	hyde park, MA	2012-08-24	claiming place to sit and relax
Robert holgate	San Francisco, CA	2012-08-24	What could be more worthy? This tops my list

Name	Location	Date	Comment
nancy ruggiero	Brookline, MA	2012-08-24	This is critically important for the healing of the sick children AND the healers. The sustenance that natural beauty and breathing fresh, fragrant air, brings is inimitable.
Hester Smith	Darien, CT	2012-08-25	A place of solitude, quiet, nature and blue skies for all patients, families and staff. A very powerful place while I trained at Children's Hospital.
Christopher Duffy	Copake, NY	2012-08-25	Please, save Prouty Garden,

A garden is a precious place of healing for all Patients, babies, children, and teenagers and their families, and also for all doctors and nurses who work so hard to care for them every day of the year.

You have the power to help us keep the garden. Without the garden the children will cry and the parents will be sad and I will be very sad and Children's Hospital will loose an important treasure.

I have come to Children's Hospital since I was 8 years old, and my doctors at Children's still care for me and are the best. I always look forward to going to the garden with my friends when I feel down after a hard appointment. I come from out of town for my appointments. I work in a healing plant garden for my job. I know how very important a garden is.

Please understand me, and all the other patients who love and need the garden to feel well. We count on you.

Your friend and patient,

Christopher Duffy  
Why is this important to you?

Lyrel Gillette	Lynnfield, MA	2012-08-26	It is the only place patients and their family can get away from the feeling of illness. It offers peace in the time of crisis.
Stephanie Miller	Cupertino, CA	2012-08-27	I did my residency at the BCRP and spent many an afternoon on long call shifts relaxing and meeting up with friends. It would be a shame to tear it down.
Mary Eliopoulos	Ipswich, MA	2012-08-27	Important for patients and their families
ANNE GIELISSE	FRANKLIN, TN	2012-08-27	This garden is a piece of CH history that is irreplaceable. That, and the fact that it is a haven of beauty, fresh air, and peace for patients and staff in the midst of a large city, should be more than enough reason to save it.
Susan George	San Francisco, CA	2012-08-28	Once open space is removed from a city, it is almost impossible to renew it.
Kate Joy	Norfolk, MA	2012-08-29	Access to nature and to beauty, especially at a time of stress and illness, is a great gift.
Heather Honekamp	Franklin, MA	2012-08-29	Nature is a direct connection to God. Why would you take that away from those who need God the most?

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Susan Record	Provo, UT	2012-08-30	Our walks in the Prouty Garden have made ALL THE DIFFERENCE in our stay at Children's. It is the heart of the hospital, and the key to our peace and renewal while struggling through our fight. When our toddler was depressed and apathetic a week following surgery, it was her trip to the Garden that turned things around for her. The afternoon after her visit she began reaching for toys and smiling and laughing again. When I feel lost in the stress of this experience, it is where I go to recharge. The fresh air and the wind and sun, the fountains and the flowers and the amazing unusual trees, all heal us in ways that can't be substituted by any other means. Learning that we may lose the garden some time in the near future was like a physical blow. For our children, for our total health, I beg you to preserve this priceless healing space.
Heather Piatt	canton, OH	2012-08-30	families need a place to heal
Adrienne Knighton	Orem, UT	2012-08-30	My dear friend's baby girl was helped out of her depression after painful surgery by visiting this garden. Please save this beautiful oasis!
LeAnne Herdman	Provo, UT	2012-08-30	My friend's baby had a serious operation at Boston Children's Hospital recently. Her mother is certain that visiting this garden has aided her recovery. After being so sick, visiting this garden made her smile and speeded up her recovery. Please keep it so others can benefit from the peace and comfort it gives.
Melissa McKrola	Heber City, UT	2012-08-30	Families who come to the hospital are often experiencing a lot of stress or fear due to their child's condition, and it is so nice to have such a lovely, serene place right on hospital grounds to retreat to and feel a little rest and peace. If there were an alternative location for the additional offices needed, so that the gardens could be preserved, it would be such a blessing to future families who come to the hospital.
skye engstrom	Raleigh, NC	2012-08-30	The outdoors are essential to healing and emotional recovery. I can't believe getting rid of the garden would even be considered in such an important environment
Dana Eggett	Monterey, CA	2012-08-30	A friend's one-year-old daughter is currently at the hospital for the next few months, and the chance for her to go outside and enjoy the grass and plants made her less depressed. It would be sad to see this go.
Lynn Stallard	Provo, UT	2012-08-30	I have a friend that had to have a lengthy stay there for her daughter and the garden brought a great deal of peace and comfort to her and her family. Green and growing spaces are essential to healing.
Elizabeth Seager	Provo, UT	2012-08-30	My good friend is staying at the hospital due to her daughters operation and it means so much for them to have a peaceful place outside to relax in. An addition of more office space would not bring joy and comfort to the many patients at the hospital the way this garden does.
Hannah Stallard	Provo, UT	2012-08-30	My friends daughter is recovering from a surgery and she smiled and laughed for the first time today since her surgery in that garden
m j	FL	2012-08-30	My child was born at our local hospital and was in the NICU for 4 months and CHB for 3 1/2 months and the prouty garden was where he got to breathe fresh air and enjoy the sights of green grass and flowers for the first time. Please do not take this away from the children that have a rough start in life and this may be the first time that they can be outside and smell fresh air or see flowers. It is important for healing. CHB is great and i can't believe that they would consider taking this away from all of the children.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Lori McGahan	Brockton, MA	2012-08-30	Our son was born on 4/9/07 with EA/TEF and other complications. On 6/15/07, our 10 yr anniversary, we took our first trip outside with our son since he was born. Prouty Garden's holds two special moments in our hearts. It is a peaceful escape from all the noise and chaos in the hospital. It is the only way children can get out to enjoy a little slice of heaven from a place that can cause them so much pain.
Eileen Parente	Plantation, FL	2012-08-30	This garden is ONE of the many reasons my friend's child recovered from his extensive surgery. The soul needs recovery as much as the heart.
Pat Senerchia	Chicago, IL	2012-08-30	This is disgusting
Sarah Doyle	Bellingham, MA	2012-08-30	My son spent the first 11 months of his life in the ICU at Children's, and has had several inpatient visits in the four years since coming home. The Prouty Garden has always been a sanctuary for me. It was the only way I could get out to relax and breathe in fresh air while my son lay in his hospital bed. It was in this garden that he first saw the world outside his room on his first stroller ride. Please do not take this away from the families who truly need it.
Vicky Sedano	Paterson, NJ	2012-08-30	Because my son was in the NICU for 5 months and the Garden was the only place I had to be close to God! I saw other families taking a break and enjoying fresh air! Please don't take the Garden away from the childrens. Vicky
Laura P. Keeton	Bruceston, TN	2012-08-30	My niece and family have spent a lot of time there while their daughter was in children's hospital
Cher Villalobos	Lexington, KY	2012-08-30	My nephew needed this healing space while at BCH & it should be maintained as it is was originally endowed.
Maureen Simoncini	Worcester, MA	2012-08-30	My 5 month old has been at Children's since birth. Two weeks ago we brought him outside for the very first time!! We spent an hour in the beautiful garden. I can't wait to bring him back outside after he recovers from his recent surgery. The garden has been a place for me to take a break and just forget about things for awhile. Also my 3 year old loves to walk around the garden and try to find the animals. It's part of his routine when he comes to visit his baby
Wendy Pulkrabek	Center, CO	2012-08-30	A place like this is important for families with long term patients. Also, Mrs. Prouty was promised that her garden would be theirs as long as there were patients.
Mara Lee Ebert	Sonoma, CA	2012-08-30	My son, Logan and I found this place to be so peaceful. When your child is in the hospital for two months, we could have gone crazy but this garden was our refuge. PLEASE don't bulldoze it. You can surely find other office space.
Lori Slone	Chaplin, CT	2012-08-30	The garden was the only source of tranquility I could find in the whole hospital. It would be a shame to lose such a great source of peace.
Christie Winters	Provo, UT	2012-08-30	My friend and her daughter are at Boston Children's Hospital being treated for EA/ETF and the Garden is such a place of refuge and therapy for them after difficult surgeries. It allows patients' and parents that chance to feel the refuge during those difficult times that only nature can provide. Since they can't leave the hospital to get that refuge it is wonderful for them to be able to access this beautiful garden.
Karen Kemp	Leicester, MA	2012-08-30	I have had numerous friends with children who have taken advantage of this beautiful garden. Would love to see many other families enjoy it as well!!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Terri H.	Hingham, MA	2012-08-30	When my daughter was an inpatient for 5 weeks, this was the one place she was able to go out a few times and get some fresh air..we say many people who were on precautions and their family could visit with out being covered on gowns and masks.. Also, we heard that this beautiful garden is where many people come when their infants are dying, a place where they can at least have their baby out of a hospital and theyncoukdntfeel like a normal family. This is a sacred place that should be preserved as it was intended to stay in perpetuity as deemed by rs. Prouty. Please save this space as it no exists. It means so much to so many. Thank you.
Hillary Kleck	North Little Rock, AR	2012-08-30	With spending much time in a hospital setting, gardens and relaxing settings like this are key to comfort and healing!
ann jajka	weymouth, MA	2012-08-30	it's an escape.
Sharon Metras	Pepperell, MA	2012-08-30	My son was in the NICU during a bad time, all the rooms were consumed with families of critical babies, the garden was my only escape.
Nancy Menefee	ARVIN, CA	2012-08-30	My niece's son spent time here after being in the hospital for 7 months and it was good for him.
Sharon Slattery	Beaverton, OR	2012-08-30	Definitely a positive influence on our granddaughter's recovery
Stephanie Holloway	Lacey, WA	2012-08-30	I'm signing this for the children that frequent the Boston Children's hopspital. This garden is a sanctuary to them and to their family when they need it the most!!
Tracy Tardiff	New Hartford, CT	2012-08-30	My daughter was inpatient there for a long time, as well as several hospital stays and we enjoyed sitting outside in the garden, it would be sad if other children and families did not have this opportunity. My child's first breaths outside were here.
Misty Sanders	North Charleston, SC	2012-08-30	My son was in the ICU for 2 years and our trips to the Prouty Garden are some of the greatest moments of our journey. It is a respite for children and parents alike from being in the hospital day in and day out. It would be such a mistake to destroy it. Please reconsider!! Thank you!
Pauletta Feagans	Indeppence, MO	2012-08-30	When my granddaughter was at BCH for a month last year, my daughter and son-in-law told me about escaping from the stress and worry in the PICU for short periods. The peace and tranquility they found in the Prouty Gardien calmed their minds and spirits so they could return to the PICU and remain strong, confident and positive for their daughter. Please find a way to keep this quiet oasis while expanding your medical facility which has helped children and their families from all over the world.
Jeneva Burroughs	Williston, VT	2012-08-30	We have 3 special needs members of our extended family - grandson, grand niece and nephew. Our grand niece has spent a good portion of her early life at BCH. What a great project!
Julie Bartolomeo	Horsham, PA	2012-08-30	Please don't destroy this irreplaceable and very important space!
Karen Sherman	WYNCOTE, PA	2012-08-30	because someone very dear to me spent a lot of time in this garden while her daughter was getting treatment. this is important to her, and so it is important to me as well.
genevieve wax	stoughton, MA	2012-08-30	My Son spent 3 months in childrens hospital due to gastroschisis i didnt get to enjoy the park because it was the winter. But i saw a lot of kids that touched my heart and that is a place they enjoy, and it should not be taken away from them.
Dr. Julie Gylfe	Blus Hill, ME	2012-08-30	Green space is absolutely vital to terminally ill children and their parents. This garden needs to be preserved forever.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Brenda Perkins	Williston, VT	2012-08-30	I've spent time in this garden with my daughter while my granddaughter was in critical condition and again later with her as she recovered. It is a place of respite for so many.
Christine Cobb	Northborough, MA	2012-08-30	Have been here many times. Helped my daughter a lot during recovery times to have a place to go outside
Michele Walker	Southborough, MA	2012-08-30	For parents and children who need a beautiful, serene place to escape medical thoughts and worries.
Andrea Clancey	Holden, MA	2012-08-30	Gives a peaceful place for families to go and relax
Emma Tunstall	Berlin, MA	2012-08-30	The garden was a wonderful escape for me during my 4 day hospital stay, and I can only imagine how it helps kids and families who are there for longer.
Jennifer Drohan	Northborough, MA	2012-08-30	It was where we took my brother after being in the hospital for months to sit outside and enjoy being a family for a little while during our hospital visits. It was 1975- the space meant the world to us. It was a little piece of normal life.
Joanne Finnegan	Essex Junction, VT	2012-08-31	So many people from our area have children sent there. Having spent time in hospitals, it's so important to have a natural place to go to feel at peace.
Mary Brosnihan	Worcester, MA	2012-08-31	This garden serves a great need beyond practicality. Please Save Our Haven.
Esta Brayton	Eden, VT	2012-08-31	this place is a sanctuary for family and friends visiting BCH. Anyone who ever had a sick family member or friend at a hospital knows this. Anything designed by Olmsted and endowed must be preserved forever.
Hannah Bartholomew	Noel, MO	2012-08-31	It is so very hard to make living and breathing environments really work. I've never been in a hospital that had such a sanctuary. It is a treasure you should not so lightly lose.
			Building styles and use cases come and go with such frequency that in twenty years that you're likely to be stuck with another inhuman relic that sucks maintenance costs with very little discernible difference to the increase of quality of the facility in general.
			I can see the garden being a much regretted loss.
Noah Prizant	Cranston, RI	2012-08-31	As a teenager, I remember coming to this garden when I was little and enjoying the outdoors. My favorite statue was always the little bird's nest with the mother and baby bird. I always used to pick grass and put it in the nest. This garden is very important to so many people, it would be terrible for it to be removed.
Lisa Paola	Middlebury, CT	2012-09-01	During hospital stays for my daughter's 2 BMTs, the garden was a place of refuge from the battle taking place inside her body. It was a place to escape and enjoy visits with family and friends.
Glenna Boland	Westwood, MA	2012-09-01	Please preserve this lovely sanctuary for the countless children and their families who seek care and treatment of body, mind and spirit at Children's Hospital.
Rachael Howard	Austin, TX	2012-09-01	For the kids, their families, and their careproviders
Justin Record	Provo, UT	2012-09-01	My daughter became depressed after her surgery at Boston's Children's Hospital and her spirits didn't lift until we took her to the Prouty Gardens.
ELAINE STAHLHEBER	FOXBOROUGH, MA	2012-09-01	Beauty, art and history in our sculptured environments should not be undervalued nor taken for granted and the societal vision which produced such spaces should not be replaced with dismissive cheap substitutes. As well, the lack of creativity in wanting to bulldoze should be replaced with superior planning and design that facilitates the preservation of this masterpiece as well as invokes the goals of the modern era.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Joyce Stout	West valley, UT	2012-09-02	It is a beautiful place of peace and rest in a very trying time in the lives of many children and their families. It is a need, not an extravagance!!
Tamara Woodmansee	Trumbull, CT	2012-09-02	For those families that have long stays with children it is nice to have an outdoor space to take them to. It does wonders for the spirits of children and adults alike.
Jean Vincent	North Hampton, NH	2012-09-02	My son has been a patient at BCH many times since his birth in 1994 and our ability to bring him into such a lovely tranquil place during his recoveries has been such a welcome joy ! I can not imagine this hospital not having having such a nice place of tranquility - extremely important to those who are going thru extremely difficult times
Beth Naditch	Newton, MA	2012-09-03	As a rabbi, a chaplain, and parent, I find this space to be a critical oasis in what can be extremely challenging times. Please preserve the integrity of this garden in some form.
Elaina Kourepenos	Acton, MA	2012-09-03	Prouty Garden has been a solace to not only my family but some other family members and many friends whose children have received treatment at Children's. In July I was at a memorial for a seven year old patient. One of the cousins younger than seven wrote and sang a beautiful song about Prouty, "Just one garden." There's no way anyone can justify taking Prouty away. Building up on existing buildings at Children's should be more thoughtfully considered.
Deborah Pollard	Acton, MA	2012-09-04	Please do not bulldoze Prouty Garden. I have been a Boston Children's patient for many many years and I consider it my second home. Every time I was medically stable my family would bring me to Prouty Garden to get fresh air, listen to the birds and view the lovely garden areas. I probably have been wheeled around Prouty Garden thousands and thousands of times in my wheelchair. It was our solace, it gave my family and I time to think of other things besides my medical condition, and it gave us a chance to see something other than the four walls of my hospital room. By sacrificing the garden you are taking away a safe place for all Boston Children's families, patients and employees.
Heather Tory	Boston, MA	2012-09-05	The garden is a priceless place of refuge and normalcy for hospitalized children fighting to become well. Every day, countless children with their parents, friends and volunteers walk in the garden to regain a sense of peace, fresh air, sunshine and a break from the hospital atmosphere. Many years ago, I delighted in walking through this area with my sister who was fighting cancer and some of my fondest memories of her occurred in the Prouty Garden. Now, I watch as my patients have the same opportunity to be together, laugh, and form memories. It would be an extreme disservice to the patients, families and staff of Boston Children's Hospital to have this garden sanctuary taken away.
marian g schmidt	rome, ME	2012-09-05	environmental importance
Katharine R.	Quincy, MA	2012-09-05	I work in the basement of Children's, with no windows or sunlight. Eating lunch in the prouty garden is an oasis to an otherwise dark day
Antonio Perez-Atayde	Boston, MA	2012-09-05	Because of its healing power, its beauty, and immediate access to nature.
Allyson Stazinski	Pembroke, MA	2012-09-05	Mental health for all.
Allyson Stazinski	Pembroke, MA	2012-09-05	Peace and quiet is something that aids in healing, as well as visual beauty. It is often just as important as medications when a child is healing. It would be a tragedy if the prouty garden was destroyed. Especially if it was intended to be a gift. To be able to send a family to this garden during my days of caring for my patients means so much to me and I am happy to join with others to try and preserve this magical and wonderful place.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Michelle Steltzer	Wayland, MA	2012-09-05	It is important to keep patients and families with a safe and peaceful place to get fresh air and preserve some green space for all within BCH to promote healing.
Lynn Pittsinger	Dedham, MA	2012-09-05	The Prouty Garden is a breath taking piece of nature amidst cement, smoke, automobiles, and chaos. It has been a part of families' lives and of their deaths. It truly is sacred ground for many clinicians, patients and families. It is the place where many children "live" to go to when they are well enough or where families have chosen to say good-bye to their children when they will not live to see another sunrise. It is a safe place enclosed by the walls of Boston Childrens Hospital and thus represents all that Boston Childrens Hospital stands for. It represents the soul at the center of a world class and technologically advanced institution. I truly pray that you will find creative ways to continue to build around it.
Andrew Calder	Burlington, VT	2012-09-06	Memories of my sister before she passed away
Joe McCoy	N. Providence, RI	2012-09-06	The Gardener's Morning The robin's song at daybreak Is a clarion call to me. Get up and get out in the garden, For the morning hours flee.  I cannot resist the summons, What earnest gardener could? For the golden hours of morning Get into the gardener's blood. The magic spell is upon me, I'm glad that I did not wait; For life's at its best in the morning, As you pass through the garden gate. - Howard Dolf
Patricia Glidden	Roslindale, MA	2012-09-06	Fredrick Olstead was a brilliant and insightful man who had the wisdom and inspiration to design green space in urban settings. It healing and restorative properties help us feel alive. The Prouty Garden with all its beauty is such a place of healing.
kate day	Stonington, CT	2012-09-06	It has lifted my child's spirit many times.
kate day	mystic, CT	2012-09-06	It has lifted my child's spirit many times.
Margaret O'Connor	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-09-06	it is a sanctuary for the patients and families of BCH and allows for an escape from the chaos of their stay.
Susan Whipple Casselman	Brookdale, CA	2012-09-06	I am a 1975 graduate of of CHMC School of Nursing & know how valuable a sanctuary the garden is both to staff, patients & families. Having accepted Mrs. Prouty's generous gift, it is just plain wrong to ignore her wishes.
Alvin Kho	Boston, MA	2012-09-06	This green space nurtures the spirit of everyone - patients, parents and employees alike. The dawn redwood is irreplaceable.
Marie Boyle	Waltham, MA	2012-09-06	Over the last 20 years I have had lunch in the Garden as a place to get an outside break.
Francene Lamb	Westerly, RI	2012-09-06	Any solace these families can get is needed. No explanation needed.
Rachel Ramoni	Boston, MA	2012-09-06	The garden, established as a haven, remains a haven during my busy days in Longwood and serves as such for patients and their families. It would be a terrible, terrible shame to lose it.
Barbara Martin	East Boston, MA	2012-09-06	For all the children who need this wonderful space as much as they need the medical expertise of CHB

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sarah Savage	Brookline, MA	2012-09-06	As an employee of Boston Children's, I have personally benefited from the use of this beautiful outdoor space. As a healthcare provider, I am deeply thankful for the benefit this space provides to patients, some of whom have minimal opportunity to experience nature during their clinical care. This is such an important part of providing quality care and a positive environment.
Elizabeth Noble	Brighton, MA	2012-09-06	So many of my lunches have been spent in the sunshine in Prouty Garden and no indoor green space can sufficiently replace it. Please remember all the inpatient kids who use the garden as motivation for getting well. So many patients work toward getting to go outside to the Prouty Garden to breath real fresh air. This is a petition to hang on to quality over quantity.
Michele Hudak	Boston, MA	2012-09-06	Prouty Garden is a sacred haven to both patients and employees at Boston Children's Hospital. It would be a great loss to us all.
Sam Volchenbom	Chicago, IL	2012-09-06	Trained in Boston for 7 years - the garden was an extremely valuable resource for physicians and patients alike.
Sarah Gumlak	Somerville, MA	2012-09-06	This garden has been an integral part of my life since I started working as an intern at Children's three years ago. I've seen it bring great joy to patients over the years, and it's contributed significantly to my quality of life at this job. There is nothing that can replace the ability to escape hard concrete into a green oasis for a half hour during the day.
Pat McCoy	Otisfield, ME	2012-09-06	fresh air, redwood trees, blue sky, of course these are extremely important
Ashley Rober	Abington, MA	2012-09-06	Not only is this garden beautiful, but it's a necessary place of healing for all of the sick children here at BCH.
Lora Pixley	Boston, MA	2012-09-06	Every child and family needs an escape from treatments, medications, staff, etc. The Prouty Garden offers this glimpse outside of the medical world for all those that are challenged with the confines of hospitalization.
Katie Tucker	Revere, MA	2012-09-06	I work here
Whitney Andrews'Branch	Quincy, MA	2012-09-06	Its a Beautifu! Garden,when we have meetings we actually sit and view the Garden
P D	Mystic, CT	2012-09-06	My daughter is often a patient at the hospital. She just turned one and has spent three months of her life there. We return almost monthly, and she loves looking at the flowers or watching the birds in Prouty gardens.
Diane Pearson	Rochester, NY	2012-09-06	I went to children's hospital and graduated 1960
SANDRA WOOLDRIDGE	PEABODY, MA	2012-09-06	OFTEN IS THE LAST PLACE WE TAKE OUR MSICU PTS WHEN WE WITHDRAW CARE, PARENTS FIND PEACE IN IT AS IT'S LAST PLACE THEIR CHILD HAS BEEN ALIVE. ALSO, IT IS OFTEN THE ONLY TIME OUR HEALTHIER PATIENTS CAN OFTEN BE TAKEN OUTSIDE, NURSE ESCORTED.
Donna Lessard	Groton, CT	2012-09-06	I beleive with the water flowing and the birds singing brings hope to every child that hears or see's it.
Katie Gagnon	Plainville, CT	2012-09-07	My amazing one year old goddaughter is a patient at BCH almost monthly. She and her parents visit and love this garden. Being there must help break up the time otherwise spent in a tiny hospital room.
Linda Leone	Boston, MA	2012-09-07	Green space. Lovely time-out from the hospital for patients, staff and families.
Claudia Horwatt	Plainville, CT	2012-09-07	As a Mom of children who were hospitalized at a young age I know the importance of having a beautiful place to think, reflect, pray, and refresh to stay strong for your family & child in need.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Shaunna Turner	Boston, MA	2012-09-07	It is an amazing relaxing space within the hospital. One can enjoy being outside without being bombarded by cigarette smoke, loud trucks, buses and cars. No "roof top" garden will replace the amazing design by the Olmsted Brothers.
Myra LaVigne-Chalek	Boston, MA	2012-09-07	I think it is important to have an area for employees and patients' families alike to retreat and enjoy a bit of green space. Some patients can not go far from the hospital to enjoy the outdoors so I think this space is extremely important!
Matt Glynn	Brookline, MA	2012-09-07	This is a staple of BCH. This can NOT go
Mary Scannell	North Providence, RI	2012-09-07	The children and families need a place outside to enjoy the sunshine, flowers and pond.
Ann Bergin	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-09-07	It is beautiful, restful and healing for patients, families and not least, staff.
Krystle North	Amherst, NH	2012-09-07	It is one of the only places that makes you forget you are at a hospital. I know how important that is to me as an employee, so I can only imagine how much that means to patients here.
Noam S.	Brookline, MA	2012-09-07	This Garden is the most healing and inspiring area in the whole hospital. I have seen countless children's faces light up in joy from finally being outside, in a green and lush area, with space to eat, relax, and play. Please do not remove this vital organ of the hospital.
Kaitlyn McCoy	North Providence, RI	2012-09-08	Nature is large part of spirituality and healing for many people. It provides an escape for patients, families, and staff during stressful situations and is refreshing. The gift from Mrs. Prouty was intended for this purpose and must be respected.
Elien O'Neill	Melrose, MA	2012-09-08	My sister enjoyed this garden while she was at Childrens. It was one of the few things that gave her peace.
Gina Marie Michaud	Scituate, MA	2012-09-08	Because it is a place for families to go and find peace during difficult days
Michele Richards	Weymouth, MA	2012-09-08	My 16 year old nephew, who has CF, has been a patient in this hospital since he was just over 1 years old.  During one of my visits with him when he was about 8 years old, we were walking around the hospital and he told me he wanted to show me the garden. I told him there wasn't a garden but he insisted there was. He grabbed my hand and dragged me through the lobby, up the stairs, down a hallway and I still didn't believe there was a garden. Until we came around the corner and through a door and I saw this beautiful space hidden away.  We spent at least an hour walking around the garden and enjoying every bit of it.  To this day I will always remember that special moment with my nephew in the beautiful garden.  I can't imagine how there is even a thought of tearing it down. This is a gift that needs to stay.
Margaret Schroeder	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-09-08	It is a lifesaver for our patients
Jennifer Lamont	Weymouth, MA	2012-09-08	This was given as long as there are patients at Childrens Hospital and there still is. This is a beautiful place for the patients, family and friends visiting the patients.
Tiffany Michaud	Weymouth, MA	2012-09-08	It is a place for family members to go and unwind while their loved one is in the hospital.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Karen Vecchione	Quincy, MA	2012-09-08	My brother and his family have used this garden to find solice during their time of struggle with my nephew Jonathan. This is a peaceful place for families to go when they need an area to go without actually leaving the hospital. Please think of the children and their families before you destroy this beautiful peaceful place.
Jane Foley	Arlington, MA	2012-09-08	In her last days, my daughter enjoyed the garden...it was a peaceful spot to share with her when the rest of her life was so complicated.
Anthony Ciampanelli	North Providence, Ri	2012-09-09	Because I believe in preserving open spaces of beauty for the general population.
Kim Derosier	Hanson, MA	2012-09-09	My son has been admitted there for over 19 days in the past year and it was a place of peace and refuge for myself and family right when we needed it.
Judith Simmons	Essex, CT	2012-09-09	The Prouty garden is a healing place surrounded by stress and turmoil. How lucky the patieints and their families are to have it!
Karen Moriarty	Dennisport, MA	2012-09-09	My grandson, Julian Gabriel, has been on the 6th floor of Children's for the last 5 months. His only contact with the outside world has primarily been in the Prouty Garden. Please don't take the garden away from the patients and family who cherish the time spent there.
elijah wood	southwick, MA	2012-09-09	my cousin has cancer and hasnt been able to go outside
Kathryn Priestley	North Providence, RI	2012-09-09	As a cancer survivor I know how important the peace of nature is for healing mind, body and spirit - not just for those who are battling illness but for our caretakers too.
Mariiy Racine	Little River, NC	2012-09-09	It's a wonderful place for the children.
Gary Clark	Westfield, MA	2012-09-09	Having a common area is good therapy...
Kathleen Rivers	Chicopee, MA	2012-09-09	I know several people who have been there and it is a very serene place to spend time in when your feeling down.
Cynthia Flanders	Bourne, MA	2012-09-10	For over 20 years my children their visitors and I found a little bit of peace here.If they were still alive they would be signing this petition,also. Please don't destroy the one place that has no bad memories.
Margaret Wool	Providence, RI	2012-09-10	I am a clinician with a specialty in psycho-oncology. For someone dealing with a life-altering illness (patient or family) a garden can serve a very meaningful role as a source of emotional and spiritual enrichment that nurtures coping, healing, strength and faith. In a very real sense, particularly when medical care given is palliative not curative, immersion in nature is certainly part of the 'treatment' and may provide succor and healing not accessible through any other source. Considering a sick child who is isolated from nature and confined in a sterile and technological environment, what could be more healing than the lovely respite of a garden? The Prouty Garden is a treasure. The Olmsted Brothers are the royalty of landscape architecture. The notion of destroying a garden that shares a legacy with Central Park , Arnold Arboretum and so many more grand sites is very troubling. Coupled with the fact that the garden was a gift from a dedicated supporter makes the plan a betrayal. Sometimes the right decision is not the most "practical," and I respectfully submit that this is one of those times. I sincerely hope that alternate plans will be accepted.
Lewis Wheeler	Boston, MA	2012-09-10	Save this treasure!
Marilyn Ritholz	Arlington, MA	2012-09-10	I have always loved this garden and it offers some beauty and a nurturing environment to the children at BCH.



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Robert Williams Brown	Rehoboth, MA	2012-09-10	For Goodness Sake, it's an Olmstead worth millions...and billions to the children who have sought its haven, whether still here or passed on to a different haven. For the Children!
Cynthia Zembo	Westport, MA	2012-09-10	For all the wonder and strength of modern medicine & technology, the healing power of spending even a few moments in the natural world remains essential and must not be taken from those with so little control over their condition. Fresh air, greenery and a direct line to the sun, clouds and sky can offer solace and hope when nothing else is sure.
susan slocum	milers falis, MA	2012-09-10	it gives the families a sense of normalcy and hope . My friends grandson looked forward to his visits there.
Jane Stewart	Lincoln, MA	2012-09-10	Invaluable little sanctuary for families at CH.
Heather Burris	Chestnut Hill, MA	2012-09-10	Only place for critically ill children to be outside at Children's before they die. Crucial for families and staff.
Robert Dolliver	Westport, CT	2012-09-10	I previously lived in Boston for many years, and know several who have been patients at the Children's Hospital. I also happen to know many that work there, and know how important the Garden is to the hospital.
Lee Bombardier	East Bridgewater, MA	2012-09-10	PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE don't bulldoze this garden! I have gone to this garden multiple times to seek the quiet, peaceful solitude just outside the busy, bustling inside of Children's Hospital to just relax, think, pray or grab a relaxing lunchtime. I have also brought my daughter there during her many hospitalizations to walk, and enjoy some fresh air. A certain peaceful has always come over me as soon as I enter the garden. Please do not take this away from patients, families and employees of Children's Hospital. Thank you!
Barbara Zdravesky	Pawtucket, RI	2012-09-10	As a former employee of Hasbro Children's Hospital, I know how valuable gardens such as the Prouty Garden are to children and families who are healing from illness and disease. Frederick Law Olmstead's own mission was to provide beautiful green spaces where people can seek relief from their stresses. To destroy the Prouty Garden would be a blatant defiance and disregard for not only Olmstead's social commitment, but to the hospital's own mission to "enhance the health and well-being of the local community."
Wally Spiegler	Rehoboth, MA	2012-09-10	I strongly believe in facilities that will help sick children
R E	boston, MA	2012-09-10	This is a place where patients and employees get to forget about being in a hospital, and just sit and take in the beauty of the beauty of the garden.
Brittany Iles	Boston, MA	2012-09-10	I just began working here and Prouty has been the one place so far that I've been extremely relaxed and peaceful at.
Lauren Sweetser	Boston, MA	2012-09-10	I am a Hospital Employee who really needs the serenity of the outdoor space in the middle of a crazy work day. I would be devastated if it were taken away.
Rona E	Boston, MA	2012-09-10	This is a great place for both patients and employees!
walter zembo	westport, MA	2012-09-10	i am someone who has lived my life close to the natural world....and i understand it's importance to the human soul.....in times of stress ....it is a very valuable place...
Linda Badgett	Boston, MA	2012-09-10	Because it is such a wonderful space, full of lots of beautiful things
Alicia Holmes	Wakefield, MA	2012-09-11	I'm only as happy as my saddest child.
Carol Entin	Rehoboth, MA	2012-09-11	Spending time outdoors, in the sun or shade, amidst greenery and all the life forms it attracts, is a necessary component for the healing process. People who are ill should have a healing, outdoor space just for this purpose.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sharon Hawkins	Centerville, MA	2012-09-11	this garden has been a healing place for a little boy who is fighting for his life. Medical treatment supported by a beautiful environment can result in better outcomes!
Johanna Cooper	Zuni, NM	2012-09-11	I was an ER nurse at CHB for 5 years and ate my lunch in the Prouty Garden every day that I could. It is an amazing oasis - and the only place that families and patients and staff can be outside in the Longwood area. PLEASE don't destroy it.
Andrea Roman	Belchertown, MA	2012-09-11	My son and i loved going out to this garden. Messing with it is like messing with some of my cherished memories I have of my son. Please don't do this! Don't do this to the countless children and families who share some of their last living memories here. And don't take away the chance for new families to build memories here with their children either. Just wrong. What significance this garden holds. And that is beautiful. Plus, our friends at, "The Hole in the Wall Gang" all have their lunch out near this garden. And all those guys and gals are my son's dearest buddies up in Boston. Please don't take away their peaceful lunch break spot!!
Stephanie Sisk	Stevensville, MT	2012-09-11	For Riley Roman!
sara ricpelle	so. hadley, MA	2012-09-11	i know a little boy who was battling a brain tumor, he and his family found some comfort and peace here,as i am sure others have aswell. this little boy passed and i know if he was here he woulnt want this park to go.
Jessica Mitchell	BELCHERTOWN, MA	2012-09-11	Andrea and Riley Roman.
robert gabriele	mesa, AZ	2012-09-11	love for riley roman
alison patenaude	Amherst, MA	2012-09-11	Riley Roman
Kevin Boisjolie	Westfield, MA	2012-09-11	The Garden always made me feel better when I had long hospital stays. One place without doctors hovering over you and big machines ringing in your ear. It was peaceful.
Donna Williams	Granby, MA	2012-09-11	Friend if Riley,s
Virginia Kielbania	Chicopee, MA	2012-09-11	For the children
Michele George	Canastota, NY	2012-09-11	This is for the children!!! Please dont take it away!!! Keep it in memory of Riley Roman and evry other little super hero!!! PLEASE!!!
Carol Sylvia	E. Weymouth, MA	2012-09-11	During my son's neurosurgery stay, there was a need for a quiet place to remind me life would go on!
stacey roy	chicopee, MA	2012-09-11	For the memories of past patients and families. Especially families who have lost their loved one but have wonderful memories together in that garden.
Patricia Rousseau	Northbridge, MA	2012-09-11	This place has great meaning to alot of people and shouldn't be destroyed.
Elizabeth Allred	Brookline, MA	2012-09-11	This is the only tranquil and truly human spot in the entire medical area. It's a place to rest, reflect, and heal for children and their families and caregivers.
			So, what will I do Until Every Child Is Well? Speak out against the destruction of this priceless resource.
Tricia Carnovaii	windermere, FL	2012-09-11	This is a place for families to have some peace during difficult treatments, diagnosis, and after. It should be left alone.
Marcello Pagano	Boston, MA	2012-09-11	Beauty. Promise. Oasis.
Grace Montepiedra	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-09-11	Being around nature is an important part of the healing process - it is critical to the well-being of the patient and the health care provider

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Robert Hefner	South Kingstown, RI	2012-09-11	Peace and serenity for those grieving the loss of a child or a place to ponder and make potentially life and death decisions. Would we tear down St. Peter's Basilica or the Sistine Chapel to make room for more hospital beds? Bigger is not always better. I'm am sure we can find ways to continue to treat and cure more children without destroying other natural and living beauty.
Laura Smeaton	Roslindale, MA	2012-09-11	gardens are paramount to health and wellbeing
Tammy Horne	South Yarmouth, MA	2012-09-11	I have family & friends that are at that hospital & use it
Peg Hewitt	Roxbury Crossing, MA	2012-09-11	As a child I was in the hospital for three months. This garden would have been such a comfort to my family and to me during this terrible time, and I want this garden to survive.
Jelena Follweiler	Dorchester, MA	2012-09-11	Because this was an endowment, and is special to everyone who visits. Destroying the garden is a violation of the promise to the person who endowed the gift, and a great loss to the area.
Elizabeth Gibson	Camden, ME	2012-09-11	There is more to healing than medicine; a place of serene tranquility such as the Prouty Garden renews the soul and spirit of patients and caregivers alike. Please send the architects back to the drawing boards and preserve this unique and irreplaceable treasure.
Barbara Holstein	Montague, NJ	2012-09-11	I have been reading about little Riley for months now and his courage to battle cancer and his mother's endless love and nurturing. I love them both though I never met them. I know that this special place helped them to find hope and strength through an experience that NO CHILD and MOTHER should ever have to endure. Special places such as these cannot be recreated the spiritual presence from each and every person who has walked this garden - as it is today would forever be broken. Please leave this spiritual healing garden alive and well to benefit those who must because of a tragic illness walk its paths in search of healing and peace.
Kate Barnes	Boston, MA	2012-09-11	The Prouty Garden is a beautiful sanctuary enjoyed by patients, staff, visitors or anyone that happens to stumble upon it. As an employee of the hospital I visit the garden regularly just to catch a breath of fresh air and re-energize. I also know of countless patients who have visit the garden during long stays in the hospital due to extended treatment periods for chronic or recurring illnesses. Losing this beautiful resource would be a tragic loss for the hospital and our community.
Nicole Cantwell	Boston, MA	2012-09-11	The therapeutic and environmental value of this garden extends to patients, families, workers, and community members. I hope for the sake of all these people and the generous family that worked to have this garden built, that the Prouty Garden is preserved. We boast that beyond excellent clinicians and facilities, it is the care, compassion, and commitment that makes Boston Children's Hospital #1 in this country. Well, that is exactly why we have a space like this garden and exactly why we need to show families that this hospital is great enough to maintain it!
Winston Hide	Boston, MA	2012-09-11	Lifestyle is key to recovery
Bothany Wilson	Portland, OR	2012-09-11	It's hard to understand why you would ask why this is important. A garden like this at a children's hospital? A sick or dying child is the most difficult thing a human being can endure. The beauty and solace the Prouty Garden affords to parents cannot be measured.
Nancy Allred	Cary, NC	2012-09-11	My cousin works for Boston Children's Hospital and told me that Prouty Garden is an oasis of peace, tranquility, and beauty for sick children, their families and caregivers. I support this garden wholeheartedly for all who use it.
Gail Cavignano	Peabody, MA	2012-09-11	This garden is such an important part of patient care. It helps heal the spirit.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Paulette Fontaine	Brighton, MA	2012-09-11	Children's must remain faithful to the wishes and bequest of Olive Prouty "until every child is well".
Dale Flecker	Brookline, MA	2012-09-11	Over the years I have become ever more aware of the significant psychological benefit from sitting in a peaceful, natural park. Given the horrible physical intensity of the Children's Hospital environment, it is terrible to think that the hospital would destroy the Prouty Garden!
Morgan Esperance	Brookline, MA	2012-09-11	This is a space of healing and peace. Please do not take this away from our children!
Catherine Kimionakis	Hooksett, NH	2012-09-11	My son had a six day stay at CHB after surgery for a brain tumor. He was not able to go outside during his stay but had he been able to we definitely would have used this garden! It is so important for some of these children to see something as beautiful as this garden. Please don't destroy it!!
Sandra Gaffey	Shelburne, MA	2012-09-11	We have been coming to Children's Hospital Boston since 2003 when my daughter was being evaluated for a double lung transplant. 4 years later, we finally received new lungs. This garden has been such a spiritual/healing place. When I am stressed, I know that there is a place I can go. The fresh air, which the garden gives as it is away from the traffic and the upper pollutants given up higher, give me the peace that I need. My son, when he was graduating high school came to the hospital because he wanted my daughter to take his senior pictures. She was again awaiting another lung transplant, as she rejected her first set. She received new lungs later that year. The garden was one of the places he chose to have his picture taken. Please don't take away this healing place. My daughter is again rejecting her lungs and we are spending a lot of time at the hospital. The garden is one of the places that we look forward to spending time in EVERY time we come - even in the winter, as it provides breathtaking beauty and fresh air.
Debbie Carey	Bolchertown, MA	2012-09-11	My grandson had brain cancer surgery at Children's last year. He is currently being treated at the Jimmy Fund Clinic. This garden is a place to enjoy nature. It makes life a bit less stressful. The children and their families need this.
Audrey Clark	Shelburne, MA	2012-09-11	I am a frequent patient at CHOB and I have times when I am not allowed outside for weeks at a time. When I finally get the chance to go outside I need the fresh air and the peacefulness of the garden. Potted plants are just not the same. I need the REAL trees and the REAL blue sky. For some the garden is the only outside they get to see for months at a time. If you are not patient you don't know what it is like to be bedridden. Even for a parent to get the serenity from the garden after watching their child go through pain and suffering treatments to save their life. PLEASE KEEP THE GARDEN!
Charlene Pascua	quincy, MA	2012-09-11	The garden helps with the healing of sick children. They can't take it away!
Jaylyn Olivo	Brookline, MA	2012-09-11	I've spent many a happy lunch hour enjoying the Prouty Garden and watching patients and their families delight in this piece of Boston's landscape-architectural history. It's an important part of our heritage, an important piece of Olmstead's work, a refuge for patients and staff alike. It would be unconscionable of BCH to destroy it.
Jessica Roberts	mendon, MA	2012-09-12	I used to walk here during my hospitalization at children's and it was the best time of my days when I was inpatient.
Nicole Calkins	north providence, Ri	2012-09-12	The children need happiness
Sandra Jackson	Rockland, MA	2012-09-12	I spent many afternoons and late evenings walking in that garden while my son was in Children's. He was there on and off and once go a 4 month stay. Can't imagine taking the peace gained from sitting or walking in the garden from the patients, their parents, friend's, and families.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Emmett Schmidt	Ambler, PA	2012-09-12	In June 1965 I traveled from New York to seek care from Drs. Sam Gross, Alex Nadas and Don Fyier. My Atrial Septal Defect was diagnosed at my birth in 1952, the year the first ASD was repaired by Dr. Gross. 13 years later, to allow me to participate in high school sports, I spent 3 weeks at Children's, taken there by my physician father who had studied at Harvard Medical School under Dr. Gross. Every event of note that healing summer had a moment in the garden: Explanations of catheterizations, diagnoses, descriptions of procedures, descriptions of risks, hours of recovery with my mother there. I came to know every plant, sculpture, bench and blade of grass. Then years later I opened my match letter that took me for 8 years of my life to train at Children's in Pediatrics. My intern year was lived every third night in that garden where my son and wife would spend a few precious minutes with me before my night on call. We saw our first Christmas together with a walk in the garden, we shook the blossoms over us in both back corners, in the spring the seals were the "snuffs," we said hello to the owl every night we were there, and I saw some of my son's first steps by the little pool (which he may have fallen into once or twice). I built snowmen there with young patients from the clinical research unit several times on call. I read books, studied pediatrics, planned experiments and EVERY highlight of my eight years is tied into the Prouty garden. Anyone who proposes to remove it has no soul and no love for the hospital's "patients, families and staff." This soul-less choice is a deeply cynical and ignorant move. Anyone making this choice has no connection to the humanity of Boston Children's Hospital. And knowing the money driving big medicine, this plea is almost certainly futile. But I will have that garden in my memory forever, and it will be special there.
Crystal McCormick	Easthampton, MA	2012-09-12	Families have shared memories here, and more families need this quiet peaceful space to create more memories while dealing with life threatening illnesses.
Melissa Murray	Ludlow, MA	2012-09-12	We have lost a friend due to cancer... these children need all the cheer in the world
chenoa hogue	boston, MA	2012-09-12	it is a saving grace for many of the children on the units, somewhere they can go to mentally escape for a while
Jolene Diver	Amherst, MA	2012-09-12	Enjoying outdoor spaces is important to everyone's health and happiness. The children who are stuck living at the hospital need this beautiful garden even more. Please don't tear it up.
Deborah Sorrentino	Lincoln, MA	2012-09-12	On the rare occasion that I get a moment to take a break, it is a calming, clearing place where I can take a deep breath of real air in a green environment and where I can feel the ground under my feet. This is a health benefit that has no price. Any other green space will not offer the same benefit.
Karol Timmons	Plymouth, MA	2012-09-12	I spent many hours in the prouty garden when my children were sick. It provides solace and a place to think things through.
Peter Ham	Mansfield, MA	2012-09-12	Family's and patients benefit from a place of solace amidst the terrors and trials of illness.
Peter Ham	Mansfield, MA	2012-09-12	Patients and families benefit from having a place of solace amidst the trials and terrors of treatment.
Warren Kimberly	wilmington, VT	2012-09-12	i had a chance to visit recently,,it was a wonderful break in a very long day
Sarah Hickey	newton, MA	2012-09-12	This is a beautiful location in the hospital that allows patients who are ill and in the hospital long term to experience beauty and the outdoors.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sarah Jones	Melrose, MA	2012-09-12	Every day during the summer and into the fall, myself and my coworkers enjoy the beautiful Prouty Garden. 'We love watching all of the patients coming outside to enjoy the fresh air and the beautiful flowers. It is definitely a place for all to escape the sad circumstances to why families come to Boston Children's Hospital. I cannot believe that they want to destroy such a serene place.
Rebecca Waugaman	Brighton, MA	2012-09-12	I see every day how much it means to the patients and their families. It is particularly important for the families who are here for extended periods of time. The beauty of the garden and its tranquility give patients a break from the stress of a hospital environment and the busy surroundings of the Longwood area. It's about them, not us.
Michael Landzberg	Boston, MA	2012-09-12	Prouty Garden has been an oasis of sanity and peace for our patients and staff
Chris Foley, RN	Medford, MA	2012-09-12	The garden was meant for patients and families to relax, meditate and enjoy. It was promised to be there forever and with our new motto it should remain there: TILL EVERY CHILD IS WELL!!!! Please do not remove this wonderful spot.
Eric Bradford	Burlington, VT	2012-09-12	After my son's open heart surgery, it was imperative that he walk around to get his lungs functioning again. Prouty Garden was the only place that he could (or would) do it. The garden is not just important for aesthetics, it's important for both physical and mental aspects of recovery for many children who are treated in the hospital.
Miriam Chernoff	Waltham, MA	2012-09-12	gardens are healing places
Ann Morgan	westwood, MA	2012-09-12	worked here 32 years and have enjoyed this beautiful area for lunches and also to walk patients. The plants, fountain and benches are well maintained.
Julie Polvinen	Somerville, MA	2012-09-12	I have worked at BCH for 10 years and witnessed the healing power of nature on our patients, real nature, not simulated or enclosed. If Children's commitment to patients and families is "until every child is well" then you must consider what is a huge part of making them well here at the hospital.
Michael Freed	Brookline, MA	2012-09-12	Really, Have you no shame
John Friedman	Boston, MA	2012-09-12	The living, spiritual heart of this unique children's hospital, where I have spent my professional life as a physician. Over the years I have seen patients, families and hospital staff finding peaceful moments and restoring their strength in the garden.
Melissa Wu	Allston, MA	2012-09-12	The Prouty garden is a peaceful space for the hospital community that makes for a nice refuge from the hectic schedule of working/visiting BCH. It's a place that I bring visitors to when they visit me in Longwood. Please keep this space.
Sue Vitone	Watertown, CT	2012-09-13	Everyone needs a beautiful place to spend quality time, whether it be enjoying the sunshine or just taking a huge breath of fresh air. You don't need to put a building right here....find another spot! I'm sure there is somewhere else you can build w/out taking this peaceful spot from these families. Please!
Karen Polvinen	Plano, TX	2012-09-13	My sister works with these children and she tells me how much these children have to deal with every day, all day. Whatever we can bring them to make their day peaceful, happy and special for even a moment will help them. This is so much more important than a building. Give these kids hope, peace and love.
Nicole Keough	Plymouth, MA	2012-09-13	My son is 4yrs old and undergoing cancer treatment. He is a patient at the Jimmy Fund Clinic and Children's Hospital. He loves the garden and so do I especially when he is admitted. It's a small haven that should stay in tact!
Sara Stevens	Cape Coral, FL	2012-09-13	For The children whom it means so much!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Judi Steele	Plymouth, MA	2012-09-13	This garden was one place that we could go when talan was in the hospital, that made him feel like he was "not in the hospital". It was such a nice place to go to.
Sally Persing	Brighton, MA	2012-09-13	In a neighborhood of unrelenting concrete, glass and steel this garden is a relaxing, refreshing, revitalizing refuge. It would be a horrible loss.
Becca Lewis	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-09-13	It's beautiful, healing green space.
Louise Santosuosso	North Reading, MA	2012-09-13	The peace and serenity of a garden like this soothes the soul of people in need.
Jennifer Flaherty	South Weymouth, MA	2012-09-13	in the middle of a hospital that's in the middle of the city, this garden is a little touch of the outside world. Why take away the tiny slice of Heaven these kids and their families need when they need it most??
Sarah McKnight	Cumberland, RI	2012-09-13	Children need a place to escape from the doctors and IVs a place that might remind them of home. They need this garden. And by destroying it we would be turning our back on a promise made to the original benefactor.
Shauna Makuch	New Bedford, MA	2012-09-13	Children fighting cancer need to look and be somewhere other than their hospital room....Nature is so healing! Don't take that little bit of peace from them.
beatriz oropez	Cambridge, MA	2012-09-13	its a special space for peace, relaxing, spirituality, hapiness, goodbyes, hello's... it's our color in the hospital
Margaret Coit	Boston, MA	2012-09-13	Former patient, current employee. Please, please don't take away this sanctuary.
Nemythe Lease	Brighton, MA	2012-09-13	A place where patients can relax and enjoy the peaceful outdoors.
caitiyn decastro	warren, RI	2012-09-13	The garden is part of the healing process, a place where patients can escape the feeling of being sick.
Daniel Omphroy	Boston, MA	2012-09-13	This Garden is an ESSENTIAL part of this hospital and should not be destroyed.
Alexander Boison	Brookline, MA	2012-09-13	The Prouty Garden is a priceless area of escape and peace for patients and employees alike.
Jessie Booher-Hendrick	Waltham, MA	2012-09-13	I enjoy spending my lunch breaks outside in the Prouty Garden almost every day when the weather is nice. Most importantly, it provides relief to patients and their families giving them an opportunity to escape from the negative emotions they are dealing with inside of the hospital
Alyssa Mauriello	Brookline, MA	2012-09-13	Because I have lunch outside every day in the garden and it is a great break for me from the day. It is a wonderful place to meet people for lunch or just relax on your own.
Lillian Rodriguez	boston, MA	2012-09-13	The grass, flowers and fountain give you tranquility like no other.
robert scott	boston, MA	2012-09-13	this garden is a place of respite and quiet for patients and medical staff alike. It is one of our last connections with the great history of Children's Hospiat, and the fact that it has been there through the decades giving solace to our patients and staff has been a source of great comfort to me personally. This garden is a treasure in the midst of a churning engine of medical care for seriously ill children, and needs to be preserved.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Laura Rich	Falmouth, ME	2012-09-13	<p>There are many studies that support the greening of urban spaces to promote the good health and well being of people who live, work, or are being cared for in that city. Please see this link:</p> <p><a href="http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/07/100723i61221.htm" rel="nofollow">http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/07/100723i61221.htm</a></p> <p>The Healing Effects of Forests  ScienceDaily (July 26, 2010) — "Many people," says Dr. Eeva Karjalainen, of the Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla, "feel relaxed and good when they are out in nature. But not many of us know that there is also scientific evidence about the healing effects of nature."</p> <p>Dr. Karjalainen says, "Preserving green areas and trees in cities is very important to help people recover from stress, maintain health and cure diseases."</p>
GENEVIEVE DROUIN	GAINESVILLE, FL	2012-09-13	i think every hospital should have a beautiful garden for the patients to sit in and enjoy the out doors it is good for the soul
Dianne Steele	Buzzard's Bay, MA	2012-09-13	Because it give the children someplace to go to get outside.
David Harris	Auburndale, MA	2012-09-13	The environment is as important for healing as the skill of the hospital staff. The garden is a treasure of open space in an overbuilt urban area
Kathleen Hiscock	Falmouth, ME	2012-09-14	This was the first place my son walked outside after his transplant.
Valerie Suwanseree	Phra Nakhon Si Ayuthaya, Thailand	2012-09-14	Green space/fresh air are sooooo important for patients
heather stonge	Lowell, MA	2012-09-14	this garden brings serenity to myself and my family when our son is at childrens. I dont understand why you just can t move the clinics to a different location and use that building for more rooms for patients.
Melissa Caldwell	Boston, MA	2012-09-14	I work at BCH and enjoy the garden and what it represents for staff and families.
Jocelyn Aguirre	Waltham, MA	2012-09-14	This garden is important to me and my family because my brother is always in and out of the hospital. This garden means so much to us because its a place of peace, where we see no sick babies, its a place to think, explore, and be happy.
GENEVIEVE DROUIN	GAINESVILLE, FL	2012-09-14	plant have healing benefits. and the fresh air and blue skys are excellent too...do they think that kids like to be cooped up inside all day...no....they do not, please dont destroy the garden
Janet Molina	Boston, MA	2012-09-14	I remember when I was a child my mom taking me to this garden with my little brother while he was sick. It's just a beautiful peaceful place.
Alan Beggs	Boston, MA	2012-09-14	The Prouty Garden is a unique feature of Boston Children's Hospital that provides a place of peace and respite for patients and employees alike. It is a priceless link with our history and one of the last remaining peaceful green spaces on Longwood Avenue. Once we build on it, it will be gone forever. I strongly urge our administration to resist the short term demands of the real estate crunch by taking the long view and considering how the importance of spaces like this will grow in the future as the area around us becomes even more built up.
Matthew Harris	Newton, MA	2012-09-14	Sense of calm and healing in a chaotic environment. Would be an irreplaceable loss.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Betsy Navarro	Boston, MA	2012-09-14	It is "my private" priceless spot to enjoy nature and be conscious about my soul around this concrete area. As a scientist, I go there every time that nothing is working at the lab, to just peaceful my mind and think in alternative ways to do experiments or find mistakes. As a patient, it is very good for my spirit to go out of a room, get some fresh air and get in contact with green, blue and all the colors that nature gives us.
Karen Hedberg	Southington, CT	2012-09-14	To preserve this haven for patients and staff.
xena herbert	winthrop, MA	2012-09-14	I am a patient at Children's Hospital
Katherine Engstler	Boston, MA	2012-09-14	The Prouty Garden serves as a haven in our otherwise hectic lives. As a staff member at BCH, I feel rejuvenated when I am able to spend even a few quick moments in the solace of the garden. In addition, families and patients appear to get joy out of there time in this beautiful space in what may be an otherwise painful time. The loss of the Prouty Garden would be a huge detriment to Boston Children's Hospital.
Elizabeth Kirpas	Hingham, MA	2012-09-14	My daughter has been a frequent flyer with Children's Hospital for 24 out of the last 25 years of her life. She will continue to be a patient there for the foreseeable future. Her Father and I have spent many hours in the Prouty Garden while she was in surgery or while she was an inpatient. The Garden is so much more than just a tranquil and beautiful space. It is steeped in the serenity and timelessness of nature. It has cradled so many distraught and worried parents who have left a little part of themselves behind to give strength to the newcomers. It is so much more than the sum of its parts. It is a testament to all the families who have suffered and won or lost there. Either way parents who sit quietly and tune in to the spirit of place which is abundant here, find solidarity with those who have gone before and leave a little piece of strength behind for those who come after.
Andrea Smith	St Petersburg, FL	2012-09-15	the garden helped my friend's son heal after open heart surgery
Susan Cody	Plymouth, MA	2012-09-15	Health
Anita Yoder	New Plymouth, ID	2012-09-15	I am a Mental Health Specialist and understand the healing benefits of such a garden.
robert burroughs	crown point, NY	2012-09-15	any hospital that specializes in the care of our children (whether it be with a garden to high tech medical equipment) should always be a first priority...
Gloria Wallace	Lexington, MA	2012-09-15	Playing, walking, or being pushed in a wheelchair in the garden is very therapeutic. Nothing else at the hospital comes close in terms of outdoor space. It humanizes you, and both patients and their families need this haven. It is a terrible idea to use it for clinical space. Do not lose sight of what true healing entails.
Barbara Paul	Taos, NM	2012-09-16	This is important to me because my friend's grandson has been in the hospital for the past six months and the garden has been his only access to the natural world as he recovers from his treatment. When we multiple this by the tens of thousands of children the hospital has served and the relief and pleasure it has brought to all, how could its destruction even be considered? There is healing in the freedom and beauty the garden provides.
Jean-Ju Chung	Brookline, MA	2012-09-16	The only green place in Children's hospital! For employees, patients, and the families, this is priceless healing place! PRESERVE IT!
Susan Grubert-Martin	Westfield, MA	2012-09-17	I had open heart surgery at Boston Children's Hospital in 1973. The garden was a magical place to me.. there was a tree in full bloom that I looked out at every day and went to when I was released because to me it symbolized hope. All the children loved that garden.. I can not fathom it being destroyed.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Estella Kanevsky	Chelsea, MA	2012-09-17	It is the only space we have in the hospital to be able to go outside and enjoy the scenery. It is beautiful and should not be demolished.
Paul Mitchell	Chelmsford, MA	2012-09-17	I believe preservation of open space to be a very high priority, especially in this situation for the healing power of nature. Mrs. Prouty intended this garden to be preserved perpetually, not just until it outlived it's conveniency. Please save this small treasured spot for future children to enjoy! There are some things in this world that are truly pricey, and Prouty Garden is one of them.
Sandra Schlosser	Burlington, VT	2012-09-17	My grandson was just born, had an operation the day after, and is on ECHMO. The garden has been my refuge and place to center myself, take a deep breath, pray, and then be able to be with my Grandson with more strength and grace. I am so eternally grateful for this space. The sign about the garden says that it will exist always. I want to see that happen so others can find peace when they need it.
Lynn Gregory	Chelmsford, MA	2012-09-17	The healing power of spending time in nature is well documented and it would be a shame if BCH decides to take a step backward in treating the "whole person" by destroying this magnificent healing space. As a mental health counselor (and avid gardener) I encourage the BCH leadership to revisit ways to make this a win-win situation for the hospital, its patients and employees, and the benefactors who have supported this priceless treasure of a garden in the past and present.
Jessica Dewes	East Fairfield, VT	2012-09-17	This garden is a refuge and a beautiful place to get away from the hospital. It was my understanding this garden would last as long as the hospital per Prouty's wishes.
Ben Smyth	East Fairfield, VT	2012-09-17	The garden is an important place to go when I am trying to deal with the stress of our extended hospital visit with my son.
Lisa Lynch	huntington, MA	2012-09-17	because it is important to my aunt
kerri thornton	parkers prairie, MN	2012-09-17	Garden is beautiful, peaceful. Aids in the healing of children. It saved the life of a very dear friend of mine. A PROMISE was made, to Mrs. Prouty to keep the garden..
Stephanie Walker	Chestnut Hill, MA	2012-09-18	My son was a patient at CHB for several months this past spring, and the Prouty Garden was a respite for all of us. The open sky and beautiful trees refreshed our spirits and our bodies.
Aparna Krishnamoorthy	Berkeley, CA	2012-09-18	It was a lovely patch of greenery to go to, away and removed from the hustle of the Longwood medical area, to enjoy an afternoon lunch on sunny days.
Aibin He	Boston, MA	2012-09-18	For the children and the environment
CHRISTINA BAKA	ATHENS, Greece	2012-09-18	I have spent time with my son who passed away from cancer at the age of 13. I fly every year from Greece just to visit Childrens and bring back dear memories
Doreen Dean	Woburn, MA	2012-09-18	Nature heals!
Carmen Popovici	Boston, MA	2012-09-18	Why is it less important to have a green space into a granite jungle than to erect a new building with modern offices? We preach on how important it is for our health to get out and breath fresh air, how important is for a patient healing process to be able to take few steps outside their hospital room and go outdoors for a bit of fresh air and yet, we do destroy exactly what we preach is good for our patients. We want our children to learn that being outdoors is good for them for their development, any doctor will say to a child "less computer time, go out and play" Time to time we even hold a talk about the importance of being outdoors in a green environment but we rush to run the bulldozers into the grass and erect a beautiful expensive building... What do we teach our kids in the end?

