

1 Amur Maple – A small, ornamental tree (15-20') with smooth, gray-brown bark and finely serrated, three-lobed leaves. In fall, it bursts into fiery reds and oranges. Fragrant yellow-white spring flowers give way to red-winged seeds. A hardy, adaptable tree, often used for hedges or small landscapes.

2 Bur Oak – A massive shade tree (60-80') known for its thick, corky bark and wide-spreading branches. Deeply lobed, glossy green leaves turn golden-brown in fall. Its large acorns with fringed caps support wildlife. One of the most drought-resistant oaks, it can live for centuries.

3 Colorado Blue Spruce – A medium to large evergreen (50-75') with striking blue-green needles and a pyramidal shape. Used ornamentally for its year-round color, it provides excellent winter interest. Its stiff, sharp needles deter browsing deer, and it is a popular Christmas tree species.

4 Concolor Fir – A medium to large evergreen (40-70') with soft, silver-blue needles that release a citrus scent when crushed. Its smooth, gray bark matures into rugged plates. Often used ornamentally, it thrives in various conditions and is favored as a landscape and holiday tree.

5 Dawn Redwood – A fast-growing, deciduous conifer (70-100') with feathery, bright green needles that turn rich copper in fall. Its reddish-brown, peeling bark adds texture. Once thought extinct, it was rediscovered in China in the 1940s, making it a living fossil.

6 Douglas Fir – A large, pyramidal evergreen (80-200') with soft, fragrant needles and deeply furrowed bark. Cones have unique three-pointed bracts. A dominant tree of the Pacific Northwest, it is an important timber species and a popular Christmas tree.

7 Eastern Hemlock – A graceful, slow-growing evergreen (40-70') with delicate, feathery needles and deeply furrowed, cinnamon-brown bark. Used ornamentally for its dense, soft foliage, it provides excellent shade. Prefers cool, moist environments and is often planted in groves.

8 Ginkgo Row – These ancient trees (40-80') boast uniquely fan-shaped leaves that turn brilliant gold in fall before dropping all at once. Their deeply furrowed bark and distinctive branching structure

add character. A living fossil dating back 270 million years, it is highly pollution-resistant.

9 Gold Rush Dawn Redwood – A medium to large deciduous conifer (50-80') with vibrant golden-yellow needles in spring and summer, shifting to orange-brown in fall. Its peeling reddish-brown bark and feathery foliage make it a striking ornamental tree with year-round appeal.

10 Golden Raintree – A small to medium ornamental tree (30-40') that dazzles with clusters of bright yellow summer flowers, followed by unique, lantern-like seed pods. Its compound leaves emerge reddish, mature to green, and turn golden-yellow in fall. Attracts pollinators and adds unique texture to landscapes.

11 Honey Locust – A medium to large shade tree (30-70') with fine-textured, fern-like leaves casting dappled shade. Its bark is dark and ridged, and some varieties feature dramatic thorns. The golden-yellow fall foliage is striking, and its small leaflets decompose quickly, reducing yard work.

