

# The OAC "56 Park in the Garden



The garden is an inspirational place designed to demonstrate horticultural technique, artistic expression and cultural diversity. The Park in the Garden contains three main gardens, interesting vistas and a communal space for celebrations and festive gatherings. As you travel from garden to garden you experience transitions in style, texture, colour and form. Look out for the following featured designs and plant species that embody the unique qualities of each individual garden.

## The David G. Porter Memorial Japanese Garden



In any successful garden or work of art, there needs to be an affect on someone more than just a direct visual response. The composition of the space must inflict a deeper psychological and emotional feeling within the user of the space. This is a fundamental criteria in Japanese gardens, which is achieved through the use of symbols and various gardening techniques.

### Pruning



Practice of consistent pruning techniques is fundamental in maintaining desired plant shapes and forms (i.e. tama mono, s-shaped and pinching).

### Asymmetry



Asymmetrical arrangement not only attempts to make the landscape look natural, but also lead the eye along an imaginary diagonal axis.

### Shou sugi ban



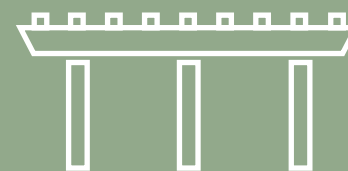
The traditional method of Japanese wood preservation, emulated in the entrance fence. Typically cedar wood is charred to a charcoal-black.

### Dry Landscapes



The zen rock garden directly relates to symbolism. The elements used such as stones, gravel and shrubs represent landscapes with mountains, waves and islands.

## The Edna and Frank C. Miller English Garden



Derived from the early "picturesque" landscape in British culture, the English cottage garden started to introduce more intimate styles of gardening rather than the vast rolling landscapes typically seen before. These styles included gravel paths, arbors, garden beds surrounded by pruned shrubs, and most notably the return of flowers.

### Hedging



Traditionally intended to keep livestock out of the garden and maintain a sense of privacy, while also establishing outdoor rooms.

### Informality



Emergence of less formal, and more natural, gardens. Plants grow in a jumble, but are formalized through borders of hedges and pathways.

### Flowers



Perennials are the most used of traditional cottage garden flowers. However, any plant with culinary or medicinal value are also welcomed.

### Avenues



Points of views connected through a series of pathways. Typically achieved through traditional stone dust pathways.

## The Italian Garden



Inspired by classic ideals of order and beauty, the Italian garden is a place to contemplate, relax and escape. It comprises of many design elements, though a garden would not necessarily employ them all. This garden emphasizes balance through organized, geometric shapes and forms.

### Pleaching



A style of growing trees into geometric shapes. Typically in straight lines, branches are tied and pruned along a physical structure.

### Symmetry



Balance is achieved by symmetrical plantings, geometrical flower beds and ornamental perennials. Consistent maintenance is essential.

### Statues



An important quality in Italian renaissance. These represent the changing of seasons, sculpted in a classical elegant form.

### Water



Water is primarily the focal point of the gardens, with everything else connected around it. Elaborate fountains and features became a crucial element of Italian gardens.