

CHESTERWOOD | THE MEADOWLARK

STOCKBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

In 1896 noted American sculptor, Daniel Chester French, established his summer home and studio in the Berkshire Hills near Stockbridge, Massachusetts. French created works such as the Sitting Lincoln for the Washington, DC, Lincoln Memorial in his Berkshire's studio. His studio and residence were designed by the famous architect of the Lincoln Memorial, Henry Bacon. Due to French's contribution to American art, his estate in the Berkshires, called Chesterwood, has become a significant historic site to commemorate his work and life.



WEST ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"
0 5 10 20
FEET
0 1 2 4
METERS 1:96



NORTH ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



EAST ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

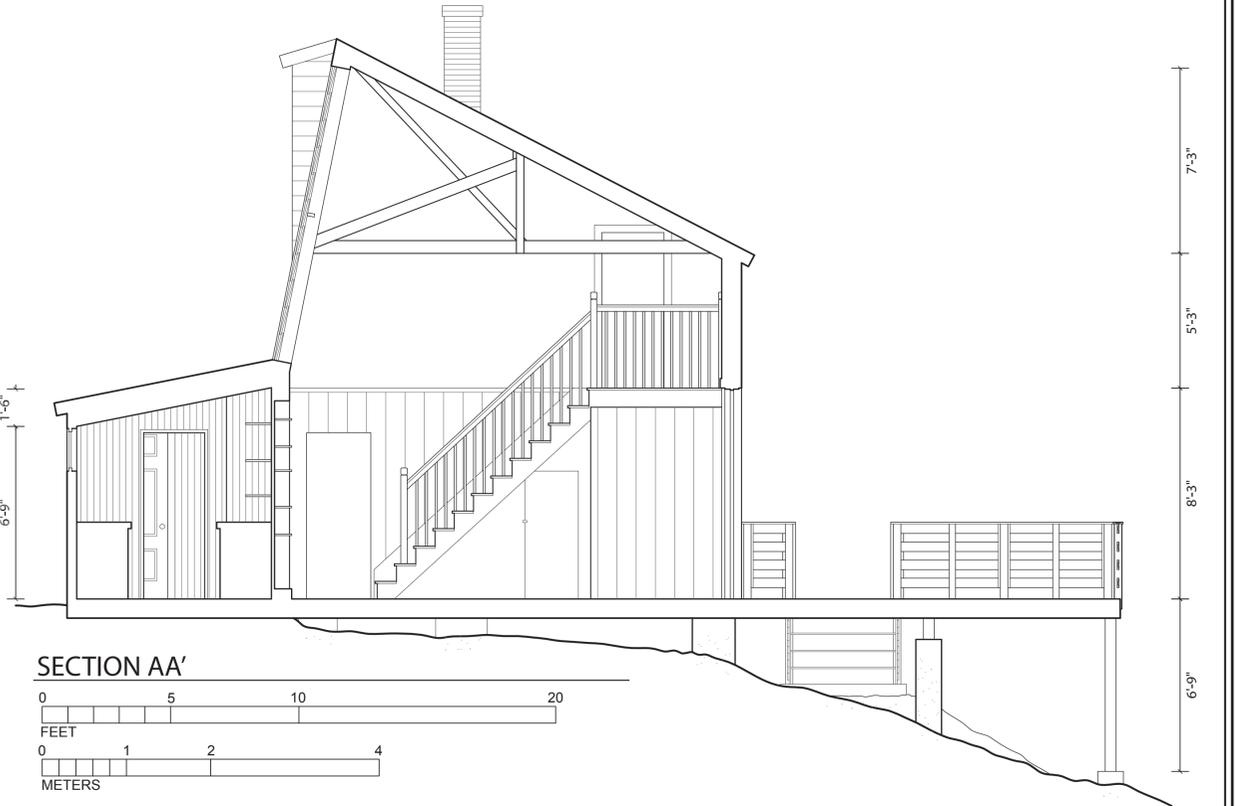


SOUTH ELEVATION

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

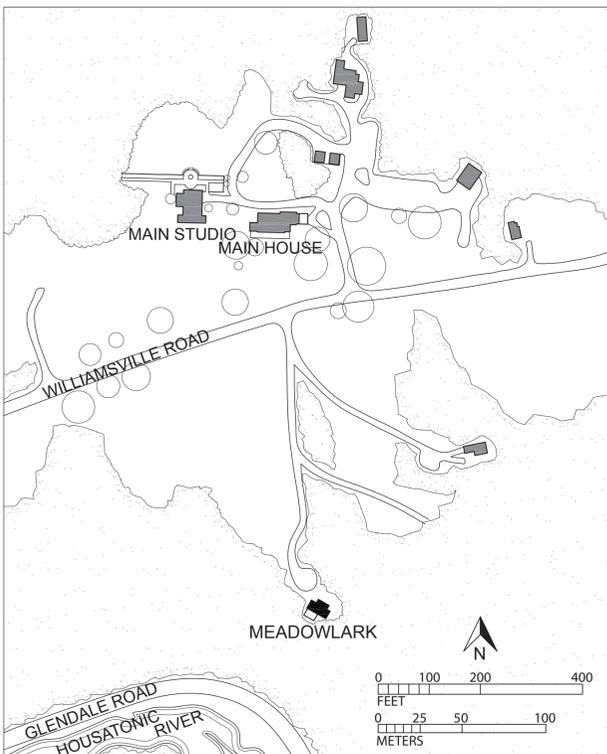
While it was in the main studio of the estate that French mostly worked, there is another studio at Chesterwood. As French acquired commissions, the main studio became increasingly difficult to work in due to numerous visitors, his clients, two assistants, models, a studio boy, and frequently a plaster caster. As a result, in 1905, French hired local architect Will Hawkins to build another studio on the estate to rediscover the tranquil atmosphere he needed to work. Hawkins designed a smaller studio across the road from the main house and studio, located on the crest of a hill, which overlooks the Housatonic River.