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Ehsan Afkhami	Lexington, MA	2012-09-18	We need more public parks, specially for children
Paul DeCaeb	Newton, MA	2012-09-18	Because this is a wonder place where patients and hospital workers can relax. IT should not be torn down!
Ramon Espinoza	boston, MA	2012-09-18	It is one of the few places where we can enjoy a little of sunlight, the outdoors, even though it within the facilities. It is just a place where we can relax for a little while.
Betty Pouliot	Sedro-Woolley, WA	2012-09-18	The spiritual healing of patients is just as important as the physical healing... This is a place of serenity and love for family and friends to visit with their loved ones..
Peter Wasielewski	Cambridge, MA	2012-09-18	Because I frequently eat there visiting my roommate whos an employee, during the summer its rare not to see people enjoying it.
John Graef	Boston, MA	2012-09-18	The garden is unique among Children's hospitals in the US or anywhere. It is a magically serene place for patients and staff alike and cannot be reproduced by roof greenery. It also means that the peace of this garden is more important than the expansion of the hospital. I have watched more than one family with a dying child seek solace in the remaining moments of the child's life in that garden. It is an oasis in a desert of heightened ambition and misplaced priorities.
Adam Ketchum	Springfield, MA	2012-09-18	This place has special significance to my aunt, and I wish to preserve it for her sake.
Susan Clapham	Wellesley, MA	2012-09-19	We can never get green spaces like this back -- it's so important to the healing process to have places like this which encourage reflection and serenity.
Amanda Tong	Brookline, MA	2012-09-19	This is the last green in the hospital. Don't lose it!
Tina Perivolarakis	Framingham, MA	2012-09-19	I noticed mothers who have been here with their children for a long time, and they are strolling in the garden with the chair or the cart. this is the only area in the hospital that is left for people to get out of their rooms, with a jony and some times an IV.
Sangita Suresh	Boston, MA	2012-09-19	It is very peaceful and helps relieve stress for all Research Fellows and Clinicians who work in an otherwise stressful environment.
Rachel Snowden	Columbia, SC	2012-09-19	I lovc this place it is one of Boston's best assets.
Karen Farmer	Billerica, MA	2012-09-19	In the field of Integrative Health, we know beautiful green space for clients to see and be in aids in their recoery
Svetlana Gapon	Waltham, MA	2012-09-19	For pleasent and healthy being for everybody
Mariya Mollova	Boston, MA	2012-09-19	It is a precious gift to the CHILDREN at the Children's Hospital Boston. Be respectful.
Suzanne Rich	Boston, MA	2012-09-19	I am disturbed that hospital wants to take away this space to build yet another building while, at the same time, they are cutting staff.  This garden is a tremendously important space for staff, families, patients, and visitors alike. It would be an absolutely shame to lose it.
isadora Goldman Leviton	lexington, MA	2012-09-19	because i am a kid and if i were sick i wold want a pretty place to come .

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Kathryn Donald Stanley	Natick, MA	2012-09-20	Thirty-two years ago when I was 13 years old I spent over 5 weeks at Boston Children's relearning to walk and recovering after a dual tendon surgery. That garden saved my life. I was at the hospital alone in the middle of summer and it was the only fresh air and green I got during that time. The hospital staff were wonderful, but going to that garden and sketching the hidden statues under the bushes made the experience bearable. It would be a very sad thing if it were destroyed as countless children will no longer have this incredible, beautiful, safe, and peaceful sanctuary to aid in their healing.
David Wilhelmi	Roxbury, MA	2012-09-20	Through out my 36 years at Children's it has for me been as intended "a place of refreshment & relaxation"... It is a priveledge that Mrs Prouty gave us this beautiful space and a sin that Childrens is so myopic as not to recognise it's benefit to the whole hospital community.
Roberta Leviton	Newton, MA	2012-09-20	Prouty garden offers a place of relief and pleasure for patients, staff and visitors. Children's Hospital should not ignore its importance.
Jane Marolda (Simmons)	Salem, CT	2012-09-20	There is history there and peace and healing to all the little patients that have been brought there in the past and will hopefully be able to go there in the future.
Benjamin Hills	Brookline, MA	2012-09-20	As a former employee of Children's, Prouty was always my favorite place to relax during a lunch break. Furthermore, it provides a positive space for patients that must be a welcome change from the rest of the Longwood Area.
chari dalsheim	Needham, MA	2012-09-21	Ones soul is nourished and can help heal the physical body through art and Prouty Garden provides that! ~Chari Dalsheim
Mara Compagno	Boston, MA	2012-09-22	The garden is a wave of joy for the Hospital, for patients, for their family, for all employees.
Matthew Medeiros	easthampton, MA	2012-09-22	I believe in historic preservation of landscapes
ann buscerni	longmeadow, MA	2012-09-23	Many of my clients have taken their children to Boston Children's
Kristi Boyer	Hopkinton, MA	2012-09-23	I have been a nurse at Children's for 14 years. This wonderful space has brought comfort to countless patients and families that I have cared for.
Burton Cohen	Lexington, MA	2012-09-23	These children should be our first consideration.
Jessica Ratner	Brookline, MA	2012-09-24	During my four years as an employee at Boston Children's, I spent many days eating lunch in the Prouty Garden. It is a wonderful place--for patients, families, and staff--to find peace amidst the stresses of the hospital environment. Please preserve it!
Michelle Martin	Saugus, MA	2012-09-24	I work in the ICU and it means so much to the patients when we are able to take them outside to the garden. It is the highlight of their day. It would be a shame if they do not have this to look forward to
Jessica Chasse	Stoneham, MA	2012-09-25	It provides an oasis in an otherwise busy hectic day
Elyse Slayton	Boston, MA	2012-09-26	I volunteered for years at Children's and took so many CF patients out there to enjoy the fresh air. My mom worked at children's for 39 years and loved the garden for her patients also!
Amanda Snow	Tyngsboro, MA	2012-09-26	My five year old son was in the hospital and all medications and treatments seemed to be failing him. Bringing him to the Prouty Garden gave us moments of happiness and hope in a dark and scary time, and helped us find the strength to keep looking for a way to help him.
Rachel Perkins	Jericho, VT	2012-09-26	When my nephew was at Children's, my sister's family spent some time in the Prouty Garden. It meant a lot to them- the first time that week that they really felt hopeful and saw their son feeling better and acting "normal."

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Edward J Burke	Boston, MA	2012-09-26	The healing effect on patients and the calming effect on staff.
Debra Stickney	Fairlee, VT	2012-09-26	My 2 year old grandson has just been recently diagnosed with ALL. He was here in Boston...from Alaska for a wedding when he was feeling ill....He was put in ICU for 5 days and now he is doing Chemo for a month. His father and sisters had to return to Alaska. He and his Mom are here for a month...and they do not know anyone. I live in Vermont and have been coming to visit 1 or 2 times a week. I bring Seth out to this beautiful Prouty garden and find it such a nice place for the little ones who love the outside but cannot leave the hospital. They need this connection with God's beauty....I believe it helps the healing process.
Mark Jaquith	Cambridge, MA	2012-09-27	Gardens help heal.
Elena Caplan	Belmont, MA	2012-09-27	It's a beautiful and peaceful space.
Lynn Hoyer	Belmont, MA	2012-09-27	I have seen first hand how important it is to the families and patients at Childrens
Oana Nicoara	boston, MA	2012-09-27	This is the most beautiful place in the whole Hospital. Makes you be proud to be a part of Boston Children's Hosp
mary beth hanagan	roswell, NM	2012-09-27	beauty helps the body and soul heal
Pauline Olney	Santa Rosa, CA	2012-09-27	As CH nursing school graduate I remember it fondly as a place of beauty to relax in
Jordan Ouderkirk	Salt LAke City, UT	2012-09-28	I volunteer at a children's hospital and know the healing effect nature and being outside has on children. They need to be able to enjoy the outdoors!
Ann Walker	Fairlee, VT	2012-09-28	A dear friend of mine is there with her grandson and this is their haven.
James snow	tyngsboro, MA	2012-09-29	Finding the Prouty garden during our in patient stay at childrens was the only thing that kept us sane during this hectic time. This serene place brings happiness to countless families and must be preservcd.
William snow	Springfield, MA	2012-09-29	Because my nephew loves it
Gary Coyne	Parsonsfield, ME	2012-09-29	A friend requested this.
Linda Lee	Norwood, MA	2012-10-01	It is a place of retreat for patients and their families to find peace and beauty amidst a very difficult time. Nature's beauty is restorative and healing. Please, don't take this away from these most vulnerable at a time of need.
Sandrine Hulot	Boston, MA	2012-10-02	This garden is really important as a part of the healing process for patients, as sanctuary, as a peaceful place also for workers.
Kelly Prevost	Medford, MA	2012-10-02	My son has gone to children's hospital since he was an infant. Having a peaceful place to safely "escape" the hospital setting, if even for a moment, is a cherished experience for the child and parents.
Heather Forsythe	lowell, MA	2012-10-02	When my son was an in-patient at the hospital the Prouty Garden was not only a physical breath-of fresh air, but a mental one as well. The Olmstead aesthetic cannot truly be recreated in a different style space. Meandering pathways, surprising vistas and secluded spots. The design allows for both solitary regrouping, human interaction and a communing with nature Olmstead so perfectly realizes. I two house back from an Olmstead firm designed park, in that 23/4 acres a whole community comes together, recharges and find the quiet time for reflection our fast-paced living so often lacks. Watching the parents and patients arrive with their challenges and days events in tow , then leave with a new sense of resolve and peace is just as important in the healing process as concrete medicine. For patients and caregivers.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Gregg Dinino	Kennebunk, ME	2012-10-02	Bulldozing a legacy, especially one that has helped so many, is a very POOR option. BCH, please pursue an option that preserves the Prouty Garden, even if it extends the ROI on this project!  I know people whom this garden has touched; who knows how much more difficult their time at BCH would have been without it.
nini banks	Attleboro, MA	2012-10-03	Trees are sacred & this garden was meant to be a haven!! This is also very disrespectful to wishes of Mrs Prouty who donated this space & also to our Mother Earth!! Leave the tree be!!!
penny wise michaud	old saybrook, CT	2012-10-03	A garden provides some peace and solice in this hectic world. The healing powers of nature are amazing!
JoAnn McGuire	Warwick, RI	2012-10-03	Because for so many reason first of for the sick children in the hospital to look at breath it's fresh air and nice to look at beside buildins
Kit Yuen	Newton, MA	2012-10-04	It's a beautiful garden for the children to run around and get fresh air and forget they are in the hospital for a short while. Parents love it! Nurses and doctors love it! We need an area to sit, relax and regroup during a busy stressful day! The mental health of everyone is at state. Please save our Prouty Garden!!!!!!
Carol Fraser	South Yarmouth, MA	2012-10-04	As a graduate of Children's, many of my classmates and I realize how important the beautiful Prouty Garden is to patients , their families. and the staff. Why destroy this God-sent haven for a new building?
Shelly Parker	Lunenburg, MA	2012-10-04	It is important for children to be outside and enjoy time with their family in a good environment.
Barbara DePasquale	Natick, MA	2012-10-04	it's eco friendly and the right thing to do
Julia King	Methuen, MA	2012-10-04	It's a place that workers, sickly, and parents- can forget for a moment that they're at the hospital... recharge... soooooo important
Bryan Lemieux	Memphis, TN	2012-10-05	I could not count the number of times I saw children and families enjoying this garden during my tenure at Childens Hospital. It is central to the spirit of the hospital, a little corner of nature and solace within the towering concrete buildings and sterile hospital environment. This garden is such a timeless treasure.
Louise Civetti	Watertown, MA	2012-10-05	My nephew spent most of his childhood there with a rare disease. The entire family sought refuge there - even if it was just a glimpse.
Brian Stewart	acworth, GA	2012-10-05	this is important to aiiow children a place to go for fresh air and space to run around.
Susan King	NEEDHAM, MA	2012-10-05	The break that being in "nature" brings to ones spirit is so life fulfilling, please keep the garden.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Melissa MacIntyre (nee Weisshaus)	Arlington, MA	2012-10-05	<p>Over the course of the nearly 5 years that I worked for Children's Hospital Boston, I believe I visited the Prouty Garden an average of several times per week, for a variety of reasons: to take a walk, as a quick and refreshing break during the day (I worked on the Inpatient Psychiatry service); as a way to bring a patient to the outdoors for some fresh air and perspective (patients occasionally "did laps" as we met for our sessions!); as a way to connect with a supervisee or other colleague outside of our work environment but without having to leave the hospital entirely; or just a quick spin through after going to get lunch or coffee.</p> <p>The Garden's incredible diversity of flowers, shrubs, and trees brought me, and all who I introduced to its wonders, tremendous pleasure. Many summer days saw our recreational therapists leading serene and uplifting yoga sessions, sensory workshops, and the like with groups of tough adolescents who were more used to screaming and anger and drug use than they were to re-centering and locating inner peace. A supervisee gave me roses at the end of her time with us, along with a thank-you for introducing her to the Garden.</p> <p>The thought that this place, an inspired place of beauty, nature, happiness, and peace, could be taken away fills me with great sadness.</p> <p>I beg the hospital: reconsider. Consider all who have benefitted, and who will benefit in the future. The treasures of beauty and nature are easy to remove, and nearly impossible to regain, especially in an area so busy as the center of Children's Hospital, and the Longwood Medical area. The Garden is an amazing, healing place; please, do not take this place away.</p>
tanya ames	scituate, MA	2012-10-05	anything that can bring peace and comfort to a family with a child in the hospital is worth having
Barbara O'Beirne	Hudson, NH	2012-10-05	Everyone needs a break from being sick. Giving kids and their family a place to get away is important as is letting staff step away from the walls and step into beauty is a release everyone needs. Keep the park.
Sarah Shaughnessy	Hingham, MA	2012-10-05	My daughter was a patient for a week and it helped to invigorate our spirits while we were there.
Lorna Innes	Laval, Canada	2012-10-05	Too much green space is being taken away. It not only is beautiful it helps cut back on pollution.
Mary Lou Fenuccio	West Barnstable, MA	2012-10-05	We used this garden when my daughter was at Children's for 10 days in 2004.
Christine Panus	Overland Park, KS	2012-10-05	The Prouty Garden was a wonderful respite both during our long day in preop and during our hospital stay. It was also a calming place for my son to visit while we waited for our follow up appointment. Please keep that beautiful space.
Wilfred Griffiths	Saint-Eustache, Canada	2012-10-05	Beauty needs to be available to those sick, to those that are down... somewhere to feel alive.
Megen Stringer-Horpinjuk	Kansas City, KS	2012-10-05	A good friend's son just had surgery there and let me know they were going to take down the garden that so many of the children love. Please, leave this beautiful place for children and families to enjoy some peaceful outside air in such a hard time. choice!!
Stanciu Cristina Emilia	Galati, Romania	2012-10-05	because the people is important
James Cronin	North Attleboro, MA	2012-10-05	This type of serenity is needed in a healing environment.
Linda Kantanas	Swampscott, MA	2012-10-06	Because the children need to this beautiful outdoor garden for some rest and play.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Rebecca Smith	Charlestown, MA	2012-10-06	The garden should be treasured. It is a special place that benefits the patients and families of this hospital and should be cherished and not destroyed..
Diane Blais	South Burlington, VT	2012-10-06	My son spent 5 days at Boston Children's Hospital following open heart surgery in August. Prouty Garden was such a valued oasis from the hospital environment and a motivating destination for the walks that he needed for his recovery. I cannot even imagine how the patients who stay longer, and sometimes much longer, would manage without this beautiful bit of green space. Nothing could come close to replicating the immense power of healing this garden provides for both patients and their caregivers.
amsler-rinaldi sabina	marblehead, MA	2012-10-06	The Prouty Garden is truly a precious place. It allows staff and families to decompress and relax during their busy and stressful days. The therapeutic environment it offers for patients is one of a kind with a special history . I can't imagine a suitable replacement is possible. Please do not destroy!!!
alanna osullivan-flynn	scituate, MA	2012-10-06	I eat lunch there in good weather and the patients and families appear so happy to be outside in the fresh air. Please, please do not take a weather this small place that brings so much pleasure!!!!
Lynne Foley	Boston, MA	2012-10-06	<a href="http://www.change.org/petitions/boston-children-s-hospital-preserve-prouty-garden?javascript=false" rel="nofollow">http://www.change.org/petitions/boston-children-s-hospital-preserve-prouty-garden?javascript=false</a>
Jennie Ankney	Medford, MA	2012-10-06	Because this was put aside for Mrs. Pouty. Also, we really do need to preserve special places like this in the city. I live across from a park & it is so important to me to have it!
Umbereen Nehal	Brookline, MA	2012-10-06	Green spaces are proven to improve mental health, well being, productivity -- this is important for both patients and employees. it is an asset that cannot be measured in dollars and cents but does contribute to Children's Hospital being a place of excellence.
Christopher Hunt	beverly, MA	2012-10-06	I think it is important to the families that may have spent their last days with their sick child walking through the garden and letting them enjoy its beauty.
Caitlin Imbrogna	Pembroke, MA	2012-10-06	Out patients and families need this space to get a break from all the medical treatments. Some are here for months on end and this really helps them get by!
Sheryl Lonergan	Weymouth, MA	2012-10-06	There is enough cement in Boston. Let the patients and Workers have a little green during the day. It makes a world of difference.
love joy melendez	natick, MA	2012-10-06	This garden is so important to dying patient and their family. It is a sacred place for them. It is like a sanctuary.
Erin Morris	Rockland, MA	2012-10-07	very important to patients and families for peace and healing
michelle parker	east sandwich, MA	2012-10-07	This is a respite for families/patients and staff
Suzanne Niro	Mendon, MA	2012-10-07	I have worked here for 22 years and have always enjoyed escaping to the garden on a crazy hectic day to find some peace. I also have talked to many families of patients who feel the same way. It is the only peaceful relaxing place they can take their kids to escape the "hospital " scene
Elaine Imbrogna	Weymouth, MA	2012-10-07	My step daughter spent a long time in Childrens hospital and she would have gone crazy if we didn't have the Garden to keep us leveled out.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Christine Ameral	Peabody, MA	2012-10-07	It is a beautiful & peaceful area for families to go when they need to step outside from the hospital to have time alone to reflect. They can walk out with their childrens and see how amazing this spot is for them to just forget for a moment they are in a hospital. How tranquil this area is for everyone to enjoy.
Maureen Beath	Medfield, MA	2012-10-07	This garden is a gem in the middle of a concrete jungle. For those families and patients who are here long term, it may be the only green they get to see. Also, employees are able to find peace and rejuvenation by stepping out there.
Megan Gallagher	Brighton, MA	2012-10-07	The Prouty is two things: an historic treasure designed by two of the nation's most notable landscape architects (who were locally-based) and a haven for all those who work and are cared for at BCH. The Prouty is a great example of an exceptional environment of care. The lunchtime breaks spent in the sunshine and the patients' and families' strolls in the fresh air are a necessary respite for all who are often inside for countless hours, days, or weeks dealing with life-altering and life-threatening issues daily. Good mental health is a major component of overall health and should not be overlooked by an institution that prides itself on being the best. BCH's promise to deliver exceptional care and exceptional service simply cannot be achieved without the proffered sanctuary of the Prouty Garden.
Cheryl Cantalupo	Malden, MA	2012-10-07	families,children and employees need a nice place to get away from the hospital in a safe,comfortable and close environment.
Jacquelyne Alfeo	Wakefield, MA	2012-10-07	I have spent many of lunches regrouping during my shift, its tranquil& relaxing. In the front of the hospital, its loud, busy & very city like.
Karen Gruskin	Marblehead, MA	2012-10-07	If you have ever brought a child outside to die in the garden you would not need to ask why. So much better than dying in a cold hospital room! In addition, I have spent many hours enjoying a little bit of green and sun during a stressful busy day of work.
Lydia Pena	Mission hill, MA	2012-10-08	I am an advocate of green space. As a resident of a community where development keep popping at all time, it is time to stop the none sense of big corporation. It is important to maintain as many green spaces are left in any neighborhood within development been build on top of our heads.
Craig Nally	Foxborough, MA	2012-10-08	Praughty garden is an important place for patient relaxation and recovery. As well as a place for staff, patients and families to mingle, rest and quietly enjoy the outdoors in a bustling and busy city. This garden was donated on the condition it would be here for patients forever, lets not be a hospital that goes back on our promises.
Emily Winkler	Somerville, MA	2012-10-08	because my patients love it, especially when it is the first time they have been outside since admission
Jill Flinton	Charlton, NY	2012-10-08	The Garden was a place of solitude for us as parents to go and adjust to the medical challenges we were to face. It also provided a lovely outdoor place for our son to go and get some sunshine and fresh air. Please keep the tranquility of the Prouty Garden!
Erica Yep	Malden, MA	2012-10-09	Sick children should have an oasis escape from their illness.
Norlynne Mondesir	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-10-09	It is peaceful, it helps one refocus mid-day
Kimberly Chandler	Boston, MA	2012-10-09	This is a beautiful space that is frequently used by staff, patients, and their families. It's nice to have a little escape into a quiet garden (not out to the hustle and bustle of Longwood Ave) in the 30 min I have free during a busy day.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Carly Riker	Boston, MA	2012-10-09	This is a place for healing and recovery and with out Prouty Garden, Boston Children's Hospital would not be the same. Please sign this petition to allow families, visitors and employees a relaxing place to heal, pray, recover, or simply be.
Stephanie Valcourt-Dexter	Lawrence, MA	2012-10-11	As both a patient, this was the only place I felt "normal" while in the hospital. It gives you a break from the constant reminder that you're ill. As an employee many years later, I witnessed patients having the same joy I did in being able to be outside in such a beautiful and healing place.
Sarah Lucas	Boston, MA	2012-10-12	I know that this garden has a lot of memories for kids at the hospital and kids who have been released from the hospital. It is the only outdoor space that most of them can go to so taking this away from them would not only ruin memories it would ruin their spirits.
Kelsey DeBettencourt	Oak Bluffs, MA	2012-10-12	Children need the chance to get away from the world as much as adults. This opportunity is vital in comforting them in their sickness.
Marise Cornelius	Boston, MA	2012-10-12	Because children need a place to go outside of the hospital, it is important to their recovery!
Hannah VanDerlaske	Edgartown, MA	2012-10-12	When I was a patient at Children's and Dana Farber, sometimes going to the Prouty garden was the only sunshine I could get during the day. It was one of my favorite places in the entire hospital.
Rachel Fitzmaurice	Allston, MA	2012-10-12	Access to outdoor space is so important for patients and can play a key role in their healing process.
Casey Gilman	Boston MA, MA	2012-10-12	When I was a patient at MGH and undergoing blood infusion treatments, the garden was like a little sanctuary for me. It was a form of distraction for me for what I was going through and where I was. It can be very overwhelming being surrounded by sick people, especially children. It is extremely important to have a place, like a garden, to escape from the chaos of a hospital atmosphere.
Nancy Pastore	North Reading, MA	2012-10-12	It is very difficult when one has to spend time in the hospital especially if you have a sick child. It is very important to be able to have a place where you can go to get away from the 4 walls of a hospital room. Prouty Garden is very special and I hope they can find a way to preserve it.
Rose Erlichman	Shrewsbury, MA	2012-10-15	i know how important peace is to healing!
Patricia Brand	Marco Island, FL	2012-10-15	As a graduate of The Children's Hospital School of Nursing class of 1956 I am appalled that destroying the Prouty Garden would be even contemplated! It was created and donated to the children and families spending time as patients at the hospital. It is an oasis in the middle of asphalt and large buildings where all can "get away" and meditate and or gather strength to face those ordeals some cannot even imagine. This idea is abhorrent to anyone closely related with the history of our beloved hospital. Let us not lose sight of the importance if this secret space. I am grateful to have an opportunity to sign this petition Sincerely, Patricia ( Kelley ) Brand
Patricia Jenney	Santa Fe, NM	2012-10-16	I am a graduate of the Children's Hospital School of Nursing. I feel that this garden should be preserved as per Mrs. Prouty wishes. We have enough concrete in our lives and we need tranquil areas for our children and their parents.
Danielle Erlichman	Shrewsbury, MA	2012-10-16	My mother works in a hospital

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Patricia Marshall	Merrimac, MA	2012-10-18	Growing up I had a place to run, to play, I was fortunate, children and a lot of adults do not have this gift. Don't take this gift away. Mrs. Prouty gave this land as a gift to be used as a garden as a haven, how disrespectful to destroy something that was given from the heart..
Catherine Dionne	Auburn, ME	2012-10-19	This garden was a wonderful place for my son and our family to visit while he spent several weeks at Boston Children's recently. Please don't take away this little bit of nature that the kids here benefit from so much.
Colleen O'Shaughnessy	Middleboro, MA	2012-10-19	The children and their families need the garden. Sometimes our families are with us for months and this is the only fresh air and sunshine they can get. It is a haven in the center of a busy medical area where families and patients can go to relax and enjoy some beauty.
Jill Melanson	East Bridgewater, MA	2012-10-19	To have an area that staff and patients can go to remind them there is other life around other than the city.
Michelle K	Brookline, MA	2012-10-19	I have spent my entire 23 years in this wonderful hospital, the garden is my only place to feel human again, please don't take that away from patients.
James Warham	London, United Kingdom	2012-10-19	Views, or the chance to relax in greenery, is proven to increase clinical recovery, and enhance patient experience.
Nicole Sullivan	Somerville, MA	2012-10-20	It provides a much needed sanctuary for those who are in the hospital.
Jennifer Bigotta	Stoughton, MA	2012-10-20	It is a haven for those that are ill.
Justin Benoit	WATERBURY, CT	2012-10-20	In Yale New Haven Hospital, on the floor near Necrophology, there is a garden similar to this. Once while visiting the hospital, I sat outside and watched everyone who came by. And everyone who took a step out onto that platform smiled. How many sad frowns do you see in your hospital as people learn loved ones are sick? That they themselves are?
Joe Alvord	Anchorage, AK	2012-10-20	We so need a glimpse of Paradise to sustain us during times of illness and grief.
Bonnie Denis	Medford, MA	2012-10-20	I spent much of my childhood and teenage years in Children's Hospital. Having green space that I could be wheeled into even when confined to a bed was invaluable.
Kirsten Steinbach	Portland, ME	2012-10-20	Prouty Garden is the Sacred Space of Boston Children's Hospital.
Samantha Pirik	Sunbury, PA	2012-10-20	I'm doing this for my friend and for every smile this garden has given to someone who needed a smile.
Katrina Coukos	lynfield, MA	2012-10-20	I am just the NCLEX away from becoming a nurse. I feel the garden is extremely important for patients and their families. Please do not take it away.
Tiffany Chiu	Quincy, MA	2012-10-20	because we shouldn't choose architecture over natural landscaping and beauty.
Sara Gravatt	Newton Upper Falls, MA	2012-10-20	Because a friend of mine, while very sick, spent a lot of time in that garden, and it would devastate her to lose it.
Roel van Meer	Den Haag, Netherlands	2012-10-20	Nature is a place that heals people. It nurtures those parts of a person that cannot be reached with medicine.
Catherine Jameson-Hardy	Germantown, MD	2012-10-20	I believe in the power of green space for healing. I am a cancer survivor and found it necessary to have a park nearby while seeking treatment. It took all the energy I had to get there and the park filled me with enough to carry me through the rest of treatment and the week.
Rowan Farmer	Cornwall, United Kingdom	2012-10-20	Children need a place to sit outside instead of being stuck inside, it helps their healing. Last year I spent 5 weeks in a hospital room looking out at a brick wall - a garden would have made so much difference!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Heather Mack	Baker City, OR	2012-10-20	While we were visiting Boston several years ago, my uncle had a heart attack. He never recovered and passed on, but our family spent many hours in the garden. It was solice and peace in a hectic, emotional time. I have always wanted to go back to it when I am again in the Boston area. It is a pity it is being demolished. I'm sure a lot of people have a lot of memories tied to the garden. I for one would be sad to see it go.
Penelope Bardell	Exeter, NH	2012-10-20	Patients need a place to no just be patients....but to be people...human...a place to give them a sense of peace, love, tranquility.
David Giver	Pacific Grove, CA	2012-10-20	A mutual friend's plea for the place that saved her so many times in a hospital that she has had to spend so much time.
Cristin Berkey	Arlington, MA	2012-10-20	I used to work in Children's and having lunch there was such an important break from my day.
Alicia Storvold	High River, Canada	2012-10-20	You can not only cure a body, there has to be something for the soul as well. My youngest brother when battling cancer, cherished his few moments out doors. It would refresh his spirit giving him the strength to go on through his seemingly endless treatments. It was a breath of life in a sterile environment. For the people who are there king term and shirt term. It's a small reprieve from the hell they are living, please don't take that away.
Mike Warham	Manchester, United Kingdom	2012-10-20	All hospitals need a healing green space.
Mark Zipeto	Holbrook, MA	2012-10-20	Urban gardens and parks are vitally important to the health and beauty of our cities.
Natalia Jimenez	Tallahassee, FL	2012-10-20	When my mom was hospitalized, I spent the entire time with her, and would have really appreciated a garden space to visit. It's absolutely unbelievable to me that anyone is even considering getting rid of something that can bring so much hope.
Olivia Gillham	Boston, MA	2012-10-20	Spacious green places are incredibly important and healing - BCH should absolutely make it a priority to preserve this one
Tiffany Miller	Malden, MO	2012-10-20	Because i believe it is important for paitents and their familys to have a place outside of the concrete bleakness of the hospital to think for a while or to be together to just try and forget for just a little while the sadness that they face inside.
Marty Peck	Scmerville, MA	2012-10-20	because places like this are so important to patients and their families.
Lisa Loren	Acton, MA	2012-10-20	Because "peace" and "hope" should also be part of the healing process. Don't take away these kids' only escape from the concrete jungle of the hospital wards.
Ann Congleton	Brookline, MA	2012-10-20	Bulldozing the Prouty Garden would seem an example of inability to grasp the difference between shallow utilitarian "efficiency" and a deeper effectiveness in healing patients and sustaining staff. Let us hope the trustees of BCH will recognize the shallowness of the proposal to bulldoze the Garden and require the designers to bring them a more insightful proposal or else find more imaginative designers.
Jeff Mach	Hackensack, NJ	2012-10-20	A beautiful garden is a hard thing to replace in any way.
Velma deSelby-Bowen	Seattle, WA	2012-10-20	I have friends and family who use this hospital. and who have found this garden to be a haven in their healing.
Danielle Scofield	Iansing, NY	2012-10-20	Because this means so much to so many and taking a sanctuary that has provided so much to so many would be a shame.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Paula Muise	Milton, MA	2012-10-20	When in a hospital, there needs to be reason to recover. Gardens are beautiful and bring happiness to so many, why take away something that helps so many people get through a difficult stay at a hospital?
Jacqueline Seifart	Quincy, MA	2012-10-20	I spent a lot of time in Boston Children's hospital growing up. Having a nice place outside to go and sit is a blessing and helps so much with the healing process. Don't take that away.
Rhiannon Griffin	Pittsburgh, PA	2012-10-20	Because my mother has been a CNA for over a decade, so i've been in several nursing homes and long term care facilities. I've also been an inpatient and know how terrible and terrifying being hospitalized for a few days can be. And how good it felt to be outside afterwards. Long term care shouldn't be a prison sentence.
Brittney Lake	Birmingham, AL	2012-10-20	Everyone deserves to have that one special place to relax, and feel at peace when bad things are happening all around them. For the people, patients and staff alike, this is that place for them. THIS is the place that keeps them going, the place that gives them peace.
Joey Shaughnessy	Edmonton, Canada	2012-10-20	People need spiritual relief.
jen vidmar	Kennewick, WA	2012-10-20	Studies show access to, or the view of, greenspace can decrease healing times, decrease the need for painkiller, and improve outcomes after surgery in hospitals. This garden offers patients a healing environment and a break from the monotony of a hospital stay.
Michael Walden	Atlanta, GA	2012-10-20	This is something that should be expanded, not bulldozed.
Gil Cnaan	Philadelphia, PA	2012-10-20	As a heart transplant recipient, I know the therapeutic value of having a garden to visit, especially during the first month post-transplant.
Natassia Stucka	Santa Fe Springs, CA	2012-10-20	One of my good friends is a dialysis patient, that has been a patient of this hospital for many years, and tells me this garden, is her sanctuary.
Louise Dinsmore	Coventry, RI	2012-10-20	My late daughter, Gabrielle, and me would spend a lot of time in this garden to get away from it all, the surgeries, medications, chest x rays..everything...this was a place to escape all of the anxiety and chaos.....Save the garden!
Charles Tsakrios	allston, MA	2012-10-20	I have friends in the hospital who are there for long periods of time. I want them to have a place to be comfortable.
Caritia Abell	London, United Kingdom	2012-10-20	This space brings joy to those going through hard times, anything that brings joy should stay in my view
Elizabeth Teeter-Mench	Fayetteville, NC	2012-10-20	Because tearing down something that helps make kids happy during a time when they need it most is really not right.
Lisa Riordon	Newburyport, MA	2012-10-20	Gardens like this one are a vital part of healing, comfort and humanity. I spent many hours, over many months in this place and felt comfort and relief to continue to push and fight for normal days, a child that could run and play there. It should be preserved and protected for all to come and find a little slice of peace. In an Olmsted temple, no less. Build elsewhere... please.
Amber Schorr	Somerville, MA	2012-10-20	I have hospital-bound friends and one of their only comforts there is this garden.
Kalyn Peck	Medina, OH	2012-10-20	All hospitals need some place natural for patients to relax.
Charlotte Badler	Boston, MA	2012-10-20	As a nurse I know the clinically proven importance of access to nature in the healing process. As a human being, the outpouring of love for this space expressed by other signers was deeply moving for me.
Lily Ciaramitaro	Waltham, MA	2012-10-20	This is a sanctuary for people with sick family members. This is a place of healing for my friends and it should not be destroyed.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Anne van de Wiel	Nijmegen, Netherlands	2012-10-20	Green is what patients need to get better, green air, a small piece of peace and nature.
Peg McAdam	Cambridge, MA	2012-10-20	I know the importance of green space in healing, please honor a wonderful gift.
Dinah Super	Brighton, MA	2012-10-20	I was a nursing student on a long term care unit at BCH, and there were moments that it was SO HARD to be there, and to see all of the pain other people went through. I was able to walk out into the garden and witness how comforting the garden was to patients, to families, and to the staff that work there. This garden is essential.
Andrew Hampton	Barbourville, KY	2012-10-20	Every hospital should have something like this.
Camden Drew Tausworthe	Santa Clara, CA	2012-10-20	I have been in and out of the hospital regularly, such places are a necessity.
Chuck Roberts	Kentwood, MI	2012-10-20	A garden at the hospital is great for mental health. A place of nature and contentment amid a sterile environment devoid of feeling.
KathleenThis Decker	Dayton, OH	2012-10-20	This garden is an oasis of peace and healing, in a place that is often full of pain and heartache. Whatever you are planning to replace it with could never have more value than this garden has to the patients and their families you serve. We as a nation tear down so easily, in the name of progress..isn't there enough concrete in Boston? Children, especially sick children, need a place to feel connected to life again..and so do their parents. This beautiful space was a GIFT...not to the hospital or your shareholders, but to the countless families that have been comforted and refreshed within it. I'm sure whatever you plan on doing with it is being done so you can make more profit...for once, do the right thing and choose humanity over profit! I don't live in Boston, have never been there. But I do know someone who has, and I know a family here in Dayton with a sick child. Our hospital doesn't have such a wonderful space, but there is a green space with play equipment and flowers and trees...and the child I know loves it there. I'd hate for her to lose that opportunity to feel like a normal kid for a brief time when she has to be there. Don't take it away from the children you serve!
Elizabeth Gall	Medford, MA	2012-10-20	This is an old and beautiful, open space. In today's society we don't seem to value those open spaces anymore - we just want to build over everything to make our cities full of glass and steel. But gardens are powerful tools in healing and maintaining a connection with nature is something we really need to do, especially considering the current direction of our attention (i.e. towards technology and away from personal interaction). The park allows everyone to breathe. Please keep it there.
Patrick Salsbury	Santa Cruz, CA	2012-10-20	First off, it upholds a promise made more than half a century ago. But most importantly, it's a haven of solace for patients who desperately need some contact with Nature while going through harrowing times. I'm honestly dumbfounded that this is even a question in anyone's mind, and the people who think bulldozing is a viable or good idea should probably be let go, because they obviously aren't cut out for providing health care.
Vicki Anderson	Edmonton, Canada	2012-10-20	Small plots of land like this in the middle of a city are so important to maintain a connection to nature and breath fresh air. These reasons become especially more important when the plot of land is accessed primarily by people who spend most of their time in a hospital.
bryan daneault	manchester, NH	2012-10-20	i spent 13 years at that hospital going back and forth to Manchester i used to go out there to clear my head and feel better
Eriane Hiorns	Orlando, FL	2012-10-20	Hospitals need their gardens, it helps with the mundaneness of the hospitals and helps family and staff relax, for however long or short a time it is.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
R. Larabie	North Vancouver, Canada	2012-10-20	Gardens are important places of healing. An established garden is an oasis already existing. You cannot replace what has taken root with the promise of something that has yet to be. Find another place for the building and keep the greenspace.
Lisa Napadensky	Newark, DE	2012-10-21	This was brought to my attention by a dear friends daughter who has spent most of her life in the hospital & told me how healing she felt this garden to be. It lifted her spirits and gave her hope & happiness when she needed it most. Through the grace & goodness of god, miracles of medicine & doctors, she is now a young lady of 23 & would love to see this garden preserved for others to enjoy. I garden myself & know first hand the benefits of what meditation and quiet contemplation surrounded by natural beauty brings to my life. To bulldoze such a beautiful & meaningful gift in the name of real estate expansion is almost criminal. Please save this garden!
Steve Collins	Huntsville, AL	2012-10-21	I know from personal experience how wonderful these gardens are to those who serve and suffer in similar places of healing. To demolish one of the finest examples of a healing garden would be a disgrace to the hospital and the memory of Mrs. Prouty. It should also serve as a cautionary tale to other would-be benefactors that the value of your vision is fleeting in the eyes of the board.
Amber Heller	Altoona, WI	2012-10-21	There is no reason to take anything away that bring smiles to those who are in pain.
Denise Murphy	lowell, MA	2012-10-21	My friend had a heart transplant at this hospital, the garden is a place of refuge amidst all the fear.
carmen phillips	cambridge, MA	2012-10-21	green is in, in more than one way. there is nothing green allowed inside a hospital because of JCAHO regulations. why on earth take away the only green thing sick kids see?
P. Nicole Primeaux	Kaplan, LA	2012-10-21	For GrrlGoneWilde
Sarah Hottel	Bisbee, AZ	2012-10-21	Anyone who's ever been sick for any extended length of time understands the importance of any form of escape. ESPECIALLY the ability to go outside and enjoy a small slice of nature.
Samantha Harder	Lethbridge, Canada	2012-10-21	because it gives people something to BELIEVE IN
Alysa Guyer	St. Charles, IL	2012-10-21	I know how important it is to connect with nature, and how healing even the smallest connection can be. This garden probably does a lot more than people give it credit for, and the patients deserve a beautiful place to visit even when they are enduring such intense diseases and conditions. I would hate to see a garden like this bulldozed in a world where far too many beautiful pieces of land like this one have already been lost. I know what it feels like to be stuck in a hospital, I was inpatient for 5 days once and I was dying to go back outside again after that. Please save the garden!
Brendon Fox	COLUMBUS, OH	2012-10-21	Mother earth supports us in our time of need... when we are sick, she heals us!!
Amanda Ryherd	Mitchell, SD	2012-10-21	The beauty of nature in any form is becoming more and more rare...nobody should have their sunshine (happiness/happy place) taken away :)
melissa gregory	MASON, OH	2012-10-21	i want to see the patients to enjoy the garden and they deserve it!!
Kimberly Gruttadaurio	Manitowoc, WI	2012-10-21	i know what it is to be ill your whole life and i know how important hope is to chronically ill people. If you get rid of that garden you might as well rip out your patients souls. I believe it would be detrimental to their health.
Nan Lanson	Eugene, OR	2012-10-21	Never underestimate the therapeutic benefits of fresh air and green spaces. The Garden does a great amount of good to your patients.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sabrina Dawn Tan	Singapore 560414, Singapore	2012-10-21	I understand the need to have a place to escape and feel safe and peace, so please don't get rid of a place so important to recovery.
Karen McCormick	Philadelphia, PA	2012-10-21	I have a nephew who has spina bifida, and spends a lot of time at Children's Hospital. The garden is vitally important to him and his convalescence.
Alicia Colella	Lake Hiawatha, NJ	2012-10-21	My 13 year old brother was stuck in a hospital for 8 days after a snowboarding accident. The time I, myself, spent there everyday was dreary and monotonous. I cannot imagine what it would be like to actually be the one stuck in a little room, maybe with a window you can see out of. He would have been ecstatic to have a garden to go out to once in awhile.
Michelle Anderson-Weierbach	Spooner, WI	2012-10-21	Because after spending any time in a hospital a patient needs to feel some part of nature in order to help with the healing.
Karen Green	Honolulu, HI	2012-10-21	Getting Cancer isn't PRACTICAL either. PLEASE leave the Prouty Garden as is. It was endowed for a reason.
Cathy Collinson	Brisbane, Australia	2012-10-21	Our connection to nature is what fills us with the love of life. For people who are ill is especially important to have a place to see the beauty in the small things...a common bird, a flower ...a place to feel sun or the rain. Please save this valuable space
Bill Hayes	Charleston, SC	2012-10-21	What kinda NAZI tears out a garden that ill and crippled kids use to feel human during the worst time in their lives? Are you crazy?
Ingrid Warren	Oxford, United Kingdom	2012-10-21	Having spent long periods of time in hospital, I know the importance of simply sitting outside away from medical equipment
Jessica Elisabeth	Whittier, CA	2012-10-21	Stop being so corporate. Let people be people for Christ's sake and enjoy some outside time. This isn't the medieval ages, where we shut the doors and windows because someone caught the flu.
S Cain	Norwich, United Kingdom	2012-10-21	Everyone needs a place to go when recovering or suffering . It can make the difference to the rate of recovery! More hospitals needs places like this, not to get rid of them!
Karen Daneault	Manchester, NH	2012-10-21	Have been there many times when my son was hospitalized..Soooo peaceful when ur in a stressful situation..
Dawn Chappell	Earls Barton, United Kingdom	2012-10-21	A peaceful place for patients to relax and be at peace in the sunshine with the birds singing, while being in hospital is not just needed but a necessity. Patients, families, friends, parents, children ... all need this tiny retreat (not to mention the psychological impact of long term patients and depression if this was no longer there!) X
Maggie Schweig	Lima, Peru	2012-10-21	As a Med Student hoping to become a Neuropediatrician I am keenly aware of the superb influence a little spot of nature and beauty can have in a patient's outlook on life. Please don't remove this garden. Save it so that children might enjoy nature and keep their emotional health while you strive to save their physical health.
Cynthia Curtin	Ballston Spa, NY	2012-10-21	I have only visited once,,but have spent a great deal of time at many hospitals,,every one of them needs a place close to nature for reflective quiet time,,and a children's hospital needs it especially,,a place to forget about health crisis and illness at least for a little while
Louise Tremblay	Montreal, Canada	2012-10-21	I have a very dear friend who has gone to the Boston Children's hospital and this garden has helped her heal and is important to her.
lionel smith	Owen, Australia	2012-10-21	Need to keep the garden, its a place to relax and enjoy nature at such a tough time in life.
Ciuny Macpherson	Wantage, United Kingdom	2012-10-21	A friend found solace here, nature plays a huge part in recovery too.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Nathan Natale	Loudonville, NY	2012-10-22	This is a great place to go outside get a breath of fresh air and just walk around and destress during a long, frustrating hospitalization
Haydee Parella	brentwood, NH	2012-10-22	A haven like this is too special to remove. I believe in healing benefits of the outdoors. Please consider how positive this is for those who need it.
James Krossa, RN	Monterey, CA	2012-10-22	I have worked in hospitals, clinics and prisons. Sometimes it is that small patch of "nature" that revives us to better nurture. Even my patient who cannot get out to see the gardening ask about the rabbits where I work now.
Amelia Stehn	somewhere, MA	2012-10-22	Hospitals are hellish. For goodness sake, don't make it worse.
Kenneth Garges	Santa Cruz, CA	2012-10-22	The decision to bulldoze a garden is equivalent to deciding to reduce the quality of healthcare and increase sickness.
			Dr. Bruce Chabner, clinical director of the Cancer Center at Massachusetts General Hospital is quoted in emagazine, see below: "The therapeutic value of a quiet meditative environment for individuals affected by a serious illness like cancer is widely recognized." There the Howard Ulfelder, MD Healing Garden on the eighth floor of the hospital has an enclosed pavilion from which patients, visitors, and staff can view the garden year round. "Our healing garden is an important complement to the excellent clinical care we provide."
			Google "therpeutic value of garden" and you'll find lots of evidence to support this.
George Elliott	Webster, MA	2012-10-22	its for the kids who are sick
Christine Arthur	Webster, MA	2012-10-22	The children need something and so do the parents and workers to make them smile
Julie Rikeman	Arlington, MA	2012-10-22	My son received a heart transplant 19 years ago. So needless to say with his transplant plus other illnesses along the way we have spent alot of time at Children's. My husband and I have walked the garden countless times or just sat and enjoyed the moments of peace it provided during such a stressful time. My son enjoyed as a baby looking up at the sky from his carriage and running around the pathways as a toddler. It also served as a special place to honor the sweet baby girl and her family who donated her heart to him. He chose the Prouty garden so set a balloon free in her memory. I can only hope those in charge of making this decision can hear all the voices of those who have enjoyed and continue to enjoy the solitude and peace this beautiful place brings during the most trying times of life. Thank you
lisa tura	kingston, MA	2012-10-22	i thought it was a nice peaceful place for the patients and family to walk through.
Shelby-Lynn Rikeman	Arlington, MA	2012-10-22	I have a personal connection to this hospital and the Prouty Garden. When I was three my brother was born and needed a heart transplant. Children's was my family's second home and still is a big part of us. They saved my brother's life and helped my family and I through the process. Throughout the years my brother has been in and out of children's, being stuck in a hospital is not only scary for a child but keeps them from the outdoors. This garden is beautiful and gives everyone a breath of fresh air for families and patients. It's not fair to get rid of this serene place sacred place.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Eileen Kalinowski	Amherst, NH	2012-10-22	If you have ever spent extended time in a hospital with your sick child or anyone for that matter you start to go into a kind of fog. The Prouty garden at Children's is a place to go and clear your mind and recharge before you go back to your loved one's bedside. There is no way to replace the history and feeling of calmness and hope that the garden brings. Once my daughter was well enough to venture outside, she was anxious to visit the garden whenever possible. I believe our visits to the garden truly helped in her healing process. The history and energy of the garden was motivating and gave us all hope and positive energy to keep us strong through the traumatic process of diagnosis and treatment. Aside from the historic value of the garden, it is a unique place of hope and healing during exceptionally stressful times. I'm still in shock that such an amazing hospital like Children's can even consider destroying this garden. There must be another way.
anna Wilk	Cqمبرidge, MA	2012-10-22	Have the hospital CEOs not read the research which explains the benefits of green space, especially for sick people?
Lisa Acampora	Plymouth, MA	2012-10-22	I think it is good for the parents and children to have something to go to and look at to relax.
Carolyn Fine	Nashua, NH	2012-10-22	I had a husband who was hospitalized for the majority of his last 5 years of life in a hospital that did not have a garden like The Prouty Garden. I wish that it had. I know a four year old girl who loves the Prouty Garden and she is waiting for a heart transplant just as my husband did. It is not just a garden. It's a place that is medicine to the souls of the sick.
Nicole White	Lawrence, MA	2012-10-23	This is a sanctuary when there is no other. Please save it.
E H	Norfolk, MA	2012-10-23	This garden is a refuge for both the children and their families. Many times it was the only place to get away from the tests and procedures that are a part of everyday life at CHB.
John Gardner	Bristol, United Kingdom	2012-10-23	It is an awesome garden it will be very sad to see it go.
Allen Bryan	Boston, MA	2012-10-23	I went to Harvard Med and still enjoy the peace of the Prouty. I would demolish the library, buy airspace over the streets, anything to preserve the most pleasant place in Longwood.
Kristen Whoriskey	West Roxbury, MA	2012-10-23	Outdoor space is good for the soul....
Ralph Williams	Lancaster, MA	2012-10-24	My friend has spent many hours over the last 20 years in that garden while her Son spent his time inside BCH
Barry Simon	Sudbury, MA	2012-10-24	It has given my son, my wife, and I more than a measure of solace through many a very difficult time.
David Weinstein	New York, NY	2012-10-24	Both because of the freedom and beauty that will aid patient healthcare needs, and because of the planned endowment of Mrs. Prouty: Don't betray her legacy!!!
mei wong	Medford, MA	2012-10-24	It is important to me because it is the right thing to preserve it for all of us.
Mehrzaad Askari	Burlington, MA	2012-10-24	Friendly and natural environment for kids
William Magan	Norwood, MA	2012-10-24	I have heard stories about how important the Prouty Garden was to families when visiting Children's Hospital.
Geri Medeiros	West Barnstable, MA	2012-10-24	I had a family member who was a long term patient at Children's--and the garden was a little ray of sunshine during a difficult period waiting a transplant. Post surgery the garden was her only opportunity for a little respite and breath of fresh air---it provided her and her family some very special peaceful and well needed time to experience a few moments away from the clinical life of IVs and Meds and Masks to enjoy life beyond her 4 walls of a hospital room after months as an inpatient.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
mary mills	West roxbury, MA	2012-10-24	In the stressful time of hospitalization one needs place of rest/peace.
Lloyd Wallace	Lexington, SC	2012-10-24	Because people in the hospital need to see natural beauty and life
Reggie Bircher	Berne, Switzerland	2012-10-24	I accompanied a young friend several times to dialysis at children's, and recovered in between in the garden. Furthermore I myself was treated at the Brigham and Women's Hospital for infertility, could never have children, but always found a quiet place in the garden at children's.
amy cooper	sudbury, MA	2012-10-25	the garden offers peace for the children undergoing treatment at childrens....PLEASE do not take away the garden!!!!
Laurie Ducey	Saunderstown, RI	2012-10-25	again - it violates the terms of the VERY generous gift from Mrs. Prouty!
Celeste Maisel	Needham, MA	2012-10-26	As a chronically ill person, I know what it's like to be stuck in a hospital for longer periods of time and how much relief it is to be able to get outside occasionally.
Abbey McDonald	Wilbraham, MA	2012-10-27	I've enjoyed time there with my one year old niece before one of her major surgeries. It's a special place and means a lot to so many who have to spend time at children's.
Jennifer Germain	Stockbridge, MA	2012-10-27	This is important to me because a friend of mine and her daughter spend a great deal of time in Prouty Garden because they have to be at BCH a lot and they would be incredibly sad to see it go. It means a lot to them.
Brianna Houghton	Thorndike, MA	2012-10-27	My darling little cousin, Amaya, has enjoyed this garden for years, having been in and out of the hospital for issues pertaining to her Spina Bifida. I understand it to be of extreme sentimental value to many, many people!
Jennifer Shaw	Ware, MA	2012-10-27	My daughter had brain surgery @ CHB in August 2012. When she was finally stable & feeling a bit better, we took her here. Fresh air, beauty, and hope were all gifts of the garden. Please keep these gifts alive for others.
Jonathan Warron	charlton, MA	2012-10-27	we visit this hospital all the time and love the garden
kristen cummings	east windsor, CT	2012-10-27	It is a peaceful spot to recenter yourself. When your child is sick you need a place to calm yourself in and this is that place.
James McIlquham	CARDIFF, VI	2012-10-27	I'm a Dialysis Patient And it's nice to have somewhere to reflect on life !
Juliana Perry	Philadelphia, PA	2012-10-27	I know people who work in hospitals without anything like this. I've visited sick and dying friends and relatives in places without anything like this. Such a garden should be celebrated and preserved.
Tracy Murphy	Petersham, MA	2012-10-31	My son had heart surgery at childrens in the summer of 2006. Prouty gardens was the saving grace of our experience. So much so that it changed the path of my life as I am now in the Masters of Landscape Architecture program at UMass. I hope to provide spaces such as Prouty Gardens for many generations to come. Its loss would be a great tragedy.
Walter Murphy	Petersham, MA	2012-10-31	My wife and i sat in prouty gardens to try to find peace during a stressful time in our lives. Every time we went back to Childrens we stopped at prouty gardens.
Laurie Coombs	Petersham, MA	2012-10-31	It is very important to my friend, therefore it is very important to me
Diana Conley	Petersham, MA	2012-10-31	Because it has made a huge impact on my friends life and career decisions
Lois Moore-Rogers	Foxboro, MA	2012-11-02	Because as graduate of the school of nursing, I was there the day it opened. I think it is very important to everyone, as a place to go for peace and quiet and to ponder life.
Susan Wendland	Waterford, MI	2012-11-06	When my granddaughter was a patient at Children's her very first time outside was visiting the Prouty Garden.
stafford Cohen	Newton, MA	2012-11-06	An island of tranquility in an environment of severe stress , if not chaos

