The Conservatory Gardens

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The Conservatory Gardens
The Entrance on Fifth Avenue

- This formal garden is found in the northeast corner of New York's Central Park. It was installed in 1934 on the site of a glass conservatory that was torn down.
The plan of the garden.

- The central garden is in the Italian style. It is bordered by walkways lined with crabapples.
- The garden to the south is in the English style, and the one to the north is French.
The Vanderbilt Gate

- Designed by George B. Post, it is one of the best examples of wrought iron in New York. It had been at the Vanderbilt home, but was added to the garden in 1939.
Each garden is centered on a pond.
View looking south from the main entrance.

- The main entrance is to the left, the open lawn of the Italian garden is to the right, and the English garden is straight ahead.
View of the English Garden.

- The planting beds, surrounded by stone walkways, feature clipped Manhattan euonymus.
Seasonal planting beds

- The English garden was planted to be enjoyed year round and almost every week there are new blooms to admire.
The Burnett Fountain

- At the center of the English Garden is a pond with water lilies and a bronze statue by Bessie Potter Vonnoh of the children in Frances Hodgson Burnett's The Secret Garden.
Blossoming trees

- The English garden has a large collection of trees and shrubs. This is a view in September.
Closeup of flowering tree

- Plants are chosen so that there are trees or flowers always in bloom.
Planting Bed

- The south end of the English garden is a shade garden.
Boundary Hedge

- A clipped hedge separates the garden from the rest of Central Park.
Central Walkway

- The central walkway leads to the exit on the west side of the garden.
Linking Pathway

• A curved pathway leads from the English Garden to the Italian Garden.
Crabapple Border

- The path between the English and Italian gardens.
- In the rear is the wisteria pergola.
- At right on the lawn is a white tent being used for a concert.
The building set into the hillside supports the wrought iron pergola.

Base of Wisteria Pergola
Wisteria Pergola

• The pergola looks down over the stair-stepped clipped hedges.
• The central fountain is to the right.
Geyser Fountain

- The focal point of the Italian garden is the geyser fountain.
- The central swath of lawn is an understated stage from which to view the elaborate border plantings.
The Pergola Stairs

- The straight-clipped central line of the hedges are punctuated by the round topiaries.
- The exit to the French Garden is to the right.
West Entrance to the French Garden

- The four arches leading into the French Garden represent the four seasons.
View of the French Garden

- The central fountain is surrounded by sloped flower beds that change seasonally. Twenty thousand tulips bloom in the spring.
Curved planting beds

• The lower level beds feature knot garden topiary.
• In the rear is the south entry arbor.
CLOSE UP OF TOPIARY

- The beds near the fountain are identically designed swirls of topiary.
View of topiary design

- The planting beds are symmetrical, and the topiary swirls designs are symmetrical.
The Three Dancing Maidens

- This fountain was made in 1910 by the German sculptor Walter Schott.
- The Untermeyer family presented the fountain to the city in 1947.
The South Arbor

- The arbors are festoned with climbing “Silver Moon” roses, which bloom pink and white in June.
Boundary Fence

- The French Garden is bounded by a wrought iron fence. This view is from the outside of the garden.