

Design

Spring 1978



DESIGN

A Publication of the Park Practice Program

The Park Practice Program is a cooperative effort of the National Park Service and the National Recreation and Park Association.

William J. Whalen, Director
National Park Service

John H. Davis, Executive Director
National Recreation and Park Association

The Park Practice Program includes: *Trends*, a quarterly publication on topics of general interest in park and recreation management and programming; *Grist*, a bimonthly publication on practical solutions to everyday problems in park and recreation operations including energy conservation, cost reduction, safety, maintenance, and designs for small structures; *Design*, a quarterly compendium of plans for park and recreation structures which demonstrate quality design and intelligent use of materials.

Membership in the Park Practice Program includes a subscription to all three publications and a library of back issues arranged in binders with indices and all publications for the remainder of the calendar year. The initial membership fee is \$80; annual renewal is \$20. A separate subscription to *Design* is \$50 initially and \$10 on renewal. Subscription applications and fees, and membership inquiries should be sent only to: National Recreation and Park Association, 1601 North Kent Street, Arlington, VA 22209.

The information presented in any of the publications of the Park Practice Program does not reflect an endorsement by the agencies sponsoring the program or the editors.

Articles, suggestions, ideas, and comments are invited and should be sent to: Park Practice Program, Division of Federal and State Liaison, National Park Service, Washington, DC 20240.

Editorial Staff

Division of Federal and State Liaison
National Park Service

Frank C. Goodell, Managing Editor

James A. Burnett, Editor *Design* and *Grist*

Maureen Palmedo, Consulting Editor, *Trends*, *Grist* and *Design*

Maureen Finnerty, Editorial Assistant

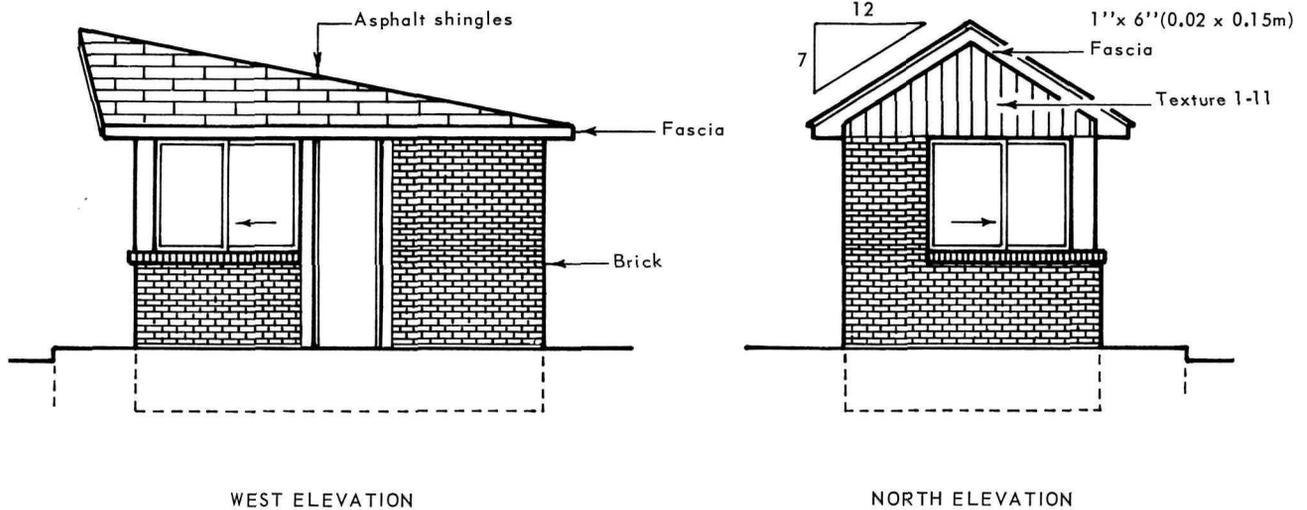
As spring arrives, this issue of DESIGN features a special garden, one full of pleasant surprises for both blind and sighted visitors, complete with a detailed list of plant possibilities.

Other designs of use to park and recreation agencies include an unusual triangular-shaped entrance station and an exterior bulletin board with fold-down back and hinged legs for easy display change. A bicycle access device will help you keep larger vehicles off pedestrian and bicycle trails. Finally, two simple but effective designs that solve boat storage and carrying problems are included.

Chart below indicates the proper place to insert new design sheets in your DESIGN binder.

Behind Index No.	Insert New sheet Index No.	Backed by Index No.
A-1 226	A-1 227	A-1 228
A-1 228	A-1 229	A-1 230
A-1 786	A-1 799	A-1 800
P-241 8	P-241 9	P-242 0
R-4934	R-4935	R-4936
1-6902	1-691 9	1-6902
1-6920	1-6921	1-6920