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Anne Minton	Lowell, MA	2012-11-07	The garden is a place of spiritual healing and peace
Rosemary Kirousis	Leominster, MA	2012-11-09	The Prouty Garden is a special haven. It provides a respite from the artificial lights and sounds of the hospital and is a wonderful space for fresh air and sunshine which are so critical for healing.
Will Kirousis	Leominster, MA	2012-11-10	The Prouty Garden is a haven. While your family is dealing with, what can be extremely stressful times, the ability to get outside, to have green, living space around you... It is a gift. Removing that resource absolutely takes away from the healing powers of Boston Childrens Hospital. Please, leave the garden as it is: a hugely beneficial space for the families who need to utilize the services of Boston Childrens.
Sherry Berube	Petersham, MA	2012-11-10	Personal- friends touched
Chuck Berube	Petersham, MA	2012-11-10	We have friends who have found this garden to be instrumental in family time...
Douglas Ellmore	LOTHIAN, MD	2012-11-10	The garden provides an area of peace, beauty and positive energy to deal with the stress of illness.
Neile King	Brooklyn, NY	2012-11-10	Prouty Garden is a place of sanctuary for a friend. Please preserve it for him and all who visit the hospital.
Linda Gelinas	Orange, MA	2012-11-10	The garden is important to gain some peace of mind from the worries of sickness and worry! It is an oasis in the midst of chaos!
LYNN SCOTT	PETERSHAM, MA	2012-11-10	IT IS WHERE MY SON AND I WENT EVERY DAY AND WELOVED IT IT WAS SO NICE PLEASE LEAVE IT SO OTHER FAMILYS CAN ENJOY IT
Renee Sokol	Orange, MA	2012-11-10	for all the very true reasons in the article. This kind of space and time with God and nature heals just as real as medical techniques do....proven!! The soul needs a place to heal too.
Nekr Jenkins	Barrè, MA	2012 11-10	Keoping spirits up is as important as any other part of treatment. Please keep the park!
Laura Webber	petersham, MA	2012-11-10	knowing people with children being treated there and the positive therapeutic impact it seems to have emotionally for their families
Anita Gilmartin	Stratford, NJ	2012-11-10	Friend's of Baby Will
Tiffany Brainerd	boston, MA	2012-11-12	This one, valuable space does immeasurable good for our patients. We must preserve it for them because modern medicine can only do so much. The Prouty helps with physical and psychological healing that we as care providers simply cannot bestow.
pam monteiro	stillwater, MN	2012-11-12	used by family member
Christopher Di Franco	Cambridge, MA	2012-11-13	I'm an Employee and i agree with every good thing that is said on the importance of the Prouty Garden for all people at Children's: staff, patients and families
Abigail Brogan	Wayland, MA	2012-11-13	The garden helped us through the 8 months that we spent at Children's Hospital after our daughter was born. This is where she first saw the sun. This is where she first felt grass. This is where she first saw rain. This garden has been a special place for us and thousands of other families. Please keep it!
Erin Conwell	Fargo, ND	2012-11-13	This garden is the first place my daughter ever went outside. It is a beautiful sanctuary from the craziness of the hospital and provides healing in its own important way.
Kelly De Angelis	Somerville, MA	2012-11-13	The garden is a little slice of calm and beauty for children and families who struggle to find such things amid hospital stays and Dr visits. Please do not take the peace and serenity of the garden from these families!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jill Laurello	North Adams, MA	2012-11-13	This is one of the only places I could take my son outside when we were inpatient. It was our get away place for so long. Please do not destroy it.
Chelle Cates	McKinney, TX	2012-11-13	My child spent many months at CHB and this garden was my ONLY retreat. My only place to be quiet, to see the sky and see beauty when my world was full of sickness and bad news. How dare they even consider destroying a place of peace and beauty.
Kathey Daniel	Shreveport, LA	2012-11-13	My niece found solice in this garden while my great nephew was in this hospital. She has told me of its beauty and that it comforted her.
Michelle Taylor	Longview, TX	2012-11-13	My friend,Chelle Cates, shared with me that a building is being considered for the spot of this garden where she sat and prayed during her son's illness and he stayed in the hospital for a long time. Family and friends and patients need a place like this to draw strength from during their visit/stay.
stacey morrison	Concord, NH	2012-11-13	Having spent the better part of 3 yrs at chb with my son, the garden was a place of peace and beauty that we visited together on days when he could go out or I would go there just to see that there was still beauty in the world on days when he was so very sick.
Lois Regestein	Boston, MA	2012-11-13	Truth is Beauty
Elizabeth Brogan	Freeport, ME	2012-11-14	My neice spent a year at Children's and her first exposure to sun was in this garden. We remember it fondly and hope other children can have the same experience
Lisa Smith	Plaistow, NH	2012-11-14	My son spent 6 1/2 months inpatient. The garden was a verys pecial place where we could escape the medical world for a few minutes each day.
Laura Mcdonald	Wayland, MA	2012-11-14	because the garden is a place to forget about illness and reconnect with the world . For patients and families who are living at children's a welcome oasis in the endless uncertainty that many of the children and families face daily and for extended periods of time . my sons last days were spent at Children's and our entire family found comfot in the gardens existence . To see a bird fly, a flower bloom , a breeze are all very grounding when your world is falling apart . Somehow when you know the natural world is continuing to grow and go on you can see that you can also continue . the quiet beauty of the garden nurtures the soul and heals the heart .
Chris Reed	Australia	2012-11-14	As a PhD student studying healing gardens in Australia I came across the Prouty Garden as part of my study. It is difficult for me to understand the logic of this redevelopment when you have such an incredible and beautiful healing space. I wish you well to save this wonderful garden that one day I hope to visit.

Chris Reed  
Mooroolbark  
Victoria Australia

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sean Cates	McKinney, TX	2012-11-14	<p>My son, Carter, spent his first (1st) birthday in Prouty Garden. It was two months after receiving a life-saving 5-organ transplant</p> <p>(liver, spleen, pancreas, stomach and small intestine). My wife, son, and I were allowed to come out to the garden only because</p> <p>of its seclusion from the rest of the public (transplant recipients must be careful to exposure for infection control due to</p> <p>immunosuppression). Carter came out all the while connected to his oxygen tank and medical pumps, nurse intow, celebrating</p> <p>this memorable, one-in-a-lifetime 1st birthday as best we could. Prouty Garden welcomed us as we sat in the iron chairs next to</p> <p>the little child statute with his nurse caring his teddy bear. It was a duplicate image with my son, his nurse and stuffed animal.</p> <p>It would be a travesty to lose this one tranquil, singular, non-public place where medically fragile children can experience the</p> <p>beauty of nature, families can get respite from stress and fear, and others can experience the joy of coming outside a hospital</p> <p>after long stays and winning the battle over illness. Frankly, it also the place where families and children may spend their last</p> <p>days on Earth as their fragile bodies succumb to their illness that the wonderful doctors, nurses and staff just meters away inside</p> <p>have valiently tried to undo.</p> <p>My son is 5 years old now, and I can honestly say that Prouty Garden is a part of my family - as my family hac spent hours in</p> <p>that place, reflecting, praying, relaxing and enjoying the treasures that are there. It is also the place where many memories have</p> <p>been forged, pictures taken, and hours upon hours of time spent.</p> <p>I believe what I have read, including an excerpt on Children Hospital Boston's website,</p> <p>&lt;a href="http://www.childrenshospital.org/chnews/07-01-09/day_in_the_life.html," rel="nofollow"&gt;http://www.childrenshospital.org/chnews/07-01-09/day_in_the_life.html,&lt;/a&gt; quote, "In 1956, Olive Prouty, an American novelist,</p> <p>and her husband gave an endowment for the garden, with the stipulation that the land would never be built on and remain a</p> <p>tranquil space for patients and families to visit." I stand with Olive Prouty that this place was never intended to be built upon.</p> <p>The medical miracles that are within the walls of Children's Hospital Boston, or now known as Boston Children's Hospital, will</p> <p>need to seek other parcels and recognize this piece of land is spoken for and already being used to treat children and their</p> <p>families.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Sean Cates  McKinney, TX  Proud Father of Children's Hospital Boston patient and multivisceral transpant patient, Carter Cates</p>

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Tiffany Brors	Cary, NC	2012-11-14	Please don't take this from the children and families who are patients of CHB. It is an oasis of peace and serenity in the middle of a world of fear and pain. It is so important to have this available. It was the only experience my daughter had with "outside" for 7 months.
Barbara McPherson	Lady Lake, FL	2012-11-14	The gardens in our life renew us . They are a place to play rest and be with nature,in a city they are even more important. We are surrounded by noise , people .cars. Gardens are a place to renew and recharge. Please keep the garden
Linda Wynn	McKinney,, TX	2012-11-14	My grandson spent many months at Children's and the garden for a place to take him. It was also a place for his mother and also me to go and pray, rest and enjoy the beauty. Do not take this from the past, present and future families who use it to renew Hope and regain strength from their visits there,.
Rene Zeller	Lexington, MO	2012-11-15	I support all things that make children happy. Life is so short to take things away from them
Shelley Turgeon	Gorham, NH	2012-11-15	We went in this garden many times when our son was a patient at Childrens in 2009.
Alex Abreu	Boise, ID	2012-11-16	Keep the Park for the children
Jessica Yeates	Shreveport, LA	2012-11-16	For Pierce!!!
Shane Poe	Springfield, MO	2012-11-16	I think it is very important for our children and their children in the future! I have 2 beautiful children and I think they need a place like this if they become ill or need a place to go to for care! I am a proud parent and I would love to pledge my support to this!
Jacinta Colon	Bristol, CT	2012-11-16	My son Aiden was a patient at Boston Children's. The garden was the only beautiful place. Please don't take that from other children. xoxo
Cheryl Travis	rialto, CA	2012-11-16	This is a place for healing and being able to be with your child/loved one when they are in the hospital. please save this very special place.
nancy box	longmont, CO	2012-11-16	This is important to me, because it is important to friends who have stayed at this hospital.
Denise McDonough	Braintree, MA	2012-11-16	When my child was small and he had things done at childrens this was a nice retreat to escape and think and breath. It means a lot to children and parents. Families need this!
Janet Heuer	Nampa, ID	2012-11-16	I visited my daughter, Jessamyn Fields and my grandson, Baby Pierce there. It was the first time I got to hold Pierce and the first time other than running for an ambulance or helicopter Jess was able to take him outside. It was time spent with nature's beauty all around Pierce. Pierce's life was 382 days, but because of the Prouty Garden we were able to enjoy precious time with Pierce in this amazing garden setting. I learned so much about the things many of us take for granted, time spent together in Prouty Garden with my Baby Pierce. Please don't take that opportunity away for others. Jan Fields Heuer
Misty Ferris	Roanoke, VA	2012-11-16	My son Kayden was at CHB for his open heart surgery, he didn't get to visit the garden but we were told about it. He was too high risk to take outside at any point. From what I've heard and seen it's a calming place for families who are in the hospital. It's a nice place for the kids to enjoy the outdoors. Being in the hospital can break your spirits & to be able to enjoy something so beautiful can always make someone cheer up. Please don't bulldoze it.
Tammie Deso	Greenfield, MA	2012-11-16	a place to rest and catch some fresh air away from the chaos of medical treatments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Kristi Curry	Princeton, NC	2012-11-16	It means so much to me because a good friend of mine had a baby that spent his whole life in your hospital finally was able to go into your garden right before he passed away at 13 months old.
Liz Canavan	West Springfield, MA	2012-11-16	Friends/Family with children in NICU have found peace in the garden
Jessamyn Fields	Elkhart, IN	2012-11-16	This was my son's first real outdoor experience except for emergency transports by helicopter, jet, or ambulance etc. It was in April 2011 and he was around 9 months old. &lt;3
Alexandra Raper	Riverside, CA	2012-11-16	I had a daughter with a severe heart defect. If she were to have lived then this garden would've been where I went to feel some sort of peace.
Fran Chabot	Greenfield, MA	2012-11-16	My daughter started her life there, they saved her!
Andrea Chabot	Milford, NH	2012-11-16	So many family members, including myself, have benefited from this. It would be a travesty to use this space as a building expansion. BCH is a fantastic hospital, but there is no substitution for the outdoors and outside those walls are crowded busy streets - not serenity. Do the right thing.
Deirdre Doyle	Deerfield, NH	2012-11-17	The garden is beautiful.
Ayala bassett	boston, MA	2012-11-19	This was the first place we were ever able to take our daughter outside. It is so precious a space.
Meghan Kemp	Harwich, MA	2012-11-19	Please preserve this healing spot for so many families and honor the spirit of Mrs. Prouty's gift.
Debra Ormasen	Richville, NY	2012-11-19	So families of children in hospital and the children in the hospital can enjoy :)
Kristin Johnson	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-11-19	I've been a photographer at Boston Children's Hospital for 16 years and often use the garden to take photographs. However my use of this space seems trivial when compared to the therapeutic applications of the Prouty Garden. Please keep it!
Adriana Donovan	West Roxbury, MA	2012-11-19	I worked at the hospital for years and have seen the families that use and enjoy the garden. My children have also been patients at BCH and we have also enjoyed the garden. It is a beautiful peaceful place. It would be such a shame to lose it.
Melissa Curran	Dorchester, MA	2012-11-19	Former patient
Lucila Halperin	Brookline, MA	2012-11-19	My son was hospitalized at Children's for the first week of his life. Needless to say, this was a very difficult time for my family. Our first family outing was to the Prouty Garden and we have very fond memories of this beautiful, calming place. It is the most peaceful and beautiful garden within a very chaotic and difficult to be in setting. I can only imagine how important it is to other families and I would be greatly saddened to see it be torn down. Families who have to stay at Children's are undergoing very difficult, often tragic life circumstances. An opportunity for peace, quiet and comfort is healing and of utmost importance. I know space in the area is tight, but surely there is a better option.
Heidi Suite	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-11-19	I had multiple surgeries as a baby, child and adult at Children's and now bring my Autistic son to Children's, and we ALWAYS stop by the Garden for a moment of peace, bite to eat, or get some energy out by walking around the circumference. My best memory was when I was 10 and was in patient for a month, and bed ridden. There was a casino day, and I was wheeled out in my bed to enjoy the goings on. I actually cannot imagine the garden not being there and would be super saddened by the loss. Thank you for considering this, Heidi (Corbo) Suite ~former patient of W.H. Hendren
Nina Kallen	Roslindale, MA	2012-11-19	My friend has a child who is dying. She has told me how much the garden means to her.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Heidi Suite	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-11-19	had multiple surgeries as a baby. child and adult at Children's and now bring my Autistic son to Children's, and we ALWAYS stop by the Garden for a moment of peace, bite to eat, or get some energy out by walking around the circumference. My best memory was when I was 10 and was in patient for a month, and bed ridden. There was a casino day, and I was wheeled out in my bed to enjoy the goings on. I actually cannot imagine the garden not being there and would be super saddened by the loss.
Sydney Thiel	Boston, MA	2012-11-19	In addition to the horticultural elegance and sense of peace that the Prouty Garden provides to its many visitors, it is one of the few places in the CHB campus that maintains a sense of history -- and more importantly -- a palpable gravitas of emotion from the thousands of visitors that have sought solace there over the years. When faced with one of life's most unimaginable challenges, I have sought the tranquility of this space many times while my daughter was inpatient and found great solace (and support) from knowing that so many others like me have sat where I did to face similarly humbled thoughts. Being able to recognize that others before me have been through the same/similar challenges was of great comfort. No other place at CHB provides the same environment nor could a new "Prouty Garden alternative" recreate the phenomenon. On behalf of myself, thousands before me, and the thousands whose unimaginable reality has not yet begun, please save the Prouty Garden. It is a wonderful treasure, the significance of which may never be fully measured.
Dawn Tesorero	Roslindale, MA	2012-11-19	No only are green spaces recognized as healing spaces necessary for the children & family patients, but they aid the staff in what they do. Please reconsider and pursue the other architectural options to Save Prouty's Garden by not violating your benefactor's gift.
Nora Horick	West Newton, MA	2012-11-19	The value of this beautiful and peaceful outdoor space for patients and their families cannot be overstated. Please don't destroy it.
Mindy Nierenberg	Medford, MA	2012-11-19	Healing gardens are demonstrated to have an important effect on the healing process, especially in children. Please keep this garden!!!
Trish Elliott	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-11-19	I worked here for years and saw how important this space was to families and kids. It is an oasis in a the lives of many.
jennifer akula	dedham, MA	2012-11-19	As a former employee, I know that the garden was a treasure to so many patients, families, and employees. It would be a terrible loss to the hospital.
Jamie Lichtenstein	Cambridge, MA	2012-11-19	It's an important outdoor space for sick children and their families.
Joanne Tisei	west roxbury, MA	2012-11-19	This is a very mindful place and families need a respite place to just be.....In addition it is a historical garden by Olmstead which shouldbe protected.
Andrea Hernandez	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-11-20	As a former employee I often brought patients (and families) to the garden to gain some peace from the stress of being in hospital. The garden is a haven for families and such a treasure. Where are the hospital's priorities that they'd be willing to do away with it?
Kate Driscoll	Jamaica Plain, MA, MA	2012-11-20	I work at Children's and am shocked that this is even up for discussion. Just spend a few minutes in the garden observing children and families.
Julie Sylvester	Mechanicville, NY	2012-11-20	I want to help the children!
Jennifer Royal	Jamaica Plain, MA	2012-11-20	This beautiful garden is important to children, families, staff, and visitors at CHB. Please don't sacrifice the garden to create extra space - find another way.
Amie Lindenboim	Brookline, MA	2012-11-20	I have spent some time at the hospital and this is very necessary.
Fran Koith	Ogdensburg, NY	2012-11-21	Because i love Davin

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jen Ryan	West Roxbury, MA	2012-11-21	Kids need to feel normal and get outside-- don't take that from them.
Taryn Novotny	Brooklyn, CT	2012-11-21	My son spent the first seven weeks of his life on the cardiac floor at Children's. When he was stable, we were able to take him outside and we would spread a blanket on the grass in the Prouty Garden. The sound of the fountains and the birds and watching the clouds was such a contrast to inside the hospital walls. Prouty Garden was my son's first introduction to nature-and helicopters!- and it will always have a special place in my heart. I can't imagine future families and patients not being able to enjoy that peaceful space!
Bella Noka	Wood River Junction, RI	2012-11-22	We a witnessing a real Avatar scene...:(
Bella Noka	Wood River Junction, RI	2012-11-22	We are witnessing a real Avatar scene!:(
Bella Noka	Wood River Junction, RI	2012-11-22	There is a healing that is greater than any man can provide...when there are no more answers....
Michelle Keating	West Roxbury, MA	2012-11-22	ALL children, especially those healing, need to experience the trees, sunshine and fresh air. It would be counterproductive, and really a shame, to eliminate this resource.
Joseph Wear	Dedham, MA	2012-11-23	My grandson was hospitalized at Children's Hospital Boston with AML Leukemia for nearly seven months. The garden offer him the only opportunity to be outdoors in a beautiful and peaceful setting. It would be such a shame to deny other children to have the same opportunity. Also, I believe the hospital has an obligation to the Prouty family to maintain this garden as a haven for the patients and their families.
marilyn mimi wagner wagner	syracuse, NY	2012-11-24	1976 graduate of children's hospital school of nursing many fond memories of the garden with it's magnificent beauty and my higher power beside me-save the garden!!
Allyson Vignola	Barnstead, NH	2012-11-26	My daughter spent the first 10 days of her life at Children's and the Prouty Garden was the only respite she had from the beeping monitors in her room. The sounds of the birds, the smell of the flowers, and the warm sunshine that she found in the garden were therapeutic to her and to us in ways unable to be measured by medicine. Since then, we've had numerous long term stays, and always the garden is such a welcome change from the hospital room. Please, please don't destroy this important space!
heather roberts	merrimack, NH	2012-11-26	This space is such a wonderful peaceful place.
Bridget Robertson	Prairie Village, KS	2012-11-26	It is a bit of green for the kids to see while in the hospital and a place of tranquility for parents. I lived at BCH for 6 months and spent many hours in Prouty Garden. Please do not destroy it!
Melissa Pratt	Lees Summit, MO	2012-11-26	It brings parents and children comfort!
Linda Congdon-Marr	Brooklyn, CT	2012-11-26	Only those who have spent an extended time with a child in hospital can truly appreciate the respite provided (and needed) by a beautiful and restful place such as Prouty Garden. I stayed with my daughter and her son for 6 weeks when he was first born and again many times since. I also spent time at Children's many years ago with my own son> Both of these boys had major heart surgeries and long hospital stays. Parents and children ned a non-threatening and peaceful place to escape to once in a while during a long hospital stay. Only those who have not "been there" could consider demolishing Prouty!! Reminds me of the song - "pave paradise and put up a parking lot". PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THIS PARADISE FOR PATIENTS AND PARENTS!!!!!!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Kate De Normandie McCarey	Lexington, MA	2012-11-27	Olive Higgins Prouty was my aunt. She was married to my maternal grandfather's brother. I loved to visit Aunt Olive and play with her poodle, Coco. Even as a young child, I recognized that Aunt Olive was a gracious and generous woman. The Prouty Garden is vital to the well-being of sick children and distraught parents. It is not something easily replaced. I hope that Children's will revisit their decision to throw away something so important and valuable as an outdoor space for those who cannot run or jump as easily as healthy children. It would be a shame to lose something so unique in the name of progress. Thank you.
Hamilton Mansur	Red Wing, MN	2012-11-27	It was promised that the Prouty Garden would be perpetually maintained. Honor your promise to Mrs. Prouty and all that will and have enjoyed this spot.
Kerry Lewis	Newton, MA	2012-11-27	The Prouty garden is an historic example of the scientifically proven benefits of healing gardens in hospital settings. The mature plantings are irreplaceable.
Katherine Donovan	Newton, MA	2012-11-27	Relative of "Aunt" Olive Higgins Prouty who gave the garden "for as long as Children's Hosp. existed",
Allison Guilbeau	Youngsville, LA	2012-11-28	I was at CHB for 3 1/2 months with my newborn son, Ryan, and his twin sister. Ryan was on 8South from April-July 2010. We went on many walks together, not only for Ryan to get fresh air, but for mommy and daddy to get some "quiet" time. This garden was such a sanctuary for us. Please do not take this wonderful space away. I am looking forward to the day that I can take Grace Anne to visit the place where she and her brother spent many of days enjoying this beautiful place!!
Andrea LeBlanc	Celina, TX	2012-11-28	This is a place for quiet and peace for love ones to go while going through trouble times. That shouldn't be taken away while there might be facing the worse times in their lives.
Rochelle Dupuie	Youngsville, LA	2012-11-28	A childhood friend had a son who spent many months in the hospital. This garden provided an escape for them.
Anne Talbot	Lafayette, LA	2012-11-28	I'm signing in memory of Ryan Guilbeau
Kim Rainey	youngsville, LA	2012-11-28	Because it is important to the familys and patients that have to be there.
Linda Ziebell	Woburn, MA	2012-11-28	children need some green space pure and simple and why should hospitalized children be any different. there is a study done that shows patients that have exposure to the out of doors heal faster. It is a health promoting place.
jeanne hanlon	Wayland, MA	2012-11-29	Having been a nurse at childrens this is a place of beault and peace and where I helped parents say good bye to they babies and enjoy the time they had with family in difficult time. As I recall the donor of this garden never wanted it changed. honor this , there is a reason for the gardens palcement it is a hidden gem in Boston
Susan Remy	Canton, MA	2012-11-29	Another building will not provide the soothing comfort of a green space to families and staff. Keep Mrs. Prouty's wish intact!
Rachel Prouty	Brighton, MA	2012-11-29	This is part of my family history and I agree with supporting green spaces in hospitals.
Mary Burnis	Lowell, MA	2012-12-01	I was first treated at Children's as an infant 51 years ago, and through the years of many hospital stays, my parents would wheei me out to the garden to get some fresh air and just get away from my room. I now jave a nephew at Children's with Cerebral Palsy and his Mom and Dad will stroll hin outside for the same thing I think this is an awful way to say thank you to your benefactors, and why would anyone make a donation knowing it would one day it would be plowed under.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Amy Battisti-Ashe	Cambridge, MA	2012-12-03	The Prouty Garden not only has a rich history on an architectural scale, but it has been the meeting place and oasis for thousands of families over the decades as they and their children have struggled with illness. I myself have used it as a place of solace when dealing with the sorrows one encounters as a medical professional. It is too important to lose to yet another building.
Shernita Wornum	Dorchester, MA	2012-12-03	All year around the Prouty Garden is the only place patients can take there children and be at peace in the city away from the smoke and germs of the outside world. It would be such a shame not to have this for the families. What a bad decision to get rid of such history and place of sanctity...
Christine Aquilino	Arlington, MA	2012-12-04	I am not happy unless I have access to green space. I have researched this issue and know that we all heal better when we have access to natural beauty. There has to be another solution other than sacrificing this garden to development.
Donna Manning	Woburn, MA	2012-12-04	while visiting recently, I had the opportunity to visit the Prouty Garden. It would be a shame if it was taken away for any reason. It was a very relaxing place to go under the circumstances.
Julia Carlstrom	Winchester, NH	2012-12-05	I have spent months in the Children's hospital battling a chronic illness. This Garden is where parents, patients and staff can go when a day seems too hard to handle. Before my father passed away, this was his favorite place to go when I was in the hospital. It is an amazing, calm place in the middle of a hectic and upsetting place. My father described it as "a little piece of paradise in the center of a sea of sadness" and keeping it around for generations to come is much more important than creating a larger patient database. Tearing this beautiful piece of land down will only give this great hospital a negative reputation.
Anthony Pasquarelli	ashuelot, NH	2012-12-05	Places like this are getting to be fewer and fewer. Why destroy what makes so many people happy
peter ferland	marlborough, MA	2012-12-07	This garden brings smiles to people at a time when a little happiness is needed. It also an important piece of history and the promise to Mrs. Prouty must be kept.
kim kettier	Truro, MA	2012-12-18	to destroy the Prouty Garden is HERESY, profoundly aberrant. my son has been in treatment at children's for the past 5 years, and whatever the season, we have found peace and healing moments there.
Michael Fernandes	Provincetown, MA	2012-12-18	The garden has done MUCH to help heal a young friend and his family. It is a part of the healing process at BCH.
Terri Frazier	So. Wellfleet, MA	2012-12-19	Important part of healing process for dearly loved friend who is at BCH with 16 year old son with ALL.
Carol Eaton	Brimfield, MA	2012-12-20	Green spaces are very beneficial to the sick. It gives them a place for quiet and reflection; a serene place to sit with loved ones. Please do not destroy this.
Lester Gordon	Lexington, MA	2012-12-20	Parks are important to me.
Peter Hammer	Needham, MA	2012-12-20	As a BCH employee of 15 years, I have enjoyed this garden almost daily. I have watched hundreds of patients walk its paths to enjoy the sun, the breeze and the spectacular foliage. It is the last vestige of natural beauty in the Longwood medical area, and I believe its destruction would be extremely shortsighted.
diane chalifour	rochester, NH	2012-12-20	Because of our granddaughters visits to this place.
James St.Germain	Sarasota, FL	2012-12-20	We have a dear friend whos grandson is at Boston Children's hospital and his family uses as much as possible.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
N B	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	2012-12-21	It helps heal.
Barbara Pilarcik	wilbraham, MA	2012-12-21	i know families who have used this wonderful garden during their child's serious illness. i am a nurse and i understand the spiritual dimension to healing and gardens help people in their soul.
norma roderick Annis	Riverside, RI	2012-12-24	Do not destroy GREEN space, especially for the children,patients, and parents.
Miranda Wilson	Peabody, MA	2012-12-31	it is very peaceful, and helps alleviate a great deal of stress when my son is hospitalized
Jaime Rotatori	Seymour, CT	2013-01-02	While my son was waiting to receive a life saving heart transplant, Prouty Garden became a solice for us. We were able to escape the beeps and pokes for a while by going for walks or sitting on a blanket in the grass and observing the people coming and going. We blew bubbles and did our best to have a sense of normalcy while being "stuck" in the hospital. This wonderful garden is so importnant to many, a temporary escape from reality. How can anyone think about taking this beautiful place from innocent children? Children fighting for thier lives, trying to get better.
Jeri Shaw-Ravis	Acton, MA	2013-01-03	I worked on Division 35 for years and loved every minute of working at Children's. The garden was a place staff could also use as a respite on those very sad days caring for a sick child and their family.
Catherine Rokaw	Littleton, MA	2013-01-03	I strongly believe that nature is healing and access to it in a hospital setting is extremely beneficial to both patients and their families.
Jenny Cothern	Chesapeake, VA	2013-01-03	I, too, say that you are violating the conditions under which this gift was given to the hospital. How can you even consider it? Especially since there have been alternative plans submitted which would preserve this garden? It has been in existence for 56 years and responsible for the recoveries of countless patients over all those years. Do you really care about the health and healing of your patients, or do you only care about dollars and cents? If it's the latter, you need to find a new line of work. Hospitals should not be in business solely for the money: their entire purpose is to help people heal from illnesses. Shame on you for proposing destroying this woman's generous gift from so many years ago. Keep this garden!
Marielle Thorne	Hingham, MA	2013-01-03	I just read this great article on how natural spaces help people heal. <a href="http://www.cnn.com/2013/01/03/health/new-childrens-hospital-parenting/index.html?hpt=hp_bn12" rel="nofollow">http://www.cnn.com/2013/01/03/health/new-childrens-hospital-parenting/index.html?hpt=hp_bn12</a>
Colleen Mahaney	Gaithersburg, MD	2013-01-03	Respect Mrs. Prouty and Mother Nature. Give children and their guests a place to enjoy.
cynthia.coble	brattleboro, VT	2013-01-04	Logan Dunne
Natasha Hatafsky	Framingham, MA	2013-01-04	Having spent a ton of time with my daughter in hospitals when she was a baby, I can tell you what a healing gift natural spaces are. There's something about nature that eases pain, soothes away stress, and just even helps you to breath deeper. Nothing else has the same effect. Not only have I personally experienced this, but there's a ton of science that points to the value of these benefits to patients and their families (who are often exhausted and traumatized by the time they get to a hospital setting). What a healing tool to have in a hospital--a space that can help people heal just by being in it. Please keep the Prouty Garden.
Brian Sullivan	Reading, MA	2013-01-04	My wife was a patient at Boston Children's Hospital with congenital issues and received great comfort from the Prouty Garden while there.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Amanda Phelps	Smyrna, GA	2013-01-07	While I've never been to this hospital, I've spent more than my fare share in them. Patients need a natural space to enjoy. Studies show that just by being in nature v. being in a close off room, patients responded better to treatment, required less pain medication and fewer complications. Potted plants and faux gardens can't recreate the same feel as a natural garden.
Lauren Wright	San Antonio, TX	2013-01-09	Keep the garden! Children need hope as do parents and hospital staff; the garden provides help, hope and teaches everyone about the life-cycle. Take away the garden, and they will lose sight of how beautiful hope can be, take away the yearn to fight/continue helping, and be forced to stare at walls all day. The garden serves as a get-away, a place parents want to spend time with their sick children. Keep it!
Allyn Dorr	Watertown, MA	2013-01-10	I've been working 16 yrs at Children's this summer and have always thought of the Prouty Garden as a tranquil oasis, certainly for patients and family but for staff as well. Just seeing it through a window as you walk by can renew your spirit. Perhaps we should not focus on what it will cost to keep it but what it will cost to lose it.
Lisa Powers	Circleville, OH	2013-01-12	My daughter spent 3.5 months at CHB, and the Garden provided my family and I with some semblance of calm.
Emily Milliman	Cambridge, MA	2013-01-15	gardens have profound impacts on the way people recover and heal from illness and other hardships. This garden is vital to the community at the hospital
Maggie Cohn	Roxbury, MA	2013-01-16	Institutions in the Longwood Medical area are continually expanding and building; it is critically important to maintain existing open, green space as a small! attempt to balance to the built environment.
Kevin Giroux	Blackstone, MA	2013-01-23	After many many many surgical trips for our son I for one think taking this garden away is a travesty. I know the Longwood area very well, from work and clinical visits. There is plenty and I say it again, plenty of space in Longwood for growth. Take some of the Enders building and push the research to Karp or the Quad. Ask Merck of one of these Pharma companies who are consolidating like crazy to give you research space. Dont take the one place that you can go and feel human during a stay at the hospital. That tree has probably saved many a life... find another solution.
Linda Garey	Brentwood, NH	2013-01-24	I believe we should honor Mrs. Pruty's wishes, but more importantly, I believe in the uplifting healing value of having a garden for sick children. This is a treasure that should not be discarded.
Meghan Cordeiro	Scituate, MA	2013-01-24	As a nurse at Children's- this garden holds a special place in my heart as many of my chronically ill children have been able to find peace and enjoy fresh air. And where many have gone to take one of their lasts breaths before passing on. It brings a sense of normalcy to the hospital way of life and it would be a shame for it to be taken away from us.
Mike Cogburn	Pembroke, MA	2013-01-24	My children have had relatively minor surgeries at Children's. I count my blessings that they aren't terminally ill and never had to stay more than a few days. But to think that it could be considered to lose a small area that might bring a handful of minutes of peace to a single child is thoroughly upsetting.
J Young	Randolph, MA	2013-01-24	I have seen many smiles on patients, family and even staffs faces when they are able to spend time out in the garden.
Joanne Dart	Kingston, MA	2013-01-24	My daughter is a dedicated RN @ Children's and has seen and known the importance this garden makes in the lives of families, patients and staff. The beauty of this garden provides a place of serenity for all those who seek it. That cannot be replaced with a rooftop garden!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Tom Walker	Brentwood, NH	2013-01-24	The garden is awesome. In an era when we see yearly double digit increases in health care premiums I find the constant expansion at hospitals insulting.
Jane Napolitano	Kingston, MA	2013-01-24	My kids have spent countless hours in the Prouty Garden. It is an oasis of calm and a place my kids feel healthy and normal while inpatient. It is essential to their overall well being.
diane pellegrino-warenycia	lynbrook, NY	2013-01-24	it is important to my aunt
Natalie Diaz	Boston, MA	2013-01-24	It important for families and staff when the weather is nice. To able to release a bit of stress of a crazy day
Donna Connolly	East Bridgewater, MA	2013-01-24	The peace and serenity of a natural garden is an immeasurable boost to a patient's mind, body, soul and spirit. It is a much needed refuge from the bricks and mortar of any medical facility not only for the patients but for families and staff as well. Sometimes a few precious moments in a beautiful place is all it takes to nurture and inspire the drive to keep fighting and do better. As Maya Angelou says "When you know better, you do better". Come on BCH prove that you know better.
Holly Mills	Marietta, GA	2013-01-24	Nephews with CF have found much comfort there over the past decade!
Susan Sweeney	abington, MA	2013-01-25	I was often at Children's Hospital as a child and then with my daughter.
Cheryl Rogers	Norwood, MA	2013-01-25	My daughter has been going to Children's since she was 4 years old. She is now 19. We have sat in that garden many times during her hospital stays. That is the connection to the out side world. Not only does it clear your mind and soul, but it truly helps uplift you to feel better. Shame on anyone for putting a building where there is nature for the body.
Donna Duva	N. Billerica, MA	2013-01-25	The Prouty Garden is a place for patients/families to get away from the hustle/bustle of the hospital to enjoy some solitude. It would be a shame to take away this place for all who benefit from its beauty.
Pamela Root	Eastham, MA	2013-01-25	So important to have quiet space for families to use while waiting for children's surgeries etc..
Robert Ryan	North Andover, MA	2013-01-28	My daughter has had many visits to Children's since her first one in 1988. We have visited the garden when we could and always felt more relaxed for doing so. Please explore all the alternatives before losing this beautiful green space.
Maggie Moore	Halifax, MA	2013-01-28	The children and their needs are what is important to me..
Linda Amirault	Saugus, MA	2013-01-28	Nature is very important to all and is especially vital when dealing with children. It's not fair to destroy this area when it's been so helpful to so many.
Heather Curtis	Dunstable, MA	2013-01-29	I spent A LOT of hours in the garden while a patient at Children's in the early 1970's... Always very soothing compared to most other places in the hospital.
Jeff Curtis	Dunstable, MA	2013-01-29	My wife spent a significant portion of her childhood at Children's and it is important to her.
Zachary Blais	Springfield, MA	2013-01-29	Helps with healing, needed for respite
Kaitlin Maney	Hudson, NH	2013-01-30	My daughter was a patient there for many months and without prouty garden she wouldn't have been able to experience such beauty fresh air and a place to escape. It was beneficial to myself as well being in a hospital room seven days a week to experience the same. The prouty garden helped her heal and helps many many more patients and families!
Mary Battis	Bolton, MA	2013-01-30	Because the garden greatly helped some friends whose daughter was a patient!
Mary Alexander	Townsend, MA	2013-01-30	The children and parents need this!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Christina Maney	Lancaster, MA	2013-01-30	My niece was a patient at children's for many months and I know this garden was vital to my sister's sanity! It also was the only way my niece experienced any fresh air or sunshine for months!
Clare Girard	Manchester, NH	2013-01-30	My friend's daughter was at Boston Children's for a long time, and this garden was a salve to their family during an excruciating time.
Dianne Maney	Pepperell, MA	2013-01-30	My son and daughter were there with our granddaughter for weeks and the garden was such a tranquil respite from the constant worry of their daughter's health. Please do not close it!!!!
Sister Marie Bernard	Still River, MA	2013-01-30	This garden was a place of peace and retreat for my brother and his family during a trying and scary time for their young daughter.
Katherine Pulvermacher	Helotes, TX	2013-01-30	This garden was a vital retreat for my brother, sister in law and their daughter who spent many months at Children's. With not being able to bring their 1st born home after birth for such a long time - this was a place they could go to escape the walls of the hospital room, get lots of fresh air and bring their baby girl out with them to spend time as a family. This was a place of peace and comfort during all the extremely tough times they went through as she underwent so many surgeries and as they dealt with countless issues. I would hope that this would be available to any parent who has a child in the hospital. I know how much of a difference this made with all they went through and I pray it can stay that way for any others.
Fred Stein	Barnstable, MA	2013-01-30	My great niece was a patient in your wonderful hospital The days were long and trying. Being able to go to the garden helped give them a break and the and the energy to persevere.
Cindy Patterson	Sandown, NH	2013-01-30	It was so wonderful to have a place to go outside of the hospital when our granddaughter was a patient for 4 months.
Ellen Prindle	Warren, CT	2013-02-04	The decision should be to recognize the profound spiritual, emotional and health impact the Prouty Garden has had on patients, staff, and families and to vow to design an outdoor garden with every new building, not to tear down the Prouty Garden.
Prabhakar Devavaram	Jamaica Plain, MA	2013-02-08	Pls leave this green space be. It has been a solace for so long . Will serve the patients well as much as any dept.
Stephen Berry	Baltimore, MD	2013-02-08	Spent long hours with our sick child here awaiting his surgery.
Elisa Boscolo	Boston, MA	2013-02-13	I think it is a wonderful spot for patients to relax and enjoy a bit of nature.
Leslie Smoot	Weston, MA	2013-02-13	This is far and away the most important healing space in this institution. In a hospital where people are challenged daily with life threatening events, it would seem prudent to protect the one place that is sacred for all-independent of culture, religion, level of education or socioeconomic status. To think it can be replicated with "green space" on the roof of a building is an insult, plain and simple.  Having worked here for over two decades, I find it incredibly sad to think that this will be the time when we will sacrifice what is most important. I suggest this proposal be put to all the families who have lost their children here. Maybe they can tell us what is practical.
Kenan Haver	Boston, MA	2013-02-13	One of very few quiet places for contemplation and interaction with nature
Joanna Krasinski	Weston, MA	2013-02-13	As a former employee, I often walked through the Prouty Garden taking in every bit of its beauty. But the best part was seeing the enjoyment of the patients and their families who were there. It has always made CHB unique - taking it away is a terrible idea and would be a significant loss to the patients and their families, not to mention the employees. Don't do it!



