



Theme

Utilizing a process of community participation to incorporate a living memorial design into the plan for an existing urban garden to create both an area for the community to come together to grow, to share and to nourish one another, and a space to discover natural elements and explore ways to appreciate and contribute to the wider world.

Concept Process



The intermediate design scheme sought to segment the garden into three rooms, each with a specific focus: Cultivation, Conservation, and Recreation. After the interim critique, however, the community response was that the garden should be united, not divided, and that its current focus on relaxation and inspiration/education should be incorporated and perpetuated.



Plants are the most important element in a garden, especially in the city. They shade and soften, rattle, rustle, and bloom. The below list is a selection.



left to right: Fringetree, Honey Locust, Cinnamon Fern, Globe Flower

SUGGESTED PLANTS LIST

TYPE	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	
Trees	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Downy Serviceberry	
	<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch	
	<i>Cercidiphyllum Japonicum</i>	Katsura Tree	
	<i>Cercis canadensis 'Alba'</i>	White-flowering Eastern Redbud	
	<i>Cercis canadensis 'Forest Pansy'</i>	Forest Pansy Eastern Redbud	
	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Fringetree	
	<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i>	Hardy Rubber tree	
	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos var. Inermis 'Moraine'</i>	Moraine Thornless Honey Locust	
	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Littleleaf Linden	
	Shrubs	<i>Budlia davidii 'Black Knight'</i>	Black Knight Butterfly Bush
<i>Budlia davidii 'Pink Delight'</i>		Pink Delight Butterfly Bush	
<i>Cornus alba</i>		Redtwig Dogwood	
<i>Euonymus alatus 'Compactus'</i>		Compact Burning Bush	
<i>Ilex crenata 'Helleri'</i>		Helleri Dwarf Japanese Holly	
<i>Juniperus conferta 'Blue Pacific'</i>		Blue Pacific Shore Juniper	
<i>Pieris floribunda</i>		Mountain Andromeda	
<i>Pinus mugo</i>		Mugo Pine	
<i>Hydrangea anomala petiolaris</i>		Climbing Hydrangea	
Vines		<i>Clematis montana</i>	Clematis
	<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>	Wisteria	
	Herbs	<i>Achillea sp.</i>	Yarrow
		<i>Artemisia dracuncul</i>	Tarragon
		<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	Pot Marigold
		<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>	Chamomile
		<i>Citrus bergamia</i>	Bergamot
		<i>Gentiana inea</i>	Yellow Gentian
		<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	St. Johnswort
		<i>Lavandula officinalis</i>	Lavender
<i>Melissa officinalis</i>		Lemon Balm	
<i>Mentha x piperita</i>		Peppermint	
<i>Monarda didyma</i>	Beebalm		
<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>	Basil		
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Evening Primrose		
<i>Papavar somniferum</i>	Opium Poppy		
<i>Pelargonium odoratissimum</i>	Geranium		
<i>Rosemarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary		
<i>Salvia sclarea</i>	Clary Sage		
<i>Scutellaria laterifolia</i>	Skullcap		
<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>	Feverfew		
<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>	Tyme		
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Valerian		
<i>Trollius x cultorum 'Golden Queen'</i>	Hybrid Globe flower		
Bulbs	<i>Allium giganteum</i>	Giant Ornamental Onion	
	<i>Coluchicum autumnale</i>	Autumn crocus	
	<i>Crocus sp.</i>	Crocus	
	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	Trout lily	
	<i>Fritillaria meleagris</i>	Guinea-hen Flower	
	<i>Galanthus sp.</i>	Snowdrop	
	<i>Narcissus sp.</i>	Daffodil	
	<i>Tulip sp.</i>	Tulip	
	<i>Iris cristata</i>	Crested Iris	
	<i>Hosta sp.</i>	Plantain Lily	
Perennials for shade	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Wild Oats	
	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male Fern	
	<i>Hakonechloa macra 'Aureola'</i>	Golden Japanese Forest Grass	
	<i>Imperata cylindrica 'Red Baron'</i>	Japanese Blood Grass	
	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	Cinnamon Fern	
	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian Grass	
	<i>Pulmonaria longifolia</i>	Longleaf Lungwort	
	<i>Tiarella wherryi</i>	Wherry's Foamflower	
	Perennials for wet areas	<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	Scouring Rush
		<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag Iris
<i>Juncus effusus 'Spiralis'</i>		Corkscrew Rush	
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>		Sensitive Fern	



left to right: White Flowering Eastern Redbud, Climbing Hydrangea, Blue Pacific Shore Juniper, Japanese Blood Grass

