

artbook *Art Works by Fred Gardner*

Art Show Catalog



*Clawson House by Fred Gardner
Painting takes its permanent place at the entrance of the East Amwell Museum*

EAST AMWELL MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY GRAND OPENING

Early Works - late 1950's through early 1990's



Clare College Cambridge



Fireplace – Oil



Sculpture entitled, Owl



Quogue Bird Sanctuary



Fresh Pears on the Buffet



Still Life Oil



Sailboat and Buoy

*August eighteenth
barn swallows and purple martins
line the power wires along the road
from pole to pole
forty or more to start
more each morning
Their loud twittering starts at dawn
in sudden bursts
groups sweep across the fields
in twisting formations
then this day
silence*

: Gael Gardner

Current Paintings, mostly watercolors - early 1990's to present



Locketong Falls



Wickecheoke Creek



Stony Brook Headwaters



*From the: Hopeful Hippo Book
At the Metropolitan
Museum of Art
Children's Library*



Stony Brook North



Cedar Ridge Stream



Cedar Ridge Footbridge



Wall and Dead Tree



Bill Rawlyk's Farm



Ted Fishing



Weathertop House



Winter At Weathertop



Ann and Antonio's House

Dawning

*I love to be up and out
in summer*

*as day begins,
say, 4 a.m.*

*with a faint lightening
just an outline of trees,
and spaces,
just stillness*

*Space changes as much as light
a yawn a stretch of air*

*just almost
nothing*

: Gael Gardner



Davies' Trees



Old Shed



Potatoes Onions Garlic



Gamba's Wagon Shed



Gael's Chair



Stream



Sheep Barn and Pasture



Eatons' House



New Pasture Stone Wall



Lily



Stream at Thompsons' '



Hopeful Hippo Eating a Bowl of Leaves

Upper Pasture

*I spent some time today
in the upper pasture*

*eating wild strawberries
it was almost too late
in the season*

*when I wandered up
to see what might be left
pasture grass,
long and lush
shielding fruit from sun*

*I walked along slowly
patch-to-patch*

*one berry, then another
catching my eye*

*color just enough
different from reddish
leaves beneath the grasses*

*two, sometimes three, hanging together
ruby-like
close to the ground*

*saving none to take home,
I pressed each with my tongue*

flavor blossoming in my mouth

: Gael Gardner



Silver Bowl with Oranges



Pond Watercolor



East Amwell Forest Scene



Family Memories 1



Family Memories 2



Family Memories 3



Weathertop Pond



Pears on Chinese Tray



Weathertop Landscape

*A fractured flock of crows
explodes from the oak woods
flashes across the field
wheels in an updraft
and dives into the woods
at the exact spot from which
they rose*

*A bald eagle,
its back turned
sits on a phone pole*

: Gael Gardner



2018 Christmas Card



Run In Shed



Rainy in Fall

Christmas Cards – Paintings 1994 – 2017



Cherry Pickin'

*Early May they begin to yellow;
then to pink and rosy red,
not the deep red Bing ones without souls.
These an old breed from orchards 60 years past.*

*A bumper crop this year it seems.
Best eaten sitting in the tree,
warm and salt and slightly sour,
real old pie cherries.*

*Pitted with my old iron pitter – cherries in the top
pits out one way – pulp another.
Bottom crust only, tender, thin, mouth-watering.
Cherries cooked separately,
then poured in up to the brim, maybe sugar,
crumbs on top.*

*One morning at dawn a small boy called down to me
“Look, GG, It’s me, up here!”
Way up in the tree, cherries fill his pockets,
hands and mouth to overflowing.*

*Afternoons children of many ages
compete with the birds for its wild pleasures,
sometimes on ladders or in the tractor bucket
lifted to dizzying heights.
As May turns to June fruit hangs redder,
fatter and meltingly sweet.*

*No yellow on the tree now; each day fewer and
fewer
as the birds take their toll.
Finally tonight at dusk I pick the last two.
Only a few dried ones remain,
mid-June.*

: Gael Gardner

Art Catalogue



Artworks by Fred Gardner

Poetry by Gael Gardner



Commissioned by:
The East Amwell Historical Society

Jim Davidson, President
East Amwell Historical Society

Thanks to Jill Nielsen of Nonesuch Framing
for matting and hanging

Catalog Design and Production:
Connie Chirichello

Fred Gardner started painting while he was at Clare College, Cambridge University on a Mellon Fellowship, studying history and history of art and traveling through Western Europe exploring art and architecture. He continued painting as time permitted while pursuing a career in finance and management. He retired from JP Morgan in 1993 at the age of 59 with the intention of enjoying a non-professional second career as an artist. Until then he had worked mostly in oils and pastels, but he started to paint watercolors with the excellent coaching of Karen MacLean Peterson of Highland Studios in Hopewell and has primarily worked in that medium since the late 1990's. He paints mostly for his own satisfaction and pleasure, but has donated paintings for successful sale or permanent collection to several non-profit organizations, including D&R Greenways, New Jersey Conservation, and Princeton Academy. He is delighted to have the opportunity to show some of his work at the opening of the Clawson House, a major event in East Amwell's successful preservation of its rural character and history.

Fred and his wife, Gael, live on the 56 acre farm in East Amwell they bought in 1983. Both are active in conservation and land preservation. They donated the development rights on their property to the SADC in 1998 when Fred was a member of the Township Committee and both have served for many years on township boards involved with land use. Fred has played a significant role in East Amwell's preservation of more than 12 square miles of farmland and open space. Gael was a founding member of the Amwell Valley Trail Association, the largest trail association in the Northeast on private land, and manages much of the care of its 75 mile network of marked and mapped horseback and hiking trails. Gael also writes poetry and is an active member of the U.S.1 Poets' Cooperative.