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Anna Aldovini	Weston, MA	2013-02-13	It is self explanatory why this is important. And then there is wish of Mrs. Prouty.
Xianhua Piao	Boston, MA	2013-02-13	The Prouty Garden is the window to the beauty of the nature for our patients and their families while they are hospitalized at BCH. In numerous occasions, visiting the Prouty Garden on hang-bagging ventilation is the only wish that we could fulfill before our patients ascend to heaven. Prouty Garden is not just a piece of land. It is the light and hope of our patients and their families.
Sarah Schmidt	boston, MA	2013-02-13	The garden is something that makes Children's special. In an effort to 'set themselves apart' from other hospitals, this is a valuable asset to retain.
Nina Goldberg	Newton Centre, MA	2013-02-14	"A thing of beauty is a joy forever." When the time comes for me to leave Children's, the two places that will endure forever in my heart will be the Chapel and Prouty Garden.
Mary Tauras	Eastham, MA	2013-02-16	It must remain a haven.
Marlene Oliver	Topsham, ME	2013-02-18	In 1973 I spent two months on Division 33. I remember the Garden as a special place where I could go wearing my p.j.'s and taking my IV pole. I treasured the fresh air and the healing sunshine that touched my pale skin. I wonder if those who don't think of it as "practical" were ever patients at Children's or had family members staying there. I volunteered for several years in the late '80's and can attest to the invaluable use of the Garden. It pains me greatly to think that such a violation as bulldozing the Garden could happen.
Alexis Diaz	lowell, MA	2013-03-07	It is a place of relaxation for CHB patients and staff.
James Heroux	Boston, MA	2013-03-08	There is never enough green space dedicated to the mental health of the patient, their family or the people who work hard to serve them. Any design involving the garden should work toward improving not removing the benefits it provides.
Hilary Vineyard	Mattapoisett, MA	2013-03-09	My great grandmother created this garden for many children and families to enjoy for many years to come.
Jennifer Prouty	Mattapoisett, MA	2013-03-10	It is our family heritage and a Godsend to the children and their families in this hospital.
Carol Zimmer	Norfolk, MA	2013-03-10	Having been a former employee for 17 years, I witnessed the blessings brought by the calm and beauty for the patients, parents, visitors and .It is an oasis in the middle of a city!
Ginger Larsen	marion, MA	2013-03-14	friends of hilary prouty vineyard!
Alan Harris	Marion, MA	2013-03-17	I have children and want a humane hospital should they ever become sick. While I appreciate that hospitals are made of good doctors, technology they are also places. This seems to be a place designed to help heal and should not be discarded while alternatives exist.
Stephen Hehn	Northbridge, MA	2013-03-21	Because it's important to my sister who is a full time employee at the hospital. Very important for her mental health as she gives her all to her career.
Patte Thornton	Phoenix, AZ	2013-03-21	In the midst of the madness of the city is this little oasis of peace that reminds me of the hope and beauty that is still here and available. Children's Hospital would be doing a disservice to its patrons and employees by taking that away.
Sherwood Thornton	Phoenix, AZ	2013-03-21	This place helped me to focus
Jennifer Bartus	boston, MA	2013-03-21	it's an important part of the community and to the mental health of patients and families
Judy Ciardi	Weymouth, MA	2013-03-21	The Prouty Garden is a beautiful place to find solace. I think it is important to keep this area open to both the patients and their families.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Chris Pinckney	Syracuse, NY	2013-03-21	The opportunity to get outside... in real fresh air and walk and soak in the sun was a priceless gift to my son as he was going through his transplant. It was motivating, healing, and essential.
Ginny DuBois	Altavista, VA	2013-03-21	During my daughter's many years of enduring orthopaedic surgeries at Boston Children's Hospital we spent many hours at each stay in Prouty Garden. It was always the start to my daughter's healing and my sanctuary. Gardens have always been a huge part of our lives and Prouty Garden was a piece of home to us. Practical does not assist in a child's healing but a garden most certainly can. Alternative green spaces will not compare with the spiritual, mental and physical healing that occurs in Prouty Garden. I have always told others that BCH "ALWAYS" puts children first. Bulldozing Prouty Garden puts children last. Please let me know if there is anything more that I can do to help with this situation.
Truxtun Gowen	Southbury, CT	2013-03-21	I spent 7 months with my son visiting the Prouty Garden. It is a necessity for families and patients.
Emily Ruedinger	Woodbury, MN	2013-03-21	During my residency and fellowship at Children's, I found the garden to be a peaceful place to re-charge and re-group. Even if just walking through for a moment while taking the 'long way' from one place to another, having a little moment in nature amidst the hustle and bustle of a busy day was a real treasure. It is one of the only places in the hospital that feels truly peaceful. I know many of my patients looked forward to 'going to the garden'. I hope you will maintain this beautiful space.
elizabeth kramer	york, PA	2013-03-21	Nature often can be far more restorative than the entire arsenal of modern medicine. The soul must be sustained, especially in troubled times.
Alex McDanel	Ludlow, MA	2013-03-21	This garden area is far more healthy for the minds and spirits that roam these areas, including all the patients desperately needing fresh air and peace. Taking away this area and replacing it with a building will prove to be a terrible decision.
Hannah Christianson	Moorhead, MN	2013-03-21	Without this garden, not only will the patients and their families suffer, but also, all who work there. This a place where all can go to find peace and process the stress from the hospital environment. Without it, the health of the workers will suffer, and therefore the patients.
Kristin Janz	Adams Center, NY	2013-03-21	My son is a patient of the Cleft Lip Clinic. This garden is so needed for patients and their families.
Mary Walker	Groton, NY	2013-03-21	My grandson was at Children's numerous times during the Spring of 2012. The Prouty Garden was a wonderful place for the family to take him when he first got the OK to be off the floor. How wonderful to see the beautiful plants, the birds, squirrels, and families enjoying it all. Please keep this wonderful treasure!
Elizabeth Poole	Kihei, HI	2013-03-21	"Evidence based" studies have shown that outdoor spaces and living things give hope and healing to those who are chronically or terminally ill. Please keep and enhance this vital part of the hospital for those who must be patients, and for those who work there, in all capacities. Futuristic movies are entirely scary because they lack any greenery at all. Do not be the first to set an example of choosing to eliminate a precious resource that is a known link to healing.
Leah Sanchez	Los Angeles, CA	2013-03-21	Evidence demonstrates the healing power of green space. Don't sacrifice the health of our precious children for the sake of short-term efficiency.
john souza	Los angeles, CA	2013-03-21	I have a family member that works at the hospital and she sees this as an invaluable resource.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Karen Doherty	South Hadley, MA	2013-03-21	As a gardener and landscape designer, I understand the importance of this garden. As a human being, my own life experiences have taught me how precious is such a space in sad and grieving times. Don't destroy it!
Jan Swaney	Columbia, MO	2013-03-21	Healing spaces are very important for our children and families. It is truly one of the most important parts of your comprehensive programs. Don't let it go the way of the bulldozer!
Barbara Kreski	Glencoe, IL	2013-03-21	Each year, we at the Chicago Botanic Garden strive to educate stakeholders in the importance of this type of space in a health care setting. It would be a step backwards for new construction to fail to preserve it!
Robert Hazard	West Newbury, MA	2013-03-21	I think green spaces are vital to healing, and I hate to see them destroyed if there are alternatives available.
Christine Routhier	Manchester, MA	2013-03-21	This is an important space for the parents whose children are ill and in the hospital.
Ellen Keogh	Marion, MA	2013-03-21	Green space supports health and happiness...something desperately need but children and families being cared for at CHMC. When I worked at CHMC, the garden was a favorite spot. Please keep it.
Charles Swaney	Columbia, MO	2013-03-22	Green and healing spaces are important for both patients who are able to partake of them and their families. It helps maintain the humanity in a very difficult situation for these people.
James Mahoney	Cambridge, MA	2013-03-22	Having spent many long hours in hospitals over the years as various family members were treated and recovered, I understand the value of Prouty Garden. There MUST be ways to preserve it and the contribution it makes to the health and well-being of patients, their families and staff. At a time when healthcare is suffering from an almost schizophrenic mixture of admiration for the people and their service, and disdain for, and frustration with, the bureaucracy, one hopes that the human and emotional side of this argument wins the day and that the Garden remains the oasis that it currently is.
Peter Norman	Woburn, MA	2013-03-22	My wife and I visited the garden quite often when we were there with our son. It was nice to get outside, and off the streets for a brief respite.
Stephanie Fontaine	Worcester, MA	2013-03-22	After being inpatient for 30 days, imagine a little 5 yr old girls happiness when she finally got to go outside. Still safe within the confines of the hospital, yet outside enough to bring a giant smile, one that had disappeared, on our daughters beautiful face. For 3 days straight she would muster up the strength to go out to the beautiful gardens and have a picnic lunch. Oh the joy it brought to our family. She wanted to take everyone to her "play yard" and watch the birdies. Please allow other children this same, small pleasure.
Erin Hutchinson-Himmel	Amesbury, MA	2013-03-22	When my triplets were in the NICU at BI, two had surgeries at Children's within a week of each other. Being able to sit outside with a surgical pager, seeing the sun and smelling flowers and grass ( for the first time in months) kept me sane during those long hours. Please don't take that opportunity from others.
Lisa Sirota	Plantation, FL	2013-03-22	I am a pediatrician. I trained at The Children's Hospital, Boston 1984-1987. I am signing this petition in honor of our mutual patient, Luke Haskell.
Ami Hawkes	Georgetown, MA	2013-03-22	Children in the hospital need a place that does not feel medical! let them escape to the park.
Britnee Sperry	Tenino, WA	2013-03-22	I lost my daughter to cancer, it would have been a blessing to have a healing place like this....
Bonnijo Kitchin	Amesbury, MA	2013-03-22	I can remember being a child in a large hospital and not being able to see outside. One day my dad put me on his shoulders just so I could see the sun. I remember how happy that made me when I was a very scared little girl!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jane Beecher	Amesbury, MA	2013-03-22	During my sisters treatment at the hospital we used to sit outside when she was feeling well enough and she always brightened up so much more after being in the sun. Also it is the only place in that hospital that holds happy memories.
Ann Marie Jones	Salisbury, MA	2013-03-22	Nature's beauty brings peace to a troubled mind/soul.
Sarah Jane Lavoie	New boston, NH	2013-03-22	Much needed, beautiful space for anyone who may just need to get away for five mins to breathe.
Connie DiGiacomo	Wethersfield, CT	2013-03-22	During my sons bone marrow transplant in 2008 it was the first taste of the outdoors he got we spent much time out there as a family it's a beautiful garden!
Robin Dahms	Westbrook, ME	2013-03-22	We spent many days in that garden when my daughter had a bone marrow transplant. It was a welcome place when she was finally able to leave her room.
Colleen Corcoran	West Haven, CT	2013-03-22	My son had a bone marrow transplant at Boston Children's Hospital and it was the only place my son could go for the longest time
Nicole Seaman	Spencer, MA	2013-03-22	If it wasn't for this special place, my 5 year old cousin wouldn't have been able to go outside for the last months of her life. She was a girl who loves to play outside, but because of her illness and the need for a bone marrow transplant, she needed to be in the hospital, away from others. This garden allowed her and her family a special reward; sunshine and fresh air.
Deb Koppelman	Denville, NJ	2013-03-22	In memory of Avalanna Routh
Patricia Drooff	Hingham, MA	2013-03-22	The healing power of the outdoor garden cannot be replaced.
Bonnie Kimball	Amesbury, MA	2013-03-22	Children and well being are important to me!
Angela Smith	Rockland, MA	2013-03-22	My son had leukemia and had to have a bone marrow transplant. This is the first place we could go to that he could feel safe and not where a mask to protect him from germs. I have 3 other children and when we would all visit my son, this is where we went. I could not imagine it not being there.
Joanne Beranger	Woburn, MA	2013-03-22	My son had a bone marrow transplant there just 3 yrs ago ... It was the only place we could go .. And even to this day we go there.. The children need a safe clean place to sit.play. Walk.. What ever ... U can't take that away from them□□□
Carol Ann Pittman	churchville, NY	2013-03-22	A special angel, Juliana, spent precious time there while in the hospital. It was a special place for her and her family! Such a beautiful space for people to escape, even for just a few precious minutes.
Tracey Smith	Merrimac, MD	2013-03-22	my 6/1-2 year old neighbor was and inpatient for a month, this is where we escaped to. There we're all kinds of children with brain tumors out in the garden being wheeled around by their parents. I couldn't see the sadness, I only saw the beauty of the old established, tranquil garden. It was a place to get away from it all, just for a moment. It inspired me to incorporate some of the plantings in my own yard in memory of our little Avalanna that passed away. This garden is a priceless healing garden, save it.
Anne Gallagher	Norfolk, VA	2013-03-22	Former employee
Sandra Gagne	Oxford, MA	2013-03-22	A safe quite and enjoyable place for little patients to go with family and friends while stay in the hospital
Dianne LaMonica	Canandaigua, NY	2013-03-22	I strolled my precious granddaughter, Julianna, through that beautiful garden. It was a refuge that brought us peace and joy. The moments we spent there gave her a sense of freedom.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Kezia Fitzgerald	Danvers, MA	2013-03-22	My daughter spent half of her 18 month life battling neuroblastoma at children's. During weeks for inpatient stays, when she was stuck attached to a pole and confined to a hospital, she longed to be able to swing in her own yard. The Prouty Garden gave her the chance to be a normal kid - in the fresh air, running in the grass, touching the leaves and trees, and chasing the squirrels. It gave us, as parents, an escape from hospital noises and walls. It's a chance to feel human in a secluded world of white coats and terrifying moments. To take this away from patients, parents, and even the staff who spend their days devoted to those families, is a complete disservice to the children's community, and an utter slam to Mrs. Prouty's amazing donation.
Emily Doolittle	Lunenburg, MA	2013-03-22	Due to multiple immune disorders, I spend a large amount of time at Children's Hospital, and this garden has always provided comfort and respite during extended stays as an inpatient. The large tree in the middle of the garden is one of the most beautiful trees I have ever seen, and the multiple nooks and alcoves have consoled me in times of need. Just having a large, open, green space to go to makes things seem less terrible. Please don't let this garden be destroyed!
ann knight	ticonderoga, NY	2013-03-22	my son and I spent months in the hospital before he passed...and a place like this to go during our stay would of been amazing! getting outside in a beautiful safe environment would of helped!
Joan Webster	Southport, CT	2013-03-22	This garden was left as a gift with certain provisions for its maintenance. Yes, it does violate a promise and sets a very bad precedent. I am sure if Mrs. Prouty's wishes are not honored, I am sure other benefactors will think twice about endowments to the hospital, and rightly so. Hate to sound prejudice, but I'd bet my last dollar this decision to disregard Mrs. Prouty's wishes and to bulldoze the garden, was made by men!
Morgan DiPace	north dartmouth, MA	2013-03-22	it is tranquility for our sick friends.
Deb Carey	Amesbury, MA	2013-03-22	The natural world brings its healing to us, scientists have proven this in studies. It calms and soothes. This is a mature garden. It cannot be replaced. Find another place to build.
Collette Rocci	Holbrook, MA	2013-03-22	My niece was treated for ALL (acute lymphoblastic leukemia ) at Children's and the park was a great place for her to go to get outside during her treatments. There were times that she was there for a month at a time. It is also a great place for the caregiver who is staying with the patient to go have a place to sit and breathe!!!!
Christen Hawkes	Methuen, MA	2013-03-22	My children have been patients there and we have walked through the garden and agree that it is an integral part of Children's Hospital and getting outside is so important for kids!
Leslie Carrio	Andover, MA	2013-03-22	As a patient undergoing chemotherapy in the early '90's, my parents would wheel me out to the garden during their visits for sunshine and fresh air. It was such a nice place to be, and such a pleasure to escape 7W for a while!
chuck cardinale	rochester, NY	2013-03-22	our family and our angel Juliana spent countless hours enjoying the the sites and smells
Denise Kratman	Tewksbury, MA	2013-03-22	A beautiful garden? for children? and you plan on taking it away? Dont do it...Please...for the children that have to endure endless trips to the hospital...they need this...not another building...
sandy bordeau	Brockport, NY	2013-03-22	This place is so beautiful -- can this expansion be redrwn?
Kaitlin Strand	Ashburnham, MA	2013-03-22	My son was inpatient for 5 1/2 weeks. Prouty Garden was his only escape to the outside world. We took him for countless laps around Prouty Garden every morning and every evening.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jean DeAngelis	Winthrop, MA	2013-03-22	the children and their families love this, they need this and so do the wonderful nurses that take care of them each day, it truly brightens everyone's day. also, how can you take away something that was GIVEN to you by a deceased lady whose intention was to have a place for children and their families to get away and enjoy all that it offers. just not right, shame on you if you go ahead with this.
Stephanie Roderick	Hudson, NH	2013-03-22	As a nurse at the hospital, I've seen the joy that it brings so many children while they spend days, weeks, months, and even years as patients confined to the hospital. When I was hired 16 years ago we were given a tour and it was mentioned that this space was given to the hospital to use as a healing space and was only donated with the agreement it NEVER be built upon, what happened?? Let these kids, some who have little else to look forward to keep the one place in their hospital world that is a natural beauty.
kathleen Spinney	Townsend, MA	2013-03-22	my grandson was a patient for 6 weeks at BCH for leukemia. it was a place where my daughter and son-in-law could take their son for peace and quiet and family time away from all the noise and pain, and give them time to regroup in a beautiful garden. the garden enabled them to forget for awhile where they were and what they were going through. please honor Mrs. Prouty's promise and do what BCH is known for.... the right thing. Please let the garden remain as it is "until every child is well."
Betty Covel	ellenburg depot, NY	2013-03-22	i think all hospitals should have this i spent alot of time in an icu waiting room when i was younger just watching all the sadness and depression while my loved ones were fighting for their life....everyone needs a breath of fresh air and nature! just because someone is too lazy to build around it!!
CHRIS BRYANT	Marion, MA	2013-03-22	Besides the obvious reasons of nature being an integral part of healing, it is a catastrophe for any institution to alter the terms of a gift. I am the president of a non-profit Lands Trust and that is the first rule of receiving gifts, is to determine if you can honor the terms of the gift. If you can't do that, do not take the gift. Since the Prouty family is against developing this property, you are forced to live with the decisions you made when accepting the gift
Anne Crooker	Hudson, NH	2013-03-22	As a friend of one of the last partners of the Olmsted firm and a fervent believer in the power of healing that these gardens hold! believe that the Hospital would not only be destroying a historical garden (Olmsted) but dishonoring the memory of a benefactor. A disgrace!
Kristin Bell	Leominster, MA	2013-03-22	This garden is very important to a friend of mine.
Heather Olson	Boston, MA	2013-03-22	The Prouty garden is a peaceful escape for both patients/families and faculty. Grass and fresh air is important!
Richard Currier Jr.	Winthrop, MA	2013-03-22	Children need this Garden as part of the healing Process
Ginette Hehn	Northbridge, MA	2013-03-22	I know children who have been and currently are being treated at BCH, and this garden is important to them--a green space to be refreshed in the city while recuperating. Violating the intent of the benefactor who donated this space for this purpose is unconscionable.
Scott Petrie	Medfield, MA	2013-03-22	A beautiful oasis in a forest of cold buildings
Linda MacLaughlin	Chelmsford, MA	2013-03-22	As a cancer survivor, I well know the feeling of enjoying such a garden. Nothing feels better than having your senses of sight, smell, touch, awaken and give you the zest to fight on. This is a medicine that no doctor or facility can provide.
Michelle Raymond	Carlsbad, CA	2013-03-22	i grew up in Boston, my Dad was disabled and I spent uncountable days in and around the hospitals of Boston. This garden is a welcome respite for families. Bulldozing it violates the promise to Mrs. Prouty and that is not nice.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Marianne Savage	Bolton, MA	2013-03-22	Preserve the garden and build a new building elsewhere. The garden is a healing treasure. Another building is just another building and that can go somewhere else.
Nat Bryant	Westport, MA	2013-03-22	I remember being at Children's hospital when I was two years old. I also remember how much I enjoyed being taken outside to the garden. Please leave this for other children to enjoy. It's very important to them
Tatyana Brassard	Natick, ME	2013-03-22	During our 6 month stay at Children's, this was the place we were looking forward to going. It gave the whole family a peaceful atmosphere to heal and recover from the constant stress of the treatment. If a child gets sick on the oncology floor, s/he cannot go out on the floor. Sometimes isolation lasts for weeks. The garden is the only chance for kids to go out of the room. That is so important and should not be taken away from patients.
paula dillon	hingham, MA	2013-03-22	My daughter spent many hours in this garden while during her extensive time at childrens hospital, it's the closest thing to getting outside for these families while in. It's a sanctuary and is important for their peace of mind.
Christine Searle	Pepperell, MA	2013-03-22	Our family took great pleasure in the garden on the several occasions that our daughter was a patient. It's a beautiful escape for the families.
Kelly Ann Larkin	Oro Valley, AZ	2013-03-22	As an educator of young children, I can tell you that more outdoor spaces are what children need. They no longer spend countless hours outside breathing in the fresh air, playing with bugs and running through the grass. However, it is what children need most. In a book by Robert Louv, he talks about "nature deficit" in our children. Please DO NOT bulldoze this beautiful space where children can go to escape the pains of their illness. Please allow them to breathe in the fresh air, look at the wonders of beauty and if possible, walk around barefoot to experience the nature that this park provides. It is SHAMEFUL that the hospital would consider doing this to something that was owed to them. What's next in Boston? The parks alongside the Charles? These are endowed to the people of Boston as well.
Judithellen Kennedy	port hueneme, CA	2013-03-22	I am 68 years old. I am a nurse. Years ago I spent time in this sacred garden. It saved me. As a human...living on this beautiful planet, I grieve that it is rapidly disappearing... being replaced by concrete and steel. Please consider this: Hurting patients... frightened and bewildered families...exhausted staff....all of them, get more from a piece of earth than they do from any non life forms, no matter how artfully constructed. It is a scientific fact. You cannot breathe steel...steel cannot feel...steel cannot heal. Our feet must touch the earth. Seriously... don't you get it?
Kristina Eisnor	Berkley, MA	2013-03-22	My daughter was an oncology patient for over 5 years. Walks to the garden were all that kept us both sane on most inpatient days. Please save the garden!!!
Lucy sirois	merrimac, MA	2013-03-22	Avalanna Routh and Alexis Sawyer, two beautiful girls that got to enjoy it....
Kelly Lilly	Rockport, MA	2013-03-22	2 of my children have spent considerable outpatient time at Children's. I have seen the good this garden has done for the children who have to spend even more time in the hospital. It would be a terrible thing to see it destroyed.
William Carroll	Harvard, MA	2013-03-22	It made a young friend happy.
Leigh Mueller	Wolfeboro, NH	2013-03-22	It was built to honor the lives lost. Its a place of sunlight and happiness for many families BCH. It would be a disgrace to put buildings on that land.

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Pauline Ray	Westford, MA	2013-03-22	As a nurse, I've seen first-hand the importance of getting out of the hospital and into the fresh air surrounded by water, green plants, and birds. Please do not destroy this garden. Find an alternative plan for building.
Megan Bartell	Lakeville, MA	2013-03-22	The garden is a safe place where you can go when your child is inpatient and "forget" about the hospital for a minute. Catch your breath and organize your thoughts. It is also a nice place to bring your child to get away from it all. It would be a shame to take such an escape away from the families at BCH.
Barbara Guerriero	West Townsend, MA	2013-03-22	I know a little boy with Leukemia who this year enjoyed every single moment of his outside time in the lovely garden. Please keep it available for all to enjoy.
julie macdonald	waltham, MA	2013-03-22	It was important to a little girl who spent most of her time in children's hospital while she was alive.
frances savage	MELROSE, MA	2013-03-22	MY grandson was treated at children's hospital for a brain tumor. This garden was a peaceful island in the midst of treatment for his terminal illness.
Alexandra Gatje	New York, NY	2013-03-22	Because my very young friend Maddie Dillon found this to be a recuperative part of her recovery while at the hospital undergoing treatment for cancer.
Brenda Carvalho	Revere, MA	2013-03-22	The children Love it there
Heather Larkin	Naples, FL	2013-03-22	In honor of Charlotte O'Shea
Claudia J Rein	Concord, NH	2013-03-22	A "Haven for Healing" should never be destroyed for a new building when other options are available. Bulldozing a sanctuary that has given many much peace and spiritual comfort is sinful - surely there must be some viable alternative for a new building.....Children's Hospital is so much more than 'bricks and mortar'.....
Erin Baker	Plainville, MA	2013-03-22	This healing garden sounds like a magical place where children and families can find solace in their time of need.
Judy DeMellia	Haverhill, MA	2013-03-22	My son was a patient of Children's Hospital after having brain surgery. This garden is a special place for families to escape the stress and get fresh air. It also gives patients a place to escape their hospital room, when possible. It is beautiful and so peaceful.
Mimi Avery	Fort Worth, TX	2013-03-22	For the kids!!
Xavier Carette	Brighton, MA	2013-03-22	The Prouty Garden is a legacy, a gift and a little heaven in summer. Let's keep it. We have enough buildings.
Nancy Zappolo	Scituate, MA	2013-03-23	A good friend of ours was a patient there--the kids need this--please don't take it away!
Susan Thompson	Chelmsford, MA	2013-03-23	It is important because children benefit from being able to enjoy nature - it is part of healing....
phyllis conlon	Newton, MA	2013-03-23	Spent time there with a young friend..
Lucy Abisalih	Merrimac, MA	2013-03-23	The stress of our hospital situation was only truly assuaged by being in this garden where the critical elements of life are in abundance. I am so grateful for this garden.
Karen GreenE	Quincy, MA	2013-03-23	This is an incredible place for patients to help them enjoy the closest thing to a park when they cannot leave the hospital to get to one.
Karen Lincoln	wilmingtonAveWilmington, MA	2013-03-23	If it was important to Charlotte and her family that's reason enough for me!
Brenda Robertson	Woburn, MA	2013-03-23	Because it brought joy to a brave little man who lost his battle to cancer!
Judi Celidonio	rockland, MA	2013-03-23	i know of someone who took their child there when they were at CH and got lots of comfort in doing so



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sharon Sawyer	Lowell, MA	2013-03-23	I sat in the garden many times enjoying the peacefulness of it when I was at Childrens with my kids.
Shannon Engel	Tewksbury, MA	2013-03-23	I've have sat in the that garden and helps....
Mary sullivan	Bow, NH	2013-03-23	During my teenage daughter's darkest days, she was a patient in BCH's psychiatric ward on numerous occasions. Being confined to the grounds, this one part of the hospital was life saving to her, the fresh air, flowers, hidden statues. Her room looked out over it too. Don't take away the Prouty Garden, it's purpose lives on for every child Mrs. Prouty intended it to touch and help heal.
Alice Houghtaling	Albany, NY	2013-03-23	You have a treaure of immense value to the art of Healing for those who are also heartsick and soulsick. Who need to experience peace and maybe surcease from what goes on inside the buildings. Such a beautiful garden. Please don't ruin this special medical spot that you are so blessed to have.
jennifer eisele	Madison, CT	2013-03-23	I believe it is beneficial to wholistic patient care, for families,volunteers and the staff. She left a beautiful legacy that should be respected.
Dave Bieniek	Coupeville, WA	2013-03-23	I have watched the restorative nature of gardens at children and adult hospitals all over the country. Please keep this garden!
Lindsay Sink	Gig Harbor, WA	2013-03-23	My sister Lauren Brennan spent several months here as a newborn in 1984. She was born blind at 1lb, 1oz. The doctors and nurses at BCH saved her life and the garden lifted my parents spirits during a nerve racking year.
Shaun Pan	Cambridge, MA	2013-03-23	We already lost our locker room, the garden is the only place we can chill. It's also a place the parents can go to unwind, and for the kids to walk around outdoors after being indoors for extended periods of time.
Amy Wheeler	Leominster, MA	2013-03-23	CHB was my second home in some of the most difficult years of my life. This garden is precious to me. Let's save it and honor someone who did a lot for this place of miracies.
paula ford	leander, TX	2013-03-23	I work in a children's hospital. being outside is healing. please reconsider
Alice Anthony	Austin, TX	2013-03-23	Hospital administrators should try to think about something other than profit, perhaps starting with integrity and a promise that was made to a benefactor.
Frank Casey	Norton, MA	2013-03-23	I believe in upholding the spirit of the gift and in the benifits derived from the garden.
Emily Jean Gilbert	Allentown, PA	2013-03-23	As a hospital chaplain of too many years, I know that spaces of quiet contemplation of beauty are priceless in the midst of places of pain, heartache, loss, and fear. Keep the garden!
Mary OBrien	Dorchester, MA	2013-03-23	I have spent alot of time with my daughter at Children's over the years and the garden is a beautiful place we have enjoyed.
Randy Jones	Allentown, PA	2013-03-23	I was a hospital chaplain for many years, and I know the old old struggle between the business of being a hospital, and the spiritual challenge to care for the sick.
K Manning	marion, MA	2013-03-23	I want to preserve the historic treasure that this garden is!!
Erin Callihan	Reading, MA	2013-03-24	I have a daughter who spent a long duration at Children's and this garden was such a welcome change for us
Joan Hershberger	whitehall, PA	2013-03-24	Gardens are powerful healers in our concrete/asphalt world.
Kate Gagney	Wayland, MA	2013-03-24	My nephew was diagnosed with cancer and spent over 6 months living at Childrens. This garden allowed him and his family to go outside and relax a little through out the treatment. With out it it would have been very difficult for him to be outside.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Carl Aiken	Australia	2013-03-24	Care of the spirit is an essential part of health care. Connection with nature is an critical element in healthy spirituality.
Tammy Millette	Auburn, MA	2013-03-25	This was a special place for my niece and her family to go to threw threw a very unhappy time in there lives.Please let other families have this place to feel free and just a place to breathe.
Susanne Armstrong	Atlanta, GA	2013-03-25	My good friends daughter spent a lot of time in this garden.
Lisa Teot	Boston, MA	2013-03-25	This is an amazing space of serenity, healing and rejuvenation for familes and patients. It is a place for staff to take a break form work and come back refreshed. It is essential to save this unique space.
Margery Buckingham	Dorchester, MA	2013-03-25	Tranquil, meditative space is so rare in the city.
Nathaniel Johnson	Grand Rapids, MI	2013-03-25	Outdoor settings of green space and nature do more to promote healing of the whole person - mind, body and spirit - than anything else.
Allen Mitchell	New Orleans, LA	2013-03-25	It plays a role in healing. tranquility and the beauty of nature have tremendous healing properties
Chris O'Brien	Somerville, MA	2013-03-25	This type of space, particularly in an urban environment, is a rare gift. I strongly support preserving this spot for the patients and their families.
Glenda McDonald	Friendswood, TX	2013-03-26	Outdoor space in a hospital setting is an important part of healing
Tom David Siebert	Richmond, VA	2013-03-26	My experience as a chaplain has taught me the vital importance of such sylvan spaces to healing the whole person. The destruction of the Prouty Garden would betray the trust Mrs. Prouty placed in BCU to honor the conditions of her gift "for as long as Children's Hospital has patients..." There is more to the medical arts than scans and drugs. Cash and ego is undoubtedly behind this new assault upon a benefactor's intent and a healing place that is undoubtedly held sacred by generations of patients, family, and staff. Those behind this scheme will probably be deaf to these appeals for mercy. Some people already have their imaginations fixed upon a dedicatory wall emblazoned with their names...where the grand redwoods will once have stood in whose embrace the inner spirits of many have been healed.
Mary Louise Myrer	Boston, MA	2013-03-26	Prouty Garden provides a beautiful stress free enviroment for our patients and their families. I will never forget the joy it brought one of my young patients when he saw the flowers,kicked his feet in the "pool" and enjoyed a real laugh with his family as birds dived by him! His giggles will be remembered fondly..
David Owens	Westwood, MA	2013-03-26	I really enjoy the garden
Saffron Kohler	Cambridge, NY	2013-03-26	All gardens are improtant to me, especially this one which heals.
Joshua Andrzejewski	Charlottesville, VA	2013-03-26	As a pediatric chaplain, I recognize the immense value of spaces like the Prouty Garden. Healing takes place in the peace that families find in beautiful areas like this one.
Tanya Searle	Nashua, NH	2013-03-27	I spent a lot of time in the garden when I was a patient hospitalized at Children's. I couldn't imagine not having that space to escape to with my family.
Gary Whitten	Nashua, NH	2013-03-27	This garden was important to my friend's recovery and probabiy many others' as well.
Jim DeGrado	Orlando, FL	2013-03-27	Heaiing is facilitated by nature and spirituality.
Veronica Cantrell	Ft Lupton, CO	2013-03-29	It is a sacrid place where children spend ths last part of their lives with their families.
Maura Millette	Boston, MA	2013-03-29	As a patient and now an employee at BCH, the garden is one thing that has always brought me peace. In a big city it's so rare to have an oasis like the Prouty Garden and it would be a shame to deprive patients of this escape.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Peter Cruckshank	Brewster, MA	2013-03-29	I have used this garden for my entire life. 28 years and 19 surgeries there and 100s of hospitalizations. This garden gave and gives me peace. Serenity in the middle of chaos.
John Traver	Lunenburg, MA	2013-03-30	Many times during my employment at BCH I've gone to the Prouty Garden to gain a bit of healing and I've seen many other patients, family members and coworkers who have done the same. Taking that away would do a huge disservice to everyone who works here as well as the patients and families who come here for care
Jennifer McDonough	Brookline, MA	2013-03-31	This space is important to me as a former researcher and patient.
Jennifer Cheng	Boston, MA	2013-04-01	The Prouty Garden is priceless in terms of offering a haven to BCH patients, families and staff.
Sandra Winkler	Brockton, MA	2013-04-01	My children are patients of Children's Hospital Boston. The Prouty Garden is an important space to save in order to provide children and families proper space to heal, relax and enjoy. The buildings in the CHB urban setting fell like a "concrete jungle" and do not foster healing and health for the children and families. The Prouty Garden does provide the space to heal. Please do not remove it...make additional green spaces while keeping the Prouty Garden safe.
Fah Sathirapongsasuti	Cambridge, MA	2013-04-01	Prouty Garden is a much needed healing heaven for patients and staff of not only Children's but also of Longwood hospitals. Losing it would be a great loss to our community.
Nancy Thornton	Schenectady, NY	2013-04-01	If you know anyone in the media who can bring attention to the terrible plan to destroy this garden, please contact them and tell them about the issue.
Timothy Dalton	Arlington, MA	2013-04-02	Gardens never can be reclaimed
Kathleen Bryan	Niskayuna, NY	2013-04-02	No green space should be taken out of a city. Especially one that gives comfort to those who are ill.
Kathie Armstrong	Schenectady, NY	2013-04-02	A garden can be an integral part of healing. I can not imagine removing from a hospital environment. Shame on those who propose such a deed.
lois Rowe	Niskayuna, NY	2013-04-02	Nature heals!
PAUL MANCHUK	WEBSTER, MA	2013-04-02	GIVES PEOPLE A PLACE TO GO TO RELAX AND PEACE OF MIND
Katherine Wolfram	Niskayuna, NY	2013-04-02	Offering a space for sick children to benefit from nature's beauty is totally important. Please save the garden!
Patricia Mundy	barrington, RI	2013-04-02	Gardens are life-affirming and a well loved and cherished one is especially so. It would not only be a terrible dishonor to Mrs. Prouty but to all future patients and those who care for them.
Ann Marie Vadala	Lexington, MA	2013-04-02	A healing garden of hope - & to honor the intentions of Mrs. Prouty
George vadala	Lexington, MA	2013-04-02	Long time witness to the magic of Prouty Gardens and to honor the intentions of Mrs. Prouty generous "for as long as their are patients" gift.
Velvet Replogle	Ocean View, HI	2013-04-02	It is so important to have open spaces such as these as sanctuaries for the benefit of healing and respite.
Margaret Blohm	Niskayuna, NY	2013-04-03	I'm a mother and if the worst were to happen and one of my children were seriously ill, I would treasure this spot as a place of hope and peace.
Lindsay Ringwelski	Washington, DC	2013-04-03	My sister was at Boston Children's in '87. Today I was remembering being there with her by walking up and down the streets in Google Earth. I stumbled upon this petition by accident while searching for pictures of the garden. This garden was special. It so strongly imprinted on my little 7 year old brain during a stressful time that I still think about the space over 25 years later with fondness. It would be a shame to lose such a wonderful place.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Haley Hutchings	Dover, NH	2013-04-04	As a patient of the hospital and a teen who spent a long time in the ICU, words can not express how comforting my trips to the garden were to me and my family.
Jenny Patrick	Meadow Vista, CA	2013-04-04	If this garden brings comfort to those in need, I believe it is worth saving.
Heidi Wolff	Auburn, CA	2013-04-05	Gardens help heal the mind, body, and spirit. I have a friend and her niece loves this garden.
Meghan Starr	rollinsford, NH	2013-04-05	in honor of my niece haley .... She is there for surgery
Nancy McCowan	Bend, OR	2013-04-05	This garden has provided many memories for patients and loved ones of love, support, and grace when the chips were down. It's a location being revisited by those who have found solace in this spot, and should be available for future patients and their loved ones when they find themselves in the same situation.
Jennifer Taylor	Hartbeespoort, South Africa	2013-04-05	My amazing cousin has worked at and is a patient at Boston Children's Hospital. This is a very special place to her and would be so saddened to see this destroyed.
Shalome Briggs	Meadow Vista, CA	2013-04-05	To provide support to those people who treasure this garden and find comfort here.
KAREN STARR	MEADOW VISTA, CA	2013-04-05	HEALING AND TREATING THE MIND AND SOUL OF PATIENTS IS AS IMPORTANT TO HEALING AS WELL AS BODILY TREATMENT
Krista Faciana	grass valley, CA	2013-04-05	Patient request
Rachel Lavigne	York, ME	2013-04-05	For Haley Hutchings
Linda Mulay	Grass Valley, CA	2013-04-06	Gardens are healing to everyone
Joan Minklei	Wellesley, MA	2013-04-06	It is an historical treasure and priceless to those who might find peace within it during illness. Nature is a wonderful healing force and is critical to healing.
Dana DeAngelis	Wellesley, MA	2013-04-06	Open green space is vital to our city and very therapeutic for patients during times of stress. Please consider the alternate plans that would preserve this space.
Fran Poulin	Sanford, ME	2013-04-06	Children who suffer need comfort and beauty to sustain them!
Margo Yie	Wellesley, MA	2013-04-07	The Prouty Garden by Olmsted Brothers is irreplaceable. Let's keep this healing space for children and their families.
Kyle Carbonell	Hartbeespoort, South Africa	2013-04-07	For Haley Hutchings
Robert Taylor	York Harbor, ME	2013-04-07	It is important to the children, especially Haley.
Kathy Mulroy	Wellesley, MA	2013-04-07	This historic garden provides a much needed refuge for patients and their families .
Amanda Washburne	Medfield, MA	2013-04-07	This garden is a spiritual oasis for children and parents who are stressed by doctors visits, lab tests and treatments. The garden promotes healing by offering a quiet place to unwind and enjoy nature. The patients also see doctors and others who work in the hospital enjoying the quiet beauty of the garden. The age of the trees and shrubs in the garden is a large part of its charm. Please let this peaceful oasis in the city remain as it was intended.
Jen Patrick	Barrington, NH	2013-04-07	Haley is one of my best friends and I would do anything to help support her.
Nancy Callahan	Wellesley, MA	2013-04-07	Hospital, heal thyself.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Rebecca Hallman	Altamonte Springs, FL	2013-04-08	I work with many ill people and the idea of your entire life being centered around medical tests and machines is very scary and life altering. People need respite from treatments to a sense of normalcy and a sense of humanness. These gardens have the perfect healing power with serenity and connectedness. People need a time and place of calm during these times of trial. Please, please, please do not do away with these gardens. We cannot take away the spirit and humanness of people for more sterile and medical options.
Nicole Eastwood	Sanford, FL	2013-04-08	To promote healing
Adrian Casillas	London, United Kingdom	2013-04-08	Because healing gardens are a great way to help patients and their families and because I love Boston! Let Nature heal!
Carolyn Champagne	Longwood, FL	2013-04-08	Because too many times we jump too fast to remove our natural beauty in the area. Buildings are not everything and something like this means a great deal to those at the hospital.
Jennifer Hanlon Wigon	Wellesley, MA	2013-04-09	In facing medical issues with my own children & nieces/nephews, the importance retaining spaces such as this are all the more important to me. My husband and I are very involved with ensuring educational opportunity for disadvantaged children. We very much appreciate the forward looking intent of the founders of the Prouty Garden and very much hope the administration retains this invaluable resource for their current and future patients and families. Thank you.
cecilia brooks	wellesley, MA	2013-04-09	good outlet for the kids and adults
Tracy Cranley	Wellesley, MA	2013-04-09	I would hate to see those families lose such a sacred spot
pat mattina	framingham, MA	2013-04-09	Being able to touch the earth, to have places of beauty, is an essential part of the healing process for all beings. Please do not take away this sacred space. Peace.
Kimberly Carey	Wellesley, MA	2013-04-10	Because I was in the hospital for 20 days and would have loved to have had a place to go out like this.
ann Mulligan	Brighton, MA	2013-04-10	As a former student nurse at Childrens in 1960 I remember it as a peaceful retreat even if it was only a few seconds in the intense pace of caring and learning that was taking place. Just to see the green and the water was a relief in the entire Longwood area. I remember some of the clowns from the Ringling circus entertaining the patients out in the garden. A great pleasure to bring many of the patients outside for a change in their daily regime in side the unit.
Christine konys	Natick, MA	2013-04-10	I am a cancer survivor; gardens brought me so much peace during treatments. They are a refuge and need to be saved.
Cheryl Casey	Woburn, MA	2013-04-11	My daughter was in treatment for 5 years at BCH. The garden was my only chance for fresh air and sunshine for weeks at a time Its a true refuge for patients and families
naiera hima	Cairo, Egypt	2013-04-11	I am a landscape architect and my thesis is on the significance of natural environments in hospitals. the prouty garden is a successful example of a healing garden. these environments are very important to the psychological wellbeing of patients, families, and staff.
Anna Cyr	Leeds, ME	2013-04-11	This Graden saved my life when my child was hospitalized for months at a time at this fine hospital. Being able to take my child outside for some fresh air and some semblance of normalcy contributed to our resilience!! Please don't take that away!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Maisy Cyr	Leeds, ME	2013-04-11	I spent much of my childhood at Boston Hospital, as did my sister and this was always a nice place for some fresh air and escape from the hospital atmosphere. Why would you get rid of something like that?
lorraine johnson	billerica, MA	2013-04-12	My daughter spent over a year in and out of the hospital with lung cancer. she needed a quiet place, a place for some fresh air. a magical place with hidden animals. a beautiful, natural place with nature; a place away from plastic tubing, clicking machines, awful medicine. patients need this place.
Amanda Jobin	Barrington, NH	2013-04-12	Please Boston Children's Hospital, say it isn't so! The destruction of this oasis would break the hearts of thousands upon thousands of families. Our son was born with a life threatening condition and was not expected to live. I will never forget the day we were allowed to bring him to the Prouty Garden. Tears of joy streamed down my face because I knew he would not die without feeling the sun on his face, feeling the breeze on his skin, hearing the birds sing and smelling the sweet flowers. This garden was possibly the only thing that stood between him and a life that consisted solely of lights, machines and alarms. Children deserve to have a least one breath of fresh air in their lifetime. My son miraculously survived and was able to leave the hospital 3 1/2 months later. However, our love for the Prouty Garden continues. Our son requires a significant amount of medical care and has developed anxiety surrounding anything to do with hospitals. The garden is a place of freedom and peace for him during his appointment days. It has been a place of solace for us as parents, too, as we wait for test results or seek comfort during a procedure. Every time we are in the garden, we see that others love it as much as we do. The paths are always full of patients being wheeled past the flowers, children walking slowly with IV pole and precious bald heads shining in the sun. I'm thankful that the doctors and nurses caring for my son have a chance to get outside to clear their head, relax, recharge and refocus, as well. Our family pleads with you not to destroy this priceless treasure. It could NEVER be replaced!
April Kirk	Milton Mills, NH	2013-04-12	I know people that this garden was a place of solace for them when their son was sick.
Denise Littlefield	Strafford, NH	2013-04-12	I remember, at the age of 7, being in for hear surgery (1976). It was a long recovery and it was great amusement for me to be able to be wheeled around the garden by my parents. I love that garden and have been back many times as a teen and adult. Don't let the garden disappear! It is such a great source of peace for children when they are recovering from very difficult medical procedures.
Alan Harris	Foothill Ranch, CA	2013-04-12	Because it means so much to so many peoples recovery to include my brave little second cousin.
Kris Osgood	Vinalhaven, ME	2013-04-12	For my niece who spends A LOT of time at Childrens.
Jodi Glines	Franklin, NH	2013-04-12	My cousin's baby boy lived his first 3 1/2 months of life at Boston Children's. They weren't supposed to bring him home, but God had other plans for him. I can't imagine my babies living in a room filled with artificial lights, monitors, and beeps for days and weeks...and months on end. They were able to take him to the garden to feel the air and hear the birds sing. What better place for him to experiance the outside world for the very first time. Please don't take that away from your other patients and their families.
Mary Herndon	Nashua, NH	2013-04-12	To destroy a piece of nature, a gift, is wrong. Please don't ruin a garden.
Tracie Burke Butt	Millis, MA	2013-04-12	Its a beautifulplace to go for families to pray, meditate or take a moment during very difficult times.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Lana Rush	Austin, TX	2013-04-12	Having spent a ton of time in the hospital, it's not only nice, but necessary, to have a place to step outside, take some deep breaths, and "get away" for a moment.
Karen Burke	Chicago, IL	2013-04-12	It is important for me and any one that loves a child that may need treatment at Boston Children's hospital. Keeping this space respects and honors the children, and those who love them - providing a necessary and therapeutic rest from the anxiety and pain that accompany medical trauma, sickness and suffering for children. It was as necessary to the hospital as the ER or a pharmacy - and we wouldn't think to remove those.
Elaine Osgood	Vinalhaven, ME	2013-04-12	My grandson has been a patient there.
Maura Curren	Boston, MA	2013-04-12	It's a beautiful place that a lot of patients enjoy. It helps so much to get outside the walls of the hospital for both patients and hospital employees.
Gladys Hutchinson	Vinalhaven, ME	2013-04-12	well for one reason I personally know of a family that benefits from seeing this and that it is a beautiful thing, and why ruin a good thing...
Bethany Candage	Vinalhaven, ME	2013-04-12	My little sister often is at Boston Children's Hospital and having a green place to look at and use instead of another building to stare out gives a clam and peaceful atmosphere
Tom Lazour	Portsmouth, NH	2013-04-12	The only place offering peace and serenity in an other chaotic and challenging stay. Provides all with the peace of mind needed at times to continue!
Doris Warren	Vinalhaven, ME	2013-04-12	Because two VERY special children from my community like to visit here.
Christina Steenbergen	Northwood, NH	2013-04-12	Have spent much time there with my son
Carol Weldin	Andover, MA	2013-04-12	My cousin's daughter is a frequent patient at Children's and this is a haven for them.
Robyn Johnson	Billeica, MA	2013-04-12	This garden has been the best place of healing for me when I had cancer, I still go there and enjoy it every time I return to Boston for my annual checkup
Michelle Young	tenats hrbr, ME	2013-04-12	My son had a vist an have friends in past there lost my niece there please keep one thing for them thats peaceful an relaxing
Bonnie Chretien	Barrington, NH	2013-04-13	I have spent many hours in Prouty Garden waiting for my grandson's surgeries or procedures to be over. It is the only place of peace where patients, families, visitors or employees can soak up the sun and be rejuvenated by nature. Please do not take that away!!
Millie Coombs	Wells, ME	2013-04-13	My daughter spent months at Children's and I spent so much time in the garden.
Mary Farwell	Hooksett, NH	2013-04-14	It has been a place of spiritual peace to friends whose children have been very ill.
Melissa Dunbar	Queensbury, NY	2013-04-15	Tis garden provided many hours of peaceful, safe and beautiful outdoor time for my son as he went through several surgeries at you facility. I feel it is important for healing and health to have a natural outdoor space to escape the clinical atmosphere of the hospital. I feel it promotes healing and mental health.
Jean Amaro	New Bedford, MA	2013-04-18	during times of extreme stress while my child was having open heart surgery, it was a place of peace for thoughtful re-energizing
Paul MacMaster	Hudson, MA	2013-04-21	22 year BCH volunteer. The garden is an oasis for families going through very stressful times.
Janet Morrison	Mason, NH	2013-04-26	it would be a shame to bulldoze it. As the song say.. "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot
Linda Cammarata	Fort Myers, FL	2013-04-27	The garden offers respite for weary parents and patients.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sharon Green	Pelham, NH	2013-04-27	This garden was a great comfort to me when I was hospitalized at Children's at age 9, 1967. I can't imagine that it has outlived it's inestimable value!
Luc Tran	Boston, MA	2013-04-27	This is a beautiful area for lunch, rest and healing.
Kelsey McCue	Leicester, MA	2013-05-01	My friends child is alive and healthy at age 2 because of the healing benefits this garden provides.
Mary Small	Concord, MA	2013-05-09	I have worked in the Longwood Medical area for over 25 years and the Prouty Garden has been my oasis through many trials and tough days. It would be a crime to destroy it. Can the city be petitioned to recognize it as an official landmark?
Kathryn Hewett	Harvard, MA	2013-05-10	As a BCH and DFCI staff psychologist for many years, I witnessed the healing experience of the Prouty garden for many children and families. BCH used to be known for its compassionate care--killing the garden reverses and damages BCH's reputation.
Laurie Bergstrom	Woburn, MA	2013-05-12	Most beautiful place. I use it to mediate and pray when my daughter is inpatient. I also enjoy taking her outside when is able for a stroll. I think it is terrible to use the space for a building. Mrs. Prouty deserves her bequest to be honored.
Sally Pavlus	Albany, NY	2013-05-13	I believe these types of spaces promote healing & possitive reflection for everyone wishing to value peace & solitude.
Heidi Wall	New Braunfels, TX	2013-05-13	Please preserve the therapeutic beauty for future patients and families.
Maghnus O'Seaghdha	Boston, MA	2013-05-16	BCH is so fortunate to have this beautiful green space. The so-called 'alternate green spaces' proposed are not acceptable. The Hospital should never put profit first.
Dan Greenberg	Boston, MA	2013-05-17	Children's wants to take away a garden that sick kids use to heal emotionally? What an example of only treating the physical!
Doreen Robison	East Bridgewater, MA	2013-05-17	In 2005 my daughter came to Children's Hospital Boston to start treatment for cancer (AML). She was admitted for six months and spent only one weekend each month at home. The Prouty Garden was our only access to the real outdoors where there was sky above and grass below. The benefits felt by patients, families, and staff because of their access to such a beautiful space should not be overlooked. The loss of the Prouty Garden would be disgraceful and the disregard of the promise made to Mrs Prouty to maintain it disgusting.
Schuyler Amick	Ashby, MA	2013-05-22	The Prouty Garden is important to us for so many reasons! We enjoyed escaping to this tranquil garden every chance we could with our daughter during the first summer of her life when she was in the hospital for an almost month recovery, and felt that is very instrumental to her healing. We enjoyed looking at the garden during our many appointments in the metabolism clinic, admiring it in every season. The means even more to our family because it is where our daughter passed away this past Sunday. It was such a blessing to us and her to be able to be in such a beautiful, tranquil spot for her passing. Even though we were in the middle of the city, in the middle of a busy hospital it was so quiet and still we could only hear the sound of birds as she gained her angel wings. We would be heart broken to see this treasure torn from the patients, family and staff members.
Kim Bennet	Natick, MA	2013-05-27	This garden, in this location, is a quiet, peaceful, serene place that helps heal the soul. It a place for patience and their families to gather without city noise and feel normal -- like they are not in a hospial setting. This unique space must be preserved!