SPECIFICATIONS

Soils: Current soil is very high in organic matter, causing it to rapidly decompose and reduce in volume. New soil added for garden and planting beds should have the following characteristics to provide good compaction resistance and drainage and moderate water holding capacity:
 Texture- Sandy Loam
 pH range- 6.0-7.5
 soluble salts content- less than 2 mmho/cm
 organic matter- 3-8% (anticipating compost added seasonally)

For questions about soils, contact Nina Bassuk at nlb2@cornell.edu



The vegetable garden and the pond and wetland as they exist today struggle to maximize their potential



Overview

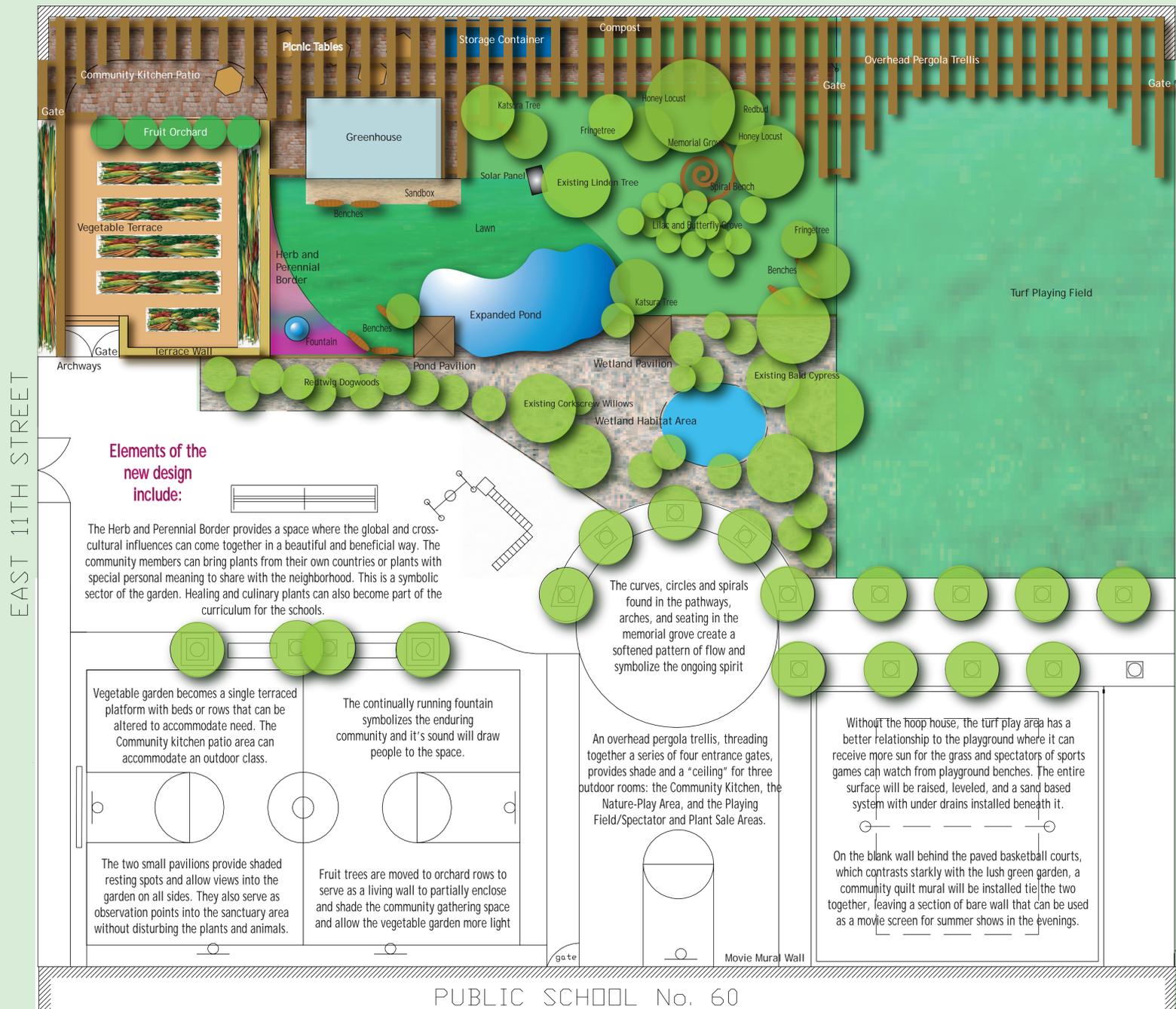
Any community garden is a vital contributor to the quality of life of those that surround and use it. It feeds the community in more ways than with the food grown there. It can be a place to play, to sit and think, or to kick back and do nothing. It can educate its visitors about how food is created, how wildlife and plants interact with one another, and how people can come together from seemingly unrelated directions and converge for a single purpose. This garden, sandwiched between two busy Manhattan streets and bordered by walls and fences already does all these things.