Triangular Entrance Station

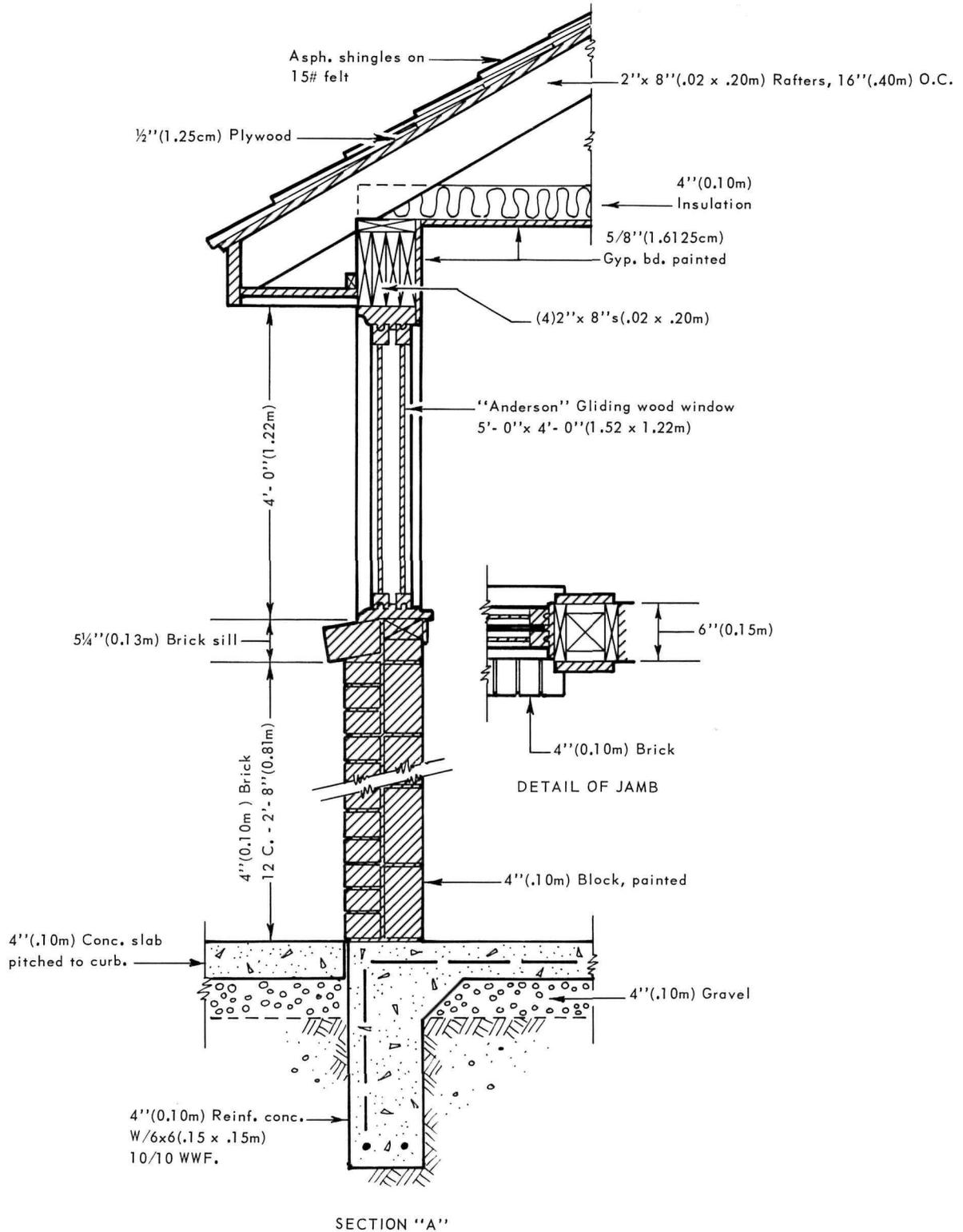


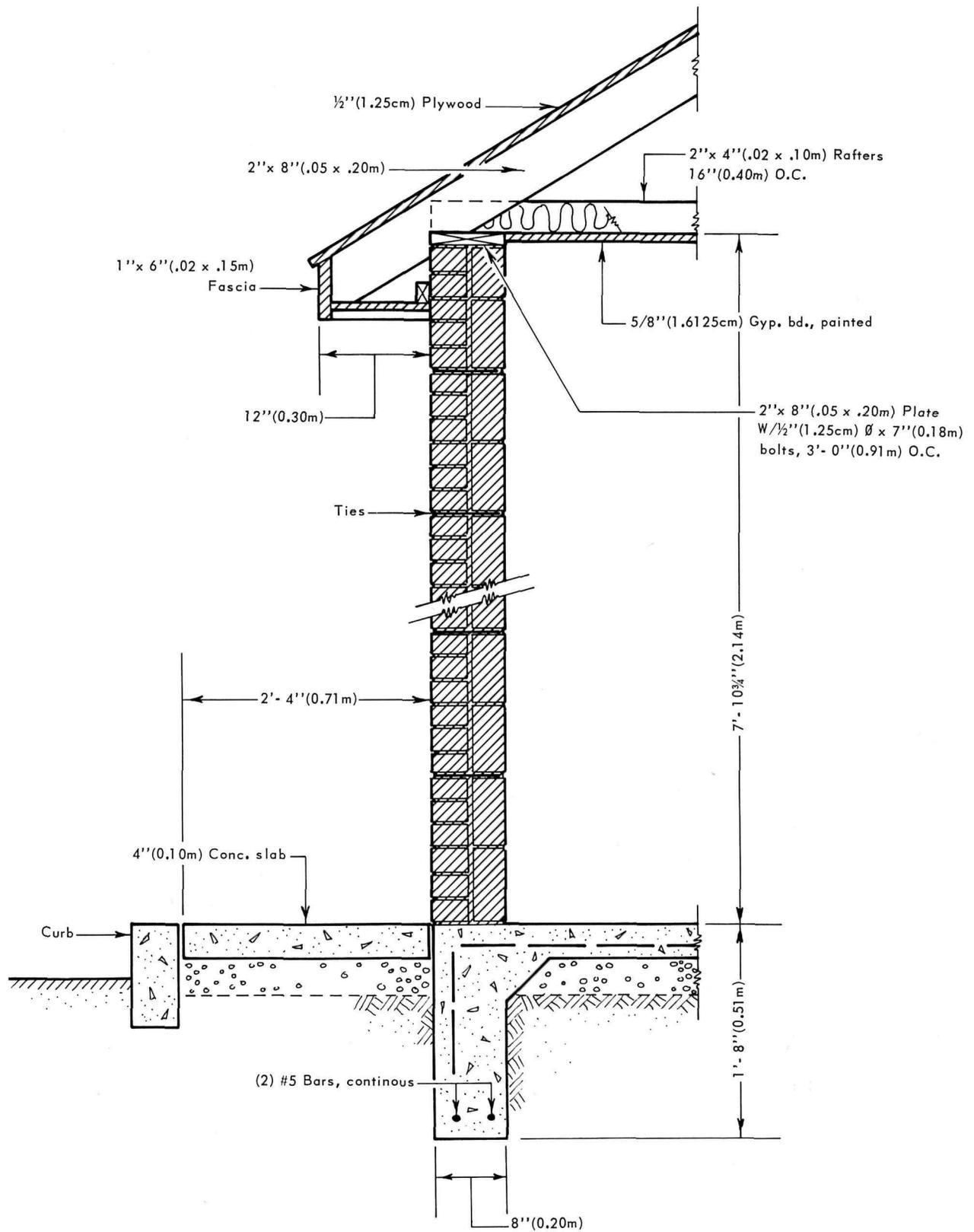
The National Park Service's Denver Service Center designed this triangular-shaped entrance station for the George Washington Birthplace National Historic Park (VA).

The structure measures approximately 14' x 14' x 8'8" (4.27 x 4.27 x 2.64 m). It has an asphalt shingled, overhanging roof, insulated ceiling, large sliding windows on two sides, and a built-in plastic laminate countertop. As an added bonus, little maintenance is required on this all-masonry construction—brick exterior, painted block interior.

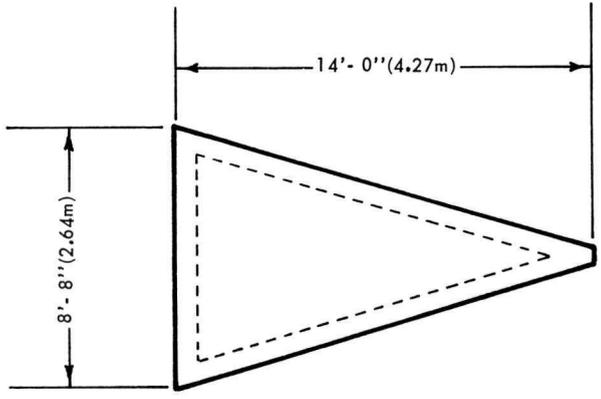
National Park Service in cooperation with the National Recreation and Park Association
DESIGN . . . A publication of the Park Practice Program

TRIANGULAR ENTRANCE STATION		Contributed by
Index	A-1227	Denver Service Center
	Control	NPS, USDI
	April 1978	
	S-1545-A	

