



The Heirloom Garden at Westfield City Hall



Hamilton County Master Gardeners are pleased to present **The Heirloom Garden** at Westfield City Hall! Heirloom varieties are usually defined as plants that have been in cultivation for 50 years or more. A flower in an heirloom garden is one that has been a cherished favorite of someone for several years, often generations. Saving seeds from one season to another over time provides a continuous link with the past.

Just as mass-produced items have replaced many custom or homemade items that were a part of everyday life in the past, hybrid plants have begun to limit the diversity of plants available to gardeners. Heirloom gardening celebrates the diversity of plant life by keeping a broader array of plants alive. In addition, heirloom plants are often better adapted to an area than a hybrid and require less maintenance, including less need for pesticides or fertilizers. It's an earth-friendly way to garden!

Many plants in the Heirloom Gardens date back to the Victorian Era. Gardening was just a small part of the astonishing diversity of interests and events of the Victorian Era, but perhaps more than any time before or since, gardening was linked to the mores, values, upheavals and hopes of that time. It was almost cult-like as people sought plants, seeds, magazine and newspaper articles, "penny pamphlets," books and gadgets...anything that had to do with their gardens! Gardening was no longer for the super-rich. The growing middle class and even the industrial class could now afford at least a bit of flowering beauty in their small yards. No longer did the "rules" of Georgian society about "chaste good taste" pertain. Many gardens were, indeed, beautiful...and others were just downright preposterous! There were rock gardens designed with the Matterhorn as their model, glens in Scotland planted to look like Japan, dozens and dozens of plants forced into confined beds, vast monkey-puzzle trees, the variety was endless.

During that illustrious period the original part of the Westfield City Hall building was built. And now the public may enjoy not only the history inherent in the building, but a sampling of the kinds of flowers planted frequently during that era.

In Indiana, the Master Gardener Program is conducted by the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service. Master Gardeners provide volunteer leadership, educational information, and service to their community in gardening activities such as answering gardening questions, conducting gardening classes, and working on community beautification projects.

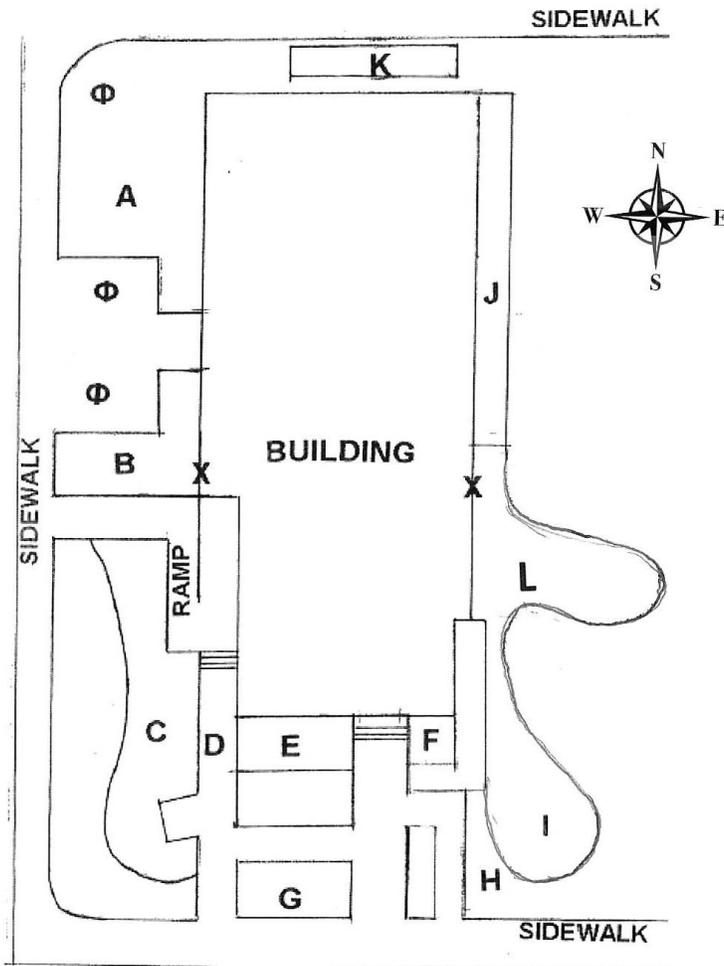
The creation and maintenance of The Heirloom Garden around the City Hall in Westfield is just one example of the contribution Master Gardeners make to their communities.



To learn more about the Heirloom Garden or the Master Gardener Program visit our website

www.hcmga.org

Plants in the Garden



- A: Lambs ear, purple cone flower, black-eyed Susan, common milkweed, rose campion, blanket flower, Rose of Sharon, hydrangea, poppies, Maltese red cross, peony, lady's mantle, surprise lily, climbing rose, bleeding heart, hosta, creeping phlox, zinnias.
- B: Lavender, summer sweet shrubs, common thyme, zinnias, dianthus, gladiolus, bell flowers, salvias,
- C: Yarrow, peony, anemone, ox-eye daisy, creeping phlox, lambs ear, blue wild indigo, Siberian iris, hollyhock, scabiosa, sea mist, dianthus, sedum, dusty miller, caladium, begonia, Lenten rose, May apple, columbine.
- D: Sweet autumn clematis on the arbor.
- E: Lilacs, clematis on the trellises, blue globe thistle, black-eyed Susan, bee-balm, snowdrop windflowers, stonecrop, yarrow, alyssum basket of gold, candytuft, maltese red cross, blanket flower, coreopsis, rose campion, coral bells,
- F: Blackberry lily, Persian shield, ivy geranium, hostas, chrysanthemums.
- G: Oxeye daisies, salvia, petunias, geraniums, love in a mist, snap dragons, hen & chicks, succulents, agave.
- H: Little blue stem grass.
- I: Hostas
- J: Holly hocks, purple, coneflower, liatris.
- K: Fothergilla shrubs, lily of the valley.
- L: Hostas, astilbe, heuchera, hydrangeas, ferns, phlox, scabiosa, sedum, lirope,