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Mallory Smith	Scituate, MA	2013-05-29	It is a beautiful place I appreciated going to while I visited my sister while she was at Childrens. Since she was a long term patient, to be able to escape from the beeps and buzzes that you always heard while at the hospital was a "sigh of relief". Not only does my sister love it, but many others at the hospital spend free time here. To think that Children's would even consider to eliminate the Prouty Garden is absurd!
Michele Morrissey Smith	Scituate, MA	2013-05-29	Consider Prouty Garden to be healing for the soul.
Jocelyn Collins	Ashby, MA	2013-05-29	The garden provided a beautiful, peaceful spot to say good bye to our precious granddaughter. How fortunate we were to have that option and I hope the garden will remain for others who may need it for a good bye in the future.
Wendy Casker	Westminster, MD	2013-05-29	It served as a peaceful place for friends to say goodbye to their daughter/granddaughter as she lost her struggle with a genetic metabolic disease
Jennifer Murray	Ashby, MA	2013-05-29	My niece said goodbye to her daughter in this garden. the garden provided a peaceful place as they watched their daughter take her last breath
Joyce Landfried	Fitchburg, MA	2013-05-29	Preserving Prouty Garden is important to me for various reasons well stated already in this petition and more specifically/personally because my friends were very recently so blessed with and grateful for the beautiful/peaceful option the garden provided say good bye to their 3 1/2 year old granddaughter.
hillary temple	rutland, VT	2013-05-29	It was the peaceful calming garden where my niece held her three year old daughter while she took her last breath on this earth among the beauty of life...
Maryann Arlock	Ashby, MA	2013-05-29	Nature in the city, peace and comfort for the sick and dying.
George Witzel	Natick, MA	2013-05-29	The benefits of this wonderful garden should not be lost. Surely an alternative plan can be developed.
Anthony Hill	Boston, MA	2013-05-29	The garden is a refuge for workers, a rare moment of normalcy for patients and their families, and a beautiful bit of green amid the chaos of Longwood. Please find someplace else for your building
Sandra Mailloux	Lunenburg, MA	2013-05-30	A family very close to me were able to be with their three year old daughter in that beautiful garden as she took her last breath surrounded by the beauty of that peaceful garden and those who loved her.....so much better than in a hospital setting to say good bye in the beauty of a garden.
Susan's Marshall	Downingtown, PA	2013-05-30	Meaningful to families who deal with difficult times, a place of peacefulness
David Hemenway	Boston, MA	2013-05-30	Prouty Garden is an oasis in the medical area, an outdoor refuge from the brick and cement. It is a priceless asset.
Angela McCarthy	Greenfield, MA	2013-05-30	My family has spent several hours in this garden during trips to the hospital with our son. Not only is it a beautiful landscaped garden- that alone is magical. But it is a place to breathe clean fresh air, to see the blue sky, to walk your feet on something other than linoleum. It is a place where healthy siblings can frolic and play in the sunshine and for a few brief moments perhaps let yourself escape from what brings you to the hospital. Please do not get rid of such a beautiful spot.
Elizabeth Reid	Lafayette, LA	2013-05-30	I have a child with health needs and being able to go outside to see, smell and feel the outdoors is so gratifying when a child is recovering from illness. That is God's gift to help heal the souls of these families.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Brian Greenberg	Silver Spring, MD	2013-05-31	This garden, designed by the Olmsted firm is a classic! My granddaughter has been at Children's for 10 days and already we have made a half dozen trips to the garden and it has offered our family untold solace. Growth of the Longwood hospitals must reach a point of diminishing returns, where congestion and density hinders accessibility for patients and families. Alternate extension campuses must be found for future growth.
Donetta Swenor	Ashby, MA	2013-05-31	The garden provided such a necessary need to my dear friend who had to say to bye to her little angel, without the garden it would have been in a cold white hospital room, so grateful for a special garden for parents and kids to enjoy in the good times and hard times.
Andreas Senai	Beverly, MA	2013-06-03	This garden is a sanctuary. A much-needed escape for patients and parents alike. It provides a serene and calming setting and is also a historic relic. It would be a damned shame if it were to be taken away.
Beverly Temple	Franklin, NH	2013-06-04	1. When it was given, it was supposed to stay. 2. It provided a peaceful, quiet place for my loved ones to say good bye to their child. Every family with a child sick enough to be at Children's Hospital should have a peaceful, serene place this in their unspeakable grief and fear. This is a beautiful piece of creation in the middle of an often impersonal, unfamiliar city.
Shelley Senai	Beverly, MA	2013-06-05	The Prouty Garden is so much more than a beautifully landscaped green space. It is an oasis of solace to those of us spending weeks and months of our lives with our children at this hospital. If not for the garden, I would almost never leave my daughter's hospital room. Please, do not destroy this boon for families in the most difficult of situations.
Nancy Parsons	Derry, NH	2013-06-07	A friend's granddaughter said her last goodbyes to her family here recently.
Sarah Darcy	Foxboro, MA	2013-06-10	A family friend's son, currently at BCH has spent a lot of time in the garden playing with his younger sister. It is a very special place for him and his family.
Jill Anzalone	Norfolk, MA	2013-06-10	My friend's 6 year old son is dying from cancer. He loves the garden. It makes it happy and he deserves happiness more than anyone.
Patricia Radici	Danville, NH	2013-06-10	I have had a relative with cancer who enjoyed this space, please do not take it away.
Kelly Tibbs	Alton, NH	2013-06-10	A friend's son is battling cancer and I've heard that this garden has made a tremendous difference to her and her family. Why destroy something that can help just one person who is going through something like this?
Marie Kirk	Concord, NH	2013-06-10	The son of a good friend is being treated at Children's and they have had some good times in the garden during a difficult time.
Caroline Drouin	Gilford, NH	2013-06-10	Because it is a place that John, a patient at Children's Hospital and his family have found peace and serenity since finding out some pretty devastating news. I'm sure that it has made many other families happy as well.
Missi Perkins	Gilford, NH	2013-06-10	To support out wonderful friends, the Thompson Family
Jefi D'arcy	Foxboro, MA	2013-06-10	There is a young child in care of the hospital who loves this park
Andrea Caruso	Alton, NH	2013-06-10	Pleasing aesthetics are an important part of one's well-being. Please continue to provide a spot that nurtures the senses and provides tranquility for patients and their families.
Penny Wood	Stratham, NH	2013-06-11	The children and families dealing with sick children need a place to go and find peace.
Nicole Lyons	Gilford, NH	2013-06-11	On behalf of the many children who enjoy this... Make-A-Wish children... and a few sick kiddos I know personally.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Lori Dickson	Laconia, NH	2013-06-11	Mrs Prouty left this as an ENDOWED gift, it is beautiful and needs to be left alone. What would inspire anyone else to ever leave a gift so generous, if they knew further down the road, it would be change. Leave it alone.
Keith Gandini	Gilford, NH	2013-06-11	For John
ALISON MOREL	Gilford, United Arab Emirates	2013-06-11	We visit CHB a lot, and so many of our friends are there for weeks or even months at a time.....this is important for families, and for the kids.
Paula Hiuser	Laconia, NH	2013-06-11	Friends have a child there. They need all the sojace this garden can give.
Nancy Price	Sandown, NH	2013-06-11	We are now part of the Children's family and will be for many years to come and the garden, from day one, has been an oasis and gentle escape for us. I took many and evening walk around the garden as it was the only place I felt comfortable enough leaving my child's side to go to late at night. It is awesome and needs to stay. I have seen many others sharing laughter and tears there. Children's Hospital represents hope to families with sick children and the garden is a huge part of all the best hospital in the world represents.
meg jenkins	gilford, NH	2013-06-11	Families need a respite, a place to go....please do not change this
Renee Robertie	Sandown, NH	2013-06-11	Obviously, these architects don't know sqwat about healing.
Midge Stulberg	Spain	2013-06-11	Two reasons: both important. Being able to wander among trees and flowers in a garden brings peace to the soul. I am a retired fund raiser and if a donor saw that prior major gifts to the hospital were ignored, I would be inclined not to contribute. Have you spoken the the Prouty family?
Paul Sullivan	Newmarket, NH	2013-06-11	Green space, fresh air and outdoor space to unwind is very important to the healing of individuals. We sould be praising Mrs. Prouty for her generous gift instead of insulting her.
Victoria Wheeler	Raleigh, NC	2013-06-11	We have a good friend at Boston Children's Hospital who uses this greenspace
martha sayewich	hopodale, MA	2013-06-11	In the middle of illness, there needs to bo a peaceful place to help heal the soul.
Amy Milligan	Boston, MA	2013-06-11	Peaceful space helps calm worried minds
irene wright	sanbornton, NH	2013-06-11	This is a place of peace for both the children and parents.
Jocelyn Carroll	Portsmouth, NH	2013-06-11	Our dearest friends child is at the hospital and enjoys sunny days in the garden. It means the world to him.
Valerie Jakeway	Ottawa, Canada	2013-06-11	A friend of a friends son has a terminal brain tumour, his family and 2 younger sisters are at the hospital visiting and use this garden!
William Carman	Sandown, NH	2013-06-11	Have spent countless hours and days at Children's - this sanctuary is a true gem and should be preserved for all.
jesse thompson	gilford, NH	2013-06-11	My son spent over a week at children's battling a brain tumor ... this garden was our only escape and should be protected at all cost
Don Doyon	Strafford, NH	2013-06-11	This has become a playtime and refuge for close friend of my daughter. Their family and in particular their son (6yrs) who suffers from an inoperable brain stem tumor. My daughter tells me it provide their son a place for them to play and also enjoy some quiet time and solitude which I'm sure is much needed. We have experienced Children's wonderful care and caring people in the past and I know keeping Prouty Garden will continue add to the warmth and care given at Childrens Hospital.
Kristen King	Providence, RI	2013-06-11	This space is a sanctuary for both families and staff. It allows for brief moments in time to be away from the hospital. During my time working at Children's with chronic and critically ill children it was often the only nature and space to feel some peace.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Daniel Carroll	Portsmouth, NH	2013-06-11	Because we love using the gardens during our visits with loved ones at the hospital.
Shirley Brackenbury	Ottawa, Canada	2013-06-12	As an educator for 37 years I feel strongly that we need to support parents and their children. This is especially so when the children are sick.
Gretchen Gandini	Gilford, NH	2013-06-12	In honor of Thompson Family
Michelle Hobbs	Boston, MA	2013-06-12	As an architecture student, I feel it is important to keep in mind the protection of such important elements as the garden during a redesign. The garden offers many patients, their families, and hospital staff, an area of green space to enjoy. This is a place to just step back from the hectic lives they all live within the walls of the hospital. Along with the garden, architecture can be a leading aspect of healing for patients, if carried out in a proper way. However, the two have to come together harmoniously, in order to achieve the best outcome for the patients, families, and staff of the hospital. Other architectural options must be pursued, rather than carrying through with the current plan.
Mollie Johnson	Logan, UT	2013-06-16	We have a child that is a patient at Children's. the Proudys is not only a sanctuary to the children but also the parents!
Hilary Thompson	Salt Lake City, UT	2013-06-16	This garden brought us peace at a really hard time in our lives. Please choose that over making money. It is priceless to your patients &#3
Andee Sanders	Riverdale, UT	2013-06-16	It's been a place of peace for my sweet friend as her baby has gone through heart surgery. We may also be doing heart surgery at Boston as well and would love to have a peaceful place to visit during such challenging times.
Kathryn Dixon	Salt Lake City, UT	2013-06-16	Beloved friends of mine are at BCH for healing right now and find the garden a life-giving oasis of body and heart.
Ranee Hansen	Gilbert, AZ	2013-06-16	As the mother of special needs children, I spend lots of time in hospitals, and understand what a blessing a serene place like this garden, can be for not only stressed out parents, but also for healing children!
Jennifer Leonard	Saugus, MA	2013-06-16	As the mother of a child with a neurological disability, this is the perfect place for both of my children to decompress after a long day visiting the hospital. It would be a shame to bulldoze an area that brings joy and peace to so many.
Talitha Korn	Eau Claire, WI	2013-06-16	My son had his 3rd and 4th heart surgeries at Boston, and I think the garden should be preserved as a nice break from the "city" and offers a serene area the get away for patients, parents and staff.
Martha Byrne	Albuquerque, NM	2013-06-16	The daughter of a friend of mine is at BCH right now, and I know this garden has brought that family (and undoubtedly many others) much joy and peace during what is a very trying time. People need places like this to feed their souls while their bodies are struggling.
Joy hill	Dublin, OH	2013-06-16	Parents and, especially, those who are so ill have only this green peaceful place to be away from the sites, sounds, smells and frenzy of a hospital setting. How can any caring hospital take this little space of peace, comfort and calmness away from any who NEED it? I pray you do the RIGHT thing!!
Dale Shield	Salt Lake City, UT	2013-06-16	My friends, the Thompson family, have vastly benefited from this lovely, healing garden. It should be preserved for future families.
Holly Moore	Sturbridge, MA	2013-06-16	I am signing because the garden is something very important and special to all patients. Especially those who've been inpatient for a long time. My daughter, Madilyn, is currently inpatient and has been for 3 months now. The garden is very important to us because its a place we can escape. A place where I can bring her to let her walk around in the grass, where she can feel the sun on her. I couldn't imagine the garden not being there and I couldn't take her outside to get fresh air.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
tina beaver	pittsburgh, PA	2013-06-16	My friend Holly's daughter is in Childrens awaiting a heart transplant. She loves to play here!
Rachel McKinnie	Draper, UT	2013-06-17	Why wouldn't it be? :)
Susan Smari	St. George, UT	2013-06-17	My niece is there and had open heart surgery and this garden has brought them much needed peace. They have spent many hours in this garden and I think it is so important for those that need peace to find it here.
Helen O'Meara	Albuquerque, NM	2013-06-17	Because gardens and, especially, trees provide solace in times of trouble. Because it's beautiful. And because it's an endowed gift.
Elizabeth Richter	Canton, CT	2013-06-18	My little brother's ashes are scattered in the Prouty Garden. I wouldn't be surprised if other children had their ashes scattered there as well.
Philip Weihofen	Bountiful, UT	2013-06-18	for the children
mike bowles	london, United Kingdom	2013-06-18	sick children need gardens
Martha Johnston	Portland, ME, ME	2013-06-18	My son is a patient of Children's Hospital.
Jangchub Kelsang	Ulverston, United Kingdom	2013-06-18	...my cousins ashes are there!
Michelle Curtis	Canton, OH	2013-06-19	As a haven.
Wendy Franz	chicopee, MA	2013-06-19	My daughter was in a coma for 11 days and when she woke up she was very quiet and reserved. When we got to BCH she was starting to talk and her favorite place to be was in the garden. She was 8 at the time and missed the whole month of August so feeling the sun when she got to BCH was so important and lifted her spirits. We would be very sad if this space was taken away.
leanne white	SMYRNA MILLS, ME	2013-06-19	This little taste of peace and tranquility is the only time some children and their families that are limited to hospital premises only are able to enjoy being outside. To be able to play with their parents while they wait for a heart, thats precious.
Sean Clark	Gilford, NH	2013-06-20	Gave solace to people who really needed it . . .
Sarah Spofford	boston, MA	2013-06-21	People I love have found refuge in this garden during a very difficult time in their lives.
Sheila Mone	Dover, NH	2013-06-21	I am signing in support of friends who have found comfort in these gardens with their little one.
Thomas Nutt-Powell	Brookline, MA	2013-06-21	A peaceful place of beauty is especially important when one's child is hospitalized.
Paula DeMaranville	Enfield, CT	2013-06-21	I believe a place as beautiful as Prouty Garden that can offer a family some solace during a trying time, should be preserved at all cost. It gives the family a sense of beauty while dealing with something ugly.
Jesica Vaillancourt	Sanbornton, NH	2013-06-21	Some place so peaceful when your world has been turned upsidedown needs to be preserved!
Linda Olmsted	Danbury, NH	2013-06-21	The love of green space, gardens, grass, trees..and firsthand knowledge that spending time in this peaceiul place as greatly helped a young NH family cope with sadness and worry.
Carolyn Parsons	York, ME	2013-06-21	It is a place of comfort for so many people and it has been for a long time. Right now people we know are receiving comfort from the garden. It is a well developed and beautiful spot.
sandra rowson	gilford, NH	2013-06-21	Because it is a special place for people to go to reiax.
Charlotte Harriman	Steamboat Springs, CO	2013-06-21	Fresh air can sometimes be the best medicine for ycur spirit and mood these children and families need that.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Andrew Spofford	Malden, MA	2013-06-21	My nephew was just with a brainstem tumor - and was in the hospital for several weeks during the initial diagnosis and testing. The Prouty garden was a perfect refuge for him and the family - hugely therapeutic and a calming escape from the constantly beeping hospital room.
Lee Michael	Melrose, MA	2013-06-21	Such a wonderful place for a little peace during a family's difficult time is a necessary thing and should not be destroyed.
Emily Goodman	Nashua, NH	2013-06-21	Please save this garden for the children.
Lauren Lyons	Gilford, NH	2013-06-21	A sanctuary for families going through emotionally, physically and spiritual stress should be preserved.
Andrea Dumont	Somersworth, NH	2013-06-21	I think that people should be able to sit in a space like this that is natural instead of having an artificial space on the top of a hospital roof. I know if my child went there I would want to be able to take him to a place like this.
Kittredge White	Cambridge, United States Minor Outlying Islands	2013-06-21	I have worked in longwood and green spaces are vital not only to patient (and staff) well-being, but provide a healthy environment and aesthetic beauty in dense urban landscapes
Kenji Foster	Somerville, MA	2013-06-21	This garden meant a lot to a friend of mine.
Mae Taylor-Ohlin	Salt Lake City, UT	2013-06-21	It was a lovely refuge for us to sit and have lunch, or just relax, during my grand-daughter's recent stay at BCH. It is obviously loved by all who partake of the relaxing and healing atmosphere.
Emily Gallant	Kennebunk, ME	2013-06-22	Friends of ours used the Prouty Garden as a place of peace & refuge during their time spent w/ their little boy (a patient at Children's Hospital). They felt it was a precious element of their experience. Please save it for others to use as peace and refuge.
Mary Ellen Hoerman	Rochester, NH	2013-06-22	I have a pediatric nurse for 30+ years - nature and healing go hand in hand- please preserve this park for future generations- the stresses of being in the hospital and in a major city can only be relieved by a special place as this.
Erin Mone-Marquez	Dover, NH	2013-06-22	A friend's child spends time here enjoying this as a reprieve while ill- please save this!!!!!!
Marcia Haughey	Laconia, NH	2013-06-22	It is important to have a place to refresh the soul and to be able to contemplate the future when encountering hospitalization!
Stefanie Gauguier	Jamaica Plain, MA	2013-06-22	so important for families, patients and staff to have a place like this to recreate
caroline hesko	cambridge, MA	2013-06-23	was the only thing that cheer my nephew up during the first days of his diagnosis with a brain tumor. he is six and right into the fountain. it was the first time in a week our family got to see him act like a kid
Maureen W. Heckman	Weare, NH	2013-06-23	Your latest Tv campaign has the tag line of "Until every child is well..". Nature and quiet solitude and refuge are very much a part of treatment and the end goal ow wellness. Please don't. It has benefited many and will continue to do so.
Steven Levine	Newburgh, NY	2013-06-23	Not only the garden, but the Dr. Rotch/Bill Wolbach Building in front of the garden at 55 Shattuck St. must be saved.
Jodie Ingleston	Crown Point, NY	2013-06-23	We have been here with our son for well over a month. We are from upstate New York and are used to being outdoors. Being in Boston is a huge adjustment to our family. The Garden is a nice place to go and forget for a bit that you are in a huge city and even worse a children's hospital. The garden is usually packed with staff, patients and family members during the day. It would be a shame to take that little peace of nature and comfort away from those who work hard trying help kids, from kids who are working hard to fight illnesses and from families who are here 24/7 with their kids in order to support them.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Cruz Garcia	Boston, MA	2013-06-23	We are from Ecuador. My son was diagnosed With leukemia in january 2013. We spend lots of time inside the hospital even now that we are outpatients. This garden is the most beatiful place surrounding us where he really likes to go. Yo do not feel like of you were in the hospital when you are there. The feeling of nature is incredible even at the time it was full of snow. Life between the walls of an hospital is always hard no matter what you do; but this place is something else. It just transports you somewhere else. Pelase! Save it!
nathan natale	albany, NY	2013-06-24	this garden is important to me because i have many memories with my family there. i also feel that it keeps (people)that are in the hospital for long periods of time sane.
nancy natale	Loudonville, NY	2013-06-24	For six years my son has been a patient both inpatient and outpatient at CHB. When i npatient for months at a time it is difficult to maintain any semblance of "normalcy" to keep one's sanity. Medical studies have shown that mental attitude directly influences physical outcomes. Victor Frankyl wrote about this in "Man's search for meaning". I know that visits to the prouty garden helped bouy my son's spirit and determination to become better. My son is the first kidney/small intestine transplant at CHB. Please do not disreguard the importance of Prouty Garden in CHB's ability to be #1 in many areas of peditrics. Find architects that can work in a fuller vision of healing and sustain what has been a great asset to CHB throughout years of successful growth.
Birgitta Schmidt	Needham, MA	2013-06-25	I work at CH and every day I see patient and parents out in the garden. This is a beautiful oasis for all.
Katherine Hesko	Malden, MA	2013-06-25	My nephew was recently given a very serious diagncsis. This garden lifted his and our entire family's spirits as we dealt with this terrible news. It is so important to have a safe and convenient place for sick children and their families to go to as they seek to get out of their hospital room for a moment or two. Please, please save it.
Holly Ramsaran	Leominster, MA	2013-06-25	I can remember going to the garden as a place where all medical issues had been put on hold. My son Annand had a heart transplant and while we waited for his new heart to arrive he enjoyed going out to the garden. I even have a picture of him connected to his IV pole trying to climb the tree. He was 3 at the time it looks more ilike he was hugging the tree but I can remember him saying "Look I'm climbing the tree!" It would be horrible not to have the garden there. Luckily my son has been healthy and hasn't need any admission to the hospital, but in the future when he does have them. I would really like to go back to the garden to embrace the sun and the good memories that helped me calm at a crazy time. There is no substitute for the sun on your face and the fresh air, beauty of flowers, or the icicles melting of the trees. It would be a big disappointment for that all to be taking away.
Helen Bond	Methuen, MA	2013-06-26	Hospitalized patients need the Prouty Garden for healing.
Eleanore Silverberg	Shreveport, LA	2013-06-26	It brought great solace to a friend who was undergoing treatment at the hospital.
Elisa Eder	Westbury, NY	2013-06-26	If you finally intend to bulldoze this beautiful garden, you'd better have a contingency plan of incorporating another garden on the top floor of this new building....exactly as it presently is!!!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jessica Hilliard	Attleboro, MA	2013-06-26	This garden means so much to my family. My daughter lived about 300 days a year at Children's, and this garden was her only access to the outdoors for most of the year. The first time she ever saw the sun was in Prouty Garden, and the last time she was ever outside was in Prouty, about a week before she died. I would go to the Garden when I needed a moment away from the stress and grief, and pray. My son would run through the grass (past the "Please Keep Off the Grass" signs ), and try to jump in the fountain, like the little wild-thing he was. My daughter had named one of the rose bushes, and every summer of her life we visited the garden to look for blossoms on that special bush. I measured her growth by the statue of the Nurse with the Boy.... I could go on and on. So many precious memories will be destroyed when it goes.
Dina Reijers	Cedar grove, NJ	2013-06-26	I would go there and just re group and think about what lies ahead. It is a great place to just be out doors and away for everything but yet still close . I would take my daughter outside and she would love the fresh air. Please re consider
Patricia Nephew	Mineville, NY	2013-06-26	Our grandson has been a patient for almost 6 weeks at BCH. The garden has provided our daughter and son-in-law with a much needed "back to nature" feel of our upstate NY home. It allows them to reconnect with the world outside of the hospital - NG tubes, O2 sat monitors, and the PICC lines! It helps them to refocus and to recharge for the difficulties of the day. My husband and I were struck by not only the beauty of the garden, but by the steady stream of folks enjoying it - the patients, the families, the hospital personnel. It truly is a place for all to refresh the mind, heart, and soul! Please save the Prouty Garden!
Shannon F.	Cambridge, MA	2013-06-26	The Prouty Garden is a invaluable spiritual resource for patients, families and staff. Removing the garden goes against our promise to Mrs. Prouty and the legacy and perpetual gift she left for the children and all who care for them.
Kathryn Sytsma	Virginia Beach, VI	2013-06-26	Because I know how important it is for children/families in the hospital long term to have access to the beauty of the outdoors.
Lu Wings	Atlanta, GA	2013-06-26	The Garden is the only "outside" many of these children (and their families) get to experience. Some spend as many as 300+ days A YEAR in the hospital....and the garden is a healing oasis from the medical storms of life.
Candace Fish	Little Compton, RI	2013-06-26	It's a no-brainer
Meda Korsund	Hemet, CA	2013-06-27	The ill children need a place to go to find peace outside!
Ellen Edwards	Brockton, MA	2013-06-27	A family known to me used this garden daily to take their child "outdoors" They are devastated that Children's is considering relocating it. It is a natural, peaceful setting. A roof deck would be a poor substitute.
Bette Stafford	Laconia, NH	2013-06-27	Families need a place to visit with beauty and serenity while spending time in the hospital.
Melanie Ebert	Saugus, MA	2013-06-28	I have stayed at this hospital before and it was nice that there was an outdoor area for children. Quite frankly I'm disgusted that the hospital is even contemplating demolishing this area. I'm sure this is an area that brings joy to some very sick patients and exhausted families, not to mention the health benefits for sick children on extended stays. Would the hospital prefer they play in traffic, well ! guess that's another way to increase revenue! Not to mention the fact that the land was donated on a condition that it would remain a garden. I hope the descendants sue for violating the agreement for back than your word was as good as any written contract so I think the family could even get the land back.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Julie Leavitt	Newton, MA	2013-06-28	My daughter is a patient on Bader 5 and she has been unable to go off hospital grounds because of safety issues. The garden is an invaluable resource for her to be able to get fresh air and have the opportunity to have open space. We spend lots of time in the garden as a family, which helps her to feel a sense of normalcy and connection. the beauty of the garden helps all of us as we go through a difficult, stressful period of time for our family. The garden is very well used and still there is a modicum of privacy for all the patients and families that use it during their own healing experience at Children's Hospital.
Leslie Nikolopoulos	New York, NY	2013-06-28	I know that this garden was a place of respite, relaxation and amusement to my friend's family, as their daughter was dealing with chronic illness at the hospital.
Carol Johnson	Longwood, FL	2013-06-28	My niece practically lived at Children's Hospital most of her short life, which was less than 5 years. Prouty Gardens was the first and last place she was able to be outdoors. It brought joy and comfort to her and her parents. Natural spaces help people to heal quicker, even though this wasn't the case for my niece. Please don't take away this beautiful garden from children that would otherwise not be able to go outside.
Nancy Potter	Weston, MA	2013-06-28	Promises made to donors should be kept. I had planned to make a sizable donation, but this makes me wonder if my wishes will be upheld.
Christine Fischer-Rothman	Jamaica Plain, MA	2013-06-29	I worked at Children's Hospital, and this garden was a healing and recharging oasis for employees as well as patients. Would be such a step backwards to destroy it
Susan Clegg	Chatham, MA	2013-06-29	A very special place to walk and relax while in Boston for a Dr. visit
Peggy King	Buzzards Bay, MA	2013-06-29	Personal attachment
Mary McLaughlin	Milton, MA	2013-06-29	This refuge helped me keep my sanity when my son was in for a lengthy stay.
Shannon Loughnane	nashua, NH	2013-06-29	for Jenn and Emily Flanders
Christine Reilly	Whitman, MA	2013-06-29	Spent many, many days here with Mikey during his 5 year's at Children's. This garden holds very special memories for me, memories that can never be replaced or duplicated. I would hate to see other families be denied the same chance to make their own memories.
Ellen O'Connor	Quincy, MA	2013-06-29	Over the past 16 years my son has spent many days at Children's Hospital. Our longest visit lasted 30 days and once he was well enough to venture off the floor and outside we made it a daily event to visit the Prouty Garden. It would be shame to loose such a peaceful place for all the patients, families, visitors and I'm sure staff members as well. There is no better feeling than fresh air, especially when you are confined to a hospital room for any period of time.
Joanne Hogan	Bridgewater, MA	2013-06-29	My daughter was in Children's with a severe case of pneumonia a few years ago. She was confined to her bed for a long time with a drain for her lungs. As a result, she started to get depressed. As soon as she was up for it, we started taking walks in the Prouty garden. This really helped to boost her spirits!
Maureen Fallon	Milton, MA	2013-06-29	My special needs daughter and I spend so much time at Children's Hospital. How sad it would be to loose this this treasure.
Tom Perates	Peabdy, MA	2013-06-29	SAVE THE GARDEN
David Reilly	Whitman, MA	2013-06-29	I spent 5 years in and out of Children's with my son who was battiing cancer. The garden was an oasis where we spent many afternoons blowing bubbles or tossing a ball around. I found it to be an essential part of our treatment and wouldn't want future children to be deprived of the magic of the Prouty garden.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
JoAnn Abair	E Wareham, MA	2013-06-29	Gardens are promises and hopes. For the children and their families. A building will be another building. Indeed, destroying this garden is thoughtless and cold.
colleen fitzgerald	East Bridgewater, MA	2013-06-30	My grandson who is quite ill loves the garden. It's such a peaceful beautiful haven in the middle of the chaos of the hospital and city. It is our favorite place to feel at peace.
Dot Arthur	Panama City, FL	2013-06-30	My niece has been at Boston Children's frequently. The garden has been her only place to get away from her bed.
Cal Nephew	Mineville, NY	2013-06-30	It is a place to get away from the hospital environment....we spent time at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota...St Mary's Hospital has a similar area which is very relaxing.
Cathy Geomelos	Peabody, MA	2013-06-30	My daughter has had 22 surgeries at Children's Hospital in Boston. We love to visit Prouty Garden when we are there. It is such a beautiful contrast to the surrounding city and brings us peace.
Bethany Fay	Gilford, NH	2013-07-01	In strong support of my friend's, The Thompson's, wishes.
Marta Rivas	Cambridge, MA	2013-07-03	A young (6 year-old) brain cancer patient and his family found solace in the beautiful park.
Beverly A. Cawley	Dedham, MA	2013-07-03	I worked there for many years and sometimes i would just get out there for a few minutes respite
Kristian JEANLOZ	Hope Valley, RI	2013-07-03	My daughter is a frequent patient to Boston Children's Hospital. It is the one place where we can find peace in our lives when we are here. Why take something so beautiful away that helps all these sick children when they are here?
fanny montes	hialeah, FL	2013-07-04	because my son is a 6 year old with a severe heart lung condition who has spent 3 + months at his hospital and loved to go outside to remember he was a normal child at least once a week. He recently underwent a double lung transplant (on July 2nd and he told me the first thing he wanted to do once he got his new lungs was to go out and visit the garden walking on his foot something he hasn't been able to do for so many months. Please do not destroy this garden it brings life and happiness to our sickest kids. Thank you
carolyn Austin	reading, Bahamas	2013-07-05	My daughter and i used the garden when she underwent 18 mths of chemotherapy as a small child she accessed the garden as an oasis from the hospital we would read antalm to friends while hooked up to IV and with new prosthetics. Please save this beautiful sanctuary and only fresh air escape at Children's thank you.
Amanda Carroll	Longwood, FL	2013-07-06	Hospitalized children need healing environments to expedite their recovery time. This garden provides solace and serenity and should be preserved for all of the hospital's patients.
Joe Reedholm	Georgetown, TX	2013-07-06	How can taking away what little common space there is around the hospitals be good?  Maybe its because the powers that be have their chauffeured cars to carry them between their cloistered private gardens.
Karolyn Roedholm	Georgetown, TX	2013-07-06	We are here with our 48yr old son who saw Dr. Nadas saw 48yrs ago. I can't help but think both Dr. Nadas & Dr. Farley would be appalled at the unthinkable alternate usage of this patient & family spot to totally get away - even if just for a few moments.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Alixandra Cascio	Hartford, CT	2013-07-06	I am a frequent patient of the Children's Hospital and the Prouty Garden is the one place that I can escape my room to see all the green plants, feel the warm sun, smell the flowers and hear the breeze in the trees, just the way Ms. Prouty had planned for us. Ali Cascio
Mary Atwood	Belmont, NH	2013-07-06	The beauty of Nature is a healing space that many of us have enjoyed during our life journey.
Genevra Stone	Cambridge, MA	2013-07-07	My friend's nephew was diagnosed with brain cancer. While receiving treatment at Children's, the family found the garden a source of refuge and rejuvenation.
Linda Peyton	Seattle, WA	2013-07-07	This is the only place for family and friends of patients to find peace and tranquility during very difficult times.
Angel Ruiz	Livermore, CA	2013-07-07	Please don't bulldoze the garden. The garden is a gold standard for which all hospitals should aspire.
Sarai Czap	Georgetown, TX	2013-07-07	This is a precious jewel that enables families to heal and find peace during the toughest struggles. Please remember that the patient and their families are the priority in healthcare.
susan clinton	moultonborough, NH	2013-07-07	Preservation,,is very important to me,,too many historical sites, buildings, gardens, etc..get dug up or torn down for "so called",,progress..there must be an alternative,,way to "progress",,
Turpin Steve	Georgetown, TX	2013-07-07	It provides a close and peaceful escape for family members who need a break from the hospital but don't want to go far from their loved ones. Please save it.
Elna Friesen	RAYVILLE, MO	2013-07-07	This garden should be kept to help relieve the stress for the loved ones of the patients at the hospital, refreshing them and giving them a sign of HOPE for their critically patient. The beauty of nature brings peace and refreshes the soul for the the doctors and staff working with the pressure of providing the best care for the patients who are so critically ill. Being in the beauty of nature gives hope and healing to the patients who are well enough to go into the gardens. It lifts the spirit and refreshes the soul so that all are prepared to return to the world inside the walls of the hospital.
becky long	portsmouth, VA	2013-07-07	A family whose daughter needed heart surgery told us about this garden. They said, "It is a place of refreshment". PLEASE find a way to keep this garden. This family lost their daughter recently at the age of 2. Many families need a place to sit and cry. They need a place to see God's natural creation.
Patricia Ross	Ellsworth, ME	2013-07-08	Our friends really needed this area while they were helping their little girl struggle to survive. While I haven't been there myself, I know what it's like to help a child in that situation, and how vital it is to the caregivers to be able to have a calm and beautiful place to draw closer to the Lord and to recharge for the ongoing battle.
Erik Owens	West Roxbury, MA	2013-07-08	We spend so much time here over the three short years of our son's life, and it was a place of peace for us and pleasure for our son. Please don't destroy this special place.
Lori Whitehead	nevada, IA	2013-07-08	This area has brought some sense of peace for family members going through a difficult time
leslie owens	west roxbury, MA	2013-07-08	This garden was a crucial piece of healing as my son recovered from 5 surgeries. It is a place of peace and crucial to the well being of care givers and patients.
Diane Prinz	Georgetown, TX	2013-07-10	Countless families, patients and staff have benefited from the peace and beauty of these gardens that were given to the hospital as a gift. I hope a creative solution can be found that will allow the gardens to remain in place.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
susan miksad	los gatos, CA	2013-07-10	It is a healing place for the families as well as the patients. I have a dear friend who is bearing with her husband's life threatening heart surgery and this garden provides her sojace when she can't be in the room with him. Please don't take that peace from her and the other families and patients.
Renee Morgan	Capitola, CA	2013-07-10	FAMILIES NEED A HEALING PLACE TO FEEL COMFORTABLE IN THEIR TIME OF NEED. DO NOT TAKE A LOVELY GARDEN AWAY THAT ACCOMPLISHES THIS GOAL.
Theresa Staples	bradford, ME	2013-07-10	It is important to me because My friends used this garden while they were at BCH as a refuge from their worries and to think about life and death decisions for their daughter.
Deb Staples	Ellsworth, ME	2013-07-10	When my good friends Marc and Nicki Applebee had to be there for their daughters heart surgeries they loved to be able to just get out of the hospital and sit in the sunshine and read and pray and just be able to think without all that hospital noise. This is a much needed retreat in a place that can be overwhelming.
Alexandra Caldwell	West Yarmouth, MA	2013-07-10	This was a place of sunshine and hope when Stella spent her time in the NICU.
Sarah Williams	Bangor, ME	2013-07-10	In memory of my friends 2 1/2 year who loved spending time there while at the hospital.
Lyn Morris	San Jose, CA	2013-07-10	It has been a blessing for my friends while their loved one is in the hospital
andrea stantial	fairfield, ME	2013-07-10	my neice olive applebee was treated there and i know her family found much enjoyment during the rough time by going there.
Debora Webster	Moultonborough, NH	2013-07-10	In July,1982, we spent time walking in the garden with our infant son, who was recovering from heart surgery. The garden provided a welcome respite from the "Hospital" atmosphere. A clinic can be built anywhere but nothing can replace the beauty and strength found in nature. Please, for the sake of past and future patients and their friends and families, do not break your promise to Mrs. Prouty.
Oria Shadmon	Newton, MA	2013-07-11	As a psychologist, I strongly believe in the healing/ therapeutic power of gardens like the Prouty Garden, and I specifically empathize with - and well aware of - the special role it played in the lives of medically involved patients of mine, with repeated hospitalizations at Children's...
Amanda Fennelly	Lamoine, ME	2013-07-12	This is a nice place for families go when they're dealing with the stress and hurt of having a child in the hospital. Please don't take this way. Signing in memory of Olive Applebee.
anna dunn	franklin, MA	2013-07-12	my husband and i have been bringing our boys here for treatment and all their medical needs for the past 20 years. from their birth to the present....and every time we have enjoyed the respite and tranquility of the lovely garden. from simple visits to surgeries and and even heart transpant....over the 20 years the prouty garden had given us hope and peace through it all. it is a vital necessity to the hospital...a gem.
Steven Branfman	Newton, MA	2013-07-13	Our son Jared spent many days at CHB while he was under treatment for cancer. The quiet, serene, and natural setting of the garden was calming and meditative for all of us. Jared passed away in 2005. He was 23 years old. Please preserve this sacred space.
Janet Briery	Georgetown, TX	2013-07-13	Because it provides a place of peace and respite for patients and their families during a very stressful time of their lives.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Adnan Tahir	Manchester, NH	2013-07-13	Please do not take this garden down. For my family this is very important. I think patients get better fast when they get a chance to get out and enjoy the sun. Please do not take this from us.
Jennifer Goodman	Blue Springs, MO	2013-07-14	This garden was a place of peace and a much needed break for my best friend and her family. Her daughter Olive had 3 heart surgeries at this hospital. Even though we lost sweet Olive due to complications of her last surgery this garden gave her family a place to just be for a moment. Before they had to start a new normal and a long heart breaking journey back home to Maine. Save this garden for all the families that need the peace it provides.
M. Pamela Hayes	Gilford, NH	2013-07-14	Nature has calming and healing power that cannot be duplicated. I ask what is the reason behind the garden's removal?
Steve Jerome	Boston, MA	2013-07-15	family reasons
Joyce Amick	Bloomsburg, PA	2013-07-15	This garden has been a place of refreshment and rest for my family. I have had the pleasure of enjoying this garden while my grandchildren have been in Boston Childrens Hospital. Families need a place like this to get away from the stress that goes on within the walls of the buildings. My grand daughter passed away in this peaceful and beautiful garden rather than in the confines of a hospital room. Please consider the reasons the garden was placed here in the first place and allow it to continue to be a place of comfort for families for many many years to come.
Lucia Hicks	Acton, MA	2013-07-15	My son has been a patient at Children's many times since his first stay of nearly a month in 1998. The Prouty Garden saved my sanity. It is a precious oasis in a stressful place. Please keep it.
Vanessa Allen	Excelsior Springs, MO	2013-07-16	We are from Kansas City, MO and my son has been in Children's a few times already and will be there at least a few more. We LOVE Prouty Garden. As soon as we step out the doors, he goes silent and stays that way as we walk peacefully through the garden enjoying its beauty. Not many things in nature catch my 7-year-olds attention like this garden does. I can't describe the peace it brings us. It's a magical feeling!
Cathy Jaworski	East Aurora, NY	2013-07-16	It allows the patients a place to go for fresh air when inpatient. It allows a child to connect with nature and step away from the sterile environment. It allows the children fresh air and sunshine. Please save the garden.
Margaret Hayes	Medford, MA	2013-07-17	Save this natural and sacred space for children and families facing difficult diagnoses, terminal illnesses, and death. No building, however much needed, should take the place of this quiet beauty.
Jonathan Martin	Glen Cove, NY	2013-07-19	I have many friends who are treated for Marfan syndrome at BCH. My friends and their families, as well as the wonderful caregivers depend on this space to find calm and solace in otherwise stressful times.
Marianne Schum	Windermere, FL	2013-07-19	It is about the "Healing" -- for family, friends, loved ones that I've never met!
Abdel Sepulveda	East Boston, MA	2013-07-19	A dear friend works there has shared with me how much it means to their patients.
Marianne Duddy-Burke	Boston, MA	2013-07-19	When I worked at Hospitality Homes, Prouty Garden was a place of sanctuary for many of the families who came to Children's Hospital specialized treatment. It gave comfort to those far from home.
Terry Saia	Andover, MA	2013-07-19	This lovely place should be preserved for its history, for its healing graces and to honor the trust that founded it. I also believe that it sets Children's Hospital apart from other all other medical institutions - new buildings are nice but never will be as special as the natural beauty seen here. Thank you for considering this petition.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Maryann Koziel	Wake Forest, NC	2013-07-19	The Garden is a beautiful haven and place of healing and wholeness, not just for the children and families, but also for us, the staff at the hospital.
Martha King	Watertown, MA	2013-07-19	Honor Mrs. Prouty's gift. The garden is beautiful and heals all who enjoy it, patients and staff.
Susan Fernandes	Pleasanton, CA	2013-07-19	I worked at BCH for 20 years and the Prouty Garden is a piece of heaven for patients, parents and staff that can't be replaced or moved without breaking many hearts.
Leona Phaneuf	Fitchburg, MA	2013-07-19	I think we should have a special place to go to enjoy and relax and think clearly about our loved ones who have been through a lot.
Lesley Muscatiello	Norton, MA	2013-07-19	There are enough buildings in town, please keep this garden so those that need a little get away from all the fears and problems they may be facing, might have a chance to enjoy it. Thank you
Patricia Walters	Norwell, MA	2013-07-20	The Garden is an important place for parents and children to provide reprieve and peace. There is science that demonstrates the value of places that promote calm in the healing process.
Emily McIntosh	Asheville, NC	2013-07-20	I worked at Children's for 30 years and the Prouty Garden was always a very special oasis for patients, families and staff. I relished my time there and appreciated the special historical significance of the garden and its designer, Frederick Law Olmstead. What a tragedy it would be to destroy it. It's the heart of Children's Hospital and its mission!
Angela Greco	Wantagh, NY	2013-07-20	My infant son spent some of his last moments there under the moonlight. It was the only time he had ever been outside in the fresh air.
Douglas Hanna	Concord, MA	2013-07-21	When my daughter Molly was in treatment for Neuroblastoma at Children's between 1998 and 2002, we would bring her down to the garden after many rounds of chemo, when she had lost so much weight and could hardly walk. Walking around this beautiful outdoor sanctuary helped her come back to the world. She loved it there and we were so thankful for this remnant of the natural world nestled in a landscape of concrete, steel and glass. Molly passed away in 2002, but I am asking that Children's reconsider this decision on behalf of Molly and the thousand of other children who have benefited from and this beautiful space and will in the future. Doug Hanna
Drew Greco	Wantagh, NY	2013-07-21	My son spent his final night in the garden. It was the first and last time he ever felt the outside air. The garden is a place we can return to honor him. Please don't take away one of the few sources of comfort that many grieving families share.
Carol Zuckerman	Newton, MA	2013-07-21	When my nephew was at Children's Hospital having serious heart surgery more than once, the garden provided a calming spirit lifting antidote to all the anxiety. Life would be poorer without such spaces.
Caitlin Grogan	Amesbury, MA	2013-07-24	My daughter was treated at Children's Hospital Boston for 4 years and the garden was her only sanctuary.
Gustave Murby	Medfield, MA	2013-07-25	I have spent considerable time in Prouty Garden while a child of mine was being treated at Children's Hospital. I believe that it is a sacred place and the soul of Children's Hospital.
Louise Cota	North Attleborough, MA	2013-07-26	This is a beautiful place for people going through not-so-beautiful things. It was given to the hospital. If they destroy it, they're not very good stewards, are they?
John Garrett	Marblehead, MA	2013-07-26	I was a volunteer at Children's and knew many patients who saw the garden as their only refuge

Name	Location	Date	Comment
dave richwine	stoughton, MA	2013-07-26	i lost a son to cancer at children's in 1991. as with hundreds, perhaps thousands of others, the garden was a sacred spot for my son and i. when i go back, i always go there and i feel his spirit still lives on there. keep the garden! expand somewhere else. it is truly sacred ground.
Kristle Deforge	Moultonborough, NH	2013-07-26	I was an intern at Children's for 9 months. The garden was the only place I could take my patients where they could truly just "be a kid". They would lay in the grass, look at the flowers, and breathe fresh air. They were especially excited on the days they were able to spot the pair of bunnies that lived in the garden. Please, find another way to expand.
Anne Richtarik	Lexington, MA	2013-07-26	I spent a month at another children's hospital when my infant daughter was critically ill. I went outside once, to walk around a couple of urban blocks, which as you can imagine, offered me no respite or healing. A garden such as the Prouty Garden would have been such a place of peacefulness and hope during one of the most difficult periods of my life. I urge you to reconsider, on behalf of all your patients and their families. Thank you for listening to your constituents.
Lois McNulty	Newburyport, MA	2013-07-26	You cannot put a price on this park, the intentions of the founder and the healing it offers. You cannot simply replace it with ersatz green-like spaces. Make the bold choice, and do the right thing.
Laura Sayward	east wareham, MA	2013-07-26	so many patients and their families have been touched by and helped by the garden. a facility in the business of helping children, should not turn a deaf ear when those children and their families say the garden helped them.
Andrea Drinan	Walpole, MA	2013-07-26	My brother-in-law, Mark Drinan was one of the handful of people to have had a kidney transplant in 1972, and then again in 1973 or 1974. He really loved going out in the garden, with his new nephew, Kevin... It was a whole different hospital then...we even parked our car outside the front entrance. Donor was at either Peter Bent, or Robert Bent Brigham, I can't really remember now. But the long and short of this story is that the garden must stay as it is. If you take that away, it will be like taking the soul of all of the people who have laughed, loved, and died there. It is, in my opinion, a sacred ground. Healing of the soul is important, and many, many people have found it here. Thanks for listening. Andrea
Steve Gay	Waterdown, MA	2013-07-26	Prouty Garden kept my wife and I sane during our youngest sons heart operations at Childrens. My Aunt Anne (Smith) was Olive Prouty's typist for more than 40 years and she donated this garden to be kept in perpetuity. Shame on the hospital for considering going against her wishes.
Kevin Driscoll	South Hampton, NH	2013-07-26	As a former hospital employee, working with inpatient psych patients on Bader 5, and Baker 3 before that...the Prouty Garden was always a wonderful place of relaxation and peace for the patients, who very much looked forward to outing off the unit. As a patient at Children's for elbow surgery in the 70's, I first discovered the garden! It would be a disgrace to build on top of this piece of green space!! SAVE THE PROUTY!! KJD
Donald E Kelly Sr	Amesbury, MA	2013-07-26	Expansion is fine ,but at the cost of taking a garden like this away is shameful.It a lone can heal people jst by sitting and thinking there.They can expand by recycling an old building some where else.There are still plenty of oid buildings and oid lots to put new ventures in.Use the rescurces of whats out there all ready before destroying what beauty is left in the world that can heal an calm the sole of a human being.
Pamela Ressler, MS, RN, HN-BC	Concord, MA	2013-07-26	As a health care professional for over 30 years, I have witnessed the incredible healing power of both high tech medicine and the environment of healing....we need both for the most effective and compassionate care.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sharon Germana	Boston, MA	2013-07-26	I live near the Longwood area and realize how wonderful this garden is for young patients.
Kerry Gould	Wakefield, MA	2013-07-26	Please save the Prouty Garden. Keep your word to Mrs Prouty Children's Hospital!
mary connor	Foxborough, MA	2013-07-26	When my son was eleven he was at this wonderful, wonderful hospital with amazing doctors because he had aplastic anemia. He was there for several months and away from home and school. the garden represented the outside world to both of us. We brought out his games or just sat and held onto the peace it represented for a little while. For many of us, we understand and support the need for Children's to expand and do more. but the garden is part of that.....
Havatsalet Kershenbaum	North Easton, MA	2013-07-26	The Prouty Garden has been a place of beauty and tranquility where I could rest my weary eyes and aching heart at times when my daughter has been in surgery or is finally asleep after a long, restless night.
Diane Rook	Sheldonville, MA	2013-07-26	Green spaces are so important I feel that they must somehow be part of our DNA.
Anne Maione	Milton, MA	2013-07-26	I worked at Children's for 10 years and saw the solace this precious outdoor space gave everyone who entered it.
Claudia Bermudez	Lexington, MA	2013-07-26	When my son was four we spent a few weeks in the hectic hospital each day we went down to "play" winnie the pooh.
Mary Sears	Lexington, MA	2013-07-26	Prouty Garden was a refuge for me and my family when my son was treated at Children's. Established gardens are tangibly different from new smaller spaces. Please reconsider!
William MacGillivray	Plymouth, MA	2013-07-26	I am a MA Certified Arborist as well as a IUOE Local 4 Operating Engineer. Though I love to see new construction in the city, it is so plainly obvious to me that this project is a bad idea. You can not hope to grow a dawn redwood like that in the city ever again. This garden should be preserved.
Karl Wright	Lexington, MA	2013-07-26	Daughter found this garden inspiring on multiple hospital stays
Katrina Boyer	Newton, MA	2013-07-26	I work at Children's - the Garden is special. It has a secret garden quality to it. You feel like you have left one place and stepped into another all together different realm. Don't take that away.
Philip Golden	Canton, MA	2013-07-26	Medical treatment does not always happen within the walls of a hospital building.
Nancy Howes	Wrentham, MA	2013-07-26	I find my own garden soothing always, even the bad days!
Eleanor Glavin	Hyde Park, MA	2013-07-26	My son had cancer twice, and I LOVE that garden. It is a real oasis in the turmoil of treating disease. Please, find another way to expand.
Beth Dilorio	Bedford, MA	2013-07-26	Incredibly inspiring and fulfilling space for people past, present, and future!
Robert Huxley	Shirley, MA	2013-07-26	To some people a garden is just a waste of space. After they crush the garden, and when their greedy corporate soulless bodies are gone, the land will not be reclaimed. God have mercy on them. This will also be a cautionary tale to people who donate things. Make sure there is a protection clause in there to take the property away if they try to subvert your intentions. It is not the hospital you need to protect from, it is the people whose hearts are hardened from lack of time outdoors in the grass, sun, trees and flowers.

subvert your intentions.



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Daphne Potter	Newtonville, MA	2013-07-26	As a parent who has been in a lot of hospitals lately- dehumanizing, sterile, loud, stressful places- gardens like these allow people to breathe, to pause, to feel human, and to gain strength for the next medical challenge. I understand the need to expand but Children's will be a lesser hospital without the Prouty Garden. Stay true to your roots. Expand someplace else.
Tara Pickard	Billerica, MA	2013-07-26	No one should have their loved ones memories tainted. How many scars will be re opened? Families who have grieved and found peace in the garden; only to be able to visit that in memory if taken away.
Luci Cedrone	McLean, VA	2013-07-26	Medicus curat, Natura sanat morbus. The physician heals, Nature makes well. --Aristotle  Please be creative in expanding the hospital and preserving this very important space. Both are important.
Suzanne Haile	Bloomsburg, PA	2013-07-26	My great nephew Michael Royles was treated at BCH and this garden provided him and my niece and nephew a place for him to run around and for them to just rest away from the hustle of the hospital. Also my neighbor's great-granddaughter passed away peacefully in this garden in the arms of her mother and this was a place of respite for them and now a place of remembrance. Children need real grass and real trees and real outdoors to feel real and normal and this place provides this. Don't destroy it in the name of "progress, state of the art".
Prinya Pinyochon	Hampstead, NH	2013-07-26	The core of the this garden is not the green, they are trees. Nature grows with time as well as healing that nature give us.
Nancy Sampson	Brookline, MA	2013-07-26	I work at Harvard Medical School and have had several close friends who unfortunately had to seek out this garden for comfort when their children were critically ill. Everyone of them said how wonderful it was that Children's has such a beautiful space for patients and families.
Adam Cassidy	Brookline, MA	2013-07-26	Save Prouty Garden!
Ellen Keiter	Wrentham, MA	2013-07-26	Children and adults need nature's gifts to help heal. We all know this is good for body and soul. Don't do something you will regret by destroying this haven.
Susan Meister	Lexington, VA	2013-07-26	Taking away Prouty Garden would be a fatal plan. It can not be replaced with other green. It was the age and honor and roots and wrinkles of the garden that made it strong enough to support my daughter and myself through very difficult times. No one will be able to replace what that garden was for so many and it bring a sick feeling in my stomach thinking it could possibly be demolish. New construction must go SOMEWHERE ELSE
Laurie Brenner	Boston, MA	2013-07-26	A beautiful and much needed respite from the hospital setting - my office has no windows, so being able to get fresh air in a green space is key to my mental health and well-being
melissa jungnickel	worcester, MA	2013-07-26	It is so so so very important for families with sick children to have a refuge, away from the hospital.
vincenzo giambertone	duxbury, MA	2013-07-26	The garden served as a sanctuary during our long stay at Children's Hospital. it was something to look forward to and provided us with much peace during a difficult time.
sheila giordano	hopkinton, MA	2013-07-26	The Prouty Garden IS a priceless treasure! Gardening is my hobby and green space is sparse. We must preserve such gifts!
Justine Sheffield	Hyde Park, MA	2013-07-26	Looking at the faces of those mothers while they are spending time with their kids and not knowing if they will make it. It breaks my heart. But as they look at their kids and see a little bit of happiness it makes me feel a lot better.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Elizabeth Handel	Needham, MA	2013-07-26	The Prouty Garden is a one of a kind beautiful asset, offering healing to children and parents. So sad that modern administrators are spitting in the eye of the Prouty family. Lesson: giving a significant gift to a hospital? You need a gaggle of lawyers to be sure your intentions are respected. Stick up a few pocket gardens on the roof or in a corner? Please. And of course, they will believe Mrs. Prouty would like to divert her perpetual maintenance money into their new budget.
Patricia Grant	Milton, MA	2013-07-26	I use to work at Children's hospital and the area is a beautiful peaceful seen that should be enjoyed for a life time. For both patient's and employee's weather walking through the area or sitting out for lunch.
Susan Drinan	Walpole, MA	2013-07-26	1. Mark Drinan, kidney transplant patient, and his family enjoyed this garden in the 70s. It was a treasure for them and allowed Mark to spend time with his newborn nephew. 2. It is not yours to destroy - it was a gift, accepted as a permanent addition to the hospital and belongs to everyone.
Jackie Ahlquist	Auburn, ME	2013-07-26	This is a beautiful area that allows for the mental and spiritual well being of patients and their families at times that are very difficult. I have siblings that were in the hospital there, one who died there and this garden is a place of refuge and normalcy in very disrupted childhood. Please do not remove this one place of peace for those who must be there. The size of the space as one unit, not a larger number of smaller spaces allows of the feeling of being removed from the hospital setting. Smaller spaces just won't offer that.
Ian Wells	Norwood, MA	2013-07-26	As a former employee of Children's, I've seen countless families use the Prouty Garden as a sanctuary during difficult times. While the garden cannot provide the physiological care found in the clinical grounds of the hospital, there is no other site on Longwood Avenue that can tend better to the emotional needs of families than this verdant oasis. This space is a treasure that should be protected for generations to come.
Emily Carruthers	Woods Hole, MA	2013-07-26	I was a patient at Children's for a few years when I was 4-6. I always looked forward to the point when I was recovered enough that I could be put in a go-cart and brought down to the garden. I loved that it was big enough that you could find a private place even if there were a lot of other people around. A favorite memory of mine was watching a solar eclipse through over-exposed x-rays with what seemed like all the patients and staff of the hospital.
Deborah Starin	Manchester, NH	2013-07-26	My grandson was treated there for ALL and he and my daughter used to go down to the garden to relax and get away from the alarms, IVs and life associated with a chronically ill child. This garden has a healing magic of its own and to consider taking it down is just inconceivable!! Please rethink this decision and expand on another plot somewhere. It means so much to so many families who have walked that hallowed ground....
Nicola Poser	Newton, MA	2013-07-26	When my son was a patient at Children's, it was a place he could go and be outside; it felt good for him to be back outside like a healthy kid.
Eric Read	N. Billerica, MA	2013-07-26	As a former staff member, I feel the garden helped me as an employee and made Children's a job that I stayed at for longer than I would have without the garden.
Ben Patterson	Acton, MA	2013-07-26	It breaks my heart to hear that parents can't give their sick and/or dying children a place like this.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Pamela Varrin	Watertown, MA	2013-07-26	My son was a patient at Children's Hospital throughout his childhood. When he was born with serious health issues, Prouty Garden was a place for me to go to breathe and to feel a palpable sense of the possibility of survival in the beauty of the longstanding trees and lovingly tended plantings. As my son and our family negotiated his childhood amidst the interruptions of hospitalizations, it was a place that beckoned to us, reminding us to play. Finding the animal sculptures in the greenery was one of my son's, and later his sister's, first games. To me, the sense of history in the garden continues to be an important part of its healing quality. The knowledge that this place of refuge and peace had provided comfort to the many children and families who had traveled this road before me always filled me with a profound sense of hope that I too could go on.
Baron Norton	Haverhill, MA	2013-07-26	I find it hard to believe that every alternative has a "fatal flaw"
Beth Shearer	Portsmouth, RI	2013-07-26	This garden is an oasis of peace for people from all over the medical area. It's loss would be huge.
STEPHEN DOLAN	BOSTON, MA	2013-07-26	A garden must be located at ground level on uncovered earth, in order to absorb the Schumann Frequencies and other healing energies from the earth. Isolation from those frequencies will make people much sicker.
dave kourtz	Melrose, MA	2013-07-26	No green house setting can replace what nature provides for individuals to be privately connected to the natural, especially in times of immense stress.
Kerri Smith	Wakefield, MA	2013-07-26	I am a clinical social worker, so I understand the importance of having a small space like this for families to escape the stress and heartbreak within the hospital walls.
Jane Shih	Cambridge, MA	2013-07-26	My son had 2 overnight stays at the hospital at age 2 and Prouty garden provided such a source of relief. It lifted his spirits and made the overnight stays much easier. We are fortunate that our son does not have any illness that requires repeated and prolonged hospital stays but even with the little experience we've had at the hospital (which is amazing), we could see how important this special garden is as a place for healing and a respite from the stress of dealing with an illness or injury.
Kathleen Parrish	Brookline, MA	2013-07-26	Nature is so important for healing.
Lindsey Kempton	Waltham, MA	2013-07-26	As a pediatric cancer patient that was treated at Children's, this garden was a wonderful place to relax, get away from the hospital environment and go outside where there was nature and peace. Please keep this space for future Children's patients and their families!
Pam Perry	Fairhaven, MA	2013-07-26	I have always relied on nature for its healing effects. To destroy this place is unthinkable. I wish I'd had such a place when I had cancer surgery in Boston.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Peggy Viscariello	Dedham, MA	2013-07-26	In 1989 my daughter, Gina was born with underdeveloped lungs and put on ECMO - right about the time it was offered as a viable therapy to patients. It saved her life. Every year we would return to the pouty garden to attend the annual ECMO reunion. This was such a comfort and relief to go and see other children who had undergone the same procedure. It was emotional, so hopeful and so much fun for the kids. Almost all the doctors who would come and spend time in the garden said that it was also good for them to see such happiness and healing going on collectively, in that lovely garden. The only reason I knew about this potential closing of the garden was because my daughter Gina emailed it to me and was extremely sad to hear this was happening. She has grown into a remarkable young lady who will be going to law school in the fall of 2014. We attended this event faithfully for about 10 years. I realize space is needed to help heal more kids, but I think someone needs to think about the particular kind of healing that can occur in such a lovely greenspace as the Prouty Garden. Thank you, peg viscarillo
Jackie Bannister	North Andover, MA	2013-07-26	Look elsewhere for expansion space and let the researchers communicate electronically.....do the right thing for the kids!
Patrick Devanney	Lynn, MA	2013-07-26	Nature is everything. It heals far more than we realize in these modern times. In addition, there's an ethical issue here. You would be going against the donor's wishes by destroying this garden. It might make a future donor think twice about making a donation to an organization that would later rescind that trust.
A Clinton Cavanaugh	Brookline, MA	2013-07-26	Having worked in the LMA and knowing the kind of stress both patients and doctors deal with every day, I know that this is essential for the hospital. Also, it's simply beautiful and it would be an affront to nature to tear it apart. Please, please don't! There are so many cool architectural solutions to this problem and you'd also be able to generate interest and good will among your donors and FUTURE donors. I'm in that field and know that your saving this sanctuary could be a great fundraising angle, if you also want the non-sentimental side!
Susan Welsch	Attleboro, MA	2013-07-26	The garden is a haven of peace and spiritual sustenance where we breathe deeply and pray for the lives of our precious children.
Victoria Moskal	Gloucester, MA	2013-07-26	My severely handicapped son has been a regular patient of CHB for almost his entire 14-year life. We have had multiple overnight stays at the hospital - most recently a major orthopedic surgery (an 8 day stay) and a related feeding crisis and G-Tube surgery (an 11 day stay). My husband and I took turns sleeping overnight and returning home to care for Matt's twin brother and our household and work duties. We were exhausted and in a state of collapse. Matt was bored and homesick. We were all cooped up in hospital rooms with air conditioning, fluorescent lights, beeping equipments and strangers for months. The Prouty Garden saved us. Even when Matt was in a cardiac chair and hooked up to IV fluids we could go out an breath real air, listen to birds, admire the amazing old growth trees, and the perfect, elegant statues and grounds. THE PROUTY GARDEN KEPT US SANE. We sat out there in all kinds of weather. We met and mixed with - or just smiled at-other families we were going through similar trauma. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS GARDEN AWAY.
Stephen Post	Canion, MA	2013-07-26	The Prouty Gardien is truly the crowned jewel of Boston Children's Hospital whose value to patients, families and staff cannot be quantified with dollars and cents. It is a space that has the power to heal the mind, body and soul.
Charlene Liska	Boston, MA	2013-07-26	Bequests should not be meddled with like this - moving the garden indoors is just another bunch of potted plants - shame on them - donors beware!
Mary Louise Murray	Everett, MA	2013-07-26	This sanctuary is therapeutic to people in need of its space and Peace.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jean Grady Spaulding	WESTWOOD, MA	2013-07-26	I spent 3 weeks at Children's back in 1965, when peritonitis set in following a ruptured appendix. My father and my Aunt Betty took me to the garden many times, where there was a fair one day. I left the hospital with fond memories of actually having a good time, not even knowing how close I came to dying there. The following winter, my sister, Martha, died at Children's after battling CF for nearly 16 years. I know she spent time in the same garden. PLEASE keep it intact! Find another way to expand....
Cathy MacFARlane	Dedham, MA	2013-07-26	My Great Neice was very ill when she was born and spent months in childrens' and also as she got older for surgery. This was the only place for our family to find peace and solice. It is such a wonderful space and it would break my heart to see it gone.
Peggy Viscariello	Dedham, MA	2013-07-26	<p>In July of 1989, my daughter Gina was born with underdeveloped lungs. Thanks to a therapy that had just come off experimental status, she was offered ECMO therapy. She survived and flourished because of Childrens Hospital and this therapy. Every summer for 10 years, we attended the annual "ECMO Reunion" in the prouty Garden. We looked forward to this event every year. It was an emotional, healing and fun day for the children and their families. It allowed us all to connect with one another and share our stories. We weren't in a cafeteria or room - but in a beautiful green space - with sun, shade, flowers, smells and real people. The Prouty Garden should not be overlooked for its own unique healing properties and the peace it affords people who have a chance to visit it. I recall various doctors and nurses who would visit the event for a while sharing their feelings and expressing that it was so wonderful to be among thriving children who were once so critically ill. It was also good for the doctors and nurses.</p> <p>I found out that the garden was being considered for additional space through an email from that very same daughter. She has grown into an accomplished, wonderful young woman of 24 who plans on going to law school in the fall of 2014.</p> <p>I hope you reconsider keeping the Prouty Garden because of what it affords to so many people. Sometimes, dealing with a critically ill child and just being able to sit among the trees and our door greenery can bring a necessary peace and/or calm to someone who desperately needs it. I consider it a special place of emotional healing. I hope you decide to keep this space as is. It would be a shame to put it on a roof - or move it from it's beautiful central location of the hospital. Thank you for listening. Peg V.</p>
Susannah Parker	Andover, MA	2013-07-26	During my daughter's initial 4 month stay at Children's, the Prouty Garden served as a haven. Just having the ability to spend an hour outside, away from all the bells and noises and bustle of the floor provided a much needed chance to breathe.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Pat Redd	Melrose, MA	2013-07-26	<p>I did part of my nurse's training at Children's Hospital in 1971 and I was a nurse there on what was Division 24 and Division 29 between 1974 and 1979. I often took patients out to the garden where we and other nurses with patients and families could all enjoy the calming effect of nature, fresh air and sunlight in a more peaceful casual setting away from dressing changes, hospital noises and other stressful hospital activities. It was a chance for both staff and patients to restore and center ourselves before returning to the challenges of a hospital environment.</p> <p>In addition, infection control needs aside, the children seemed to benefit from being in rooms with other children rather than isolated. Surely a hospital re-design could keep that feeling of community in place instead of allocating every young child to a private room where he or she is isolated and alone. Taking the children's developmental needs into account should allow for a more conservative approach to re-modeling. Unfortunately, many children spend a lot of time, often weeks or months, away from home and need to have access to the social aspects of being around other children as well as hearing normal chatter, laughter and movement in a healing space such as the Prouty garden.</p>
Lisa Carruthers	OLD SAYBROOK, CT	2013-07-26	<p>Our daughter had many surgeries at Children's which required long hospitalizations. Taking her out to the Garden, at times in her bed, and as she recovered, in the cart, were an important part of her recovery. Without that wonderful garden we would not have had anywhere to go to find peace, quiet, and the restorative calm that only a large green space can provide.</p>
Connie Smith	Forestville, CA	2013-07-26	<p>My brother spent a lot of time there after 2 kidney transplants.</p>
Gail McNally	Chicago, IL	2013-07-26	<p>Because beauty and peace can be more healing than state of the art modern medicine.</p>
Cheri Carrett	Marblehead, MA	2013-07-26	<p>Dying kids need a peaceful place to die.</p>
McCullough Kathleen	North Reading, MA	2013-07-26	<p>Spent "outdoor" time there with a little girl when she was well enough to go outside to her "secret garden"!! A BEAUTIFUL oasis in the middle of drama and trama!!</p>
Carey Kempton	Mendon, MA	2013-07-26	<p>As a parent of a pediatric cancer survivor who underwent double bone marrow transplants through the Jimmy Fund at Children's Hospital Boston, I can not tell you the joy and relief that time spent in the garden gave us. It was a chance for my daughter and my family to breath fresh air, enjoy the sunshine and get away from the long required hospital stay. Please do not destroy the garden - it would be a great tragedy!! The children, families and staff need the open space and fresh air!</p>
Grace Thorne	Lexington, MA	2013-07-26	<p>Former scientific staff member at Children's so witnessed the power of this little garden on the lives of patients/their families and the staff-- All could draw on the serenity offered by little patch of sunshine with beautiful trees/shrubs and flowers. I would never have lasted for my 12 year tenure without the "break" the garden offered.</p> <p>This is a jewel and treasure that should be preserved --even as the hospital has to change.</p>
Jeff Porter	Waipole, MA	2013-07-26	<p>The benefit this garden provides to the patients, families, and staff of BCH do not need repeating, they are obvious, and plentiful. But in addition to those reasons, is the fact that a very compassionate, and generous woman made an endowment to provide for this garden. That must be honored!</p>