One of the features of the "lower studio," now known as Meadowlark, was a porch that jutted out over the steep hillside. By walking down the hill and looking back up towards the porch, French could assess sculptures and how they might look placed on a five-story building—an invaluable tool for preparing outdoor sculptures. Like the main studio, the main feature of Meadowlark is its large, two-story high room, in which French worked. Originally, the only other room in the studio was a small casting room, but the studio has since expanded by converting the casting room into a kitchen and adding two bedrooms, a closet, and a bathroom. Today, visitors have the opportunity to stay overnight in French's second studio.



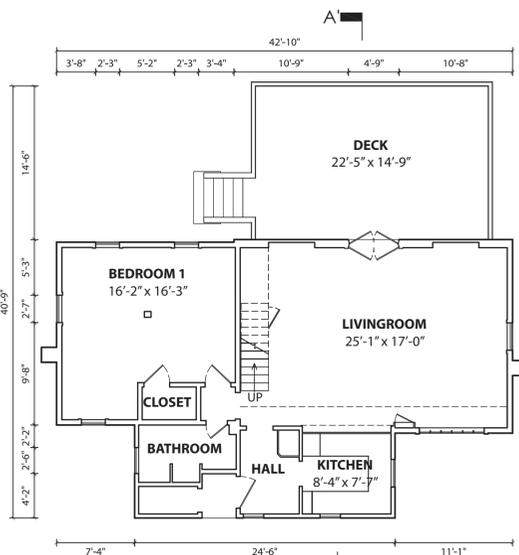
SECTION AA'

0 5 10 20
FEET
0 1 2 4
METERS



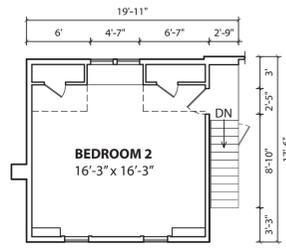
CHESTERWOOD SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1:2000



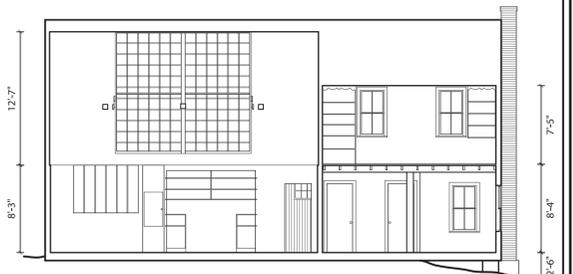
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



SECTION BB'

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

DRAWN BY: TENZIN NYANDAK AND GRACE MELOY

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

4 WILLIAMSVILLE ROAD

CHESTERWOOD, THE MEADOWLARK
STOCKBRIDGE
BERKSHIRE COUNTY
MASSACHUSETTS

MASSACHUSETTS

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