

Preservation

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Nemours Mansion and Gardens Alfred I. duPont's formal French gardens and mansion in Wilmington, Del., are emerging from the first phase of a 10-year, \$39 million restoration. Workers have built a new visitors center, updated mechanical and electrical systems, and revived original paint schemes. Restoring the 12-foot-tall statue *Achievement*, which crowns the central fountain, was a major feat. Experts stripped away layers of paint, restored the damaged bronze, and applied sheets of gold leaf—so the statue looks just as it did at its unveiling in 1930.

TOP: MICHAEL BEASLEY/CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS; BOTTOM: ISSE BRIMBERG & COTTON COULSUN/KEEN