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Maria Lonczak	Cross River, NY	2013-07-26	My youngest sister was a dialysis and kidney transplant patient at Children's in the 1970s, and this garden was an invaluable support to her physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. Prouty Garden was an escape for her, as well as for her family, that provided peace, sustenance, and hope. Brilliant minds can find a way to satisfy Children's expansion needs without taking Prouty Garden.
Reva Selvarajan	Millis, MA	2013-07-26	My Son Nevan Mahesh was treated for Hepatoblastoma, at Children's. Nevan passed away in 2010. My fondest memory of him is the euphoria on his face picking up flowers from the Prouty Garden for his favorite Nurse and watching the hospital Helicopter hover over the building. I wish other children would continue to have this experience.
Heidi Schnabel	Holliston, MA	2013-07-26	Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul. ~John Muir
Jonathan Lonczak	Lexington, MA	2013-07-26	Fresh air, peace and quiet, serenity, a place to pray, while my sister spent countless days on dialysis.
Jonah Moss	Fitchburg, MA	2013-07-26	This garden is an irreplaceable treasure for sick patients and their families. Shame on Children's Hospital for forgetting this.
James O'Shea	Bolton, MA	2013-07-26	My daughter Charlotte was in treatment for brain cancer for 5 years before passing away in 2010. During her treatment we spent a good deal of time in the garden walking and spending special time outside of the hospital during those very difficult times. The garden was a special place where we could relax and just be like normal people out for a walk. Please do not deny those poor children and their families the opportunity for a little solace in what could be a miserable existence.
Paula Colahan	Beverly, MA	2013-07-26	<p>When our son had open heart surgery in 2007, at the age of 3 1/2, this garden was such a respite for my husband and I. Then as our son recovered, we could wheel him down in the laying down carts, his pluravac and all. Bring outside gave our son a calming emotional transition to thinking about going home. It was a reward to go to the garden, where we could wheel around (there is a much smaller one at BCH without room to wheel around). If he did the walking they asked him to do, we could go outside to the garden. Many of his happy pictures, draining chest tubes and all, came from him being in the laying down wheelchair in this garden.</p> <p>Please find another footprint to build your needed space on.</p> <p>The Colahan/ Consoli Family Beverly, MA</p>
Nadine Merren	Dorchester, MA	2013-07-26	I Think we should keep it
Scott MacFarlane	Needham, MA	2013-07-26	My Nice who is lucky to be alive used to spend time here when she was at Children's
Ligia Jordao	Hull, MA	2013-07-26	To preserve open air green spaces. This is a respite for patients and staff. It will be shameful if it is destroyed!
Dana DeBenedictis	Lakeville, MA	2013-07-26	<p>Not only does the garden serve as a haven for patients and families, but it is the home to so many memories of loved ones who have spent time or lost battles at Children's Hospital. The proposal to destroy this garden, along with those memories, is unimaginable.</p> <p>I completely understand that BCH needs to grow to better serve its patients, but don't violate a promise, don't shatter thousands of cherished memories, and don't ignore the true healing powers of the Prouty Garden.</p>
Marie Dunkelberger	Cohasset, MA	2013-07-26	This endowed gift was not given to be taken away.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Barbara Marzelli	Newbury, NH	2013-07-26	The Prouty Garden was a true blessing to our family while at BCH.....I found that it was the only place I could regain my balance & strength while our son underwent multiple heart surgeries. Please find another way and preserve this treasure.
Judith Gillette	Reading, MA	2013-07-26	Gardens are healing, life-giving.
ROBERT DEBENEDICTIS	LAKEVILLE, MA	2013-07-26	This garden is a little piece of heaven for patients and families to regain some sense of peace, by being closer to God....
Cathy Walsman	Harwich, MA	2013-07-26	The garden will always be a special memory in our families heart. My sister-in-law, her husband and younger daughter embraced the beauty of the gardens surrounding them even though their oldest daughter was very ill at Boston Children's Hospital.  The beauty that Wednesday created through her life still is reflected in these gardens. My sister-in-law is so sad right now about the possible loss of the gardens that in memory of Wednesday I want to sign this petition. Thank you, Cathy Walsman Save this creation for all the families and for the Olmsted family that gave this gift of art to Boston.
Janet Rose	North Dartmouth, MA	2013-07-26	It is an important respite that helps families who need a place to enjoy a non-clinical setting to relax and rejuvenate.
Edward Morgan	Stow, MA	2013-07-26	Do not destroy this place of peace and beauty!
Suzanne Van Hoesen	South Walpole, MA	2013-07-26	Imagine being stuck in a private room at Children's for 6+ months. The one place outside those walls that provided respite and refuge to our family was the Prouty Garden. It was a live saving place. Shame on Children's for wanting to take it away so they can make more \$\$\$. Save the Garden!
Emily Aronson	Boston, MA	2013-07-26	The Prouty Garden is too beautiful, peaceful, and healing of a garden to be taken away. The patients and their families need such an oasis, during their [sometimes] difficult stays in the hospital.
Linda Lesyna	Jamaica Plain, MA	2013-07-27	There is so little green space in the hospital area and nature is a part of the healing arts too.
Rich Lee	Arlington, MA	2013-07-27	Our daughter enjoyed peace in Prouty Garden during her last days with us.
Irving Walsman	Damascus, MD	2013-07-27	My sister's daughter used this garden before her death
Zenaide Swenson	Hudson, MA	2013-07-27	There were so many treatments, procedures, appts, evaluations, radiation, chemo, more labs and so on during our 6 month stay at Children's Hospital. Our son, Andrew, always did what he was told and had to do for "a better healthy life". He had no control of what would happen to him. He did have control of one thing and that was a place that he could go. It was free of "scary germs", no sounds of the heart monitors, iv machines and so on. November and December were not months that we could go out. January we made a tiny snow family that consisted of Pai (Portuguese for Dad), Mommy and 2 brothers. February we made hearts and hung them on the low branches. March, we looked for 4 leaf clovers, April we had our Easter egg hunt. May we started working on exercise plan with his big brother that could visit. June came the flowers and when we add some fertilizer to the tulips because he could finally go home and wanted to make sure they stayed pretty for the other kids. He hugged the statue that "watches while I play". Allowing the children to have a little control of an uncontrollable situation- priceless. To hear a child speak fondly of all the fun in the garden during such a horrible time, means more than any building will be able to do for the soul of all the children.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Perry Desmond-Davies	Lowell, MA	2013-07-27	Please keep the Prouty Garden! Just read through the stories here and you can see why redeveloping this treasured place is shamefully wrong.
Patrick Brace	Abington, MA	2013-07-27	There's more to being healthy than being in an office building. We need to preserve the natural healing power of nature. This garden has healed many people both physically and spiritually.
Erika Hsu	Philadelphia, PA	2013-07-27	I think both patients and family members benefit from having a calm and beautiful atmosphere to receive treatment and recover. The garden would be a wonderful edition!
Cynthia Robertson	Newburyport, MA	2013-07-27	My son has spent the last 15 years coming to children's for inpatient and out patient. In 2012 he was in ICU for 45 days and during the last 2 weeks we were able to get him up on his feet and out of bed to regain his strength. He had become some what depressed and even stopped asking to go home. His nurse and I got special permission from his doctors to take him down to the garden for a visit, tears came to my eyes as he looked around at the new spring flowers that had just broke thru the ground and the smell of spring we both had realized the season had changed while he had been in the hospital.  I have sat in the garden over the years and cried, prayed, and just watched all of the families come and go dealing with their own pain. I have walked the halls of children's hospital for 15 years at all times of the day and no where else can you find the peace and comfort than the garden. There is more to healing a child than medicine and private rooms, nature is very powerful in that process but it seems in these times we are in it has been forgotten.
Abeer Radady	Medford, MA	2013-07-27	this garden has so much memories that i gained in 2 and a half years. My son loved this garden all year long..2 days before he passed a way I took him down to this garden and it was thanks giving...He was smiling and happy to be there...Please keep this garden...
Sarah Albanawi	Portland, ME	2013-07-27	My very good friend loved it before he passed.
John Copeland	Attleboro, MA	2013-07-27	In perpetuity.
bedor cmar	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	2013-07-27	No
Jody Distefano	Brockton, MA	2013-07-27	Because I love someone who loves this garden and is important to sick kids
Margaret Adams	Whitman, MA	2013-07-27	Hasn't the Emerald Necklace taught us any thing about the value of green space? Once lost, this can never be replaced.
Gaby Da Costa	Medford, MA	2013-07-27	A good friend of mine's son had cancer and spent a good amount of time at this park and it would be very sad that another child would miss out on it. Sometimes it's the only outside a child patient gets to see. Please keep it open
Jill Vernes	Ashland, MA	2013-07-27	Children are healed by real outside nature. Not static green arrangement inside.
Phoebe Conant	Acton, MA	2013-07-27	My Aunt was working at Children's when the garden opened. It is a treasure.
Lisa Blakely	Randolph, MA	2013-07-27	My son is a cancer survivor who has spent alot of time at Childrens Hospital
Mary McGuire	Ipswich, MA	2013-07-27	This was dedicated through love and understanding of what the children and families go through when they are visiting the hospital or in the hospital. This needs to be preserved and especially if this can happen if the design is changed. Please rethink this decision and preserve this haven for all those who so desperately need it and in memory of Mrs. Prouty's wishes. Thank you. Mary McGuire

Name	Location	Date	Comment
dave hinckley	wrentham, MA	2013-07-27	There should be a place in a facility like the Children's Hospital where kids can go to see trees and birds. So many children have passed through the garden that destroying it would be wrong. The picture of little Amber Amick's last moments should be enough reason. I'm not a religious person, but there are spots where strong emotions can linger and leave an imprint. The Prouty Garden should remain to help more generations of people try to cope.
Christie Bliss	Groton, MA	2013-07-27	It is a place of beauty that brings serenity and peace to those seeking medical treatment.
Barbara Thorne	Jacksonville, FL	2013-07-27	bulldozing the garden violates the trust Mrs. Prouty placed in BCH to carry out her wishes. This garden means too much to too many! .
Catherine Lehar	Boston, MA	2013-07-27	I heard about this issue on the radio. I also recently visited a loved one in very high quality hospital. Though the hospital is good, I was sad to note that my loved one had no garden to look at. I truly believe his experience might have been better if he could find a peaceful spot to rest in
Marilyn Smith	Brookline, MA	2013-07-27	Not only have my children benefited from walking through the Prouty Garden when they were ill, I actually spent a wonderful afternoon with Olive Prouty in 1966. She was a remarkable, courageous, visionary, and compassionate woman, and I believe she intended for the garden to be there in perpetuity as long as Children's Hospital exists. Listen to what families are telling us about the healing power of nature. A rooftop garden with containers or a small garden with bushes can never replace the majesty of a dawn redwood tree, one of the most ancient trees on earth! There is certainly another solution for Children's Hospital that does not require destroying this beautiful space!
Barbara McCullough	Merrick, NY	2013-07-28	In memory of Jason Thomas Greco
Angela Castillo	Huntington, NY	2013-07-28	For Jason Greco, just 5 months old, who enjoyed his last moments on earth in the garden with his mom, dad and brothers.
Trebor Lloyd	New York, NY	2013-07-28	Clearly the garden is beloved and important. Let it stand.
Dawn King	Shrewsbury, MA	2013-07-28	Prouty garden was a nice peaceful place to go while my son went through open-heart surgery on three occasions before he was 3 years old. It is a place to go get some fresh air for both you and your child, away from the confines of your child's hospital room. It is a place to go to for a good cry, for a short walk or a long one. What a shame it will be if it goes away. We always take a stroll through when we come for follow-up visits, even 15 years later.
Marcia Crayton	Old Westbury, NY	2013-07-28	A friend's friend lost a 5 month old child and requested it.
Mark Carruthers	Old Saybrook, CT	2013-07-28	My daughter loved the garden between her many surgeries at BCH. I truly believe it aided the healing process.
Phyllis Amalfitano	Massapequa, NY	2013-07-28	My baby cousin, Jason Greco, was a patient in the hospital and visited the garden before he passed on.
Paul Amalfitano	Massapequa, NY	2013-07-28	Baby Jason Greco and his family visited the garden before he passed away. It is a very special and beautiful place that the family shared with him.
Janis Martin	Eau Claire, WI	2013-07-28	I truly do not understand how the value of this garden can be compared to the value of a building. While I can see why building use needs to be considered, the healing that comes from a quiet place of beauty has a value that cannot be measured. As much as we try as humans to provide comfort, the peace and comfort from a source of nature or a place of nature that allows us to find that place within our soul cannot be compared. Please preserve this most precious sanctuary as was endowed by Mrs. Prouty.
Laura Howell	North Andover, MA	2013-07-28	Please save this garden in it's current state. It is an important part of the healing environment of Children's.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Anne Prendergast	chicago, IL	2013-07-28	This was the only area of respite for a friend as she watched her young child die. Please save it!
BARBARA BRITTINGHAM	Cambridge, MA	2013-07-28	Because of parents of very sick children I've known. Removing this garden is the 'fatal flaw' of this plan
Michelle Barker-Lacerda	Malden, MA	2013-07-28	I worked in the core lab from 97-99 and I would sometimes come down to the garden. It gave families and patients such peace. It also gave me peace from my work every day. Medicine is a stressful career - but add in that your patients are children adds that much more stress because you start to question your faith - Why afflict those who have just started their beautiful lives. Employees, patients and their families all need a place where there is some downtime away from it all.
Robin Ryan	Carver, MA	2013-07-28	My daughter walked that garden to try to strengthen herself with her 4 1/2 year battle with Cancer. It brought her strength and hope. Why the heck would you want to ruin a place that is so good for patients minds and bodies? When in your in a hospital for months at a time , it gives you hope and it is beautiful. Robin RYan
Sharon Holly	Farmingdale, NY	2013-07-28	If gave a family a beautiful memory of a baby's last day on earth and his only day out in the fresh air surrounded by his loving and soon to be grieving family. Please remember it is not only an illness you treat it is a person and the people who love. DO NOT take theses precious memories away. You will be able to make your profit in other areas.
Michael Daitzman	wesley, MA	2013-07-28	we have been spending a lot of time at childrens lately and gardens are a therapeutic place for us
andrew greco	west orange, NJ	2013-07-29	my grandson spent the last day of his life in this setting
Kelly Cox	Lakeville, MA	2013-07-29	I visited this garden with my daughter several times during our stays at Children's. This is a peaceful, beautiful space that allows patients to enjoy a few moments of not being inside the hospital. Feeling the warm sun and enjoying the fresh air can do wonders for patients and families. Please do not destroy this wonderful space where families get out of the hospital atmospere for the few minutes at a time that they can. We all need a change of scenery and air at times, and for our young patients who are in the hospital for an extended stay, this should always remain an option for them.
arinette covello	livingsion, NJ	2013-07-29	jason greco's last day on earth was there
richard schneiderman	livingston, NJ	2013-07-29	jaspn Greco
peter demarco	livingston, NJ	2013-07-29	remember jason greco
lyle harch	livingston, NJ	2013-07-29	memory of Jason Greco
Jen Poach	Farmingville, NY	2013-07-29	In memory of Jason Greco.
Helena Carr-Flanagan	Decham, MA	2013-07-29	I was with my son who had 2 surgeries at Childrens and spent more than a week in recovery. The garden was the one space at the hospital that I was able to go with my son and his 2 older siblings to disengage from the routine while hospitalized. Being a nurse in Boston I understand the need to "make bigger rooms and private rooms" but as a parent I met some of the most supportive people in my life by spending a week in their presence. Please reconsider what is at the root of providing care and save the garden! Thank you,  Helena Flanagan
James Treby	Tenafly, NJ	2013-07-29	jason greco's memory

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Diana Sullivan	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL	2013-07-29	With my young grandchild it was a beautiful and peaceful place to spend a few precious hours with her. The birds singing in the trees and the sun shining on all of us was relaxing and calming. A wonderful refuge for so many.
kristin davis	nashua, NH	2013-07-29	it is a beautiful, peaceful and essential open space used by patients and employees alike for a much needed escape! it would be a tragedy to destroy it.
Martha Spooner	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL	2013-07-30	I worked at BCH in the 60s and have fond memories of the garden.
Nancy Chevalier	Rochester, NY	2013-07-30	I worked at Children's Hospital about 40 years ago and remember how much the kids enjoyed riding around the garden in their go carts! Please save it as is and build elsewhere!!
Erin Seiden	Milford, MA	2013-07-30	Getting to go to the garden with my family and floormates made being in Children's for a few weeks a lot less scary for me as a child
Antoinette Zolfo	Glendale, NY	2013-07-30	My very good friend Mrs. Angela Greco spent time here with her five month old son Jason while he was being treated at the hospital. She described his last days of life relaxing in the garden. Please preserve this garden for all those who need serenity while healing.
Michele Occhiuti	Reading, MA	2013-07-30	Any Olmsted green space in a city, especially within the grounds of a city hospital, should be preserved.
Meredith Ash	Medway, MA	2013-07-30	The Prouty Garden was the only place in this entire world that my critically ill infant son got to feel the sun on his face, smell the summer air, and hear the birds. He spent his entire 10 days of life in Children's Hospital, and without this garden he would have only known the walls of the NICU. Please save the garden.
Demetra Tseckares	Reading, MA	2013-07-30	I can't imagine not having a garden to be in with a sick child. What a horrible choice you all have to make. i hope you choose the garden somehow.
Evan Smith	Lexington, MA	2013-07-30	There is no other place to sit, reflect and be safe when at the hospital. I am there daily.
Robert Woodward	Cambridge, MA	2013-07-30	If you talk about having a state of the srt facility, This is part of it too. It is crucial to the well being and healing of your patients. Please don't destroy something that works...
Betty Walsh	Reading, United States Minor Outlying Islands	2013-07-30	This garden is very important to all children, and those who love them, who come to Children's Hospital for hope and healing.
anita constantine-gay	Ayer, MA	2013-07-31	The Prouty Garden was an oasis of peace for us when our son Nathaniel had open heart surgery at age 4 weeks, in 1984.
Melissa Kreider	Gloucester, MA	2013-07-31	During a year of training as a hospital chaplain at Brigham and Women's, I ate every lunch I could in Prouty Garden. The garden was a sacred sanctuary in the concrete jungle of the Longwood Medical Area. A place of renewal, it strengthened me to return back to the bedsides of patients fighting for their lives, so that I might bring them hope and bolster their strength. The Children's Garden is an irreplaceable treasure.
Peter Ainsworth	Holliston, MA	2013-07-31	My daughter spent the first 11 months of her life at Children's. I can't express how important Prouty Garden was to our young family as the only place we could bring her to breath fresh air and experience the sights, sounds and smells of nature, from the trees, flowers and gurgling fountain to simply having a blue patch of sky above us, Prouty Garden kept us sane. Any family who has spent significant time in the hospital knows how important the Garden and its paths are. It needs to be maintained at its current size if only to give families a place to wheel their children around. Trips to smaller green spaces are not the same as strolling through Prouty. Thank you.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Melanie Jacobs	Boston, MA	2013-07-31	Former employee
Lauren Ainsworth	Havertown, PA	2013-07-31	My niece spent her first year of life at Children's. proudly provided her only opportunity for fresh air and nature.
Tom Williams	West Roxbury, MA	2013-08-01	An historical garden, and a place I supplied with plant material. Perhaps you should consider expanding another campus. Every open space is extremely valuable, as maintaining, preserving, and enjoying them is an important part of being human.
Tara Poulin	Haverhill, MA	2013-08-01	All five of my children are treated there including hundreds of my patients. We almost lost two of my children & it was the only place I found peace. Please do not destroy this oasis.
Julie Lacey	Ayer, MA	2013-08-01	I spent many healing hours in this garden.
Kathy Kreider	Narberth, PA	2013-08-01	as a nurse I have seen the great value of outdoor space to patients and their families....please reconsider
Victoria Gordon	Lowell, MA	2013-08-01	The Garden is not "undeveloped space," but an important sanctuary with as much healing power as any brick-and-mortar expansion.
Sonja Plesset	Cambridge, MA	2013-08-01	This is incredibly important to so many parents who have had a sick child at Children's. For those who have lost a child, building on this land is akin to building on sacred ground. For many, this garden is where parents had their last joyous moment with their children. It is sacred, it is spiritual, please don't destroy it.
Joy Carroll	Albuquerque, NM	2013-08-01	Boston Children's was my hospital for the first eighteen years of my life. My experience there is the reason I have become a Hospital/Hospice chaplain. As I got older, I was surprised to realize that I had GOOD memories of Children's, and I strongly believe it is because it is a place where as a kid I was able to feel like a kid even when I was sick - and the physical space, inside and out, had a LOT to do with that. And now, as a healthcare chaplain, I know how important it is for staff and families to have a place to feel human and become refreshed AT the hospital. Thank you. Sincerely, Joy Dinaro
Tina Plesset	East Hampton, NY	2013-08-01	We spent many hours visiting an infant and her family in this garden which was a source of joy before a tragic end. These memories last forever and ever.
James LaFollette	Marlborough, MA	2013-08-02	Prouty Garden is a true, natural haven from the noise, commotion and stress the other public and clinical areas
Therese Winger	Bridgewater, MA	2013-08-02	Green space is needed for healing. Save the Garden
Barry Glunt	Greenland, NH	2013-08-02	I worked and studied in the medical area for 6 years. I loved my visits to the garden. The hospital as a very narrow view of what healing is to destroy this treasure
lori gerber	Andover, MA	2013-08-02	As a patient at Childrens hospital in the 1960's and 1970's the garden was a wonderful escape for the endless medical procedures I experienced. It is nature and this is equally important to the healing process and later as a nursing student at childrens hospital school nursing graduate in 1978 the garden was a continued area of recovery for patients and families of all ages. As you know buildings can always be built and after a generation they become old and out of date as technology changes once the garden is gone it is irreplaceable and I would argue it makes childrens stand out as a very special place. Please do not destroy this beautiful healing space.
Kris-Ann Race	Glastonbury, CT	2013-08-02	This is a very special place for a friend of mine.
MaryEllen Johnson	Wakefield, RI	2013-08-02	It is a place of healing and renewal for patients and their families. As important as the facilities and medical services.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Ian Race	Glastonbury, CT	2013-08-02	Friends lost their newborn baby days after birth. Knowing they only had a few days with their child, they spent as much time as they could in Prouty Garden, which provided peace and solace outside of the hospital. Prouty Garden was an important part of both their bonding and grieving processes.
Kathleen Moschella	Swampscott, MA	2013-08-02	This garden was a wonderful location to visit while I recovered from back surgery. I was a patient at Childrens back in 1979 and I could be wheeled in my bed to this garden ... it was just a joy to be outside .. it was such a gift, the green all around and sunshine did lift my spirits and I am sure helped in my recovery during those painful dark times ... I would hate to see this lost.
Thomas Smith	Plymouth, VT	2013-08-02	Common sense.
Deborah Rowe	Davis City, IA	2013-08-02	When my daughter was a patient at Children's Hospital in 1990 the garden was my refuge. When she was well enough to move from her room it was a place for both of us to escape the hospital atmosphere and feel normal--even for a short while. The garden is very much a part of the healing posses and to lose it would be a tragedy.
Jonathan Meserve	Brookline, MA	2013-08-02	The prouty garden is integral to the history and pride of Boston Children's Hospital. Please protect our greatest asset.
Christine Weirich	Haverhill, MA	2013-08-02	We have spent a lot of time at Children's in boston and i feel the outdoor space is so invaluable to the patients.
martha mace	Randolph, MA	2013-08-02	Why ruin such a beautiful oasis? This is the only serene and tranquil place that families and patients can get some peace and fresh air....please, find another place for your building. Have the people wanting to get rid of Prouty Garden sat out here? Try it, you will see why it is so special!!!!
Karla Patlovich	Lake Bluff, IL	2013-08-02	Our friends lost their son at Children's and found this garden to be an oasis in their darkest hours.
Russell Yashinsky	Auburndale, MA	2013-08-02	This is a treasure, and so important to healing.
Maryellen Kelley	Norwell, MA	2013-08-02	My daughter, who was born in 1982, had many surgeries starting at birth, resulting in long stays at Children's Hospital. The garden was a much needed respite from the hospital for her as well as our entire family.
Jennifer Dunham	Quincy, MA	2013-08-02	My daughter, Amelia, was a patient at Children's for weeks in April and received world class care. I have retold the stories to everyone concerned about my child how the hospital staff cared for her body and her soul in a way that allowed her to heal and allowed her family to focus on her well being in a way I never imagined. The Prouty Garden was key to our recovery as a family. I have a series of photographs of Amelia in the garden where a shaft of light followed her everywhere we went and it was so powerful to her and to me that we felt like God was with us in that place and she would get better. The garden is indeed a priceless treasure.
Liz Lawrence	Arlington, MA	2013-08-02	It seems to me to be a dangerous question to ask whether to destroy a place that inspires healing and celebrates life, or not. How would BCH planners answer the same question if asked whether to bulldoze Walden?
Robert Smith	Kingston, MA	2013-08-02	To honor the wish of the benefactor and to preserve mature green space as a place of repose, relaxation and healing.
Jo Watson	Shirley, MA	2013-08-02	Whenever I need green it is there to soothe me:1 birds The breeze deftly against me.. Please savor all!!
Dan Greco	Verona, NJ	2013-08-02	My Nephew, Jason had his last moments on earth in that garden. It means a great deal to people who are suffering in that hospital along with their families.
elizabeth mendes	westborough, MA	2013-08-02	this garden is the only place patients can get out away form the hustle and bustle of boston and the hospital, plus its beautiful!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Lisa Gordon	Ashby, United States Minor Outlying Islands	2013-08-02	This was a special place for a special family of a special little girl.
Lori Campana	Lexington, MA	2013-08-03	father was a long term patient at B&W, and it was always a source of comfort; natural green space must be respected and preserved
Christine Gottman	Clementon, NJ	2013-08-03	Please keep the garden for the patients & there families. Do not destroy such a beautiful treasure.
Christine Maclean	Milton, MA	2013-08-03	My son has spent many an afternoon here. It's such a great spot for the kids and parents to get a break from their rooms.
Ellen Rogers	Milton, MA	2013-08-03	My friend's son loves this spot. It means something to him, and many other children. Let's find a way to preserve it!
Suzanne Peterson	Westwood, MA	2013-08-03	My son was diagnosed with ALL leukemia, and did not leave the hospital for 44 days. I would bring him to the garden in a wheelchair and we would walk the paths. The gardens brought me a sense of calm in a very stressful time.
Brenda Boltz	Kettle Falls, WA	2013-08-03	Because the son of a friend of mine has spent plenty of hours visiting after treatments and "just because".
Renee Mouritz	Yallingup, Australia	2013-08-03	Nature is so important in the healing process, it provides people with a sanctuary. It is highly beneficial and should be considered a valued and priceless part of any hospital grounds.
Mina Connor	Londonderry, NH	2013-08-03	Perhaps you can ask families to help maintain it. It would truly be a community space, and gardening can be so therapeutic in its simplicity. Thank you for considering this.
Anne-Marie Cagnon	Natick, MA	2013-08-03	Throughout ail of our stays while our son, now 13, was (and still is) treated for cleft lip and cleft palate, we visited the Garden as a place of respite and peace from the bustle of the hospital. We cannot let this sanctuary be demolished. Thank you.
Julia Healy	Hanover, NH	2013-08-03	Sacred places are incredibly important for patients and families during difficult times. I know that this was and is used as this refuge during very painful periods. Please consider its importance.
Kimberly Larkin	Seaford, NY	2013-08-03	for my nephew Jason
Jennifer Battista	New Hartford, NY	2013-08-03	My nephew Jason Greco spent his last moments on this earth in this garden.
linda burke	beverly, MA	2013-08-03	It is a healing space, and it is historical.
Bettina Chavanne	Springfield, VA	2013-08-03	My dear friend's nephew passed away at only 5 months old at this hospital, and the garden has a lot of meaning for her family.
Susan Graber	Huntington, NY	2013-08-03	For Jason Greco and his family
ann marie larch	warwick, RI	2013-08-03	spent many days there with my daughter in 1982
Barry Paw	Boston, MA	2013-08-03	As a staff physician at Children's Hospital, I have seen the joy and mental respite that patients and families have derived from the Prouty Garden. Please preserve this priceless oasis.
Jacqueline Edwards	Bedford, MA	2013-08-04	People heal faster when they can be in--or even see--nature. Special places are hard to come by.
Arianna Robeson	West Orange, NJ	2013-08-04	Because anything that is built for kids should be cherished and made better.
Marci Occhino	Hoboken, NJ	2013-08-04	Children and nature are important to me. The health of our people and our planet are important to me.
Allison Coy	New London, NH	2013-08-04	The Prouty Garden was an amazing place to get out of the hustle and bustle of the hospital and Boston while our daughter was recovery from heart surgery, it would be a horrible decision to demolition it.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sue Parente	Wayland, MA	2013-08-04	This is part of what makes Boston Children's Hospital so special.
Cheryl Reiff	Jamul, CA	2013-08-04	It's a HEALING space.
D.S. Everett, Jr.	Boston, MA	2013-08-04	The tranquility of green and water. We need more not less.
Alisha Boyajian	Concord, MA	2013-08-05	Our son was a patient at Children's Hospital from 8/8/06 to 8/19/06 when he died. Prouty Garden is the only outdoor space we ever visited as a family. We visit every year on his birthday, when we bring gifts to donate to the hospital in his memory. They CAN'T demolish this beautiful place.
Jennifer Brech	bloomfield, NJ	2013-08-05	Because these people and its all the peace they may have.
Angie Covello	Kearny, NJ	2013-08-05	friends
Brond Larson	Sharon, MA	2013-08-05	When our first child, Emily, was hospitalized at age 2 for several days with a severe infection, she was scared and hurt all the time. The gardens had a visible restorative effect on her once she could move with wheelchair and IV's. I would like to see this wonderful resource remain for future children to find sustenance and peace.
Elaine Duffy	Arlington, MA	2013-08-05	People need nature.
andrew greco	west orange, NJ	2013-08-05	because of the impact Jason Greco had on us all
robert vargas	lemon grove, CA	2013-08-05	because we need to preserve as much green space as we can
Mary Jane Higgins	Brighton, MA	2013-08-05	When I worked at Children's in the 1980s, many of us staff would take a daily lunchtime retreat in the quiet, beautiful garden. This oasis is so unique, and it was so interesting to observe the delicate changes in nature as each day went by. Many little patients also enjoyed sitting in the sun there, letting the garden's beauty and birds help to heal them. I particularly enjoyed witnessing the "preemie grads," who would come back at 1 year, 2-years, and on now big, strong, children--to have their celebrations there. Prouty Garden is a treasure, and Children's must keep it. Perhaps some administrative functions and certain clinics could be located in the Mission Hill area, or Brookline. Please keep looking, and keep this garden!
Rich Garant	Brattleboro, VT	2013-08-06	Time spent there during the summer of 1967
Kesii Kruzel	Pelham, NH	2013-08-06	Well, one of my friends recently went to this hospital for about a week, and I know that she really likes the outdoors so it was very nice when she got to go outside. It would definitely not have been as enjoyable for her to go outside to a huge building; no fresh air, no scenery, no nothing. I also believe that it's good for Boston to have nice gardens, with beautiful memories.
Kay Mathew	Roxbury, MA	2013-08-06	Health and healing is much more than new facilities - green space and beauty are much needed in the Longwood Medical Area. It seems a slap in the face to the Prouty legacy and the historic nature of our city, it was designed by the Olmsted designers. We must save our open spaces and save our history.
Cindy Walsh	Ledyard, CT	2013-08-07	The Garden is essential to the health of both patients and their family's. It is a proven fact that a place such as the garden plays a vital role in the healing process. I believe it also is important for the people that work at Children's to have a place to relax outside. I can not imagine destroying such a beautiful refuge as the garden.
Danielle Charland-Gruhzit	New London, CT	2013-08-07	Healing and the garden is very important as God uses nature and the good outdoors to enrich the soul and help the body heal.



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Debbie Kruzel	Pelham, NH	2013-08-07	When a benefactor gives a gift, they expect that it will be used wisely. This garden has been a point of beauty for countless people, young and old, and should remain a focal point for the Hospital. People are very SMART and I'm sure, with the right group of architects, there can be another better solution created which preserves this historic garden.
Catherine Keesee	Waterford, CT	2013-08-07	Mrs Prouty was made a promise and this garden means too much to too many and should not be destroyed!
Jeanne Fonda	Haverhill, MA	2013-08-07	A spiritual gift for patients to rely upon.
Cassandra Hostetler	Laurel, MD	2013-08-07	The son of family friends had cancer for 2 years and they basically lived at the hospital for months at a time during surgery, chemo treatments, etc. Being able to take Mattie outside where he could get some fresh air and where they could all be outside of the hospital setting, even if only for 15 minutes, was important. When his cousins visited, they could also do something "normal" together, and this was important. further, a space like this in a city is just critical - that area of Boston is very loud, so much traffic, these types of "oases" are really really important.
Susanna Remold	Louisville, KY	2013-08-07	I believe in the importance of natural areas in times of stress. I have worked in the area around BCH, and can testify that quiet green space is an important antidote to the stresses intrinsic to a hospital environment, and to living and working in an urban setting in general. I hope that alternatives that preserve the garden are found.
Karen Daly	Stoneham, MA	2013-08-07	My daughter has been going to childrens hospital since 1971. They have saved her life many times. The one place that she liked was going out into the Prouty Garden...in 2005 she lived at the hospital for 9 months, if it wasn't for her special nurses taking her with them, while they ate their lunch, to the garden, she would not have survived such a long stay. The only way she was allowed out was if a nurse took her to the garden.....The Garden was a safe and happy place to be.....a building cannot replace the joy and happiness, fun and laughter that was always there.
Ellen Tate	Bedford, MA	2013-08-08	My infant grandson had open heart surgery at Children's and this garden has brought many hours of peace and tranquility for our family.
Katherine Traquina	Wayland, MA	2013-08-08	Getting better is more than just a physical status. The Prouty Garden is an escape from the beeping and the dimly lit rooms. It gives the patients a place to be kids again, not just cases.
susan flindt	Manchester, United Kingdom	2013-08-09	because children need gardens
Kari Lerner	Chester, NH	2013-08-11	My daughter was an RN on 7 South Surgical ICE and this garden is an essential place for those patients.
Chelsea Smith	Fitchburg, MA	2013-08-12	The Prouty Garden was a place to escape during all the years I have spent at BCH. During my 3 month ICU stay it was also a place my parents could go to breathe, think, and let go of their emotions. It's a treasure to have and is the one thing that makes us feel normal at the hospital. Being able to go outside and take a breath of fresh air while viewing the beautiful flowers and landscape. Please don't take this away from all of the patients just for the sake of "another" building.
susan hospodka	Rockville Centre, NY	2013-08-14	My friends infant son, who before passing away, was able to spend precious hours in this beautiful garden. It was the only time in his few short months of life that he was able to feel the sunlight and breathe fresh air. Those hours spent in the garden were priceless to their entire family.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jonathan Goodhue	Boston, MA	2013-08-14	Obviously this is both an important historic space and currently an important healing space.
Rob Quinn	Springfield, MA	2013-08-15	The Prouty Garden speaks for itself. The thought of taking this away from the children and families receiving care at BCH is baffling.
Alison Heffer	new york, NY	2013-08-15	Because I am a child life specialist that knows the value of a healing garden
Kathleen O'Leary	Lido Beach, NY	2013-08-16	The Prouty Garden is special to me because my dear friend's baby, Jason Greco, was in the fresh air there for the first and only time in his short life, just moments before he died.
Pamela Zlot	Sharon, MA	2013-08-19	Because children need open a outdoor space to explore especially if they are not well.
Rachel Labella	Franklin, MA	2013-08-19	I have spent many hours in the garden when I was in the hospital as a patient. I enjoyed walking around, getting fresh air and exercise. I go there between appts too. I have been seen in 10 different clinics for 20 years. The garden is a bright spot in some of my toughest days. Save the Prouty Garden!
Paula Belanger	Franklin, MA	2013-08-19	I have spent many days and weeks camped out at the hospital during life-threatening times with my child. The Prouty garden was a true respite and haven for me and for us where we could sit and heal spiritually and emotionally. It is access to peace, fresh air, the beauty of nature. The garden serves as an important part of the hospital's mission of healing. I love the chapel too, but the garden is truly uplifting for all who visit there. Please do not take it away. Prouty Garden is an irreplaceable treasure. Once lost, it is gone forever! Don't loose sight of your roots or reject this gift to the children, their families and those who serve them in the most trying times.
Madelyn Labella	Minneapolis, MN	2013-08-19	Both as an employee and a patient's family member, I loved the Prouty Garden.
Caitiin Doocey	Franklin, MA	2013-08-19	For a child to be forced into the walls of a hospital for long periods of time can be depressing never mind what illness they have. Throughout my childhood I have spent months on months in childrens and on a day when I was able to get up and walk around having a beautiful place to just get a breathe of fresh air made ALL the difference. It's another world in that garden. Allows kids and their families to escape the hospital walls for a bit. Made my stay at childrens more enjoyable aside from the fantastic nurses.
Victoria Budd	Littleton, MA	2013-08-20	After two weeks without sun or fresh air this garden saved my life and gave me hope.
Gene Peterson	Leominster, MA	2013-08-20	Because I am a mom, too, and I firmly believe that Children's Hospital can do better than this!
Leopold Belanger	Franklin, MA	2013-08-20	Save the garden! Honor the intention of the giver of this gift to all the patients and families and staff of Children's Hospital!
Patricia Henley	Weymouth, MA	2013-08-23	My friend Emily lived at Children's Hospital for months while undergoing treatment for leukemia. She loved this garden. It was a beautiful, soothing, uplifting place. This garden holds the memories and spirit of so many children and families who have come here to heal even if their bodies did not. Emily used to say, "they don't understand, we live here" - doctors, nurses, visiting friends, they all get to go home, for Emily and other kids and their parents this was a respite within the hospital. A bit of the outside - a beautiful bit of the outside world. It is a unique space that cannot be recreated.
pamela hathaway	north bend, WA	2013-08-23	Born in Boston, family there since 1600's, love the garden would hate to see it go.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Korinne Van Keuren	San Jose, CA	2013-08-23	I have had the opportunity to take many families and patients from the PICU to this garden. It offered the perfect connection with nature and peace for many families.
Kathy Cooper	Newburyport, MA	2013-08-23	My niece has spent a lot of time in this garden while her son has undergone multiple heart surgeries, catheterizations, and multiple admissions. It's a place of respite for children and their families. Children's will lose a piece of their soul if this garden is destroyed. Nothing will replace it.
Lisa Masotta	Jamaica Plain, MA	2013-08-23	I have seen and heard firsthand how important this healing space is to patients and families of Boston Children's Hospital. We saved Fenway Park; now let's save the Prouty Garden!
Carroll McNeill	Cupertino, CA	2013-08-23	My father was Director of the Children's Medical Center back in the 50's and 60's when this garden was first created, and our family knew Mrs. Prouty well. She would be thrilled to know that a friend of mine, whose child is currently being cared for at BCH, feels the garden has been instrumental in preserving her own sanity and optimism as well as her child's spirits during their extended treatment process. I cannot even begin to fathom how she would have felt to know that her bequest might not be honored and maintained "in perpetuity". As Director, I know that my father struggled with similar decisions related to expansion from time to time. Practicalities are important. But humanity is also important and invariably there is "another way". I sincerely hope that this petition will be considered carefully when alternatives are ultimately being weighed, and that the legacy which was originally intended by this gift will not be dishonored.
Maria Henley	Cambridge, MA	2013-08-23	Patients and hospital personnel need a green space to let their emotions release. A place where a terminally ill child can be wheeled around with a child. A place where parents can talk together - green space is important to LIFE!
John Kane	Boston, MA	2013-08-26	If the price of progress means the demolition of this sacred and beautiful garden, then shame on Boston Children's Hospital.
Jennifer Blake	Hopkinton, MA	2013-08-26	We have been fortunate that our children have not needed prolonged hospitalization at Children's, but we often visited the Prouty Garden after appointments. The girls loved to search the grounds for the "hidden" animals, and it is evident that the Garden plays a vital role at the institution. This resource is irreplaceable. It is my hope that the hospital will respect not only Mrs. Prouty's wishes, but those of many, many others. To destroy the Garden would be unforgivable.
Steven Yakutis	Jamaica Plain, MA	2013-08-26	As a child, I spent 2 summers at Children's (open-heart surgery and meningitis). The Prouty Garden was the most magical place. It was a place to heal.
Betsy Borden	Guilford, CT	2013-08-27	I worked at Children's Hospital for nearly 20 years (1982-2000) for Ophthalmology. The garden is an incredible solace for patients and families. My cousin's son had 3 open heart surgeries and the garden was a god send for them as they endured his recovery. I spent most lunch hours, off hours in the garden. It's beauty and serenity put life in perspective. Please find an alternative to destruction of the Prouty Garden.
Denise Ponte	Northwood, NH	2013-08-28	I worked at Children's for almost 20 years. I saw what a respite this garden is for patients and families. It would be an absolute shame to lose it.
Jules Coleman	Hingham, MA	2013-08-30	it's beautiful
Michael Freeman	Los Angeles, CA	2013-09-05	The Prouty Garden is extraordinary and historic. Its loss would be a tragedy. I do not support the hospital's plans for a replacement.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
sue bright	dorchester, MA	2013-09-05	I have worked in the medical field for more than 28 years. During that time I, among other staff and patients too, benefitted from a short period of time away from the confines of the hospital proper to rest our tired, strung out minds. This "break" often helped the mind to consider other ways of solving problems or coping with situations which could not be changed. Please don't take away a vital part of medical care.
Teresa Roberts	Boston, MA	2013-09-05	As a nurse, I feel that green space is vital for healing. In the city we don't appreciate it nearly enough. There are always reasons to pave over and knock down, but rarely drives to conserve or replant green areas.
Patricia Cloonan	Franklin, MA	2013-09-07	What are you thinking BCH! If you allow this to happen it will signal to me that you are just greedy and truly uncaring...and NOT worthy of any support from me!
Jennifer Jordan	Lowell, MA	2013-09-07	Preserve nature!
John Pautlitz	Wheaton, IL	2013-09-08	Nothing could be worse than to have a sick child, and to have a place to "retreat" to during difficult times would really be great!
jenny thompson	evanston, IL	2013-09-09	In her memoir, Pencil Shavings, Olive Higgins Prouty tells the story about how this garden came to be. She herself lost two precious children and she turned her grief into extensive efforts to provide a comforting place at the hospital--the story is more detailed than this room here allows, but I do hope that the garden is saved!
Jean Ciarlone	Watervliet, NY	2013-09-11	When my grandson was in BCH he loved to go out into the garden. It would be a shame if it was not preserved for the comfort of the children who are patients there and their families. It was wonderful seeing how much he enjoyed being out there and being out of his hospital room for a while.
Kristen Tragethon	Boxford, MA	2013-09-11	This is where my son took his first breath of outdoor air at 3 weeks old. The solace offered in this garden for me and my family during the most trying time of out life is indescribable.. Please consider options that keep the garden alive. Thank you
Jeff Leger	Attleboro, MA	2013-09-13	Because of the kids!
Alex Linder	Cambridge, MA	2013-09-13	My friend is a nurse at Boston Children's hospital and has told me stories of bringing patients outside and how happy it can make them. This garden is sure to offer the same and should be preserved.
Connor Paydos	Woburn, MA	2013-09-13	I think gardens serve as a Eastern influence on medicinal value compared to our Western values. Some treatment involves being at peace and sitting in a garden and relaxing, thinking about nothing but the present moment of beauty.
Collin Spink	Cambridge, MA	2013-09-13	Research has shown that access to green space can have a positive effect on the health and wellbeing of patients, especially for those recovering from serious illness.
Brian Porrell	South Boston, MA	2013-09-13	My sister is a nurse at BCH and is pro-garden. The kids really appreciate the sun on their faces and it is an area where they can actually stop smokers from smoking.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Rebecca Cadigan	Belmont, MA	2013-09-13	My daughter Bridget was hospitalized for the first 119 days of her life. During her stay at Children's Hospital Boston, the Prouty Garden is where my husband and I would go to escape the tubes and wires and beeping monitors. It's where we passed the long hours during Bridget's open heart surgery. We went to the Prouty Garden to pray, to cry, to celebrate, to breathe. I've heard that the new building will allow the hospital to move towards more single rooms, and there would be space for a new and expanded NICU. Bridget spent time in the NICU, as well as on 8 East in a double room: I personally understand the value of these potential improvements. However, the magic of the Prouty Garden is absolutely irreplaceable. Please, please preserve this priceless treasure.
Paul Simard	Billerica, MA	2013-09-13	been there many many times
Emily Hegarty	Brooklyn, NY	2013-09-13	Boston has a sad history of destroying Olmsted gardens.
Kendra Chan	Leominster, MA	2013-09-16	The garden was our only stress relief and peaceful change of scenery during our daughter's 4 month stay. It was also her first time outdoors. Very sentimental and priceless for patients and their families!
Stephanie Gerard	Belchertown, MA	2013-09-17	For the kids!!
Veronica Stearns	Groveland, MA	2013-09-17	this is not fair to the children
Scott Hokunson	Granby, CT	2013-09-17	I believe in the healing and comforting powers of staying in touch with nature and the natural world.
fran sorin	Philadelphia, PA, AL	2013-09-17	Because of the healing power of nature and beauty!
Ute Navidi	Southall, United Kingdom	2013-09-17	the healing power of nature is again undervalued - consider other ways of expanding the hospital
Marijean Stephenson	Martinsville, IN	2013-09-17	As a healthcare provider for well over two decades, and a consultant for the development of evidence-based design Healing Gardens in healthcare facilities, I implore you to save this exemplary garden for the benefit of patients, visitors, your staff, and for everyone around the world who recognize the miraculous connection between nature and healing.
Terri W	London, United Kingdom	2013-09-18	Healing gardens- especially in a hospital environment- are priceless
Whitney Dorer	Portland, OR	2013-09-18	Having used BCH facilities when I was young, this cause is dear to my heart. I cannot believe they would even consider demolishing such an asset to the hospital. This healing garden is being watched by the rest of the world.
Katherine Ziff	Athens, OH	2013-09-18	I am a lover of nature and know how very much difference it makes to children in my counseling practice.
amy michet	Portland, OR	2013-09-18	I believe that nature is healing.
Gay Enright	Pittsboro, NC	2013-09-18	Evidence based studies about the efficacy of healing gardens are finally being released to the public. This garden is a symbol of a new way to treat illness. It's a national treasure.
Suzanne Bott, PhD	Tucson, AZ	2013-09-18	Nature nurtures healing for all - patients, families, staff, practitioners. The Prouty Garden is a precious resource to be treasured and cherished.
Susan Jacobson, FASLA	Glen Eilyn, IL	2013-09-18	A mature landscape is something to be treasured, and is not easily replacable.
M. Greenleaf Garrison	Centerville, MA	2013-09-19	On site therapeutic landscapes for children and family suffering
Marianne Mokrycke	Hamilton, ON, Canada	2013-09-19	As urbanization increases, there are fewer opportunities for the healing respite that nature brings. We look to health care organizations such as Boston Childrens Hospital to be leaders and innovators. The destruction of the garden seems to be a step backward in time.
Lisa Bailey	Sterling, MA	2013-09-19	I design healing gardens and think they are extremely important and deserving of high priority. This one in particular is protected by a promise.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Marilyn Dunckel	Alamo, CA	2013-09-20	Important to keep such national treasures.
renee kraus	chaplin, CT	2013-09-20	having a garden to enjoy while your child is being helped is very important
Jeanie Dunnihoo	Katy, TX	2013-09-23	I see the hard evidence at the recovery center where I teach horticulture & nature to recovering chemical dependant people in the middle of Houston..... Serenity, new beginning, life around us, nurture. It is very important! We have a green house and gardens they come to for another level of counseling.
Ellen Hu	Monterey, CA	2013-09-25	The gardens are a valuable place for healing. Please do not demolish it.
Kathleen Sasonoff	Natick, MA	2013-09-30	I first saw the garden in 1971 when I interviewed for my first position at Children's, and it has been a refuge for both myself and my patients ever since. It offers a peaceful spot for children and families during often overwhelming situations, and an area for staff to regroup during the ever more hectic days. There is no alternative that can adequately replace this sacred space.
Greg Hebert	San Diego, CA	2013-10-02	I am sitting in San Diego's Children's Hospital room with my sick son and looking at a well designed colorful garden which appears to be very well used. I encourage Boston to keep the Prouty garden
Susan Daole	Lexington, KY	2013-10-02	We should treasure and protect our green urban sanctuaries. If the people who are thinking about destroying the garden spent time there, perhaps they could understand the solace and healing opportunities it offers.
Angela Hooper	murphy, TX	2013-10-02	A garden that so much good for patients and their families should not be sacrificed for a building. It cannot be replaced by smaller interior gardens.
Nicholas Reed	Westford, MA	2013-10-02	Shame on BCH and the architects.
Louise Wolfe	Belmont, MA	2013-10-02	I have taught landscape design, and understand the huge emotional value for patients of this outdoor garden to support the well-being of patients and visitors to the hospital. An interior or roof garden does not offer comparable respite.
Sharon Daily	Lake View Terrace, CA	2013-10-02	I am finishing up my thesis which focuses on extending the principles of palliative care into the therapeutic landscape. These gardens provide so much relief to its users that it would be criminal to replace it with a building. And let's face it, a rooftop garden will not offer the same respite as a quiet garden setting.
Donovan Gray	Portland, ME	2013-10-02	Olmsted Brothers were great designers, and this garden is a treasure. You can't replace it.
John Tillotson	Berkeley, CA	2013-10-02	I believe that gardens provide profound health and healing benefits. Unfortunately I also believe that not all corporate health care decisions are made with these benefits in mind.
Julie Crockford	Boston, MA	2013-10-02	The garden has been a place of solace for children, their families, and their caregivers, the staff of the hospital. It has important historic significance, designed by the Olmsted Brothers, successor to Frederick Law Olmsted who designed the famed Emerald Necklace parks just steps from the hospital and executed by Arthur Shurcliff, also a legendary landscape designer responsible for the Kelleher Rose Garden in the Back Bay Fens.
John Furlong	marshfield, MA	2013-10-03	I've spent wonderful quiet restorative time in this garden with my children. It was important that we were outside of the hospital...a bit of freedom from what was going on in hospital
Dave Jackson	Rockport, ME	2013-10-03	I believe strongly on soothing quality of a well-designed garden, so important in this setting in particular. As Director of Camden Harbor Park and Amphitheatre (a National Historic Landmark) I see how it works on a daily basis.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jean McKee	Cheshire, CT	2013-10-03	Having a pediatric surgeon in the family as well as an architect, I know how important a place of quiet refreshment is to the many patients and their families. Also, as an Olmsted cousin, I believe it important to sustain the remarkable works they wrought.
Sean Ryan	Roselle Park, NJ	2013-10-03	Olmsted was one the great genius of landscape design, more so he inventing many ideas some of which are not even fully recognized or appreciated (social engineering, experience planning, concern for the weak and and elderly (ADA), separation of alignment, first overlay methods (GIS)... he invented landscape architecture, etc; thus more than likely some of these unrecognized ideas are present in the design you are will destroy and thus take something irreplaceable away from humanity. Please save this Olmsted Garden.
Peter Ehrlich	Miami, FL	2013-10-03	I love historic gardens. This space is a jewel.
Barbara Restaino	Grahamsville, NY	2013-10-04	As a landscape architect I am keenly aware of the healing properties of sensitively designed gardens. In this case the Prouty Garden is one of the most noteworthy and valuable in the country. As a designer I know that better architectural solutions can be found to integrate this most valuable garden into new construction. It is not an expendable item that can be replaced by so called alternative green spaces. this garden is irreplaceable and important to all who use the Childen's Hospital.
Kathleen P. Galop	Summit, NJ	2013-10-04	Preserving the beautiful things around us is important.
Jeff Tandul	Linden, NJ	2013-10-04	It is a shame how little historical works are valued. This was a gift by a family and designed by Olmsted Brothers. It is a significant work by that historic firm. Potted plants on a roof do not compare. Gardens also have a breaking effect. As a landscape architect and architect I am appalled.
Nicholas Tufaro	North Plainfield, NJ	2013-10-07	Preserving the Prouty Garden not only will restore faith in the hospital administration's promise to the donor but also preserve this important early experiment in the "healing garden" movement. too much of our landscape history is being dismissed in a mistaken belief that expediency trumps careful, environmentally responsible planning and design, something that shouldn't be "cut from any medical center expansion plans.
JOHN D MAXIM	YARMOUTH, ME	2013-10-08	I Gave a large donation to a Non-Profit and they didn't use it per my wishes. So much for restricted gifts that are accepted but wishes not followed.
Laura Bradford	Athens, GA	2013-10-08	As a future historic landscape architect and one interested in healing landscapes, there is great need to preserve not only a healing garden, but one designed by the Olmsted Brothers. They're contribution to the field of landscape architecture is immense and should be preserved whenever possible. This garden is a significant example of the power of healing landscapes, as well, and needs to be saved.
Dina Friedman	Irvington, NY	2013-10-08	Being out it nature is so important for body and soul. Indoor green space does not provide the same respite.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
E Pidgeon	Flagstaff, AZ	2013-10-16	The historic gardens have significance both as the work of the Olmstead brothers, but also based on their important role in the history and function of the hospital. As an architect, I would observe that roof gardens and internal spaces are just that - leftover space. They never achieve the tranquility and sense of place that the existing garden has. This is compounded by the environmental factors that those types of spaces are hindered by. Please retain the original, genuine, and authentic beauty and sense of place embodied in the extant gardens. The disembodied fragments of landscaping proposed to replace them cannot, in fact, replace them. There is no substitution, and the presence of these gardens is not just a tranquil setting - it is a gift to the children, some of whom need respite not just from their ills but also the lack of such tranquility in their lives.
Pamela Williams	Southwick, MA	2013-10-16	Prouty Garden has provided my children and family a beautiful, green, refreshing area to go and sit, to walk and find the statues hidden among the flowers, to listen to birds and see the blue sky. My 8 year old daughter and I go to BCH every 3 months and this garden is a necessary part of our visit for us but especially her. She asked me to write, to try to save the garden. "mommy we have so many memories there. They can't get rid of the garden! What about our TREE?" She has had her picture taken in front of the gigantic, beautiful old tree over the years and we had planned on taking many more! My son, who is now 22 years old, had HIS picture taken in front of that tree over the years of his care and open heart surgery, visiting his many specialists there, and the garden brought happiness to an otherwise stressful or scary visit. Please, don't destroy our garden!
Becky Saas	Denton, TX	2013-10-21	This garden has touched countless lives. My great niece spent most of her life in the hospital and her daily visits to the garden were her brightest times. She loved the garden so much that nurses even helped her visit it one more time before she died. It would be a crime to take away beauty and hope from these children and their families simply because architects don't want to take the time to find a better way!
Linda Gustine	Lancaster, OH	2013-10-21	The garden is beautiful! My granddaughter spent 3 months there and being so far from home, it was a comforting place!
Sharon Belleville	Beecher Falls, VT	2013-10-21	As a parent of a patient I cannot begin to express what an oasis that beautiful green space is for the hospitalized child and their parents/guardians. It is a much needed respite from the interior medical world. Please don't take away this place for the kids to be able to go outside and enjoy the flowers and trees and green.
Jean Neilly	Shrewsbury, MA	2013-10-21	I'm a CH School of Nursing graduate, class of 1959. I care for a child who spent most of her first year of life in Children's Hospital. Her mother tells me that the Prouty Garden her survive.
Cynthia Pennington	Noble, OK	2013-10-22	This spot is important to people I care about so it is important to me. The proposed changes sound all well and good, but, in reality an expanse of land is where the healing begins. They can make an indoor garden where they are now and build their addition on another site.
Annie McMullen	Bristol, RI	2013-10-22	Preserving the beauty of an Olmstead garden is priceless.
Daniel Lyon	Boston, MA	2013-10-22	Established parks are endangered gems that heal - the hospital should help kids' and their families heal here.
Jennifer Bowen	NY, NY	2013-10-24	I have family in the area and specifically a cousin being treated for leukemia



