

Permanent Art at Reiman Gardens

part of the
University Museums'
Art on Campus Collection

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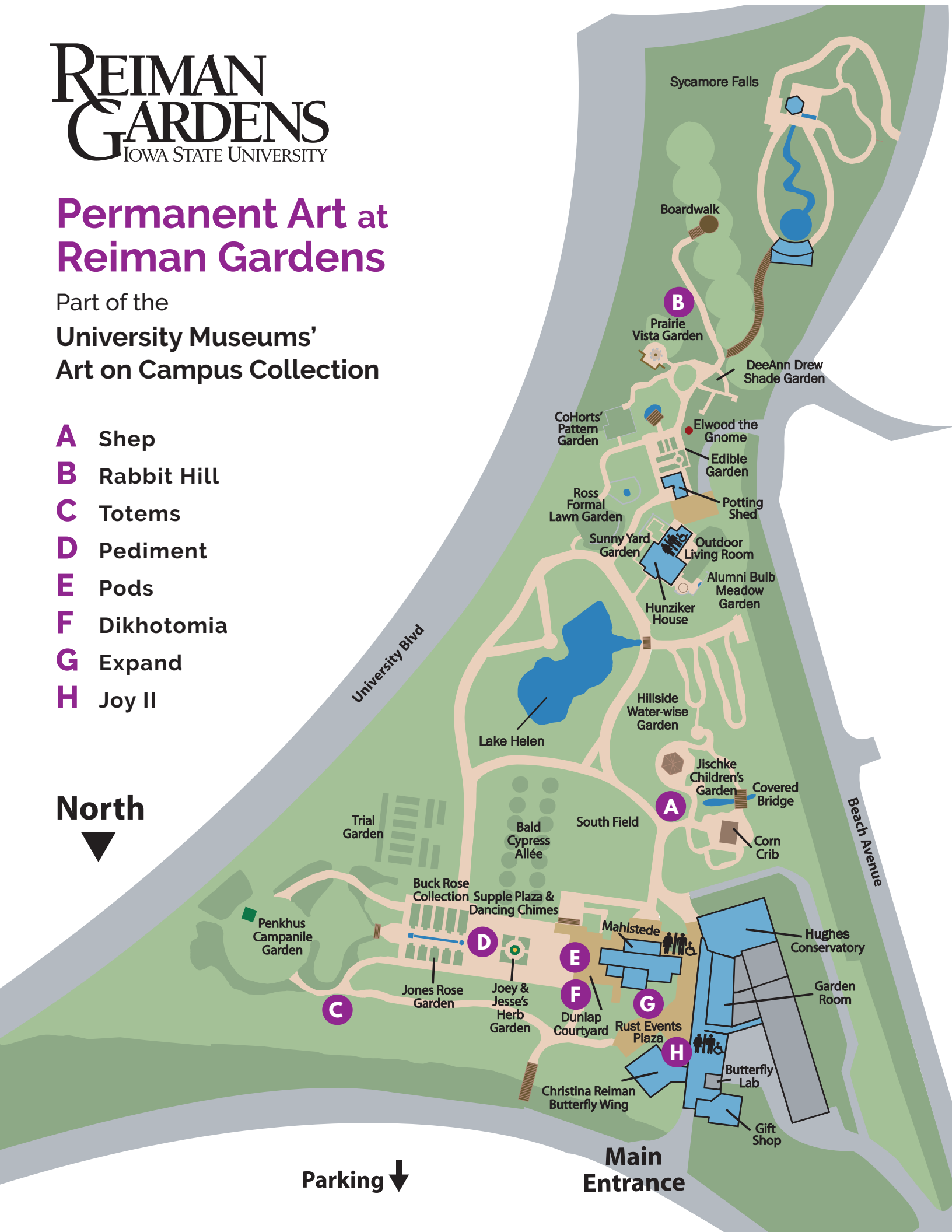
- A** Shep
- B** Rabbit Hill
- C** Totems
- D** Pediment
- E** Pods
- F** Dikhotomia
- G** Expand
- H** Joy II

North



Parking ↓

Main Entrance



Totems



Artist: Ted "Sitting Crow" Garner

1979, Carved Steel

This sculpture incorporates three stylized animal figures – a bear, a beaver, and a raven. Northwest Coast peoples – Native North Americans who lived along the Pacific Ocean's edges from northern California to Alaska and surrounding island chains – often erected totem poles outside their homes to communicate various stories, myths, and legends, and to serve as a symbolic form of historical writing. Can you identify each animal carved into the steel, and create a story of your own?