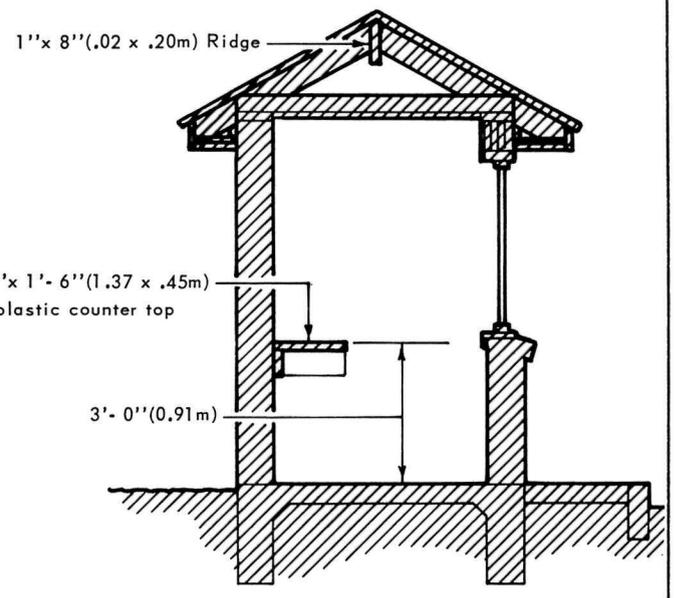




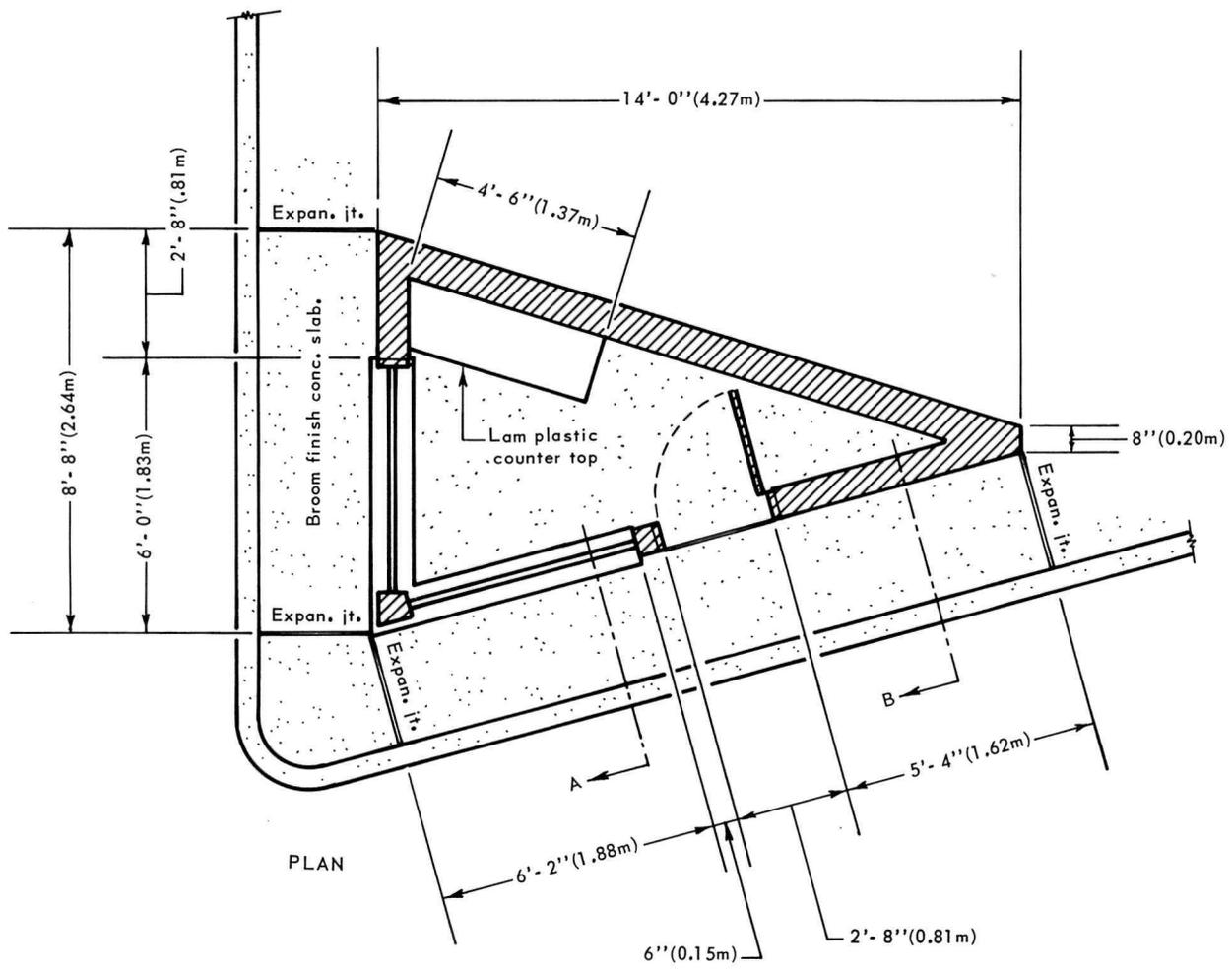
SECTION "B"



FOUNDATION PLAN

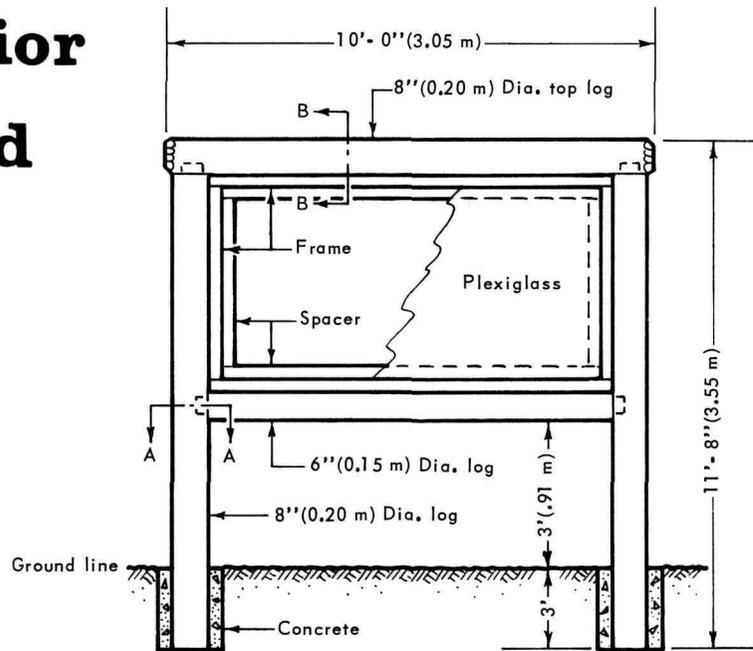


SECTION

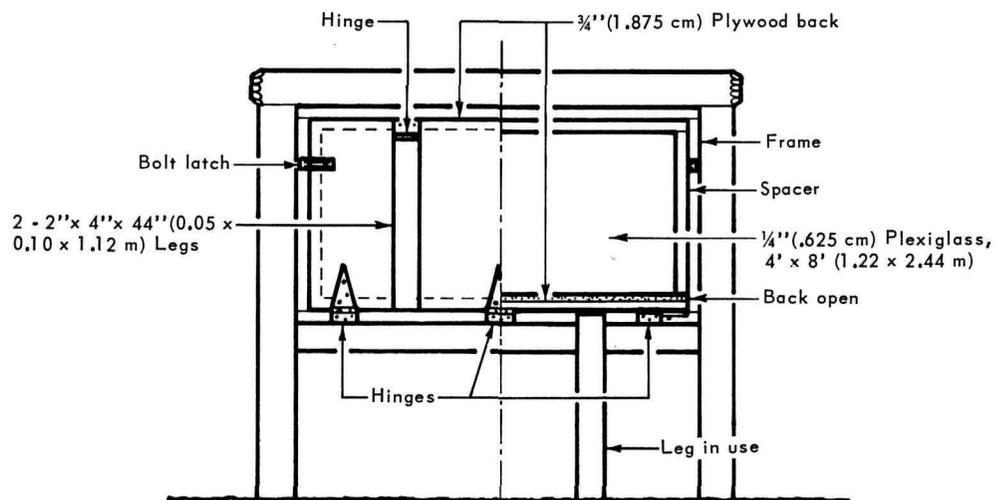


PLAN

Hinged Exterior Bulletin Board with Legs



FRONT ELEVATION



HALF-ELEVATION BACK CLOSED HALF-ELEVATION BACK OPEN

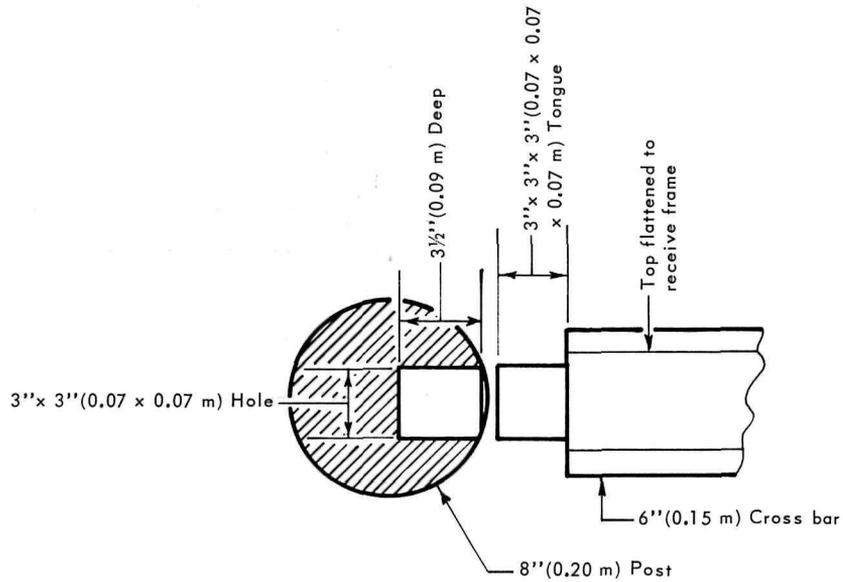
REAR VIEW

From Thomas Felak of Washington County's Department of Parks (PA), comes this design for a hinged, exterior bulletin board.