Name	Location	Date	Comment
john carr	canton, MA	2013-10-29	There is a magic and spiritual comfort that resides in this very important place. Of the many children who took comfort here, over a great many years, their voices can still be heard in the whisper of wind amid finely tuned flowers and trees
Karen Weinberger	San Rafael, CA	2013-11-04	It is a beautiful, healing, and precious space.
Jen Berntsen	Southbury, CT	2013-11-13	Because I have heard how this garden has touched so many families' lives when goodness and peace was most needed. A place where spirits are uplifted and wills are strengthened cannot be replaced. The hospital should honor Mrs. Prouty's intentions as a testament to her devotion to the hospital and in the hope that future benefactors will be confident that their donations will be used honorably.
Melissa Connolly	Cheshire, CT	2013-11-13	patients need a place to get fresh air and sun
Kathleen Maloney	Cheshire, CT	2013-11-13	BCH treats the most severe forms of Congenital Heart Defects. Children are fighting for their lives parents clinging to their sanity. This garden is a rare sanctuary from their battles and is beyond priceless.
Kaitlin Fasino	Middlebury, CT	2013-11-13	I hate spent large amounts of time in hospitals before and they gardens there had been my only escape. This escape for those at Boston. should not lose it.
Kimberleigh Kelsey	Ladera Ranch, CA	2013-11-13	Tucker loved this garden along with many others who need a close option to enjoy nature when ultimately there is no getting away.
Laura Shippee Hart	Manasquan, NJ	2013-11-13	One of the biggest components to healing is ones mental fortitude and attitude! Not just medicine... Healing gardens not only help the patients and their families but also the caregivers and doctors in the facilities to recharge and conquer illness! More of these gardens should be created in health facilities, creating green space, reducing carbon footprint, and would actually increase wellness.
Kim Aïmstrom	Huntington, NY	2013-11-13	Please keep the garden for families who are dealing with the worst possible situation for their little loved ones so that they can have some place to feel a moment of peace and happiness. It's of utmost importance for their journey to healing.
Morgan Maschino	Dallas, TX	2013-11-13	My peer and friend passed away at that hospital and I know he loved this garden, as did his family. This is a place where patients can enjoy the elements while being safe from the crazy boston streets. Please keep it.
Madison Runyan	Roundrock, TX	2013-11-13	My friend told me about this, she lost a friend at that hospital, please keep it, it means a lot to the people there.
Gaby Herrera	Whitney, TX	2013-11-13	My roommate told me about this, she lost a friend who stayed at this hospital. Please keep the garden that is so very special to so many patients.
kristin generali	naugatuck, CT	2013-11-13	Healing and nature go hand in hand.
Cheri Maschino	Dallas, TX	2013-11-13	My daughter lost a peer who stayed at that hospital, hoping to keep some beauty around by keeping this garden.
Kallie Maschino	Dallas, TX	2013-11-13	A student from my school passed in that hospital and he loved that garden. Please keep it so that others can enjoy its peace too.
David Lawless	san antonio, TX	2013-11-14	I have known many people who have enjoyed this garden and felt recharged there in the midst of very tough situations
Christine Ardis	McAllen, TX	2013-11-14	Because it's important to children who are sick!
Carly Shapiro	Southbury, TX	2013-11-14	I have a friend who passed away at that hospital and would love to see his favorite garden kept.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Roberta Hall	holmdel, NJ	2013-11-14	While we where at Children's years ago, some of the six hours that we waited for my daughter to come out of surgery, were spent in that garden. It was a reprieve from the room where other anxious parents waited for word of their child coming out of surgery. It helped to take a deep breath and feel the sun's rays away from the stressful environment of the "waiting " room.
Alexa Paola	Middlebury, CT	2013-11-14	I was a patient at Childrens for 6 weeks while having a bone marrow transplant. I enjoyed this garden with family and friends when I could not have visitors inside my hospital room.
Stephanie Klein	Southbury, CT	2013-11-14	Tucker was a boy in my brothers graduating class. I followed his and his famiiys story through his fight through cancer and even now, beyond his passing. His mother and family loved that garden and say it offered them great peace during the times Tucker could go outside and enjoy the fresh air. I am signing this for Tucker and his family.
David Carlson	Jackson Heights, NY	2013-11-14	Parks are precious especially when associated with a hospital. Find another location for the new building.
Jessie Dierdorff	Baltimore, MD	2013-11-14	My closest friend, classmate and neighbor was diagnosed with Leukemia. He fought for months and months to stay strong and beat the cancer that was slowly destroying his body. This garden isn't just a garden. For him and numerous other patients, it's a truly peaceful, happy place where the patients can just relax from all the stress of medicines, surgeries and fighting the battle against Cancer.
Johanna Lent	Rowley, MA	2013-11-14	This garden is more than a piece of land...this garden is hope...it is normalcy, an escape. While living in the hospital for 6 months with my son, the garden provided us with fresh air, the smell of earth, a vacation, even if for minutes, to get away from his room...a place for a family photo...a venue for a fun "I Spy" game...this garden is one of the most wonderful parts of the hospital. Please, don't take it awcy...
meiinda dealmeida	Rowley, MA	2013-11-14	One of the rare times in my son's last seven months we went out there to watch the birds and escape the doctors and nurses for a few minutes. He was there seven month's till he passed away.
Tim Cantin	Stow, MA	2013-11-14	We spent a lot of time in this garden when our son was in patient for seven months getting chemo. Please don't take it away!
Kate Lupoli	Piermont, NY	2013-11-14	Please please please preserve this beautiful place - it is a spot where miracles happen. Where a 5 year old boy can squeak out a smile after living in a hospital for 6 months battling AML. It is a sanctuary and place that brings tears to my eyes when I see a simple picture. Amidst all the uncertainty that surrounds that garden, it is a step away from reality that lets a child feel very much alive and it lets a family reaffirm the belief that somehow, everything is going to be OK. You cannot replace the magic that this place possesses.
Patricia Cook	New Britain, CT	2013-11-14	Places of comfort are very limited in a hospital setting. Green spaces are very necessary for healing. Prouty Garden is such a place.
Carla Panciera	Rowley, MA	2013-11-14	When my daughter was briefly hospitalized, we spent much of our time here -- carried our food out and ate here, strolled, thought of home. Such an important place.
Katharino Eglee	Wallingford, CT	2013-11-14	I graduated from The Childrens Hospital School of Nursing in 1975 and ! saw first hand how much comfort and joy amidst suffering this garden brought to parents, doctors and children
Kimberly Bianco	Brooklin, ME	2013-11-14	Friends of mine have spent many many years at BCH

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Cynthia Hormuth	Boerne, TX	2013-11-14	There is peace within a garden, a peace so deep and calm That when the heart is troubled it's like a soothing balm There's life within a garden, a life that still goes on Filling empty places when older plants have gone There's glory in the garden every time of year Spring, summer, autumn, winter, to fill the heart with cheer So ever tend your garden, its beauty to increase For in it you'll find solace, and in it you'll find peace.
Dorinda Beglin	fairfield, CT	2013-11-14	I was treated at BCH as was my daughter. This was a perpetual gift that obviously has had an impact on many, please let it stand....
Patricia Tervo	Groton, MA	2013-11-14	It's a slice of heaven for patients at Children's Hospital...our friends baby's baptism was held there last month before he went in for heart surgery. Please preserve this precious park!
Patricia Sicard	Tyngsborough, MA	2013-11-14	My son has been a patient several times and this garden has been a haven for us. Please don't destroy it.
Erin Kelley	Pelham, NH	2013-11-14	This is a peaceful place for families to come and collect their thought, prayer for help, rejoice with good news, and a place where sick children can feel "normal" for a short time. Without this garden, there would be a missing place that people count on to help them feel better.
Jessica Kirk	Dunstable, MA	2013-11-14	NATURE is important... it is a special place for families to spend time together.
Melissa Lemieux	Dracut, MA	2013-11-14	&lt;3
Kristen Roberts	Dunstable, MA	2013-11-14	I am supporting Scott Middlemiss who lost a son in September. He spent many days in the hospital and now his baby son Jack has been spending days there with the same condition.
Kathleen Pratt	Tewksbury, MA	2013-11-14	The Middlemiss Family
Lori Coish	Lowell, MA	2013-11-14	I have a child and I know how much he would enjoy the Prouty Garden and he is healthy.
Kristen Britner	Salem, NH	2013-11-14	It is important because my friend's son has had many surgeries at Boston Children's and they have gone to the Prouty Garden just to get out of the room and really enjoy the setting.
Bob McArdle	Dracut, MA	2013-11-14	People that are here at Children's need a place like Prouty Garden for a place to collect their feelings at such a hard time.
Kristine Chabot	Middlebury, CT	2013-11-14	Because I know a young boy that needed that garden to make him feel better - it was the only place he could go too...how could you take it away. ;(
Karen Prouty	Breinigsville, PA	2013-11-14	Because I am a Prouty! And I am from New England, and Boston has a special place in my heart.
Jeanne Molloy	Methuen, MA	2013-11-14	My daughter has frequent hospital stays at Boston Children's. We visit the garden frequently for some serenity.
Ann Hodge	Lowell, MA	2013-11-14	I spent a lot of time at Children's Hospital in the 60's. And 70's. My son, who is now 51, was born with a congenital heart defect and walked near that garden a lot

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Susan Strauss	Tyngsborough, MA	2013-11-14	I know that this garden has been a healing place for a family who has been through so much.
Andrea Brophy	Rowley, MA	2013-11-14	This garden was an oasis during my son's stressful, month-long stay at CHB. Please don't take it away. Don't disregard the healing properties of sunshine, fresh air, flora and fauna. The bodies, minds and souls of patients and their families, as well as the medical staff, need this garden.
Linda Gray	Derby, CT	2013-11-14	Tucker Gowen's Mom said it all.
Jerilyn Silverstein	Rowley, MA	2013-11-14	It is a beautiful place for the children and their families to be able to go. It should not be destroyed.
Lisa Gaumont	Pelham, NH	2013-11-14	It's a great place to go for the patients healing NO building!
Lisa Daly-Gargano	Hudson, NH	2013-11-14	Wonderful childhood memories a great place for kids and families!
Peggy Duffy	Groton, MA	2013-11-14	It was a gift given to others and should stay as such. It's a special place to many who have been confined to the hospital or spent time there with a loved one. I'm sure there is another solution to this
Elise Sage	Glastonbury, CT	2013-11-14	Former employee of BCH, enjoyed watching the kids have some outdoor time while eating lunch in the garden.
Nicole Baker	derry, NH	2013-11-14	its a landmark and makes sick children happy to go see and its wrong to bulldoze something beautiful to make another stupid building
Janice Solomon	Methuen, MA	2013-11-14	The garden brings peace to those patients and families that are struggling with physical and emotional pain. It comforts those that are hurting.
kristen pascucci	north andover, MA	2013-11-14	Because it is important to the Middlemiss Family and that makes it important to me.
Kathy Reynolds	North Andover, MA	2013-11-14	So many people in my life have found solice at this Garden. Those visiting the garden - are hurting - dealing with tragedy. Thank you.
Joan Methot	Tyngsboro, MA	2013-11-14	That little garden is a sanctuary for families going through difficult times at a difficult place. Please don't take that away.
Alison Brock	Alfred, ME	2013-11-14	My nephew was in BCH for a month and was very sick. The park is a refuge for the families and patients to go for some fresh air and sunshine. Please keep it open.
Bernadette Villalpando	Tewksbury, MA	2013-11-14	I spent 8 weeks at Childrens hospital with my daughter. One of the first times I got to walk her we went out to the garden. She died at 10 weeks.
Beth Buck	Methuen, MA	2013-11-14	Thankfully my 4 children have never needed to be admitted to Children's but we have always visited this fountain when we have come to visit friends and family! My kids always wish for their friends/cousins to get well. What will happen if their wishes are taken away?!
James Mathews	Arlington, VA	2013-11-15	As a frequent visitor to the Boston area, I have always been impressed and pleased to find areas of open space and other parks. The Prouty Garden is one of those special areas that should be maintained.
Martha Bedrosian	Jamaica Plain, MA	2013-11-15	I've worked at Children's for many years. The Prouty Garden is truly priceless. It's a refuge for all, but most importantly for patients and parents. It's a haven where stressed and troubled parents can simply enjoy a bit of tranquility and nature. No valid reason exists why it can't be preserved.
Diane Michaud	Chelmsford, MA	2013-11-15	I was one of those parents of a sick child hospitalized at BCH in 1978. I didn't even know about it then but I wish I had, I would have enjoyed it.
Jeanne Dery	Tyngsboro, MA	2013-11-15	The healing power of this garden is important for parents who must stay at their child's bedside. Please use another way to expand.
Nancy Keegan	Groton, MA	2013-11-15	Our Kids need some beauty that is natural when they are so sick!!!!!!!!!!!!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Rev. Terry Burke	Boston, MA	2013-11-15	Because the pavilion in the garden is a place for parents to be with their children when they die.
Linda Vincent	Townsend, MA	2013-11-15	Peace, comfort, and hope are found in gardens.
myra Ierman	BRIGHTON, MA	2013-11-15	We need more green spaces, especially in urban areas, to promote health and wellbeing of all
Jacqueline Hodgkins	Billerica, MA	2013-11-15	I spent a lot of my time walking through the garden during my daughters 3 week stay there. It was one of the only places to get away from the medical environment to forget about how sick she was. I never left that hospital or her side during her stay there. It was a place of serenity and breath of fresh air for me as well giving me the strength to go back into the medical environment after a breather away from it all.
Claudette Maria	Pelham, NH	2013-11-15	This garden is a piece of history endowed as a perpetual place of peace for patients and their families under going treatment at BCH. Please preserve this special space for those yet to come to BCH . Perhaps developing a satellite campus
Allison Hanley	Braintree, MA	2013-11-16	Prouty Garden, especially on a beautiful sunny day, soothes souls and brings smiles to faces of patients and their families, people whose spirits need and deserve to be uplifted. Please don't take Prouty Garden away from them.
Nicholas Pietrowski	Dedham, MA	2013-11-16	I am a Children's patient.
Jill Slocum	Mexico, NY	2013-12-04	This was my sanctuary during Both of my son's bone marrow transplants.
William Prouty	Knowlton, Canada	2013-12-06	It is important that one respect others -- even if they are dead. Many, including Olive Higgins Prouty, have made generous and farsighted contributions to communities. It is a moral and legal outrage that MBAs and developers should set aside the goodwill and benevolence of o others for their own advancement and greed. The fact that every municipality in North America has experienced this wanton valdalism in the cause of personal gain is no excuse for it to happen again. Why can the Massachusetts government deciare these gardens a protected heritage site??
Cynthia Norris	Knowlton, Canada	2013-12-08	Some thing so beautiful, given as a gift to the hospital to help change the minds of the children and there families should not be taken away! No one can really understand the meaning of this garden to these families, unless you experience for yourselves! Put yourself to the eyes of a sick child! The sound and sight of Water has always been known to help with relaxation and peace! These amazing children and there families deserve something meant only for them!!!! Thank you!
MaryEllen Cavella	North Attleboro, MA	2013-12-14	My son Brian enjoys visiting the garden when he has extended stays at Children's Hospital.
Karen Kosh	Norton, MA	2013-12-16	My nephew has extended stays at Childrens hospital. Being able to get outside and enjoy the beauty of the garden contributes to his state of mind and therefore his health and healing.
Graceanne Bowe	Norwood, MA	2013-12-16	Hospitals can be a stressful place, and the garden provides a peaceful sanctuary.
John Stevenson	N. Attleboro, MA	2013-12-16	My friends son love the garden when at the hospital
Saily Alvarez	Plantation, FL	2013-12-16	Every child should have a garden to visit - especially when sick! Don't remove this green space - build somewhere else!
kathryn richards	middleboro, MA	2013-12-17	it's important for the children plus we live in boston history should be preserved and this is hidtory
Marie Alexis	Medfield, MA	2013-12-17	Being outdoors in a beautiful garden is truly medicine for the soul.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Carol Goldman	Watertown, MA	2013-12-18	I think it is important for children, families, and staff to have a quiet healing space in nature. If there are new buildings, they must include room for this garden - even if the garden has to be relocated.
Jenny Eagleson	York, ME	2014-01-01	My five year old nephew has brain cancer and he and his parents have enjoyed reprieve from the day to day struggles in the hospital in the garden. Please consider saving this precious space.
Tammy Gilmore	Somerville, MA	2014-01-02	Both my sister Amy (Trudel) Blanchard and I, Tammy (Trudel) Gilmore enjoyed spending time in this garden with our family and friends during our hospital stays at CHB. This is a wonderful place and I sincerely hope that our efforts in signing this petition will help save the garden and preserve its beauty and peaceful healing powers for the benefit of future patients/families to enjoy.
Amy Warfield	Burlington, MA	2014-01-04	Preserving a garden like this for future generations is an important thing to do, once destroyed it can not be replaced.
MONICA VINASCO	Brookline, MA	2014-01-04	When my son was being treated for leukemia at Childrens, we used to spend time in the garden watching the birds, playing cards or waiting for the Med flights coming in to BWM. IT was precious and I wish for other parents and patients to be able to create memories in this beautiful place.
Michael Elliott	North Aurora, IL	2014-01-04	My cousin's daughter spent the last day's of her life with her family in this beautiful garden
Jena Manthorne	Boston, MA	2014-01-04	For Hannah!
Melissa Materazzo	Westford, MA	2014-01-04	I am a former stem cell transplant nurse. I remember patients being motivated to get up out of bed on days they felt defeated if it meant a trip to "the garden." I even know some patients who were taken off support and wheeled from the ICU so that they could take their last breath in the more peaceful surroundings of Prouty Garden.
Lauren Green	Johns Island, SC	2014-01-04	This was a place of healing and relaxation during a family member's cancer treatments. Please preserve this garden!
Michelle Drake	Dudley, MA	2014-01-04	We spent many hours in the garden while we were at the hospital when my then 5 year old daughter had open heart surgery. The peace and sanctuary of the garden helped us and her recover in a serene place. It would be such a horrible thought that there would no longer be a place like this to other families and patients to enjoy and forget for a brief moment where they are. Please save the garden!!
Paul Cunningham	Arlington, VA	2014-01-04	I understand the healing power of natural settings and the importance of this for families in difficult times. Gardens are life, and hospitals are about saving lives.
BRINDA CONROY	N GROSVENORDALE, CT	2014-01-05	People need someplace to go that doesn't have the medical surroundings sometimes just to regroup.
Dan Eagleson	York, ME	2014-01-06	The Garden served as a point of refuge / reflection for my nephew and his family as he was undergoing treatment for Brain cancer and a stem cell transplant
Alice Eagleson	Kennebunk, ME	2014-01-08	My son spent 2 1/2 months at Childrens during the summer of 2013. During a difficult time, I found the Prouty Garden an idyllic escape from the stresses of a long hospital stay.
Sheree Beaudette	Saco, ME	2014-01-08	My friend's son was there for several months for cancer treatment. Without this oasis to relieve some of the stresses they were up against, their experience would have been that much more challenging. These grounds helped with building much needed strength and hope to the long days.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Lori Nollet	Dover, NH	2014-01-08	A friend of mine recently spent an inordinate amount of time with her sick son. This garden gave the family solace, a refuge, and a break. That small slice of escape can't possibly be replicated in one year as this garden is 50 years in the making with maturity, and love and care. Thank you for listening.
Kaia Vayenas	Portland, ME	2014-01-08	This garden is a serene and convenient green space for patients and their families to relax and get away from the stressful (and sometimes scary to children) atmosphere within the hospital. It was a godsend to one of my friends and her child who was there for over a month, so it would be a tragedy to pave over such a rare gem.
Donna Bessette	Woostock, CT	2014-01-09	A good friend of mine spent the last days before her daughter's death enjoying this garden as a place of tranquility and comfort during a very difficult time.
Allison Bresette	Barnstable, MA	2014-01-09	Nature can heal and feed the soul ..an important part of medicine.
Kathy Sampson Molloy	Kennebunkport, ME	2014-01-09	It is the only fresh air haven for staff and patients and sometimes fresh air and greenery or snow is more important to healing than progress or money.
Lovely dardompre	Weymouth, MA	2014-01-11	I was just recently there visiting the gardens and a friend told me about the proposal to make more space the Children's Hospital. The Garden is such a serene place for anyone, especially for families of sick children as well as to all the little critters that have made their home in and around this most beautiful tree. This Garden brings not only peace, also a wonderful place to come and meditate and I know in most cases has aided in a child's recovery much quicker. Most of us can appreciate change and building to accommodate this change, I do not feel this change will benefit anyone in the long run because it is a natural resource and a magnificent breathtaking tree that has been thriving here for a very long time, It is not causing anyone pain, on the contrary, it is helping all those cope with their pain and also brings smiles and sheer joy on all those millions of children and their families who have been blessed to behold of all its beauty. Not only will the tearing down of this magnificent tree be a devastation to everyone who loves this Garden, it will also be quite a feat in digging it up. We all love this Garden and there is nothing that can or will even come close to being as wonderful as what God has given us here....I am asking you to PLEASE reconsider doing this...I know there are other options out there. Thank you so much for taking time to read this and hope I have made a difference along the way... Sincerely, Lovely Dardompre
Nancy Earnley	Andover, MA	2014-01-15	As a former BCH employee this garden was a true oasis for patients, families and staff alike.
Virginia Woolridge	Annapolis, MD	2014-01-15	Gardens are healing
isham martin	Woodstock, CT	2014-01-17	This space has been sacred to thousands of families that have lived at Children's enduring great passion and suffering with their sick children.
Wilson Martin	Somerville, MA	2014-01-17	As a Boston area landscape architect, I want to see precious open space maintained in the City, particularly as a refuge for cancer patients and their families who endure so much.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Antonia Bellalta	Brookline, MA	2014-01-22	<p>Starting from the fact that bulldozing the garden violates our promise to Mrs. Prouty and the intent of her generous gift, nothing this powerful and magical can ever be reproduced in another location.</p> <p>The journey through Children's Hospital floor full of anticipation to reach the Prouty Garden in itself distracts one from the difficulties in the hospital wards and rooms. It is obvious from all those who have written here that the Prouty Garden is a sanctuary. It should be protected not only from being built over but also the impact of any further building height around the garden.</p> <p>Our stay at Children's Hospital for almost 6 weeks was eased by the Prouty Garden. The freedom and happiness the Prouty Garden contributed to our son's successful treatment in curing his Leukemia. There is no doubt. I was asked by a family, whose stay started 2 weeks after us, what we were doing right because our son obviously was happy and bearing all the treatments with fantastic spirits. "The walk to the Prouty Garden everyday" I responded. There was a Prouty Garden following from 7W. I believe that Mrs. Prouty knew exactly what she was contributing to many, oh so many lives. The Prouty Garden should remain because of its value to patients, families and staff and as a testament to Mrs. Prouty. Without the Garden, Children's Hospital's heart and soul will undoubtedly change.</p>
Josephine Bellalta	Oak Park, IL	2014-01-22	For the children, priceless design by well know on designers, timeless
Sandra OBrien	Portsmouth, RI	2014-01-22	My son was diagnosed with Leukemia in 1988. This Garden was a place I could go for peace and inspiration. To change this garden to make room for a building would be a travesty.
Angela Bellalta	South Bend, IN	2014-01-23	Because it's a peaceful and beautiful place. Don't we have enough buildings already?
Jennet cook	pittsfield, MA	2014-01-23	Boston needs to maintain as much green space as possible so it never becomes an ugly city like so many others.
Lori Sukalas	kennebunk, ME	2014-02-03	Family I know has spent a lot of time at the Pediatric Cancer Center. They told me how important this piece of quiet space was for them in their time of need. I want to see it continue for other families in need.
Leah Gucciardi	st. Pete beach, FL	2014-03-17	<p>I grew up in the boston area. Something I miss most from home is the endless variety of trees and the recognition of their importance to the overall health and well being of an area's inhabitants, large and small. In this day, we are privy to the abundance of research which shows that rates of healing and health are greatly affected by the surrounding atmosphere in which life aims to take place. Hospitals aim to heal and improve the health of their patrons, Prouty Garden is an active agent in the mission of Boston Children's Hospital. The removal of such a vital component of the grounds could be likened to the purposeful destruction of a body's vital organ by an organization that prides itself on administering help to the sick and dying. for the sake of all the young patients who will enter bch's doors and care in the future, I sincerely wish that Prouty Garden remains standing for years to come.</p>
Molly Moniere	poitsdam, NY	2014-05-01	This garden was the only good memory i have from my surgery in 2006. It would be extremely sad to that happy place disappear for future patients and families.
Gina Berrios	Watervliet, NY	2014-05-11	This was where my son Maxwell Berrios was able to come outside while hospitalized for 13 months. It was the first time he put his feet in the grass, touched a flower, saw a bunny and many other firsts. Please do not take this away!!!



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Robert Mashek	Billings, MT	2014-05-11	After my son's open heart surgery, this was his first chance to get outside, and the look on his face was priceless!! We've spent the last 2 days trying to get him up and moving, but once we hit the doors to the garden he hasn't stopped walking! And in our short time out here, watching other kids' reactions are just as priceless! It would be a tragedy to lose something so beautiful and helpful for these kids.
Ra Sheridan	turner, ME	2014-05-12	Because so many sick babies/children come to that hospital, and stay there for long periods of times, and some never get to leave. This is an area for the patients and families to enjoy the outdoors. A little piece of heaven for them.
Tiffany Ray Wolfer	Cutler Bay, FL	2014-05-12	Mighty max.. For being the light at the end of tunnel. To keep the 4 walls from caving in.
Daniella Manea	Otsego, MN	2014-05-12	Beauty is vital to the healing process. It tells us that life is worth living. Please keep the Prouty Garden. It is where my daughter first saw the world outside the hospital walls.
Cindy Paine	Scarborough, ME	2014-05-12	It is the only relaxing place to go if your family is at the hospital. Having spent both Easter and Mother's Day at CHB this year, the Prouty Garden has been a lifesaver for me!!
sandra stallone	Apopka, FL	2014-05-12	It provides rest and relaxation for all who go there
Jamie Anastas	Seattle, WA	2014-05-12	Just being outside can be healing - this should not be forgotten.
Fríða Björk Arnardóttir	Reykjavík, Iceland	2014-05-12	My daughter loves going to The Prouty Garden when she's a patient at Children's and its a haven for us.
Carter Snow	Rye, NH	2014-05-13	Asannoncology patient here at Children's Hospital, the Prouty Garden has been important in my recovery. Please don't take this away!
Caitlin O'Hara	Boston, MA	2014-05-13	I have Cystic Fibrosis and have been a patient at Children's for 28 years. I walked in the Prouty Garden on chest tubes after surgery when I was 11 years old. I was in the hospital for months, no one could believe I was walking around with chest tubes. The garden was a haven, beautiful, and quiet and old fashioned in a way that is slow and comforting. I am currently waiting for a lung transplant and when I get admitted I now, as an adult, go to the Brigham. Everyday I am in, my mom, friends, or boyfriend will take me over there. There is nothing like it. I went there 2 weeks ago, before I knew that it was in danger (I just found out!) I walked around the whole place twice, pushing my wheelchair instead of being in it, and it was quite honestly the nicest moment I have had in 6 months. This garden is special because it is a real garden. It is ground level, it feels like real life, it is beautiful and represents the old fashioned part of Children's hospital that is comforting somehow. I can't express enough how important it is to keep it, its one of my most treasured places and has gotten my family through a lot. I have been to rooftop gardens both at UPMC and MGH, and while pretty, they are nowhere near as cathartic. Thank you, please please please consider that the healing effect of one small garden can and might benefit everyone in far greater ways than any building might, or any larger hospital rooms, or any more spacious area. Find another way. Keep it. Please.
Kenley Bradstreet	New York, NY	2014-05-13	for caitlin
Laura Kelly	Ashland, MA	2014-05-13	My friend, Caitlin, has found respite in this garden since she was 11 years old. Sometimes it was the only outdoor space she saw for weeks. She still visits the garden when she goes for her adult visits at the Brigham. There cannot be anything more important to put in this space than something to nourish, inspire and soothe the human soul...so much a part of healing.
Alex Wayman	Boston, MA	2014-05-13	Ms. Caitlin O'Hara's continued enjoyment through her battle with CF.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Meg Heneberry	Waltham, MA	2014-05-14	Being in the hospital for 6 month at a time is unbearable. The garden is my one relief and as a patient with CF, that fresh air can do wonders. Build somewhere else dont take this from your patients...extremely selfish and not thinking about patient welfare!
Janet DeHora	Australia	2014-05-14	My cousin Caitlin O Hara says this
Melissa D'Alio	Mendon, MA	2014-05-14	I walked through this beautiful garden many times as an employee and heard many wonderful stories about my dad finding comfort here while going through cancer treatment with my brother, it is a healing place that should be saved!
Victoria Cooper	Westmount, Canada	2014-05-14	Because a beautiful friend has had some very unpleasant times made better in this cherished escape of a garden.
Sydney Turner	Framingham, MA	2014-05-14	This garden has brought peace and comfort to so many. Spending days, weeks, or even months in the hospital is debilitating and depressing, no matter how wonderful and kind the staff is. Being able to walk amongst the trees and grasses (or even in the snow) brings a sense of healing and peace that nothing else can bring. Please do not raze this garden for yet more buildings. Preserve the legacy endowed by Mrs. Prout.
Linda Walker	Gainesville, FL	2014-05-14	Oasis for the ill. Everyone needs that!
Dawn Tringas	Brookline, MA	2014-05-14	It's hard to even express my sadness at the loss of this beautiful haven for the young ones who are suffering - and healing - at the most amazing Children's Hospital in the world. Please preserve the garden. Find a way to heal body and spirit without losing this special place.
paula baker	convent station, NJ	2014-05-14	Our son, Ryan was once a patient at Boston Children's Hospital. This garden is truly a very special place. Please, Please, Please don't ever change this beautiful, peaceful garden!!!!
Liz Petrell	Plymouth, MA	2014-05-14	When I was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, my week long stay at Children's Hospital Boston was made much better by having the peace and tranquility and fresh non-hospital air of the Prouty Garden.
Janelle Quinn	Weymouth, MA	2014-05-14	I would love to see the hospital build around it so both the public and the patients can enjoy it.
Mieke ten Have	Brooklyn, NY	2014-05-14	For Caitlin O'Hara
carolyn crandall	brooklyn, NY	2014-05-14	It is important to a friend
Catherine M Dirlam	Ashland, MA	2014-05-14	It is important to me because it is important to my niece who has CF and has used this garden as it means a lot to her to know that nature is actually going on even though she has to be in the hospital. A very tranquil setting for the patient to visit. Squirrels, mice, chipmunks won't be in a rooftop garden
Marilyn Thomas	Walnut Creek, CA	2014-05-14	This garden cannot be duplicated elsewhere. It is the heart of the hospital with healing taking place in it every moment. Healing not only occurs with patients, families, friends but with the staff who are renewed when returning to serve the patients. I believe strength comes from within....the inner strength to live each day in face of serious, life threatening illness can be found in THIS garden as Mrs. Prouty well knew. Please find alternatives for the building. PLEASE!
Dympna Smith	Mashpee, MA	2014-05-14	Because of the HEALING and Peace medical hands cannot give.
Marcia Volk	Ashland, MA	2014-05-14	I agree with the idea of bulldozing this beautiful garden is a travesty, abhorrent and a breach of promise to Mrs Prouty. It is a beautiful oasis of healing in the dry arid surroundings of illness and hospitals.
Mary Delaney	Whitman, MA	2014-05-14	sometimes nature can heal in a way that medicine can not we need to preserve this beautiful healing place

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Esther Salmon	Dedham, MA	2014-05-14	This garden provides a peaceful sanctuary for patients and should be preserved.
emily jackson sanborn	orono, ME	2014-05-14	The lure of pouty garden was the only thing that got my daughter to try and practice in her wheelchair after hip surgery. Please don't get rid of this treasure!
Amy Richards	Biddeford, ME	2014-05-14	Kids need green spaces, especially sick and healing kids.
Redmond Grigg	Chapel Hill, NC	2014-05-14	A friend's daughter just had surgery there and the only thing that lured her to go out and try her new wheelchair was to take it through Prouty Garden. With so many sanctuaries in this world already removed, please keep this one!
bette troy	southborough, MA	2014-05-14	It is a healing and sacred place, a haven for children & families
Claire Miller	Glen Burnie, MD	2014-05-15	so many cannot enjoy the things most of us can. This part is a place of comfort for so many, especially the young who need the comfort of as close to a normal life as possible.
Sharon Nickles	Perkaswie, PA	2014-05-15	It may not fit "practical," but it does fit into the categories of nurturing, healing and spiritual - which are all the most beneficial for helping a child heal.
Kathleen Stinehelfer	Burlington, NC	2014-05-15	Beautiful garden spaces should be preserved especially since this is an important part of the Children's Hospital!
Jeremy Powell	Providence, RI	2014-05-15	My close friend's child had hip surgery at the hospital recently. Being wheeled around the garden was so important to her recovery. It's a severe mistake to think that eliminating this garden could possibly "improve" the hospital. This is a health issue, not a cosmetic one.
Anna Divecchio	Northborough, MA	2014-05-15	I remember it from when i did my nursing school training there.
sarah vandeusen	marietta, GA	2014-05-15	to preserve nature in an urban environment. it is a peaceful, serene environment for those in a chaotic state of body and mind.
Margaret Bourque	Waterboro, ME	2014-05-15	This garden gave my recently operated on G.Niece a reason to smile & be encouraged to participate in activities to help her recover
Amy Cavers	San Carlos, CA	2014-05-16	Wellness and health need medical and non medical approaches - mind, body & spirit. Keep The Garden to help more people!
Dan Hore	Ireland, Ireland	2014-05-16	Ca:llin O'Hara, my niece is an inspiration to us all here in Wexford Ireland.
Jessica Keener	Brookline, MA	2014-05-16	I was a patient at Children's many years ago and I know how this garden can truly make a difference in healing. It's wrong to bulldoze this treasure. Architects can do better. This is a shortsighted thing to ruin what has given so much over decades, it also destroys the beautiful will and intention of the donor.
Kathleen Crowley	Belmont, MA	2014-05-16	I spent so much time in this garden over the many years I was in and out of children's hospital as a patient. It made a huge difference to me and to my family. My mother was an active member and past present of the Children's Hospital League for many years and my parents donated generously to the hospital. Please find a way to keep this garden.
Denise McFall	Clay Center, KS	2014-05-16	Having your child in the hospital is an emotional and physical ordeal. There needs to be a place for solace. This was an area PROMISED to the Prouty family to be maintained as long as their were children to be cared for. Breaking this promise will also jeopardize other gifts to you in the future!
Jean Frazier	Boston, MA	2014-05-16	I was born at childrens, and The gardens are such a special part of the hospital, nothing better then natural beauty
Vernon Turner	framingham, MA	2014-05-16	This is a gift from Mrs Prouty. It's a powerful part of healing for everyone. Take this away and BCH shows that they can't keep promises.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Barry McSweeney	Derry, United Kingdom	2014-05-16	Studies of green areas and their health benefits show that hospital patients who were able to enjoy a view of nature recovered from gall bladder surgery more quickly and required less pain relief or anxiety medication and also showed fewer complications and complaints.
Christine Hamilton	Hopkinton, MA	2014-05-16	More healing happens in a garden, than any other place on earth.
Karen MacEachern	Newton, NH	2014-05-16	Anything that contributes beauty and hope to this world should be protected.
lori stevenson	larchmont, NY	2014-05-21	my nephew died at childrens-- i know that my sister spent many hours strolling here... it gave her much needed respite.
Mary Aguilera	Cincinnati, OH	2014-05-22	Having spent time at a childrens hospital, its important to have a quite place to sit and not have to go away from the hospital to have a place to tune in to nature.
Huw Powell	Lee, NH	2014-05-22	Dawn redwood should not be cut down. Neither should parks.
cindy guerry	panama city, FL	2014-05-22	Because we are looking too many beautiful places of comfort and peace where families can come to be together to a little fun or quiet time. No erection of concrete and steel can provide what blue skies ans trees can!
paula attridge	westwood, MA	2014-05-29	This is a historic garden. It should not be destroyed for yet another building. There are plenty of other locations that would serve for this type of purpose. Enough destruction of historical beauty!!!
Patrick Armstrong	Ithaca, NY	2014-05-30	The Garden has been a beautiful place to enjoy a warm day, sit and reflect on my work and research, or join my coworkers in a jovial lunch.
Susan Kindstedt		2014-06-09	My daughter is an oncology patient at BCH. Nothing brings her more joy than a stroll through the Prouty Garden during one of her many long inpatient stays and even more day treatments. I am not exaggerating when I say that her heart would be broken if the garden were demolished. The patio space on the new 6th floor wing pales in comparison to the natural beauty of the trees and open green grass of Prouty.
Ashley Wietsma	Boston, MA	2014-06-12	I love seeing patients enjoying the sunshine and garden with their families, playing games with their nurses, and just having the opportunity to feel like normal kids.
Matt and Lisa Peterson	Watkinsville, GA	2014-06-14	Our daughter Lauren is currently in Boston Children's Hospital recovering from pial synangiosis surgery. Our family, including Lauren, has visited Prouty Garden multiple times each day. It is a place of peace amidst a concrete jungle. It gives us the chance to breath fresh air and get away from all of the electronic invasions into our lives. To destroy Prouty Garden would be a travesty. We understand the need for more beds, but please do all you can to preserve Prouty Garden.
Noreen Jonson	Dedham, MA	2014-06-18	My daughter is a CF patient who frequently is hospitalized at CHB. She is confined to her room, except when accompanied to the garden by a nurse or nurse's assistant. It is the only thing that keeps her going. In fact, when she ewas 11 she wrote a beautiful poem about the garden that reveals what it means to her. ! would love to share it with the Hospital.
Chris Selland	Burlington, MA	2014-07-15	Thanks Jen!
Joy King	Raleigh, NC	2014-07-15	this is a national treasure
Diane Werner	Temperance, MI	2014-07-15	A building should NEVER replace the calmness and beauty of this Garden.
Catherine Marenghi	Marblehead, MA	2014-07-15	Historical legacy from Olmsted is priceless.
Tim Zenchenko	Austin, TX	2014-07-15	Our daughter spent first 5 weeks of her life at Boston Children's Hospital, and the Prouty Garden is where she first experienced the outside world.
Jack Manoli	Needham, MA	2014-07-15	My baby's lunch spot

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Nicole Dunleavy	Midlothian, VA	2014-07-15	This is a beautiful garden and is so helpful to the children! Don't tear it down!!
ellen gilliam	portland, ME	2014-07-22	Open space outdoors is essential to healing.
Brad White	Rochester, NH	2014-11-03	John Bradley Tompson
Stepanie Wiseman	Longmeadow, MA	2014-11-03	It was a great place for famly to go to when my Cousin was there for treatment
Julianne Holmen	Plymouth, MA	2014-11-03	Is nothing sacred anymore? All for the buck, let's stop and remember that this is about sick children where the act of just sitting outside and hearing the wind blow or seeing a bird fly can make or break their spirit. Shame on you for threatening to take away something so precious.
Michael Damon	Pembroke, MA	2014-11-03	Over the years that my son required multiple visits and testing at Children's Hospital, the garden was tranquil escape for him in the family. Mrs. Prouty's wishes should continue to be honored.
jane campbell	waterloo, Canada	2014-11-03	Gardens help maintain human health
CArol Taylor	Rothosat, Canada	2014-11-03	This particular has many uses beside clean air for it's users. Would you bulldoze Central Park? NO, it's haven and so is this. Use a plan that includes the garden.
Montserrat Vera-Llonch	Boston, MA	2014-11-03	It is good for patients, it is good for families, it is good for providers, a place to think and get recharged when faced with difficult situations that many families face
Thomas Maloney	Hingham, MA	2014-11-03	This garden gave me peace and comfort during the week my child was at Children's Hospital when they were testing her and thought she might have a broken neck after a horse riding accident. Please keep this beautiful place!!
Charles Casano	Astoria, NY	2014-11-03	Kim
Rosi Jory	Saint John, NB, Canada	2014-11-03	A garden is a living thing, a building is not.
Phyllis Brace	Avon Park, FL	2014-11-03	Gardens provide an essential oasis of healing in the sea of trauma that accompanies modern medical atmospheres.
Brian Shea	Everett, MA	2014-11-04	...lots of surgeries at Children's as a kid-the garden was an escape for me.
Sandra Stowe	Portsmouth, NH	2014-11-04	the designer and the benefits for people at the hospital!
Liz Higgins	North Hampion, NH	2014-11-04	i want to honor a very special little girl who feels the Prouty Garden is important to save and all the others before and after her who have found beauty, peace and strength in the garden during their healing.
Jason Kindstedt	Rye, NH	2014-11-04	My daughter and son are and have been patients. The garden is a very special place for my family. As a professional landscaper I feel the character could never be replicated in a roof top patio. It is a protected oasis that allows the children to feel they have left the hospital. The beautiful mature Metasequoia dawn redwood is spectacular and it would be a tragedy to cut down or damage. My daughter that has had eight surgeries and spent weeks at Children's would be heart broken to see anything happen to change the garden. It has provided much needed bright spots in some very dark times.
Kristi Cunningham	Rock Hill, SC	2014-11-04	Some children love to hang out there after treatments.
Caro! Stowe	Rye, NH	2014-11-04	i have spent countless hours in that garden with my 1 and 6 year old grandsons while their 8 year old sister is treated for cancer at BCH. Please, please let it be. It is priceless.
Linnea Rego	Salem, MA	2014-11-04	We spent so many hours there playing cards, coloring and healing. What a perfect piece of heaven during a trying time.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Nanci Streit	Springfield, MA	2014-11-04	I am signing because Prouty garden was the one place of peace during a time of great fear and pain for my family as we watched my infant daughter struggle to survive a very complicated heart surgery...one from which she almost did not survive....she's almost one now and we have many more appointments to come to throughout her lifetime. Prouty was there for myself and my for other children while she was originally hospitalized during the cold months of February and March and some of April. Prouty Garden was there again to welcome us during a three day emergency stay when her pulmonary artery almost closed completely...and then again for a surgery to fix it...we have enjoyed the four seasons in Prouty Garden....it's the only positive of our stays at Boston children's..my healthy children need Prouty, to find a place of relief and peace during what is otherwise a traumatic experience...we hope that Prouty will be there still as our youngest daughter grows so that she may have a place of solace and joy amidst her pain..please do not change Prouty.
Nigel Whitehead	Ely, United Kingdom	2014-11-04	To destroy this wonderful garden would be an abomination. PLEASE reconsider!
Marsha Thibodeau	Rye, NH	2014-11-04	I know family who have found the only solitude in their medical battles was to go sit in the garden for a time out. A peaceful. forgiving atmosphere.
Jean Kindstedt	Rye, NH	2014-11-04	We are currently down at Children's off and on for treatment for our 8 year old granddaughter. This is a place of quiet and being able to have a brake from all that is going on and renewing of strength to carry on with the day in and day out challenges. Please find another alternative.
Jennifer branch	Kingston, NH	2014-11-04	I'm signing because the garden was the only bright spot on the many hospital stays my dear friend has while battling cancer.
Pamela Davies	North Chelmsford, MA	2014-11-04	A friend of mine says this garden space was very important to her son and herself as he underwent treatment for leukemia, and I would like it to be available for other patients for those same needs.
Marsha Elixson	Lilburn, GA	2014-11-05	I am a Children's Hospital SON graduate who spent many hours in the Prouty Gardens with children recovering from cardiac surgery. It was peaceful and the children loved it.
Beverly Levesque	Rye, NH	2014-11-05	This garden has provided peace and healing to my friend whose 2 children have cancer. Please preserve and maintain this beautiful place
Patricia Roberts	Boston, MA	2014-11-05	I am a recently retired RN, after 43 years, at Children's Hosp. and love the spirit & energy that the Prouty garden gives to children, their families, and the staff.
sue gray	rye, NH	2014-11-05	support of Amy Kinstead
Barbara duckett	Dublin, NH	2014-11-05	the children need this outdoor space. I am a pediatric nurse
Leah Rodgers	Starkville, MS	2014-11-05	The Prouty Garden was an Oasis for our family during our LONG 6 month stay in Boston. My infant son's first taste of fresh air came from a walk in that garden. We had his 6 month photos done in the Prouty Garden. His 2yo big sister (who was with me THE ENTIRE 6 months) had so much fun running and playing and meeting other children in the garden. The garden is a sanctuary from the cold, hard, darkened rooms where kids who are on the mend can remember what being a kid feels like for a few minutes while they get better. Its a place where I could sit and watch kids play when my own son was paralyzed after surgery to remind myself that he would be out there again one day. Its a place where sick kids can meet and run and play like "normal" kids, if only for a while. Its a place that parents can seek each other out, even when they might only nod in the halls on the way to and from the cafeteria at any other time. The Prouty Garden is such a special place. Please let us keep it!!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Diane Holborow	Wyckoff, NJ	2014-11-06	I will never forget taking an infant on oxygen and cardiac monitors out to this garden for her first and only time outdoors in her short life.
Irina Salimov	Woonsocket, RI	2014-11-06	I spent a great deal of childhood in hospitals and having a garden to escape to and truly rest is a gift. I also have a cousin who has been sick all her life and has spent tremendous amount of time in Boston Children's hospital who is well acquainted with this garden and is fighting to keep it preserved.
Emily Kempthorne	Swampscott, MA	2014-11-06	Green space is imperative for healing
Shannon Moloney	Garden, MI	2014-11-06	Having been a hospital patient many times, even as a child, I understand the important of having access to nature. It is one of the best, simplest ways to aid in healing and improve a patient's outlook and quality of life. ESPECIALLY for patients and staff who otherwise spend their time in the sterile, chaotic, oft-depressing walls of a hospital. Rooftop gardens are lovely and I hope they are built, but nothing can replace being able to lie in actual grass on actual dirt under an actual tree. Please keep this park open!
John Peters	Scituate, MA	2014-11-07	I love the Prouty Garden
Karen Maguire	Northboro, MA	2014-11-07	Patients and visitors need this garden much more than the hospital needs more buildings.
Paula Warner-Southard	Jefferson, NH	2014-11-07	A young brother was a patient at BCH at about the time the garden opened. My parents found comfort there. My sister is a graduate of BCH; I would like to support retention of this lovely place.
Nancy West	Milton, NH	2014-11-07	I am an alumni of Children's Hospital School of Nursing. This Garden is such an important place for patients to feel peaceful and see the beauty of nature in what is otherwise a more sterile environment when dealing with a serious illness. Please do not destroy this wonderful tranquil space which helps with the healing process and is a place of reflection for patients and their families.
Sandra Shepheard	Braintree, MA	2014-11-08	As a CHSON graduate I always felt the Prouty garden was a peaceful healing place in the middle of all the pain, sorrow & confusion.
Tobias Neff	Denver, CO	2014-11-08	Prouty Garden is the subject of happy memories from my days as a resident, fellow and junior faculty at BCH. I know the same holds true for many colleagues and more importantly, patients and families.
Rosa Vera-Junyent	Spain	2014-11-08	For the patients, families and staff of the Children's Hospital, to enjoy it.
chris doktor	ipswich, MA	2014-11-10	This garden gave respite to our daughter for 6 years during her treatment for leukemia while at Children's Hospital.
Samantha Waldron	Brooklyn, NY	2014-11-10	I'm signing in honor of Molly Hanna.
Andrew Johnston	Stow, ME	2014-11-10	My cousin experienced this garden before the cancer she had got the better of her. Please preserve this garden!
Doug Brown	Cambridge, MA	2014-11-10	Because we need to heal the mind as well as the body.
Rick Roth	Pawtucket, RI	2014-11-10	Molly Hanna!!!!
Julie Sutula	Cambridge, MA	2014-11-10	for Molly Hanna
Elizabeth Jones	Lynn, MA	2014-11-10	I know firsthand how crucial these open green spaces are to the well-being of both patient and caregivers. Please, keep your promise. Additionally, you may not receive any more gifts if people know that you won't honor their agreed-upon gift-giving wishes.
Amanda Gase	Cambridge, MA	2014-11-10	Molly Hanna
Gail Fanning-Grove	Somerville, MA	2014-11-11	I was a 7 year old who was a patient in Boston Childrens Hospital in 1957 Hospital
Susan Ruff	Cambridge, MA	2014-11-11	The children need this beautiful, healing, peaceful space.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Susan Fleischmann	Cambridge, MA	2014-11-11	The Longwood Medical area is a place of infinite possibilities and hope - but it can also be cold and scary and removed from all that is beautiful and wondrous in nature. Please maintain what little of that there is - preserve the Prouty Garden.
Timothy Lee	Lexington, MA	2014-11-11	Important boston landscape worth saving for history
Lia Field	East Lansing, MI	2014-11-11	My baby was born with a heart defect that was repaired at BCH. Before the surgery and during her recovery the garden was a wonderful place for us to seek solace and get our sweet baby fresh air and sunlight. The baby bunnies and chirping birds lifted our spirits during a very difficult time!
damien mcnelly	Virserum, Sweden	2014-11-11	I believe this is needed.
Ann Smith	Cambridge, MA	2014-11-11	I worked at Dana Farber for many years and ate many lunches in the Prouty Garden. There were always so many patients, families, and employees enjoying sitting in the sun, being outside, looking at the lovely flowers and trees. The area around Children's is a concrete jungle. If this oasis goes, it is not replaceable.
Lia Goldstein	Takoma Park, MD	2014-11-11	This was a special place for a friend.
Kali Potito	York, ME	2014-11-11	Sister was in childrens hospital for 38 days, this garden helped us get through the hard time and was a great stress relief to be out there and to enjoy the fresh air and beautiful flowers grown there. This garden means a lot to so many patients and their families.
Suzan Potito	York, ME	2014-11-11	I am signing this because I spent many days in this garden with my husband praying that my daughter would wake up and just smile at me! We walked, prayed and cried in this garden. When she did wake up and was able to go out, we would come and sit in the garden. We would play cards and take naps. She would do her PT around the walkways! This garden is an essential part of the healing! It needs to stay right where it was meant to be! Please do not destroy this beautiful garden! Thank you, Suzan Potito
Brian Connelly	Portland, ME	2014-11-11	I spent many days in the hospital as a child and this space (and others like it) were just so memorable and helpful to me and my family during those times.
Ginger St Clair	York, ME	2014-11-11	Beauty reflected in the tranquility of nature is healing, life giving and sustains both the family and the patient.
sandra Wooldrige	Peabody, MA	2014-11-11	i have taken many patients there, some of which it was their first time seeing the outside world. Also has been a place where patients can burn off energy when inpatient for so long. Lastly it is. Beautiful place where some of our patients have chosen as their last place they see alive. I have memories of special people in that garden would hate to see it lost
Nancy G	Somerville, MA	2014-11-11	For Molly...and all the other beautiful children. xo
Shelby Spencer	York, ME	2014-11-11	During my friends 36 day hospital stay, this was an outlet of peace for her mother.
Talia Pappas	Cape Elizabeth, ME	2014-11-11	My cousin was in the hospital for 40 days. This was the one place my aunt was able to get away from the medical equipment and relax.
Danielle Garry	York, ME	2014-11-11	The prouty Garden was a huge part of my life during my time spent at Boston Children's! It was the slice of fresh air and color that kept me fighting!!



