

About the Garden of Fragrance

Patterned after the "Sweet Gardens of Memory" planted by the Colonists soon after the Plymouth Landing in 1620, the Garden of Fragrance was designed by the late Harriet Hollister Spencer and opened to the public in 1958.

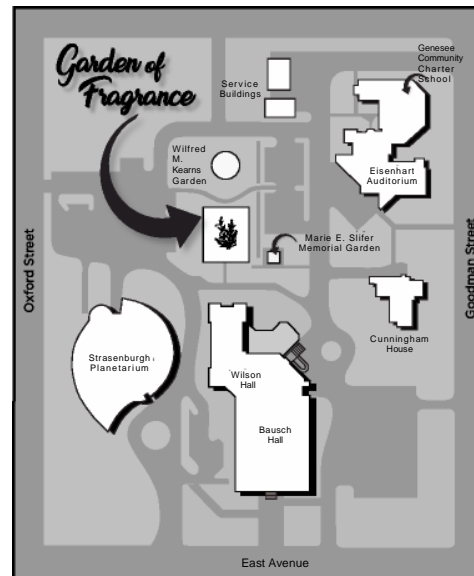
Time, the loss of many of the rose bushes, & boxwood blight have prompted many changes in the Garden of Fragrance, but the eight geometric herb beds laid out in the formal, simplistic Tudor & Stuart style.....basically remain the same. One bed contains bitter herbs and herb repellents such as Roman Wormwood, Horehound, and Hyssop, which were originally used to ward off vermin, insects, and moths and as a protection.....against typhus. Another bed is filled with monastery herbs which have been named by monks since the sixth century. This section contains Our Lady's Bedstraw, which according to legend lined Jesus' manger, and Sweet Mary, or Bible Leaf, whose strong scent when placed in a Bible would keep parishioners awake during long sermons.

The garden also contains a med of medicinal herbs believed to possess magical powers. Included are Celandine, whose bright orange juice was used to help cure jaundice; and Roof Houseleek, which was planted on a thatched roof to ward off lightning and witches. Other traditional herb beds within the Garden of Fragrance are planted with sweet-smelling herbs, the kind used in perfumes, scented soaps, and sachets; pot herbs, which can be cooked and eaten like vegetables; seasoning herbs used for flavoring culinary dishes, ad Bee Herbs, which are essential to attracting bees for pollination.

The Garden of Fragrance is open free and to the public. Tours of the garden are given each year at the Garden Party and Herb Sale sponsored by the RMSC Council.



The RMSC would like to thank the Rochester Herb Society for its continued support and maintenance of the Garden of Fragrance



657 East Avenue
Rochester, New York 14607
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Garden of Fragrance



MEDICINAL & MAGIC HERBS

Sneezewort Yarrow
Valerian
Feverfew
Lesser Celadine
Foxglove
Lungwort
English Daisy
Roof Houseleeks
(Hens & Chicks)
Lavender



BEE HERBS

Echinops
Globe Thistle
Bee Balm
Flax
Rue
Marjoram
White Dead Nettle
Thyme
Lavender



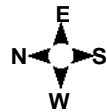
MONK'S HERBS

Foxgloves
(Gloves of Our Lady)
Meadow Sweet
Our Lady's Bedstraw
Our Lady's Mantle
Lily of the Valley
Costmary
(Bible Leaf)
Lavender



BITTER & REPELLANT HERBS

Southernwood
Silver King
Fern Leaved Tansey
Rue
Horehound
Roman Wormwood
Santolina
Lavender



CENTER GARDEN

Russian Sage
Knock Out Roses
Catmint

CULINARY HERBS

Lavender Thyme
Sage
Oregano
Dill
Basil
White Mint
Bronze Fennel
Clary Sage



SALAD HERBS

Lavender
Chives
Parsley
Borage
Nasturtium
French Tarragon
Sweet Cicely
Lovage



POT HERBS & EDIBLE FLOWERS

Lavender
Pot Marigold
Primrose
Garden Sorrel
Pot Marjoram
Good King Henry
Fern Leaved Peony



AROMATIC HERBS

Lavender Maiden
Pink Ambrosia
Heliotrope Rosemary
Scented Geranium
Lemon Balm
Mugwort
Southernwood



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