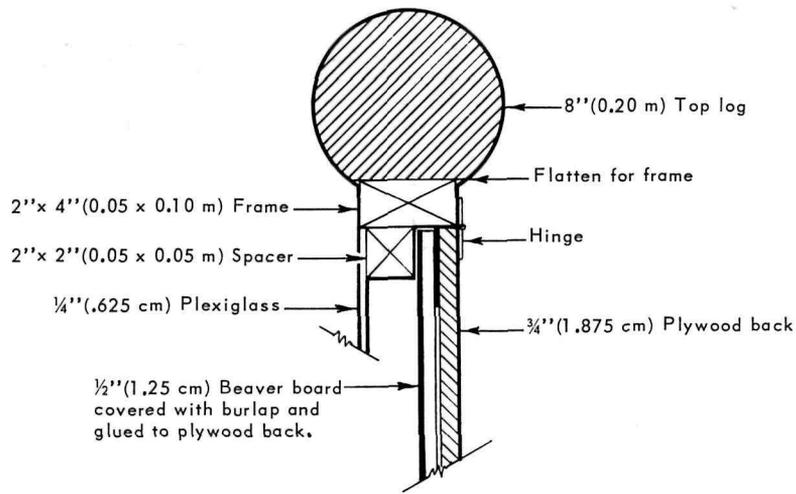
Eight-inch (0.20 m) diameter logs serve as outside frame and support posts. A front panel of 1/4" (.625 cm) plexiglass, which fits into a plywood interior frame, remains stationary. The back is hinged for access to the display boards. Movable legs hold the lowered back in a steady horizontal position, preventing it from falling too close to the ground, and facilitating work on a new display.

National Park Service in cooperation with the National Recreation and Park Association
DESIGN . . . A publication of the Park Practice Program

EXTERIOR BULLETIN BOARD		Contributed by
Index	A-1799	Washington County
	April 1978	Dept. of Parks, PA
	Control C-1562-A	



SECTION A - A



SECTION B - B

Bicycle Access Control Structure



This bicycle access control design from Michigan's Department of Natural Resources permits bicycle and pedestrian access to trails while it prohibits motorcyclists, snowmobilers, and horseback riders from entering it at undesignated points.

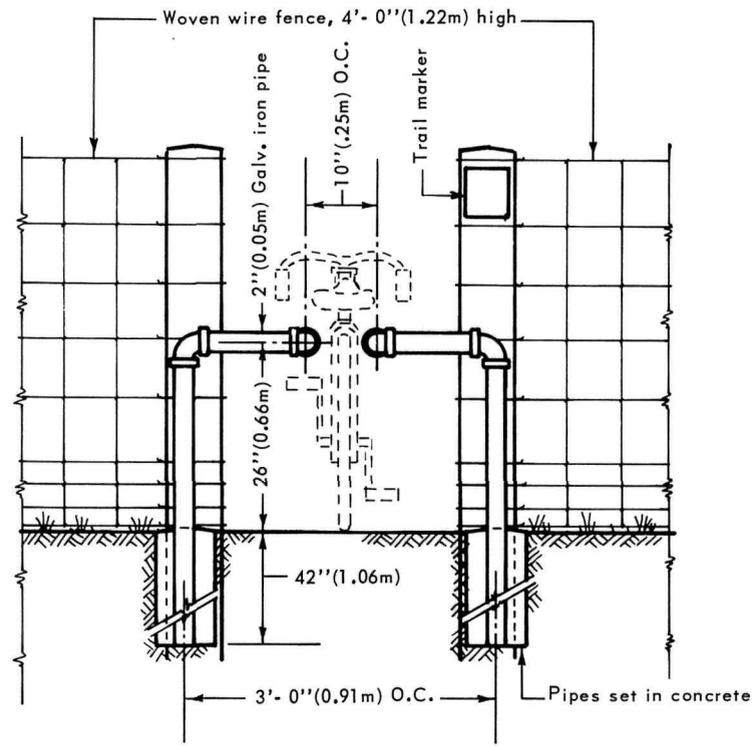
Materials needed to construct the device include various lengths of 2" (5.08 cm) diameter galvanized iron pipe, eight 90-degree threaded pipe elbows, and concrete mix to anchor the sunken lengths of pipe.

The simplicity of design allows for easy installation with a minimum of labor. Pipe connections can easily be preassembled prior to being taken to the site for installing.

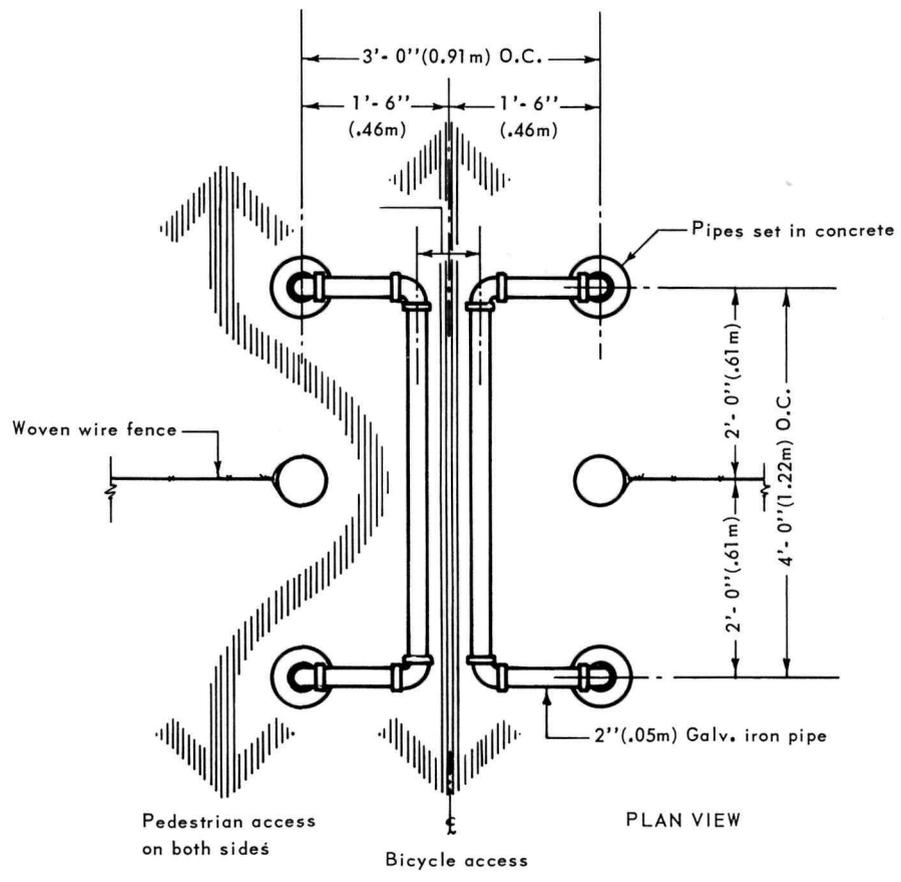
National Park Service in cooperation with the National Recreation and Park Association

