



MASTER PLANS
A spherical archive was added to Maurice Sendak's Chestnut Hill Road home to protect more than 10,000 of his creations. Max being his most famous from *Where the Wild Things Are*.

Where the Wild Things Were

PROTECTING THE WORKS OF ILLUSTRATOR MAURICE SENDAK // BY GERRI LEWIS

» STACKS of neatly labeled boxes fill the space of the Maurice Sendak archive, a recently completed addition to the late author's Ridgefield home on Chestnut Hill Road. These manuscript sized boxes, each containing the original artwork from Sendak's popular children's books such as *Where the Wild Things Are*, *In the Night Kitchen*, and *Outside Over There*, are all slated for the University of Connecticut archives where they have found a home for at least the next five years.

When the acclaimed au-

thor and artist died in 2012, the foundation he created, led by his long time trusted friend and employee, Lynn Caponera, immediately went to work on the addition to his home in order to protect his artwork and collections. They also began the tedious task of cataloguing a treasure-trove of over 10,000 pieces of artwork, manuscripts, and other works he collected. Simultaneously, they formed an exploratory committee in hopes that a museum in town might someday display his works and collections. The goal to

house it in the Philip Johnson Building on the former Schlumberger property was scrapped because Caponera says that the foundation was just not equipped to run a museum.

Instead, Sendak's thousands of pages of book art

will be archived along with other award-winning authors in the Northeast Children's Literature Collection, part of UConn's Archives and Special Collections. Since it's located in the convenient corridor between Boston and New York City,

Written by
Margaret May



HEY, MICKEY Among the hodge-podge of Sendak artifacts, there is one constant face. Thousands of Mickey Mouse miniatures, mostly from the 1930s, remain huddled together on tables, shelves, and behind glass cabinets—a mass group of memorabilia around the deceased author's preserved home.