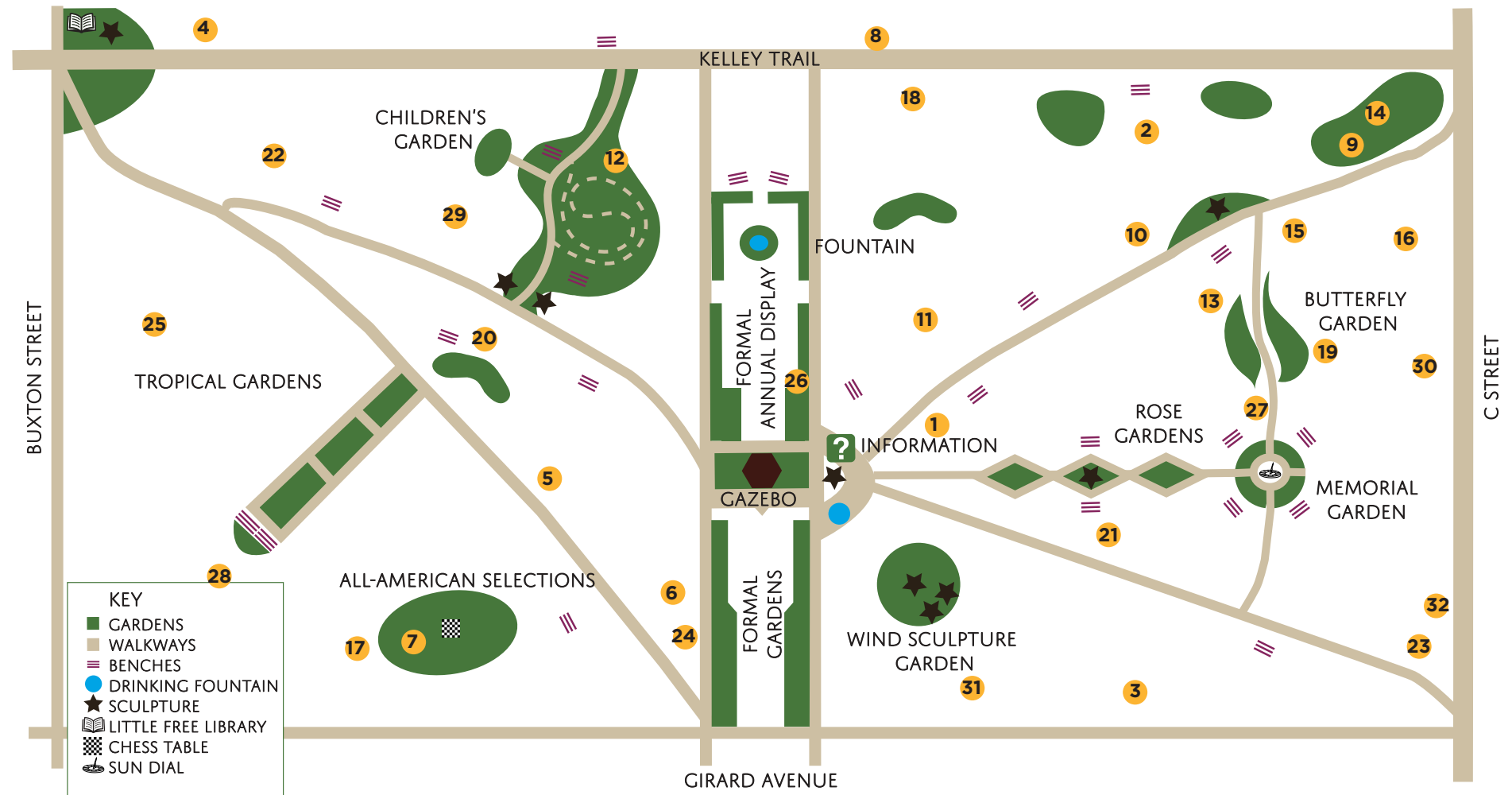
12 Japanese Red Maple 'Emperor' – A small ornamental tree (15-20') with deep purple-red leaves that emerge later in spring, helping to avoid frost damage. The foliage turns brilliant scarlet in fall. Smooth gray bark and a graceful branching habit make it an excellent focal point in gardens and landscapes.

13 Japanese Tree Lilac – A small to medium ornamental tree (20-30') with fragrant white flowers in early summer, contrasting against

reddish-brown, peeling bark. Dark green, ovate leaves turn yellow in fall. This hardy tree is excellent for urban landscapes.

14 Kousa Dogwood – A small ornamental tree (15-25') with late-spring creamy-white, star-shaped flowers. Exfoliating bark, deep green foliage turning reddish-purple in fall, and raspberry-like fruit make it a four-season beauty. More resistant to disease than native dogwoods.

15 Magnolia 'Butterflies' – A small to medium ornamental tree (15-20') with fragrant, lemon-yellow, tulip-shaped flowers that bloom before leaves emerge. Smooth gray bark and lush green foliage turning golden in fall add seasonal beauty. A rare yellow-flowering magnolia.



KEY

- GARDENS
- WALKWAYS
- BENCHES
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- SCULPTURE
- LITTLE FREE LIBRARY
- CHESS TABLE
- SUN DIAL

16 Magnolia ‘Leonard Messel’ – A small ornamental tree (15-20’) with elegant, star-like, pink and white spring flowers. Its smooth bark and deep green leaves, which turn bronze in fall, provide a refined presence. Cold-hardy and compact.

17 Norway Maple Variegated – A medium ornamental tree (30-50’) with creamy-white-edged leaves that stand out in summer and turn golden in fall. The bark is gray and furrowed with age. Its bold foliage makes it a unique addition to landscapes.

18 Pacific Sunset Maple – A medium shade tree (30-40’) known for its fast growth and brilliant fall color, ranging from yellow to fiery red. It has smooth gray bark that matures to a rougher texture. A great choice for urban landscapes.

19 Pagoda Dogwood – A small ornamental tree (15-25’) with gracefully layered branches. Fragrant white flowers in spring give way to deep purple berries. Dark green leaves turn a lovely maroon in fall, and its striped bark adds winter interest.

