



Chapin Mill Retreat Center: An Introduction



"I've spent years sitting in meditation halls in Asia and North America, and of them all, the one at Chapin Mill is by far the best."

~ Philip Starkman, Founding Teacher of Spring Rain Sangha, Toronto

Midway between the Buffalo and Rochester airports, near Batavia, New York, the Chapin Mill Retreat Center offers 135 acres of woods, streams, a pond, and a beautiful new facility specifically designed and built for meditation retreats. For meditation and yoga groups who are looking for a quiet, secluded retreat venue, Chapin Mill is available for rental at reasonable rates.



ROCHESTER ZEN CENTER
A BUDDHIST COMMUNITY



Chapin Mill Retreat Center: The Facilities



1. The main meditation hall features 53 windows, removable dividers, and an ingenious ventilation system that takes full advantage of the fresh country air. It seats 64 and includes a carpeted perimeter for walking meditation.

2. The large exercise room was designed specifically for yoga with a resilient wooden floor that can be heated in colder weather. It may also be used for meditation or as a meeting room.

3. & 6. The dining room, which includes nine cherry tables that can be configured in several different ways, is serviced by a large, light-filled commercial kitchen.

4. The dormitories sleep 54 people in single, double, triple, and quad bedrooms; bathrooms are shared.

5. The lounge includes a baby grand piano and provides a comfortable gathering place for meetings, relaxation, or meditation.

(Please see floor plan for more details on the facilities.)





Chapin Mill Retreat Center: The Grounds

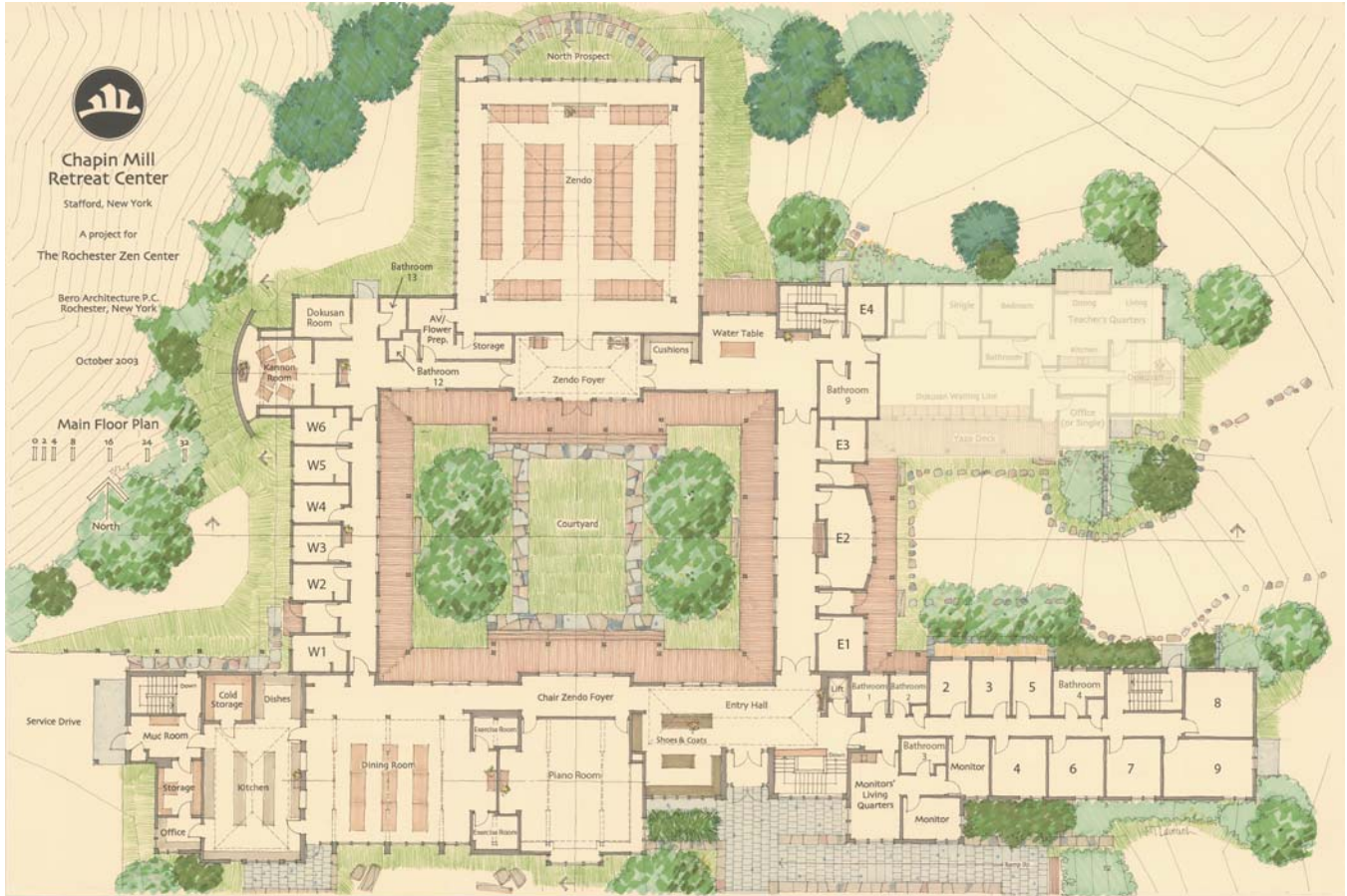


Chapin Mill, a 135-acre country estate, was donated to the Rochester Zen Center by the late Ralph Chapin, a founding member of the Center, in 1996. The grounds include a spring-fed mill pond and the original grist mill built in 1811. Perennial beds line many of the walkways, and there are large open meadows, a simple labyrinth, a swimming area, an orchard, and walking trails through the wooded areas and wetlands.





Chapin Mill Retreat Center: Floor Plan



Because Chapin Mill Retreat Center was designed specifically for retreats, the entire complex facilitates an easy flow from meditation to meals, talks, and work or exercise periods. The architectural design draws from Upstate New York's indigenous Arts and Crafts esthetic with a few carefully chosen Asian elements. Reclaimed beams, some harvested on the Chapin Mill property, were used in several of the main rooms and a running strip of Douglas fir trim unifies the building. The facility is built around a tranquil central courtyard, accessible from all four sides.