From the Ground, Up: The Living Memorials Project

All things begin with the ground on which we tread: plants and food crops as well as buildings are rooted in it. But the ground is also a significant metaphor when we discuss the events of September 11th, specifically the place where the Twin Towers came down, Ground Zero. This ground may be a place of tears in our memories, but it lies beneath us still, supporting us. A garden begins here, with the ground, and grows not only down this time but up. There is a natural cycle of healing occurring, subtly and sometimes unnoticed. This is how New York City and communities around the country are putting themselves back together again. This is how all living memorial projects aim to heal. They work from the ground, up.

Many of the elements in the design seek to emphasize this quality. The Memorial Grove, specifically, reaches skyward, but from the overhead pergola trellis that runs the length of the back wall and provides both shade and a "ceiling" for three outdoor rooms, to the trees and flowers, to such seemingly minor ingredients as a trickling fountain, all parts of the plan push upwards in an effort to uplift the heart and mind.

Creating a Community Garden From the Ground Up



Elements of the new design include:

The Herb and Perennial Border provides a space where the global and cross-cultural influences can come together in a beautiful and beneficial way. The community members can bring plants from their own countries or plants with special personal meaning to share with the neighborhood. This is a symbolic sector of the garden. Healing and culinary plants can also become part of the curriculum for the schools.

Vegetable garden becomes a single terraced platform with beds or rows that can be altered to accommodate need. The Community kitchen patio area can accommodate an outdoor class.

The two small pavilions provide shaded resting spots and allow views into the garden on all sides. They also serve as observation points into the sanctuary area without disturbing the plants and animals.

The continually running fountain symbolizes the enduring community and its sound will draw people to the space.

Fruit trees are moved to orchard rows to serve as a living wall to partially enclose and shade the community gathering space and allow the vegetable garden more light

The curves, circles and spirals found in the pathways, arches, and seating in the memorial grove create a softened pattern of flow and symbolize the ongoing spirit

An overhead pergola trellis, threading together a series of four entrance gates, provides shade and a "ceiling" for three outdoor rooms: the Community Kitchen, the Nature-Play Area, and the Playing Field/Spectator and Plant Sale Areas.

Without the hoop house, the turf play area has a better relationship to the playground where it can receive more sun for the grass and spectators of sports games can watch from playground benches. The entire surface will be raised, leveled, and a sand based system with under drains installed beneath it.

On the blank wall behind the paved basketball courts, which contrasts starkly with the lush green garden, a community quilt mural will be installed tie the two together, leaving a section of bare wall that can be used as a movie screen for summer shows in the evenings.



Pot Marigold. Its oils are used as a universal healer and speeds healing time



Lavender. Used to treat anxiety, tension, nervous complaints and many others



Peppermint. The flower of refreshment, a warming tea, or a lotion for aches



Opium Poppy. Mature plants in tropical climates produce morphine, a painkiller



Skullcap. The flower of relaxation, used to treat every kind of nervous complaint



Feverfew. Is used to treat migraine headaches



Memorial Grove spiral bench



Pergola structures- recycled telephone poles can be used as supports

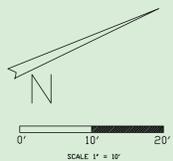
Herb Garden fountain



Hidden decorations add to sense of discovery



Terrace retaining walls made of recycled concrete slabs



Creating a Community Garden "From the Ground, Up" Lower East Side Project, Manhattan, NYC

USDA Living Memorials Project
 Design Collaborative
 Cornell University
 Peter Trowbridge, Nina Bassuk/ Urban Eden 491
 Alison Endl