Name	Location	Date	Comment
Patrick Swanson	Mashpee, MA	2015-01-02	<p>The decision to destroy Prouty Garden is universally reviled and hated by everyone I have talked to at BCH. Not one of the many doctors, nurses, and support staff I have spoken with think its a good idea.</p> <p>We are here frequently, and often for several days or weeks at a time, and Prouty Garden is a place where my daughter gets refreshed after days of being couped up in the ICP. SHe cannot speak vocally, but her smile at seeing the majestic dawn redwood, or seeing the birds, rabbits, and squirrels in the garden speak volumes. I know that it is a wonderful place for many other patients as well.</p> <p>Boston Childrens Hospital has been making many changes in the last couple of years, most negative. Eliminating the CVS (where else can you get toiletries after an ambulance ride in, or a cheap bag of chips without walking to the CVS at the far end of Longwood Galleria), taking away the Dibblededop machine, which everyone loved (my 9 year old misses the Dibblededop machine but thinks the giant new screen with Kinect sensors is lame), no more artwork in the lobby, and other changes have made the hospital much more sterile and austere.</p> <p>It seems the administration is more concerned with being cool and winning awards from US News than the quality the patients care and experience.</p> <p>Even the name change from Childrens Hospital Boston to Boston Childrens Hospital, is disturbing as it takes the focus off Children first and in requires a lot of resources that could have been utilized for patient care (like feeding pumps that will pump a ketogenic diet formula).</p> <p>I am whining a lot, but it seems like the things that kids loved most about this place, that distinguished Children's from other hospitals, are all going away, and BCS is speedily becoming just like every other sterile, austere hospital.</p>
Wendy Fazio	Naples, FL	2015-01-02	This is a priceless area of serenity for children, staff and family.
Melodie Andrews	Kingston, MA	2015-01-04	I feel this space needs to be preserved for the many people who benefit from it. It is a happy place for the families and children who need some joy.
Jill Birchfield	Bristol, VA	2015-01-07	I hate to see such a beautiful garden, a sanctuary for patients at the hospital, be ripped away for those patients.
Amy Laurent	North Kingstown, RI	2015-01-12	I believe in the healing power of nature.
Lynn Bush	Boston, MA	2015-01-12	As a Pediatric bioethicist, child clinical psychologist, and parent of two children with significant medical conditions, I believe these gardens are more valuable to patients, families, and health professions than most other resources in the hospital
Elizabeth Percey	Bennington, VT	2015-01-12	I am signing because I believe in the therapeutic value of garden spaces.
lynn demers	Boston, MA	2015-01-12	the garden cannot be taken away -it means so much to the families and patients.lets prove how committed we are to our patients and families
Donald Rober	Concord, MA	2015-01-12	My son appreciated the garden when he was the hospital with a complicated broken leg. It was a place to breathe fresh air and get real sunlight.
Ellen Fitzgerald Watson	Cambridge, MA	2015-01-13	I've had two nieces who spent extended periods of time in Boston Pediatric Hospitals, on of them at Children's in 2014, and I know how important this garden is to the patients and their families. Please be creative, you can save the garden and build the facility you need.
Jeanne Earle	Beverly, MA	2015-01-13	As a former CH nurse and now a parent of a chronically ill child I have enjoyed the tranquility of this sacred space in what can be a scary place
Jill Anthony	Austin, TX	2015-01-13	My son has spent months at BCH and without the one place to find peace and fresh air, I'm not sure what I would have done. This space is so important for the children and their parents. Please reconsider expansion that includes this garden.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Eleanor Whalen	Medford, MA	2014-11-11	My family and friends have benefitted from the amazing care from Children's and this garden has been an important part of the healing both physically and psychologically. I appreciate the need for more hospital square footage in order to help more children but I hope the building planners aren't taking the easiest and most cost effective way to gain square footage at the expense of a sick patients garden solace.
Donna Nicolo	York, ME	2014-11-11	I'm signing in honor of my niece Elizabeth who was a patient at children 's and received outstanding care. We will always appreciate it and keep all the nurses and doctors in our prayers for there care. She recovered because of her strength and there care and the prayers of all
Cristina murphy	Bedford, MA	2014-11-11	while living at children's while our son was very ill for 6 weeks we were able to get a bit of fresh air and peace without the busy city traffic. Once out of the Icu he enjoyed his first stroller ride in peace. It's a gem and a really important part for healing the mind, body and spirit.
Michael Durkin	York, ME	2014-11-11	Myself, my wife and my children all benefitted from the Prouty Garden! It was a huge area of peace for me. My children, all patients at one time or another were only allowed to go out to the Garden and no where else. My wife found peace there through tremendously hard times. KEEP THE PROUTY Garden for EVER!!!!
Pamela Durkin	Las Vegas, NV	2014-11-11	I have two nephews and a niece who have spent a lot of time in the hospital and have benefitted greatly from the garden.
Maureen Peary	Scarborough, ME	2014-11-11	This was a very important place for my sister and niece while she was there this past spring.
Mary Trigge	York, ME	2014-11-11	Families need this garden to help them through difficult times
Elizabeth Switzer	Wells, ME	2014-11-12	A friend's teenage daughter was hospitalized there last year, and they drew great strength from their walks. This garden is very important to them, and I'm sure it is to others, too.
joanne diFrancesco	Canton, MA	2014-11-12	In support of what the gardens do to help the sick children forget about their illness even for just a short amount of time!
Ann Panteleos	York, ME	2014-11-12	Because it was a place of peace when friend's daughter was at Children's Hospital for a long time.
Colleen Morrow	Eliot, ME	2014-11-12	Please do not demo the garden. My family has gone there many times while my daughter has been in the hospital. Outdoor space is needed. Thank you
Molly Campbell	Dorchester, MA	2014-11-12	I'm inspired by Doug Hanna's daughter
Amber Klein-Adam	Lynnfield, MA	2014-11-12	I fully believe in this cause & the preservation of open spaces!
Karen McKenna	York, ME	2014-11-12	It helped a friend through a very difficult time
Linda solimine	Larchmont, NY	2014-11-12	I'm signing because the healing that nature brings to stressed, frightened, and anxious families is invaluable!
Brittany Leeman	San Francisco, CA	2014-11-12	The garden meant a lot to me when I worked there, and I saw the impact it had on patients and families who had very few choices, particularly in where to spend time together.
Luis Pina	Boston, MA	2014-11-12	I love this garden and is part of my life!
Pegi orso	York, ME	2014-11-12	i know how important it was to my friend as she spent over a month at the hospital with her daughter last spring

Name	Location	Date	Comment
James Campbell	Holliston, MA	2014-11-12	My son goes to Dana Farber for chemo every 2 weeks and will do so for the rest of his life, however long or short that may be. He must spend most of the day there. He spends his wait time in their Healing Garden which brings him peace. Peace to patients and families is a precious gift. Preserve the space; provide the peace.
Rebecca Lincoln	Falmouth, ME	2014-11-12	friends who have stayed at BCH say this place is a beautiful and welcome retreat for their entire families.
Kristen Dietrich	Cambridge, MA	2014-11-12	Holds beautiful memories for many people
Marilyn MacLeod	Winchester, MA	2014-11-12	It is important to keep beauty in the world wherever possible. Tearing down a Garden designed by the Olmsteds would be shocking, unwise and irreversible. Also, the peaceful garden offers patients and visitors a refuge and respite for when they might need it most. The garden is very healing and calming to the soul and beautiful to look at.
Lauren Mulroy	Boston, MA	2014-11-12	I believe in the healing powers of this space and believe it should be preserved as originally intended.
Karen Norton	York, ME	2014-11-13	A quote from a wonderful friend: This was our sanctuary for 38 days last spring. I was a huge part of keeping me somewhat sane throughout Elizabeth's stay!
Pauline Andrews	York, ME	2014-11-13	It's a nice place for the patients
G. H.	Cambridge, MA	2014-11-22	<p>You must respect Ms Prouty's wish to preserve the garden she funded. In patient's like my daughter their immune system is too weak to be in the street or the treatment just requires permanent monitoring. They are stuck inside. I remember how healing it was for my her to go enjoy the sun, the trees, the squirrels and the beautiful garden.</p> <p>The Lungwood medical area has become insanely congested with more and more construction. Children's, Dana Farber and other hospital cannot be visited without going through intense traffic.</p> <p>Dana Farber has an indoor greenhouse but it absolutely not the same. Nor can a terrace replace a real garden.</p> <p>Why not consider building in other communities? In fact even Children's had doctors practicing in other towns. For a number of years Children's has tried to destroy this corner of heaven to create more individual rooms for patients which of course sounds nice but at the expense of losing a beautiful peace of heaven for patients who at times spend months without going out.</p>
Joel Ives	Brookline, MA	2014-11-24	The garden is a spiritual treasure. Laboratories can be built in other places.
Matthew Gubenko	Newton Centre, MA	2014-12-15	The garden is an escape from reality.
Lucy Ann Lepreau	Providence, RI	2014-12-21	<p>I remember this when I worked at CHMC, as it was known then, many years ago.</p> <p>How can you ignore the Prouty's stipulation that the garden not be built on. What of the endowment?</p>
Dave McNab	Kingston, RI	2014-12-23	Thank you for all the good that you do and clearly intend here, but this will harm the hospital and all who need that bit of dedicated nature. This is Holy Ground.
Darcie Farber	Monson, MA	2014-12-25	For my daughters, finally being able to go out into this wonderful space after being confined to their rooms for several days was the saving grace of our family's sanity. It would be a HUGE loss... of both as a piece of history and the current experience of today's patients.
peggy velasquez	Dedham, MA	2014-12-26	Open green space benefits staff, patients & visitors mentally, physically & emotionally.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sara McDonald	Jamaica Plain, MA	2015-01-13	For serenity's sake! For this beautiful oasis to keep its existence, to be able to continue to offer reprieve to patients and their families, along with the staff of the hospital. Please leave this nature sanctuary unharmed by the prospect of a new building / facility.
Sharon Heim	Brighton, MA	2015-01-13	I have enjoyed the peace of the garden. It should be preserved.
Elizabeth Chapman	Bangalore, India	2015-01-13	Green space, sunshine, fresh air and sanctuary are important to healing, too, and cannot be replicated in any lab.
Elizabeth Crew	Boston, MA	2015-01-13	This garden is a beautiful service for patients, families, staff, and the community.
Susan Remeika	Reading, MA	2015-01-13	I'm signing because my husband, yes, husband had cardiac surgery under the BACH team in 2009. He spent 16 days as a patient at Children's. During that time, he looked forward to being able to be outside in the Prouty Garden. It was important for his mental health and healing to be outside in such a beautiful space.
N A	north attleboro, MA	2015-01-13	For Caterina!
Nancy Mazonson	Newton, MA	2015-01-13	Nature is a great healer.
Pauline McDonough	plainville, MA	2015-01-13	This is a gift that comes with a commitment to the patients of the hospital and public. Additionally, this historical garden is irreplaceable.
corey bagby	Pepperell, MA	2015-01-13	All children need a sanctuary especially when in dark times
Kim Corapi	Uxbridge, MA	2015-01-13	It's the only happiness and escape that suffering children have.
Amanda Pullen	Boston, MA	2015-01-13	The garden is a precious jewel in Boston Children's Hospital's crown. Mrs. Prouty's garden has many more children yet to heal - the job is not yet done.
Mary Whitelaw	Barre, MA	2015-01-13	This garden is so much more to the families who visit!
Doug Berman	Newton, MA	2015-01-13	Prouty garden was such a wonderful escape while my son was on life support at BCH in 8/96. We were practically living at the hospital for 7 long days, and brief visits to the garden were so rejuvenating. My son is now a college freshman and doing great. That garden was so important to us. Preserve it for others!
David Thornton	Jamaica Plain, MA	2015-01-13	Too much life it's already been squeezed out of the environment at Longwood. This would be a devastating loss.
Penelope allen	Bellingham, MA	2015-01-13	boston is quickly becoming a cement jungle. That area needs green space preserved so that those dealing with various medical issues have a place to go and find peace.
Lisa Petras	Lynnfield, MA	2015-01-13	BCH children, families and staff deserve this space to help heal, rejuvenate, re-energize, and decompress. Please do not take this from us.
Jennifer DeMeo	Palm City, FL	2015-01-13	We spend a lot of time at Children's. Although my daughter's condition is permanent, she remains healthy because of the care she was given. Every time we had to visit, we saw too many sad cases of sick children. The staff at Children's try very hard to put smiles on these faces, but when confined to a hospital, let's be frank it can be very depressing. It is amazing what fresh air and beauty can do to a person's spirits. Not only do the young patients benefit but the staff as well. They work very long hard and stressful hours. They also need a place to go "breathe". As many positive cases that come out of Children's, there are as many sad cases that the staff deal with as well. As a special education teacher I know how delivering bad news can take a toll on you. I can't imagine having to deliver some of the news the doctors have to deliver on occasion. In a city full of industry, tall buildings, cars, a noise, don't these amazing people deserve a place on tranquility and beauty?

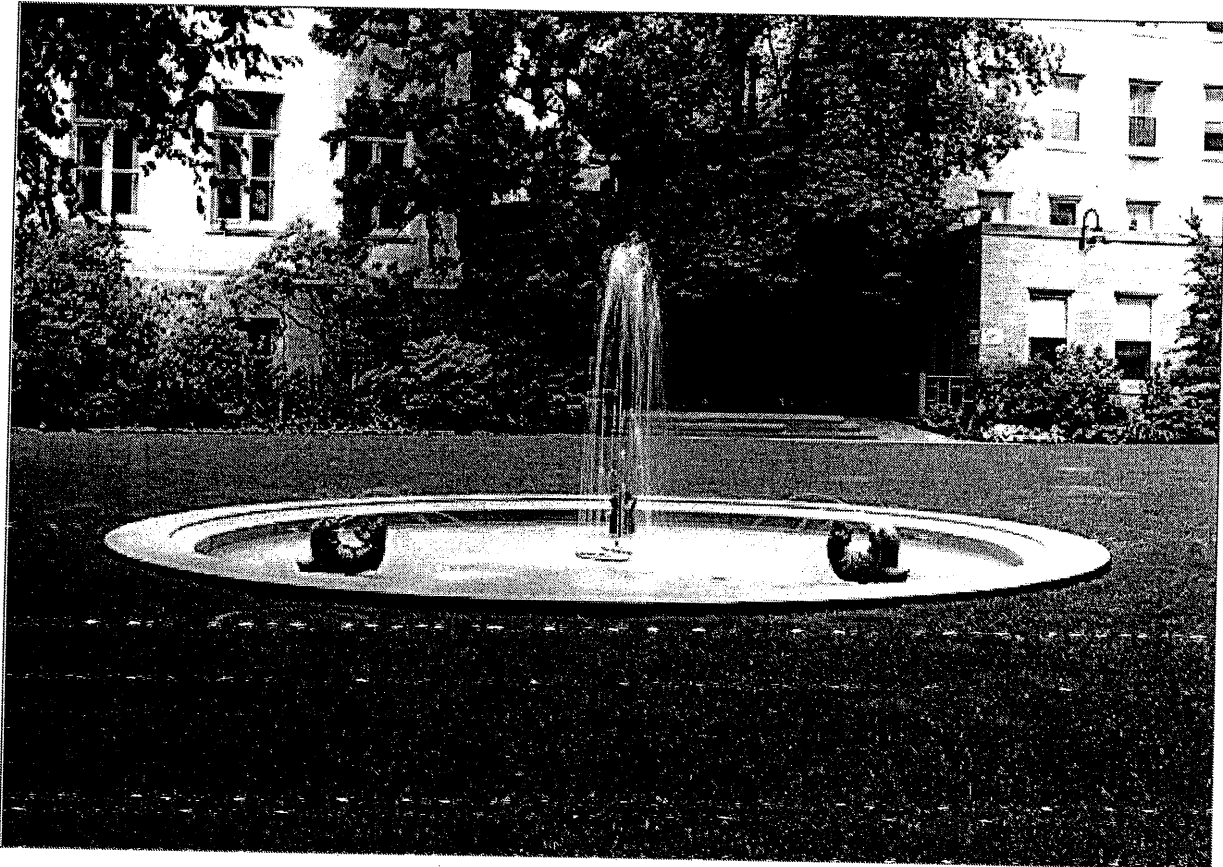
Name	Location	Date	Comment
Martha Montello	Shawnee, KS	2015-01-13	The garden is a priceless treasure. And because it violates a promise to Mrs. Prouty. Important to preserve the garden!
Joe Corapi	Uxbridge, MA	2015-01-13	<p>After my daughter's surgery, there was something missing, her spirit. She wasn't the same. We had already been in the hospital over a week and were faced with spending another week in there. She wasn't eating, she wasn't smiling. She was alive, but not alive. Not until we took her to the garden.</p> <p>That's when we saw the little girl we loved so much come back to us. After the first trip there, it didn't take her long to get back to normal. Shortly after we were able to take her home. She made a complete turn around. We can't underestimate the value of what that garden means to so many and how it can help those poor children who have to go through these terrible ordeals. Please sign and share. Thanks.</p>
Bethany French	Macungie, PA	2015-01-13	I'm signing because gardens and nature are important aspects of our health and healing, and should certainly be preserved and utilized in aiding the healing of children.
Maggie Stuckey	Lincoln, NE	2015-01-13	Nature heals!!!
Abby Gillman	Boston, MA	2015-01-13	Hospitals need gardens.
Maureen Durfer	Milton, MA	2015-01-13	This is a gem that helps all who enter it. It would be a travesty to all who enjoy it to get rid of it.
Douglas Marcoux	Baldwinville, MA	2015-01-13	My son spent his last day at Prouty Garden and this is where friends and family got to say their final goodbyes. The garden puts smiles on the children's faces and gives them a sense of serenity when they feel all hope is lost or when they are down on their luck. Prouty Garden needs to stay!
Debbie Walton	Needham, MA	2015-01-13	I've worked here since 1983 and the Prouty Garden is what made the lengthy hospitalizations of chronically ill children and their families make it through another day. I will have a very different view of our hospital if this landmark is taken away. There will be no adequate substitute for this remarkable place. Can't there be another way????
Rebecca Tellyer	North Easton, MA	2015-01-13	I am signing to show my support for Doug Marcoux, who has a deep personal connection with this garden. I hope the gardens stay and continue to provide peace, joy and serenity for those who seek reprieve from the challenges and injustice they may face in life.
Paula Marcoux	Leominster, MA	2015-01-13	This is where we said our last goodbyes to our grandson Evan Marcoux on August 30, 2010. It is a very beautiful and peaceful spot. Please keep the Prouty Garden.
Nina Koveos	Lowell, MA	2015-01-13	I was a patient and enjoyed use of the garden. It would be a shame to destroy it when other options exist.
Donna McGee	Hatfield, MA	2015-01-13	The garden is an essential healing element. It cannot be replaced. The addition can be redesigned.
Robin Linnehan	Hampton Falls, NH	2015-01-13	My son was a patient at Children's the summer of 2013. As wonderful and exceptional all the staff are (I'm a nurse and a huge critic of others and they were nothing short of 5 star) the garden was such a wonderful place to escape to. A place to get fresh air, take a walk and meet up with other children and parents. It's not just a garden....it's so much more! The great old tree with the huge roots was one of our favorite places to hang out. This would be a huge loss. Please reconsider. Thank you!
Nghia Nguyen	Worcester, MA	2015-01-13	This garden touched the lives of my friend and his family. Therefore, it touched my life as well.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Maureen Monroe	Cranford, NJ	2015-01-13	It would be a terrible loss!
Louisa Garrison	Boston, MA	2015-01-13	I think this garden is SO important to the well being of patients and families.
William monroe	Jefferson, MA	2015-01-13	when my daughter was being treated at the hospital for brain cancer we enjoyed being able to take a break in the garden. It helped quite a bit.
Gabriela Harvey	NYC, NY	2015-01-13	gardens are essential!
Carolyn Butta	Staten Island, NY	2015-01-13	I want to save the Garden!
michael piercing	Brookline, MA	2015-01-13	I visited the garden many years ago and fell in love with it
Beth anderson	East Hampton, CT	2015-01-13	such an important outlet in the middle of buildings and medical treatment. A slice of nature and fresh air separate from all te concrete that surrounds.
Rachel Armington	Leominster, MA	2015-01-13	In remembrance of Evan.
Daniel Demmons	Westerly, RI	2015-01-13	My brothers both spent time at BCH back in the late 70's. Both were their for fairly horrific issues (dog bite and spine issue) and we as a family spent alot of time there and in the garden. I was there as a child and remember it vividly as a peaceful oasis in an otherwise frightening world of pain, crying, stitches and alienness. Please, please keep Prouty Garden.
Melissa Foley	Baldwinville, MA	2015-01-13	This green space is healing for the children receiving treatment at the hospital as well as their families. It also holds a sentimental importance to the families of children lost to illness. Please leave this garden intact.
Crystal Parent	Orange, MA	2015-01-13	My cousin feels strongly about it, so it's something I support. Also, if I'm reading correctly, Mrs. Prouty have this land for a certain reason, and just because she's gone doesn't mean that the reason doesn't still exist.
Frances Bourdon	Easthampton, MA	2015-01-13	It's so very important as so many have stated.
Joshua Marzelli	Newbury, NH	2015-01-13	Family's at the hospital need a place to find peace away from the hospital atmcsphere.
Lisa Meller	South Kingstown, RI	2015-01-13	Science is nature, the two are intertwined and the healing power of each should be celebrated and revered.
Josh Minor	Bloomington, IN	2015-01-13	My cousin's little boy spent his last day in this garden and it needs to stay. The happiness of young children affected by fatal illnesses should be enough to keep this garden intact.
Kathleen Meagher	Rutland, MA	2015-01-13	I'm signing because my niece was treated here and the family enjoyed the breaks in the garden.
Patti Brosky	Plant City, FL	2015-01-13	in honor of Ellie Francoeur!
Shawna Varacalli	Stoneham, MA	2015-01-13	This garden provided so much life and light to our darkest days. We knew that our newborn son had only days or weeks to live. We stayed with him all 13 days of his life at Children's Hospital. Some of our most cherished memories are those of walking our son through the Prouty Garden on sunny, September afternoons. We have beautiful pictures taken in front of a big beautiful tree. Please think twice about taking away one of the most uplifting places at Children's Hospital,
Natali Ruchansky	Cambridge, MA	2015-01-13	for an old friend
Michelle parent	Newark, DE	2015-01-13	worked at children's for 12 years, this garden is such a special place.
Michele Giliberti	Narraganseti, RI	2015-01-13	I am signing because families who have sick children need this garden as a respite from the indoor, sterile hospital environment.
Judith Peloquin	Orlando, FL	2015-01-13	I have friends who have benefited greatly from this garden. It is still needed!
Linda Haskins	Rye, NH	2015-01-13	The Garden is a treasure beyond price. It's a place of peace and restoration and invaluable to children recovering from terrible illnesses.

**H**



# Outpouring On Beloved Prouty Garden Continues: Traumatized Kids Need It



*The fountain in Prouty Garden at Boston Children's Hospital (Jesse Costa/WBUR)*

News this week that the Prouty Garden at Boston Children's Hospital can be bulldozed continues to draw impassioned pleas to reconsider the garden's fate. Here, **Dr. Elliott B. Martin, Jr.**, a psychiatrist at Newton-Wellesley Hospital and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry Tufts University School of Medicine, adds his thoughts. (This is the second powerful letter we've received from defenders of the garden. We also welcome letters from the other side.)



*I am writing in hopes of continuing the narrative around the fate of the Prouty Garden at Boston Children's Hospital. I have been involved now for several months in the effort to save the therapeutic space, and the **letter yesterday** from Ms. Ellen Gilliam has inspired me to build upon her story, in hopes that others will add their own chapters.*

*I, too, have worked at Boston Children's Hospital, as a physician, specifically as a psychiatrist. Until recently, the best kept secret at Children's Hospital had been that there is in fact an inpatient psychiatric unit there. At any given time the hospital cares for some of the most grievously traumatized children you can imagine. These are kids, ranging from seven to seventeen years old, who have suffered ungodly physical and sexual abuse, at times since infancy. These are kids who have suffered from neglect, at times to near death. These are kids with profound depression, who have tried to commit suicide, very often many times over.*

*Therapeutic options in such cases are extremely limited, often amounting to time, containment, support, and most importantly, love. Many, if not most, of the physically ill children at the hospital at the very least know the love of their families. For the psychically wounded there is precious little love. As we would often observe on the inpatient unit, very few people sent get well cards to the psychically ill. The clowns never came there. The celebrities, on their visits to sick children, were carefully shuttled past the double-locked doors designed to be disinviting.*

*In this environment two therapeutic modalities stood out as having had immediately tangible, positive effects on these children. The first was the weekly visit from the therapy dog, and the second were the daily supervised excursions to the Prouty Garden. For kids otherwise confined day and night to a tiny, cordoned off piece of hospital property these fifteen to thirty minute trips were their only connection to the greater world, the 'world outside', as one horrifically abused seven year old boy once described it to me. To see these kids playing in the garden one might even mistake them for "normal" kids. To see them interact with children in wheelchairs, with children wheeling IV poles, with children sentenced to die and whose parents had nowhere else to cry, one might think they were even more than normal, that they were, at least for a few minutes, special.*

*When given the opportunity, no one is more accepting, more compassionate, more empathic than a traumatized kid. There are countless stories of the therapeutic miracles of Prouty Garden among physically ill children and their parents. But the Garden has also helped, and continues to help, those kids without a voice, those kids who, without the Garden, will have lost all connection to the outside world. On behalf of the kids who will never have a walk or a marathon or a drive dedicated to their benefit, please allow them at least their fifteen minutes of daily humanity. Bulldozing the garden will directly affect the care and well-being of these children. I cannot imagine Ms. Prouty, a woman who struggled with her own mental health issues as a child, would have wanted this any other way.*

**I**

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## How Hospital Gardens Help Patients Heal

Hospital gardens turn out to have medical benefits

See Inside By Deborah Franklin | March 19, 2012 | 4

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To get an inkling of what a well-designed hospital garden can do for a child, watch the home video posted on YouTube about a three-year-old heart-transplant recipient. The toddler wanders meandering paths, sun-dappled lawn and gnarled trees at the Prouty Garden at Children's Hospital Boston. "It's about feeding the birds and squirrels," wrote Aidan's grandmother. "They will all weigh 30 lbs. each by the time we leave here!"

The garden that Aidan loves—with its vibrant greenery, shaded places to sit and walk, and small, half-hidden animal sculptures that fascinate visitors of all ages—is "one of the most successful hospital gardens in the country," says Clare Cooper Marcus, an emeritus professor in landscape architecture at the University of California, Berkeley.

Dismissed as peripheral to medical treatment for much of the 20th century, hospital gardens are back in style, now featured in the design of most new hospitals, according to the American Society of Landscape Architects. In a recent survey of 100 directors and architects of assisted-living residences, 82 percent agreed that "the design of outdoor space should be one of the most important considerations in the design." But can gardens, in fact, promote healing? It turns out that they often can. Scientists around the world are now digging

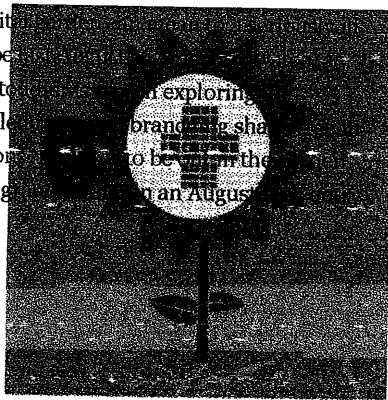


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into the data to find out which features of gardens account for the effect.

### Common Sense Put to the Test

The notion that the fresh breezes, dappled sunlight and fragrant greenery of a garden can be good for what ails us has its roots in ancient tradition and common sense. But a much cited study, published in 1984 in the journal *Science* by environmental psychologist Roger Ulrich, now at Texas A&M University, was the first to use the standards of modern medical research—strict experimental controls and quantified health outcomes—to demonstrate that gazing at a garden can sometimes speed healing from surgery, infections and other ailments.

Ulrich and his team reviewed the medical records of people recovering from gallbladder surgery at a suburban Pennsylvania hospital. All other things being equal, patients with bedside windows looking out on leafy trees healed, on average, a day faster, needed significantly less pain medication and had fewer postsurgical complications than patients who instead saw a brick wall.

Esther Sternberg, a physician and neuroimmunologist at the National Institute of Mental Health, calls Ulrich's work "groundbreaking." At the time, studies showing that loud sounds, disrupted sleep and other chronic stressors can have serious physical consequences were only just beginning. "In 1984 we all took it for granted that hospitals were noisy, smelly, disorienting mazes," says Sternberg, who details the history in her book *Healing Spaces: The Science of Place and Well-Being*. "But it hadn't occurred to us that stress could affect a patient's healing—or that we could do anything about that."

Fortunately, as the evidence implicating hospitals as major engines of stress builds, the stack of data suggesting that gardens and planted alcoves can encourage healing has grown, too. Just three to five minutes spent looking at views dominated by trees, flowers or water can begin to reduce anger, anxiety and pain and to induce relaxation, according to various studies of healthy people that measured physiological changes in blood pressure, muscle tension, or heart and brain electrical activity.

Indeed, the benefits of seeing and being in nature are so powerful that even pictures of landscapes can soothe. In 1993 Ulrich and his colleagues at Uppsala University Hospital in Sweden randomly assigned 160 heart surgery patients in the intensive care unit to one of six conditions: simulated "window views" of a large nature photograph (an open, tree-lined stream or a shadowy forest scene); one of two abstract paintings; a white panel; or a blank wall. Surveys afterward confirmed that patients assigned the water and tree scene were less anxious and needed fewer doses of strong pain medicine than those who looked at the darker forest photograph, abstract art or no pictures at all.

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- “Bluestone” paving looks beautiful but does not work well with IV poles (they are on their own carriage and must be pushed alongside a child using a wheelchair or transporter). The surface is not sufficiently smooth. The paving will be replaced with a synthetic safety surface (not native rubber as some children have severe rubber allergies.)
- Lack of at-grade entrance. Existing ramp segregates wheelchair users. Planned renovations include a new at-grade entrance from the Volunteer’s Services area.

### The Prouty Terrace and Garden, Children’s Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

Children’s Hospital, Boston, is one of the premier hospitals for children in the United States. It is located in the Longwood medical and academic section of Boston, along with several other large urban medical facilities.

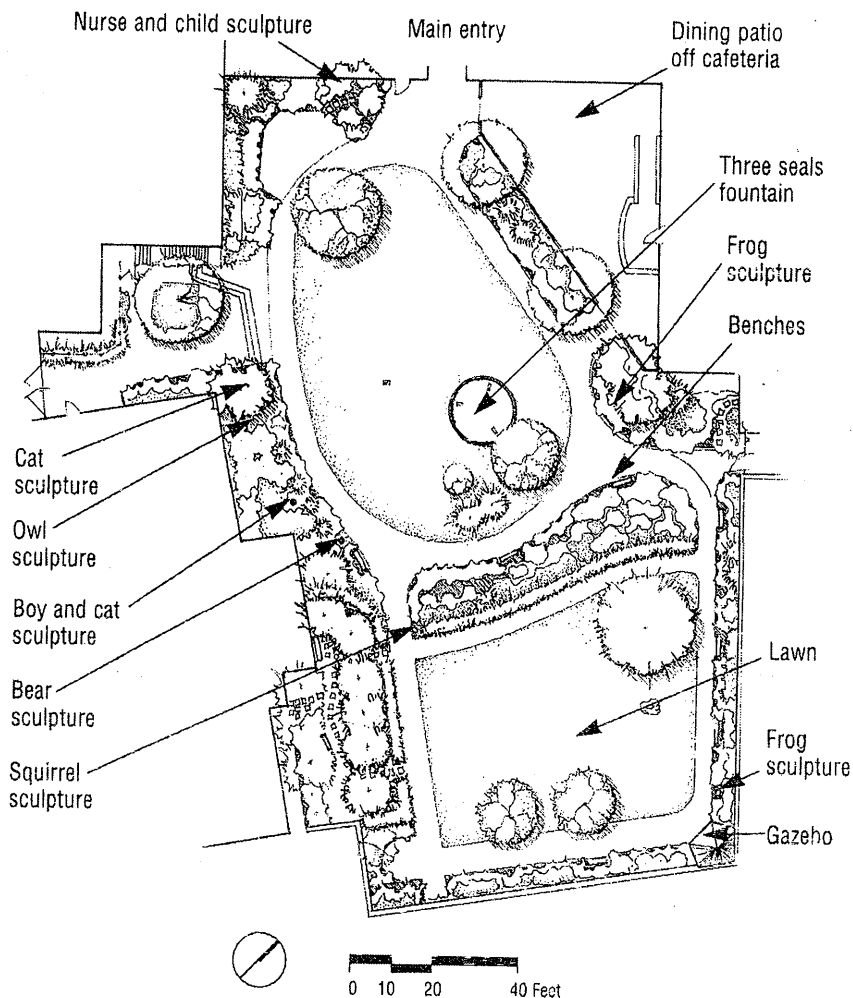


Figure 7-18 Site plan of the Prouty Garden, Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA.

*"It gives you some peacefulness. You can go there and sit, get away from it all; there is more hope in the garden. It's different from a chapel, where you go to pray, to try to find some acceptance. When a person is so sick, critically ill, or is dying, people go to the chapel. The garden is for healing. You feel closer, you feel more hope, more uplifted. It is a place of hope."*

(STAFF MEMBER)

### ***History of the Garden***

The garden was opened in 1956 and completed in 1987, but the origin goes back to the 1920s, with Mrs. Prouty's interest in two old hospital wards. She had lost a second child and was contemplating adoption when Dr. Richard Smith, her pediatrician and Chief of Pediatrics at Children's, took her to see a twelve-bed ward in need of rehabilitation. He suggested that instead of a child, she "adopt" the shabby ward and try to improve its appearance. Success in this led her to take on a second twelve-bed ward and dedicate both to her two deceased children. When the wooden ward building was torn down in 1953 and replaced with the present building, Mrs. Prouty was asked if she would like to sponsor a garden.

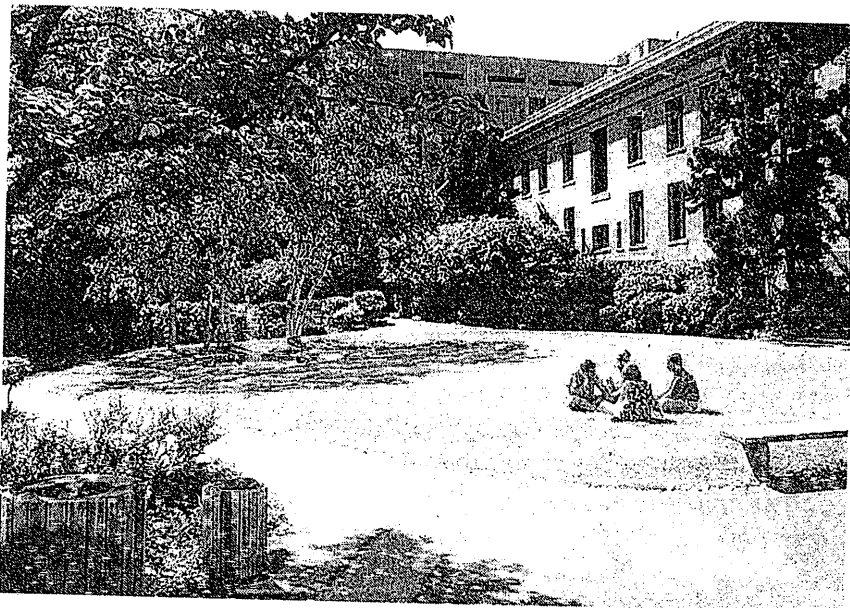
Mrs. Prouty liked the idea and contacted Olmstead Brothers, the Boston landscape architecture firm, to design the garden. At her request, they modeled it after the walled garden and terrace of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. The final design was executed by Boston landscape architects Shurcliff and Merrill. The garden opened on October 4, 1956, and four years later was awarded a gold medal by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for a "well executed court garden." As you enter the garden from the Farley Building, a simple bronze plaque to the right reads: "This Terrace and Garden in Memory of Anne and Olivia Prouty." The trust fund that was established by Mrs. Prouty still supports the equivalent of a full-time gardener. Credit for the garden's successful early planting is due to the efforts of late Colonel William Smith, former Director of Resources at Children's, who donated many valuable plants from his own garden.

### ***Description***

The garden is accessed from a corridor on the first floor of the hospital (one level above the main entrance). Unfortunately there are no specific signs indicating its existence, only a few small signs to "Garden Elevator" and a small sign naming the garden at the entrance. The half-acre, roughly rectangular (190 × 120 feet) garden is enclosed by hospital buildings ranging from three to six stories on the north, south, and west, and by the single-story hospital library and a garden wall flanked by an adjacent six-story building to the east. While the strong sense of enclosure offered by largely high-rise buildings might have created a pit-like space, the relatively large extent of the garden, plus the presence of several large trees screening the buildings, ensures that the garden feels like a quiet, well-kept urban oasis. The tall, solid, light brick garden wall, shrouded in espaliered climbing hydrangea, pyracantha, and wisteria, charms the visitor and seems to shut out the world beyond.

The garden comprises three large, and several small, subspaces. Large areas are an oval lawn with a fountain-pool set off-center; a paved cafeteria terrace looking over the oval lawn; and a square lawn to the rear separated from the oval lawn by a perennial border and low yew hedge. The smaller subspaces consist of a number of seating clusters set around the edge of the garden, looking out over the lawns. The straightforward circulation system provides enough choices that a staff member out for a stroll, or a parent pushing a child in a wheelchair, has a variety of visual experiences. A gray asphalt path circles the oval lawn, another runs around the square lawn. The two paths link together, forming a broad figure-eight with views on one side onto open lawns, and on the other onto richly textured shrub and perennial planting.

The many small sculptures set into the planting beside the pathways and on the lawns are an especially attractive feature of the garden. Circulating around the garden counterclockwise from the main entrance, one encounters sculptures of a nurse and child, small figures of a goose, a cat, an owl, a boy holding a cat, a bear, a squirrel, two frogs, and a fox, half-hidden in the shrubbery, and small life-size figures of a rabbit and birds set on the lawn. Children taken out into the garden take great delight in finding and naming these figures, more so because they are half-hidden. On one day in mid-November, yellow chrysanthemum flowers picked from the snowbound, fading perennial border had been placed (most likely by a child) in the mouths of the bear and the fox, and in the arms of the boy.



*Figure 7-19 View across main lawn toward fountain and birch grove at the Prouty Garden. Hospital ward building to the right. (Photo courtesy of Boston Children's Hospital.)*



### Use

The garden is intended to serve the children at the hospital, their siblings, parents, relations, and hospital employees. From early spring to late fall, the grounds are populated not only with children but also with visitors, lured into sitting a while on the stone benches and garden chairs placed in both sunny and shady spots. The garden is well-used on warm days by staff on breaks and during lunch hours, and by parents taking a break from a sick child's bedside. On a warm spring day, up to 150 people may use the garden. Spring, summer, and fall are obviously the peak seasons, but even in winter (and under snow) staff take walks in the garden or pass through it when moving from one building to another. On-site observations indicated hospital staff as the most frequent users—eating a brown bag lunch, taking a break or a walk. Because the garden can be viewed from the attractive cafeteria terrace and the hospital library, the staff know of its existence and are drawn to it in warm weather.

The next most numerous group observed were parents waiting for a child undergoing surgery or treatment. With a few hours to spend and probably in a tense mood, the garden-as-green-oasis provides a welcome respite from the hospital environment. To anxious parents and patients alike, the garden is a merciful refuge, as well as a pleasant place to wheel recuperating children. Parents with siblings of a hospitalized child find the garden a welcome place to let well children explore and let off steam.

In terms of raw numbers, inpatient children may be the least frequently observed users because hospital stays are so brief these days, and a because a child who is in for a longer stay is likely to be too sick to go to the garden. However, the garden is used by many children at some point during their stay in the hospital, including postoperative, oncology, psychiatric, general medical, and general surgical patients.

There are no special staff assigned to the garden. It can be used by any resident patient or outpatient accompanied by a child life specialist, parent, or volunteer (Child Life runs a training program for volunteers). The garden is also used for patient parties and has been the scene of many special events. A tree lighting ceremony, held in the garden every Christmas, is watched through hospital windows by children and staff. Summer programs have included gardening, "arts in the garden," groups of musicians, magicians, traveling zoos, circuses, and community actors playing to the children. At the time of writing, these programs had been discontinued due to potentially harmful particulates into the air caused by construction activity.

*"I feel like I am not in the hospital anymore when I am in the garden. I feel more relaxed. It is an escape. It is so nonhospital; nothing in there is like the hospital; it feels so open, so bright and colorful—the fresh air, the breezes—it's great to get out of the sterile cave."*

(STAFF MEMBER)

*"I think for the parents with the chronic kids, having the garden is a real plus. They are here a lot and the hospital is more like a second home to them, so the space here is that much more important, especially when you consider the amount of stress they must be feeling."*

(STAFF MEMBER)

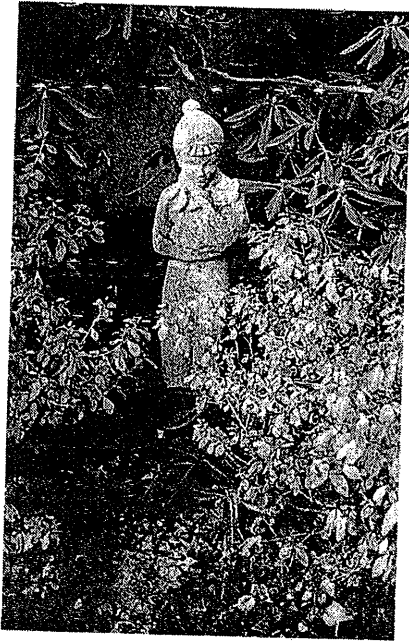


Figure 7-20 "Boy and Cat" sculpture peeking out from a Prouty Garden shrub border, welcoming children and parents, adding a point of interest, a subject of conversation, and a sense of identity for the users. (Photo by Clare Cooper Marcus.)

There are plenty of places to sit, including nine concrete backless benches set just to the side of the peripheral walkway; several clusters of movable garden chairs and tables set in more private, tree-screened corners; fixed wooden seating in a corner gazebo; many attractive green-painted metal chairs and tables on the cafeteria terrace. In the summer, the lawns are also used for sitting or sprawling in the sun. Whether one is part of a group of workmates sharing a picnic lunch, a visitor sitting alone, or two stressed parents needing a place for privacy, the garden offers many varied options.

The planting in the garden adds immeasurably to its charm and oasislike milieu during all seasons. Several very large trees—a ginkgo, a white pine, a dawn redwood, several cryptomeria, and white birches—seem to scale down the height of the multi-story buildings around. Complementing these at a lower height are a great variety of smaller trees, including flowering dogwood, Japanese maple, carmelian cherry, magnolia, hemlock, and flowering cherry. Deciduous and evergreen shrubs, including rhododendron, azalea, hydrangea, juniper, holly, lavender, mountain andromeda, and mountain laurel form an understory beneath the peripheral trees, their colors changing with the seasons. Among the larger trees are several rare specimens, including one of the most unusual, the metasequoia or dawn redwood. In addition, there are seven cryptomerias (evergreens seldom found as far north as Boston), Japanese katuras; and a tall, stately tulip tree. At least one of every variety of tree, shrub, and plant bears an identifying tag giving both its common and Latin names. A glass framed plan of the garden with every plant identified is an interesting feature of the cafeteria patio that overlooks the garden.

The garden's colors are at their brightest in the spring with the early blossoming of crocuses, daffodils, and lavender Mongolian azaleas. Later come the tulips, the pink clusters of Carolina rhododendrons, and the reds, whites, and yellows of the late-blooming azaleas. In May, pansies, marigolds, petunias, and dahlias appear, as well as various unpretentious little flowers with common names especially appealing to children: Johnny jump-ups, Jacob's ladders, Dutchman's breeches. By mid-May the garden is filled with flowering trees: dogwood, both pink and white, cherries, crab apples, and silverbell.

The garden is managed by the Office of Facility Planning and Space Planning through a Garden Committee which oversees the condition of the planting, requests replacements, and manages the garden horticulturally. They also define appropriate uses and establish rules. The resident hospital architect is a member of the committee and is personally involved on a daily basis.

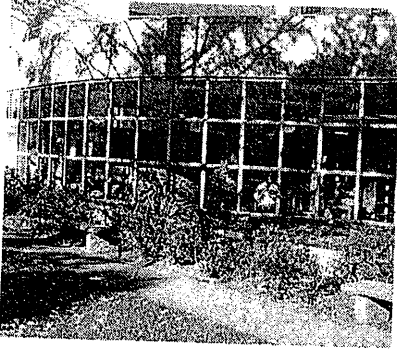


Figure 7-21 Users of the cafeteria and hospital medical library have a view out into the Prouty Garden. (Photo by Clare Cooper Marcus.)

Children can interact physically with the landscape to a limited degree. They can smell and pick the flowers, but there are no facilities for them to plant flowers or vegetables. As children move around, they discover different secret corners where they can explore and hide. The animal statues add to the sense of discovery—some are placed on pedestals so that children being wheeled on the meandering paths in beds or wheelchairs can more easily see them. The raised deck of the gazebo provides a lookout that is accessible by a ramp.

The garden has southern exposure and an excellent microclimate; its winter temperature can be ten degrees warmer than the streets surrounding the hospital. "Even in winter on a nice sunny, calm day it can be very comfortable out there," reported Charles Smith, hospital architect. For that reason, children use the garden in the winter and sometimes even come out to make snow people there.

The garden is very secure, as one must enter through the hospital; there is plenty of cross-traffic between the surrounding hospital buildings that also overlook the space. Many eyes watch over it. It is well lit at night. The formal pool is about twelve inches deep and without a guardrail. "Although some safety experts may regard this as hazardous, there have been no incidents with the pond as far as I am aware in all the years I have been here," commented Charles Smith.

The only use conflict that occasionally arises is when the psychiatry patients try to use the garden for recreational activities such as football. This is an appropriate activity for the participating patients, but the garden is too small, and other users are disturbed. Occasionally children climb the trees, which is sometimes seen as problematic by the staff because it damages the trees. It would be nice if a specific climbing tree with low-slung branches could be designated. The worst maintenance issue seen by the staff is the daily cleanup after lunch on the cafeteria terrace when all the napkins and paper plates blow around in the wind.

#### ADVANTAGES

- Southern exposure provides excellent microclimate.
- Endowment fund provides for appropriate maintenance.
- Flat terrain is easily accessible.
- Animal sculptures.
- Fountain and pool.
- Diversity of plantings.
- Overlooked by cafeteria and medical library.

- Many different exploratory subspaces for discovery, contemplation, and privacy.
- Used by whole hospital community.

#### DISADVANTAGES

- Child Life-sponsored programs have been discontinued.
- Little hands-on engagement of the children, no planting activity.
- Occasional conflicts between active recreational uses and passive users.
- No directional signs to the garden in the hospital building.

### **Gardens at Lucas Gardens School, Canada Bay, New South Wales, Australia**

#### *History and Philosophy of the Garden*

Lucas is a special education facility located in a suburban community outside Sydney, administered by the Department of Education of New South Wales, and linked to a nearby residential pediatric hospital. The original school dates from 1938. Because of falling enrollment it closed in 1985, was renovated and opened as a school for children with multiple disabilities in 1987. The single-story school buildings enclose a series of courtyards where the gardens (opened in 1989) have been developed over several years. The original layout of the gardens was provided by Good Manors, Landscape Architects. The facility is managed by school principal Jeanne Stratford, who came up with the idea of creating gardens in the existing cracked and pot-holed asphalt courtyards. Unusable because they were very hot in summer and full of puddles in winter, thus inhibiting mobility, the courtyards were renovated with the help of the local Rotary Club. At first, some of the staff wanted to use the funds to buy a minibus, but Jeanne argued that the children could not go somewhere every day. She wanted to create a "somewhere" right on the school site, "to bring nature into our midst," as she put it. A design was developed and implementation continued over several years.

About 50 percent of the children are transported to the school each day from the nearby hospital where they are permanent residents because of the severity of their disabilities. Most of these children use wheelchairs or cots. The other half of the children, also with severe, multiple disabilities, live with their families in the community.

*"We had something really stressful happen just prior to coming here; we came here to debrief. It is a good setting to get away from the hospital stress, to feel more peaceful."*

(STAFF MEMBER)

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MS.1 Prouty Garden

The Prouty Garden has had an important place in the overall healing environment of Boston Children's Hospital. Although a recent survey indicates that the predominant user of the garden is the Hospital staff (for lunches and small gatherings), there is no doubt that the quiet respite provided by the green space has been a part of the Hospital's pioneering approach in pediatrics of 'healing the entire family'. However, the primary mission of the Hospital is to deliver excellent clinical care to those in need and in order to continue to be faithful to this Mission, the Hospital now finds it necessary to create: (i) an all-private room environment (thereby reducing the possibility of mistake and infection and further reducing the 'average length of stay' for the patients), (ii) programmatic space for Centers of Excellence, (iii) space capacity for up to 180 inpatient beds and additional interventional radiology or other clinical needs. After exhaustive operational studies, the Hospital has concluded that the optimal location (both in terms of co-located services and reducing overall costs) is the currently proposed site for the Boston Children's Clinical Building.

The Prouty Garden was originally established as a gift to the Hospital in the 1950s and its operation and upkeep has been maintained by a separate endowment under the control of the Prouty Garden Foundation. The Hospital has met with the leadership of that Board on several occasions over the past few years in an effort to update them, with particular regard to the proposed construction on the site. The President of the Prouty Garden Foundation has been briefed on the Hospital's strategic need to further its single bed inpatient philosophy and has reviewed all of the site options that the Hospital studied, prior to concluding that the Garden location was the optimal building site. The Foundation has expressed a willingness to work with the Hospital's planners and designers to incorporate the artifacts and memorabilia now within the garden, into one or more locations within the proposed BCCB, in an effort to keep the 'spirit' of the garden alive in its new environment.