20 Pin Oak – A medium to large shade tree (50-70’) with distinctive, deeply lobed leaves that turn red or bronze in fall. Its gray-brown bark features shallow furrows. Often used in urban environments due to its adaptability, Pin Oak is a favorite for providing dense, quick shade.

21 Purple Beech ‘Dawyck Purple’ – A striking, columnar ornamental tree (40-50’) with deep purple, glossy leaves that turn copper in fall. Smooth gray bark and an upright form make it a dramatic feature in any landscape.

22 Red Horsechestnut – A medium ornamental tree (30-40’) known for vibrant pink-red spring flowers. Large, dark green leaves provide shade. Its compact size and showy blooms attract pollinators and brighten landscapes.

23 Red Oak – A large shade tree (60-80’) with deeply ridged gray bark. Bristle-tipped green leaves turn brilliant red in fall. Fast-growing and resilient, it provides excellent urban shade.

24 Red Spruce – A medium evergreen (60-80’) with short, dark green needles and reddish-brown, scaly bark. Small cones and dense growth provide excellent winter shelter for birds.

25 Ruby Tears™ Crabapple – A small ornamental tree (6-10’) with gracefully weeping branches. Deep pink spring blossoms give way to small, glossy red fruit that persists into winter. Its dark green foliage turns rich shades of orange and red in fall. A compact, elegant choice for small landscapes.

26 Saucer Magnolia – A small to medium ornamental tree (20-30’) with massive pink and white cup-shaped flowers. Smooth bark and bright green leaves turning golden in fall add year-round interest.

27 Serviceberry – A small ornamental tree (15-25’) with fragrant white spring flowers and edible berries. Smooth gray bark, delicate branching, and orange-red fall color make it an all-season highlight.

28 Sweet Gum – A large shade tree (60-80’) with star-shaped leaves and deeply furrowed bark. Turns brilliant shades of red, orange, and purple in fall, but its spiky seed balls can be messy.

29 Tricolor Beech – A small ornamental tree (20-30’) with pink, white, and green variegated leaves. Smooth gray bark adds elegance, making it ideal for small gardens.

30 Tulip Tree – A large shade tree (70-100’) with tulip-like yellow-green flowers. Its unique four-lobed leaves turn bright gold in fall. One of the tallest native hardwoods.

31 White Pine – A large evergreen (50-80’) with long, soft blue-green needles and smooth gray bark. Its conical shape and graceful appearance make it a popular choice for landscaping. The wood, lightweight and easy to work with, has been historically used in shipbuilding and furniture making.

32 Yellowwood – A medium ornamental tree (30-50’) with fragrant white flower clusters. Smooth gray bark and brilliant yellow fall color make it an elegant landscape choice.

Park History

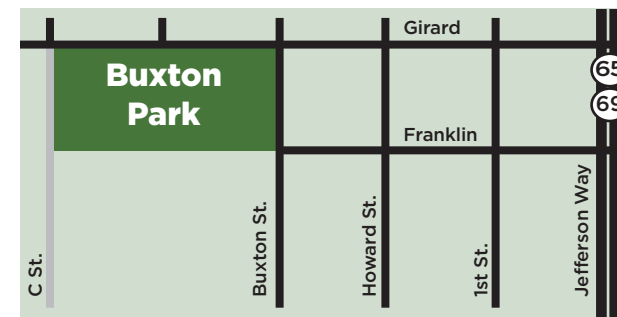
William and Elizabeth Buxton donated the land for this park to the City of Indianola in 1906, making it the city’s first public park. First used as a picnic area and meeting spot, the park originally contained a wading pool and a small pagoda. The Formal Garden was added in the 1920’s, and planting of rare and unusual plants has continued to the present. The park is home to many memorial trees, benches, berms and gardens such as the Beymer Rose Garden. The City of Indianola Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for its upkeep.

Park features

Today Buxton Park features a gazebo which is a popular spot for photo shoots. Plantings in the Formal Annual Display offer inspiration for gardeners of every experience level. The Memorial Garden offers another quiet spot to sit and soak in the beauty of the park. The Butterfly Garden is filled with plants that are irresistible to those pretty creatures. Specially commissioned Lyman Whitaker Wind Sculptures™ silently move and interact with one another, reflecting the mood of the wind and generating joy. The Jerry Kelley Trail, part of the city-wide trail system, passes along the south and west sides of the park.

Park location

Buxton Park is located at the north end of the Simpson College campus in Indianola, Iowa, between Buxton and C Streets, bordered on the north by Girard Avenue. The park is open daily year-round for the public’s enjoyment.



BUXTON PARK ARBORETUM



SELF GUIDED TREE TOUR