In October of 1920, Percival Gallagher, designer for the famed Olmsted Brothers landscape architectural firm, arrived at the Oldfields estate (now the largest part of The Garden at Newfields). Over the next five years, he would transform the grounds surrounding the estate house into a lush mixture of formal gardens, grand vistas, and naturalistic rambles that now boast National Historic Landmark status.

Century Garden, composed of five commissioned sculptural interventions by artist Anders Herwald Ruhwald, commemorates the landscape’s 100-year anniversary. Ruhwald collaborated with the Newfields horticulture team to situate integrated sculptural and botanical vignettes throughout the historic gardens. Bold blossoms and foliage from across the globe frame and augment Ruhwald’s artworks, producing flashes of color that disrupt the otherwise graceful, manicured grounds.

Ruhwald’s site-specific sculptures are monumental and enigmatic. Their placement here contends with the history of the Oldfields garden design, as well as the complex, wayward relationship between humans and the natural world.

Find Anders Ruhwald: Century Garden groupings on the map.

1. Inherent Force (Objects for Three and Four Plants)
2. Petitot’s Dream #1 and #2
3. Index (Person) #2 and (Child)
4. Objects for a Body (A Proposal for Reintegration)
5. Inherent Force (Object for a Plant)