DESIGN . . . A publication of the Park Practice Program

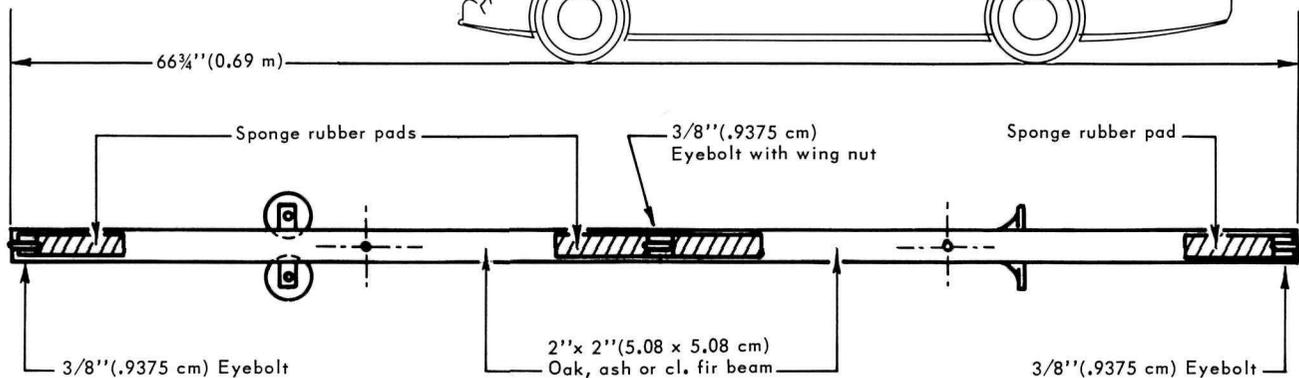
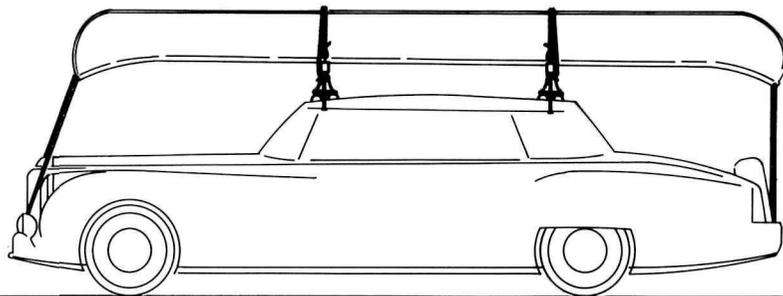
CONTROL STRUCTURE FOR BICYCLE TRAIL		Contributed by
Index	P-2419	Dept. of Natural Resources, MI
	April 1978	
	Control C-1564-P	



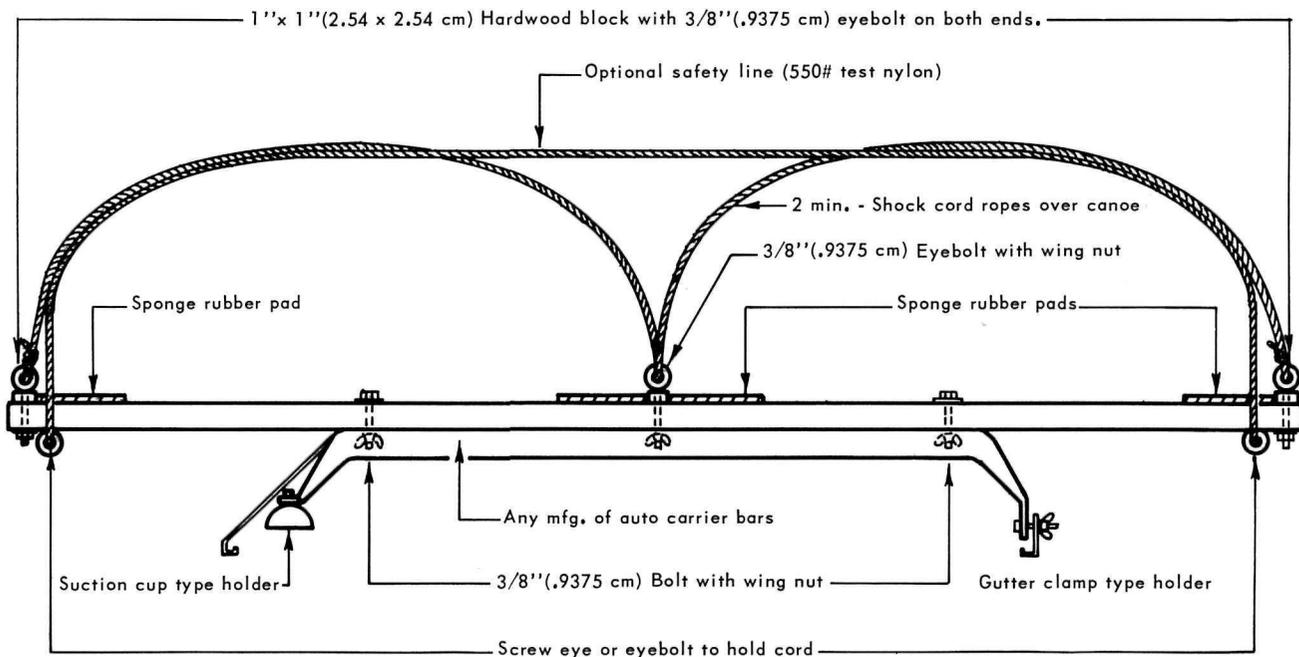
ELEVATION VIEW



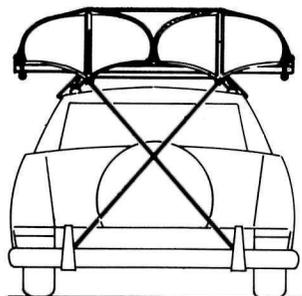
Car Rack to Hold Canoes



TOP VIEW



FRONT VIEW

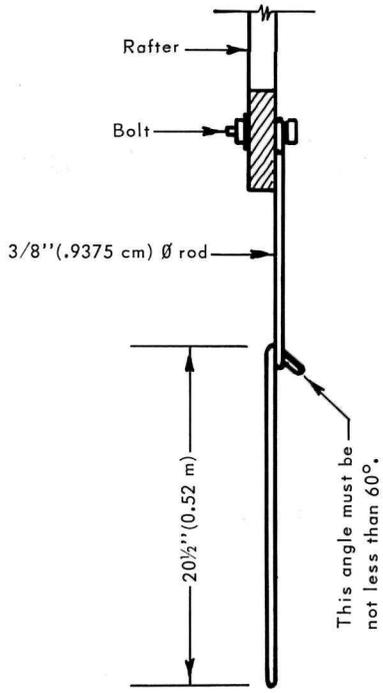


This Boy Scouts of America canoe rack will fit on any commercially available automobile carrier. Two 2" x 2" (5.08 x 5.08 cm) oak, ash, or clean fir beams fit horizontally across car roof to support two canoes. Eye bolts, mounted to hardwood blocks, are for canoe tiedowns. Regular 3/8" (.9375 cm) bolts attach beams to the carrier. Sponge rubber pads protect canoe gunwales.

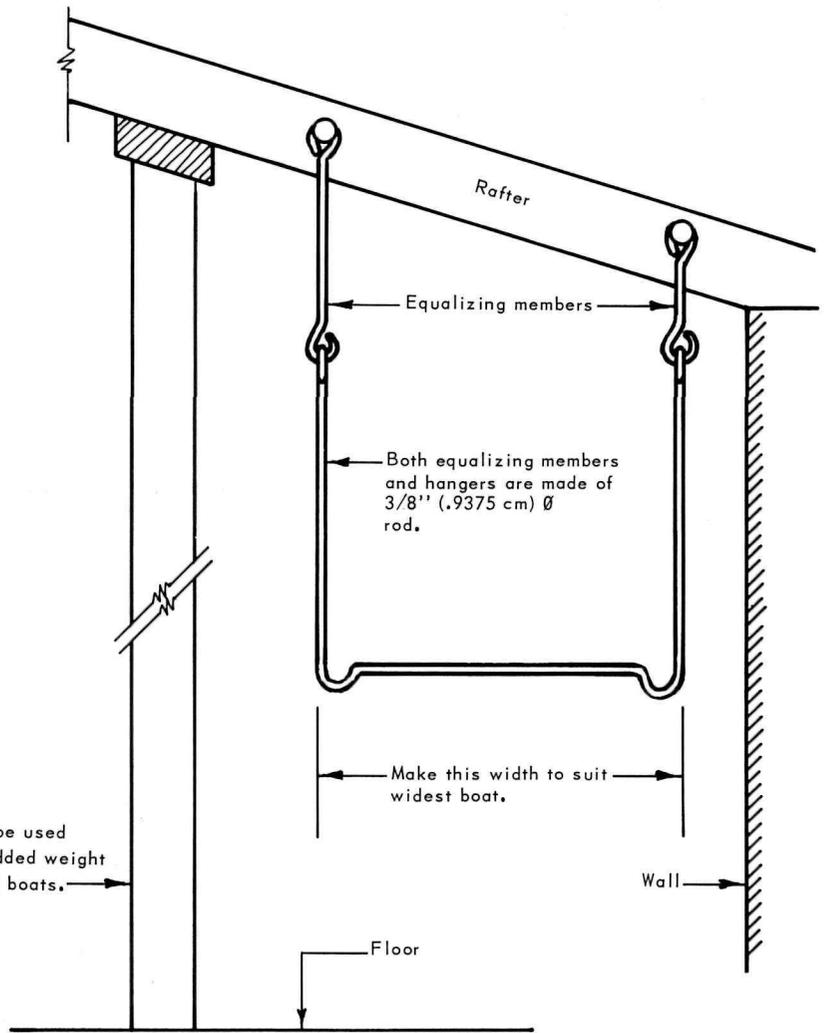
National Park Service in cooperation with the National Recreation and Park Association
DESIGN . . . A publication of the Park Practice Program