[Garden Location:](#) Roy and Mary Amos Smith Hardwood Forest

Dikhotomia



Artist: Thomas Stancliffe

1995, Welded Bronze

Stone columns support two bronze sculptures that represent a dialogue between horticulture and agriculture, two of ISU's most important areas of research. Work A and Work B provide a dramatic gateway for visitors strolling through the garden. The artist, Tom Stancliffe is a professor of Art at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

[Garden Location](#): Dunlap Entry Courtyard

Pediment



Artist: Thomas Stancliffe

1995, Welded Bronze and Cedar Wood

A wood "pagoda style" canopy extends across the entry to the rose garden. Side support columns are 8' and are made of stone. A cedar wood trellis and bronze roses form the mid-section of the canopy. The bronze finial is a 2' high vertical bronze rod with bronze ball midway up. Pediment references the architecture and landscape of the rural Midwest. The endless grid of our roads and fields as laid out on the Jeffersonian grid plan become a trellis, with a rose added to denote the entrance into the rose garden.

[Garden Location](#): Helen Latch Jones Rose Garden

Shep



Artist: Nina de Creeft Ward

1999, Bronze

Shep is a bronze farm dog that welcomes visitors into the Patty Jischke Children's Garden. With a happy looking face and his right paw extended outwards, Shep encourages folks of all ages to shake hands and pat him on the head.

Artist Nina Ward's first plan for the design of Shep was to make several drawings of her own dog. After Ward had a design that she liked, she created several small models from wet clay. These small models allowed Ward to adjust the proportions and gestures of Shep to the exact position that she wanted. After small models were made, Ward moved onto a full size model of Shep, which was fired and is now part of the University Museums' Permanent Collection. Shep was then shipped to Max-Cast foundry in Kalona, Iowa where Shep was cast in bronze, using a sand mold method of casting.

[Garden Location](#): Patty Jischke Children's Garden

Joy II



Artist: Christian Petersen

2000, Bronze

The round bronze fountain has bas-reliefs of children, from toddler to youth, at play. As you view the fountain in the round, the children are dancing together and holding hands. Two kids wearing flowing dresses hold hands with two smaller children followed by two others, a dog, a child with tennis racket, and two kids wearing shorts.

This is a bronze cast of a plaster sculpture (88.39) created by Christian Petersen in 1938 as a possible drinking fountain for the Ames' Brookside Park. This was never completed. In 1986 the College of Family and Consumer Sciences purchased the plaster sculpture, and the rights to reproduce the fountain. This bronze is one of two posthumous castings; the other cast is for a drinking fountain at the Palmer Building playground.

[Garden Location](#): Rust Events Plaza

Rabbit Hill



Artist: Deborah Masuoka

2005, Painted Bronze

Usually, rabbits are limited to a diet of low lying vegetation and greenery. Not here – these rabbits could eat you. Each sculpture weighs 150 pounds and is several feet tall – and that's just the head poking up out of the ground. The typical prey becomes the predator.

Each head is two faced, with one menacing eye regarding its visitors and painted earth tones that are just a bit too bright. This explores the contrast between how we typically see rabbits (as soft, vulnerable creatures) and as they really can be (ravenous garden predators, capable of causing a garden's destruction). This is not unlike the dual nature of Reiman Gardens, which celebrate both the natural Iowa landscape and the hybrids so commonly created in the research laboratories of Iowa State.

The rabbits stand solitary and quiet in the far reaches of Reiman Gardens, both attracting people in to the prairie that was once less traveled, and repelling them away. The initial reaction to the menacing creatures was not overwhelmingly positive, but visitors have since grown to appreciate the predatory guardians.

[Garden Location](#): Prairie Vista Garden

Expand



Artist: Tom Riefe

2016, Stainless Steel

The bright luster and sharp edges of stainless steel may at first seem unusual in the natural setting of Reiman Gardens, but this dramatic sculpture is perfectly at home in the Rust Events Plaza. The linear elements of Expand originate from the sculpture's center and project outward, both suggesting growth and illustrating how an idea can expand limitlessly. The symmetrical form provides a sense of balance, creating a connection between individuals and nature. The plantings surrounding the sculpture echo these themes of growth and balance, which form the foundation of Reiman Gardens' focus on plants, butterflies, and the beauty of the natural world.

Garden Location: Rust Events Plaza

Pods



Artist: Vernon "Skip" Willits

2013, Steel

Planted in the shade of the catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*) trees, Pods is a dramatic companion to the natural elements of the Dunlap Courtyard in all seasons. The sculpture's shape echoes the trees' long, thin seedpods that persist through the winter, while the rust-colored surface creates a striking contrast to eruptions of orchid-like white blooms in spring. Later, the catalpas' large, heart-shaped leaves provide relief from summer suns, as well as a backdrop to the angular sculpture that transforms from rich green to luminous gold in the fall.

[Garden Location](#): Dunlap Entry Courtyard