CAR RACK TO HOLD CANOES		Contributed by	
Index	R-4935	April 1978	Boy Scouts of America
		Control	N-1568-R
			Engineering Service

Boat Storage Hangers



SIDE VIEW OF HANGERS



FRONT VIEW OF HANGERS

Need more boat storage? Why not hang your boats from the rafters as suggested in this design from the Engineering Service of the Boy Scouts of America. A 3/8" (.9375 cm) steel rod hanger is bolted to the rafter. Extra lengths of hangers can be hooked on if more storage is necessary.

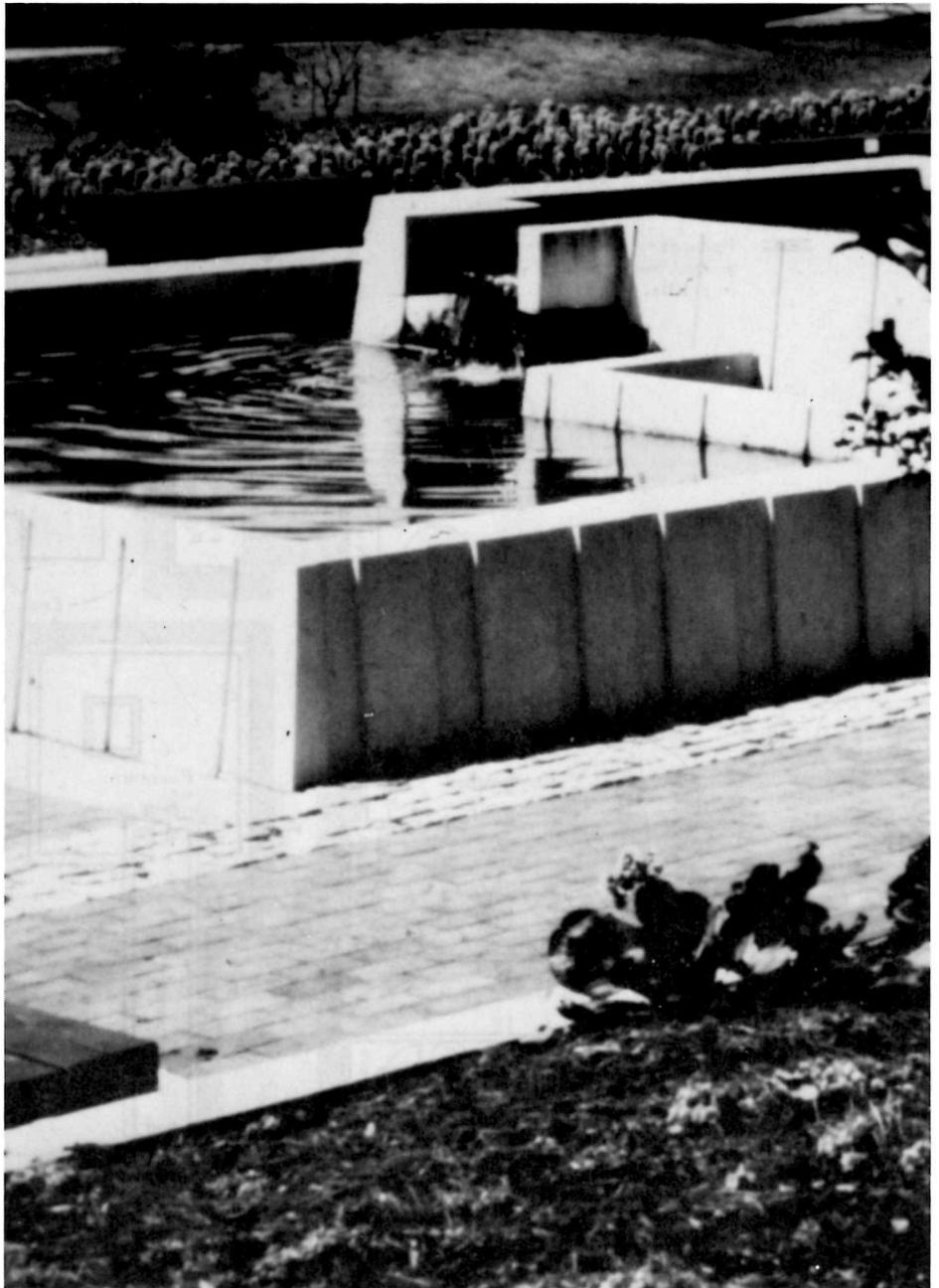
Two notes of caution need mentioning. First, make sure the width of the hanger will accommodate your widest boat. Second, the angle of the hanger's hook should be at least 60 degrees.

Rafters also should be supported while boats are in storage.

National Park Service in cooperation with the National Recreation and Park Association
DESIGN . . . A publication of the Park Practice Program

BOAT STORAGE HANGERS		Contributed by Boy Scouts of America Engineering Service
Index	R-4936	
	April 1978	
	Control N-1567-R	

A Garden for the Senses

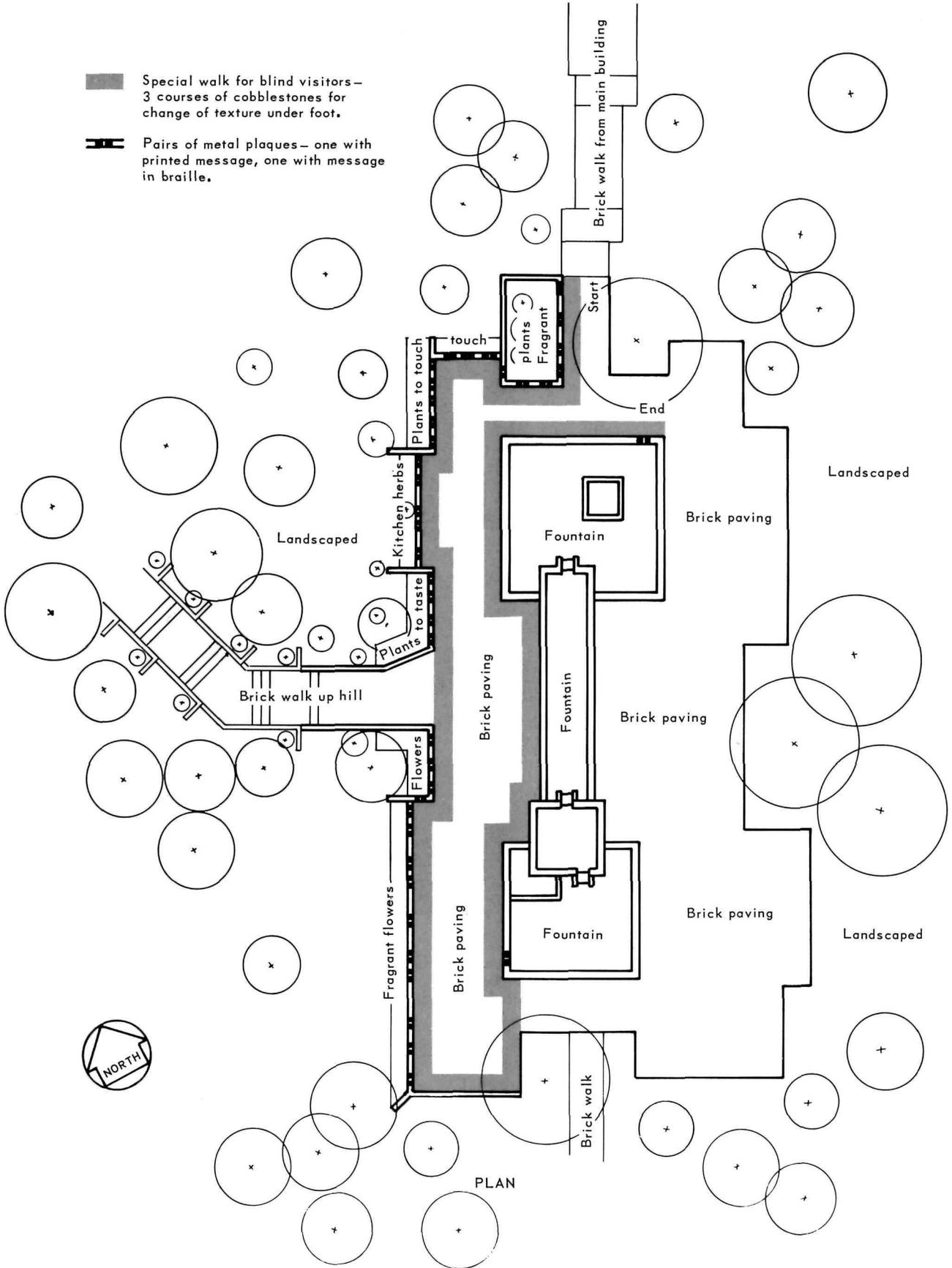


The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Fragrance Garden in Montgomery County's Wheaton Regional Park can offer many helpful tips and design pointers for parks interested in mainstreaming blind visitors in their facilities and programs. Located within Brookside Gardens, a unique 50-acre (20.0 ha) facility, the Fragrance Garden includes flowers, kitchen herbs, and plants that appeal to the senses of touch, smell, and taste. A fountain adds interesting background sound. Special path and braille signs—prepared by a blind writer—enhance experiences for the visually handicapped. Yet the garden is a delight to blind and sighted visitors alike.

National Park Service in cooperation with the National Recreation and Park Association
DESIGN . . . A publication of the Park Practice Program

A GARDEN FOR THE SENSES		Contributed by MNCPPC, Dept. of Pks., MD
Index	I-6919	
	April 1978 Control C-1566-1	

-  Special walk for blind visitors – 3 courses of cobblestones for change of texture under foot.
-  Pairs of metal plaques – one with printed message, one with message in braille.



PLAN

Plants to Use in Your Garden for the Senses

Gardens are not only to be looked at. They are to be experienced through all the senses.

This garden is one that emphasizes the variety of sensual pleasures that can be derived from perceiving plants that have fragrant foliage, fragrant flowers, taste and texture. As you walk through, you will note that the sound of running water in the fountain accents the overall sensual experience that is this garden.

The fragrant foliage plants in this area have aromas that are distinct, pleasant, and strong. They are thus excellent sources for perfume scents.

Fragrant flowers are beautiful to see and delightful to smell. These flowers were selected for their beauty and their fragrance.

Since so many herbs are used to flavor foods and drinks, it is no wonder that many would have succulent leaves. These are especially flavorful.

Leaves may be wrinkly, woolly, soft, spiny, smooth, or rough; flowers may be flat, ruffly, or firm to the touch. These are plants with a distinct texture.

Plants that are fragrant

LAVENDER—*Lavandula officinalis*

A member of the mint family, this European herb is found chiefly in the Mediterranean region, and yields an aromatic fragrance that is used commercially in sachets and perfumes. It may grow to a foot and a half in height, and its spikes of pale purple flowers vary in shade.

VIBURNUM—*Viburnum carlesi*

This shrub is one of a large number of viburnums in the honeysuckle family whose fragrant flowers of pale pink bloom for a short time in early spring. It can grow to five feet in height and its fruit of colorful berries ripens in the fall. The bark from several species may sometimes be used in medicine.

PARSLEY—*Petroselinum crispum*

Its fine green aromatic leaves are used to season or garnish food. Found in Europe, mostly around the Mediterranean, this herb makes good edging in a garden because of its delicate, often curling leaves.

CHIVES—*Allium schoenoprasum*

A member of the lily family, its small slender hollow leaves have a mild onion odor and are used to season salads, soups, or stews. Found in Mediterranean Eurasia, chives produce flowers of a purplish-pink hue.

ENGLISH IVY—*Hedera helix 'Arborescens'*

The English ivy shrub is fairly rare although the climbing vine form of woody stem and evergreen leaves may be found growing alongside buildings or walls. Its fragrant clustered flowers attract insects including bees, and the low bush may produce fruit of black berries. Although it is now found in North America, it originated in Europe.

ROSEMARY—*Rosmarinus officinalis*

Its aromatic leaves may be used to season meats and soups; its volatile oil may be extracted for medicines and perfumes; and this prostrate weeping form symbolizes remembrance. This evergreen herb of the mint family has clustered flowers of a pinkish hue that hang limply reminding one of pain or sorrow. It is a native of the Mediterranean region.

COSTMARY—*Chrysanthemum balsamita*

This is an herb of many small flowers and sweet-scented leaves that can grow quite large. It may be used to flavor drinks and salads, and though it was found chiefly in southern Europe, its adaptability has enabled it to spread naturally to other regions.

BLUEBEARD—*Caryopteris clandonensis*

This is a shrub of small pale gray leaves whose blue flowers bloom in late summer. This is a hybrid form representing the Dark Knight variety.

RUE—*Ruta graveolens*

This herb symbolizes regret and repentance and its bitter-tasting leaves were once used as a tonic to cure nervous headaches. An evergreen plant, its yellow flowers bloom in summer and its blue-gray foliage is of an unusual hue.

LEMON MINT—*Mentha species*

An aromatic plant with dark green leaves, the lemon mint spreads easily and must be carefully tended. Its reddish purple flowers bloom in summer and its scented leaves may be used to flavor food or as medicine. It is found in Europe and America.

CHASTE TREE—*Vitex agnus-castus*

This is a large shrub that can grow to tree-size of from ten to fifteen feet in the southern United States, while in the north, it is generally small. It has pale violet or white flowers that bloom in late summer and the plant itself is a gray downy color.

LEMON GERANIUM—*Pelargonium crispum*

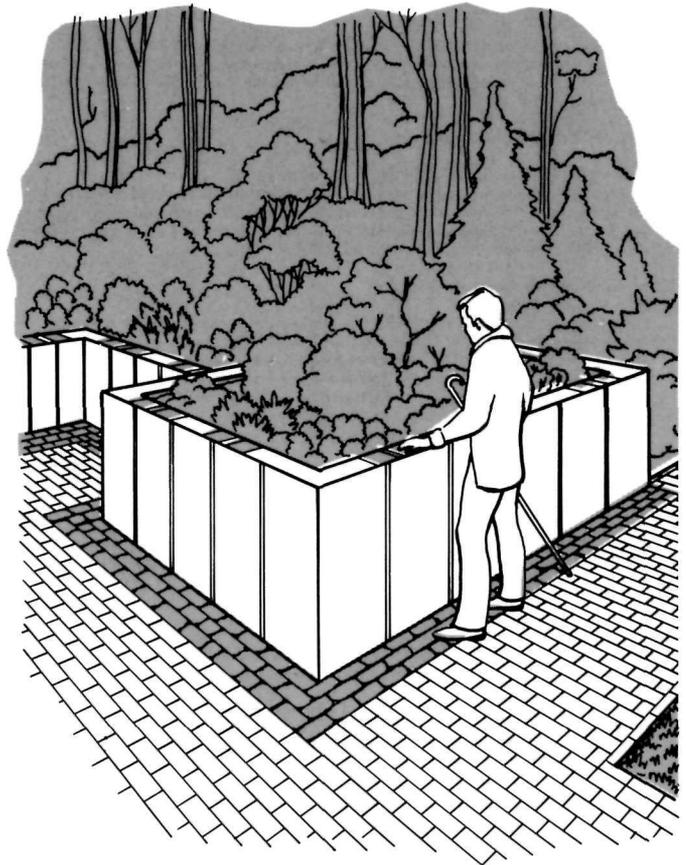
The rubbing of its scented leaves produces a strong lemony aroma. This pelargonium is an annual plant with foliage consisting of green crinkly leaves and comes originally from South Africa.

LAVENDER COTTON—*Santolina chamaecyparissus*

It is a low herb or subshrub with gray foliage and yellow white flowers that has a pleasant scent and makes good edging for gardens. It comes from the Mediterranean region.

THYME—*Thymus vulgaris*

A herb of the mint family, its fragrant leaves are used to season food. This particular plant makes fine carpeting between stones or as vegetation in a rock garden. Found in the Mediterranean area, it can have pink, white, or red flowers.



SPEARMINT—*Mentha spicata*

Found in Europe and North America, this herb gets its name from the appearance of the purplish flowers on its stem. It is a fragrant perennial plant used for flavoring.

BAYBERRY—*Myrica pennsylvanica*

A large shrub growing near the sea, the bayberry is a dull green plant with small whitish berrylike fruit whose waxy covering is used to make candles. Found in eastern North America, generally along the coast, it is a durable shrub that can stand the rigors and changing weather conditions.

CARNATION—*Dianthus caryophyllus*

The carnation is a popular garden or greenhouse flower of the pink family. Its many varieties grow perennially and the scented pink, red, or white flowers have narrow steel-blue leaves.

PETUNIA—*Petunia x hybrida*

This funnel shaped annual flowering plant comes in a variety of colors and is used for accent in gardens. Originally from South America, petunias are members of the nightshade family and bloom in summer.

VERBENA—*Verbena x hybrida*

These low growing half hardy perennial flowers bloom in summer and are used as bedding in gardens. Its showy red, white, or purplish spike-like or clustered flowers are widely grown for decorative purposes. They are found in Europe and America.

SUMMERSWEET—*Clethra alnifolia*

Found along the coastal United States, summersweet shrubs produce spike-like white or pinkish flowers in August and can grow to eight feet in height.

MARIGOLD—*Calendula officinalis*

These pungent-smelling plants with red, orange, or yellow flowers belong to the composite family and grow annually. Generally decorative in purpose, they serve an edible use as salad, vegetable, or broth flavoring.

Plants that have flavor

APPLE MINT—*Mentha rotundifolia*

Though a native European herb, apple mint has been naturalized in North America. Among the tallest of herb plants, it may grow to as high as 30 inches. Its flowers are a pinkish white in hue, and it may be used to flavor foods and drinks.

LEMON BALM—*Melissa officinalis*

A perennial herb in the mint family, with white or yellowish flowers, and aromatic leaves, lemon balm is used for a variety of purposes including flavoring for liquors and non-alcoholic drinks, cooking ingredients, or as a scent for perfumes and soaps. It is also used in medicines. A native of Europe and Asia, lemon balm is now found in eastern North America as well.

BASIL—*Ocimum basilicum*

These fragrant herbs in the mint family, are used in cooking and are common plants in any herb garden. The lettuce leaf basil is a decorative herb that may serve an ornamental purpose as well as a source for seasoning food. Common basil has a stronger odor but lacks the special attractiveness of the lettuce leaf variety. Originally from tropical Asia and Africa, these herbs are said to be good for keeping flies away. The flowers may be white or purplish in hue, and a taste of basil may remind one of pepper or clove.

HARRY LAUDER'S WALKINGSTICK—*Corylus avellana* 'Contorta'

Harry Lauder was a famous singer-actor who carried a bent walkingstick about with him. This twisted-looking plant with twigs that appear to be misshapen, derives its name from its resemblance to a bent cane. It makes good background decoration in a garden.

FRENCH TARRAGON—*Artemisia dracunculus*

This popular perennial seasoning herb, whose leaves are used to flavor a variety of foods from fish to confectioneries, is an old-world wormwood. Its thin-looking leaves give off a pleasant fragrance that is often extracted for perfume.

FRAGRANT HONEYSUCKLE—*Lonicera fragrantissima*

The flowers here are white though honeysuckle may come in red and yellow. When in bloom, in mid-March, these flowers give off a distinctly sweet fragrance that makes them a favorite among scented flowers. When grown, however, they need careful pruning lest they grow out of bounds.

SAGE—*Salvia officinalis*

Sage is colorful, fragrant, and popular as a garden herb. When dried, its leaves are used to season meats, cheeses, or dressings. A member of the Mint Family, and of Mediterranean origin, Sage blossoms may be white, purple, blue, or red and its wrinkly leaves may be either green or multicolored. Varieties may be grown for ornamentation.

BEE BALM—*Monarda didyma*

This is a showy aromatic herb grown primarily for ornamental purposes. Its red flowers attract insects and hummingbirds who extract nectar from the center of the cone. Flowers bloom from June to August and are found in eastern North America. Commercially, its scent may be used to mask ill smelling chemicals in perfumes.

EGYPTIAN ONION—*Allium species*

A mild-tasting onion with strong-scented foliage, the Egyptian onion has been grown for thousands of years. Thought to have originated in central Asia, it was used by the ancient Egyptians. It belongs to the lily family.

MARJORAM—*Marjorana hortensis*

This variety is called sweet marjoram and is a seasoning herb in the mint family. It may also be used in perfumes. Though it comes from Europe, it is thought to have originally come from the Orient. It is a perennial plant; it can be grown annually as well for its aromatic leaves.

Plants that are textured

WOOLLY THYME—*Thymus lanicaulis*

Woolly thyme is a variety of thyme that is especially suited for decoration. Its leaves have a woolly texture.

LAMB'S EAR—*Stachys olympica*

Its soft woolly leaves are shaped like lamb's ears and its flowers may be pink or purplish in hue. Originating in Caucasus, a province of eastern Europe, it makes a fine foliage accent because of its grayish color and large stalks of colorful flowers.

CHINESE FRINGE TREE—*Chionanthus retusus*

From the far Eastern nations of China, Japan, and Korea comes this plant that may grow as high as eighteen feet. It may be either evergreen or deciduous, and derives its name from its fragrant white flowers that hang in a fringe from the tree.

LIVE FOREVER—*Semper vivum*

Live forever is its name and it is a hardy plant growing in small leafy rosettes with thick foliage. These succulent herbs from Europe make good ground cover because of their short growth and can exist without much soil. Flowers may be greenish, yellow, or red; and Central European superstition has it that when grown on rooftops, neither lightning nor fire will harm the house.

WOOLLY YARROW—*Achillea tomentosa*

Woolly yarrow comes originally from Europe and Asia. This variety has small flat clusters of yellow flowers and its fern-like foliage is woolly to the touch. When the foliage is crushed, it produces an aromatic scent.

YUCCA—*Yucca glauca*

It grows in both North and Latin America, particularly in the eastern half of the western hemisphere. Its stiff sword-shaped leaves with upright flowering stalks of white waxy blossoms that droop, give off a pleasant scent at night.

HEARTLEAF BERGENIANA—*Bergenia cordifolia*

These perennial plants come from Siberia and may have pink, white, or rosy-purple flowers. Its thick small leaves resemble those of the cabbage and the plant grows best in shady spots. It blooms in early spring.

HOLLY LEAF OSMANTHUS—*Osmanthus heterophyllus*

In the fall, it produces blue-black berries. It can grow as high as 18 feet and comes to us from Japan. The spiny evergreen leaves are an attractive feature of this large shrub. Small fragrant flowers are followed in the fall by blue-black berries.

SILVERMOUND—*Artemisia schmidtiana* 'Nana'

The foliage is aromatic and pleasingly soft to the touch. Its silvery-gray short foliage makes a fine ground cover. It is grown primarily for ornamental purposes.

by Linda Teixeira for Brookside Gardens