

INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN

Presented info on the Peace Garden and showed photos.

Since 1932, nestled on the U.S. and Canadian borders of North Dakota and Manitoba in a symbol of friendship, lies a “One of a Kind” International Peace Garden. Reflecting pools and dazzling colorful floral displays of over 150,000 flowers splash across the grounds of the Formal Garden’s terraced walkways.

The 14-bell chime echoes faintly, as the length of the formal garden area is viewed from the upper terrace. In the distance, the 120-foot concrete Peace Tower, and the Peace Chapel can be seen at the end of the formal garden. Tourists ponder the beauty of the two floral displays of the American and Canadian Flags, the only two floral designs that remain the same each year. Presented to the Garden by the Japanese Government, seven Peace Poles in which, “*May Peace Prevail*” is written in twenty-eight different languages. Steel girders transported from the New York World Trade Center lie at rest at the 911 Memorial. Several buildings accommodate conventions, bus tours, weddings, receptions, reunions, and socials of all types. Campgrounds for campers and RV’s are set among Aspen and Oak Trees. Deer, moose, grouse, beaver and other game form a great marriage with the extensive variety of wild flowers, trees, and shrubs abundant in this “Like No Other Place on Earth” Garden.

In June 1932, the Cairn of native stone was hurriedly constructed by stonemasons, William Paterson and his son, Edroy, of Rugby, North Dakota for the July 14, 1932 dedication. Over 50,000 people gathered for the dedication of the International Peace Garden. The Cairn is located directly on the United States and Canadian Border, flanked by each country's flagpole on the designated side. The Cairn is built of aboriginal hammerheads collected by children in the surrounding areas. In July 17, 1960, the globe of red granite with etched meridian lines, a gift from Great Northern Railway company of St. Paul, Minnesota, as a memorial to its founder, Canadian born James J. Hill, was added to the top of the Cairn. On the face of the Cairn it states: “*To God in His Glory... We two nations dedicate this garden and pledge ourselves that as long as men shall live we will not take up arms against one another.*”

The large clock received from the Bulova Watch Company in 1966 was a duplicate of the famous Bulova Floral Clock at Berne, Switzerland. It was replaced the summer of 2005 with a new clock from St. Louis, Missouri. The Floral Clock, 18 feet in diameter, is a popular attraction at the International Peace Garden, and displays a unique floral design each year. The number of plants on the clock can range from 2,000 to 5,000, depending on the type of plant and

design on the face of the clock. Typically the first week in June, 150,000 flowers are planted at the Peace Garden, and best viewed full bloom from mid-July through August. However, the park has its own distinctive beauty all around

9/11 Memorial

In May of 2002, ten steel girders rescued from the former New York World Trade Center were brought to rest at the International Peace Garden. This memorial was made to those who lost their lives in the tragic event of September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States. A small cairn is also at the site made by stones gathered from children from the United States and Canada.

The Chapel of Peace at the International Peace Garden is a joint vision of the members of the Grand Chapters of North Dakota and Manitoba and is the only building straddling the international border. The completion of the Chapel was the primary project of the 33rd Triennial. It was dedicated in 1970 and was completed in 1972. The interior limestone is engraved with quotations from men of peace throughout the world. The Chapel is non-denominational and arrangements for the use of the Chapel for appropriate services can be made. It is surrounded by beautiful gardens and fountains and straddles the border between the United States and Canada. Each Triennium the Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron make a Pilgrimage to the Great Northwest to visit the Chapel and the beautiful gardens.

The Masonic Auditorium, located on the South Loop of the International Peace Garden, was sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Masons of North Dakota, and dedicated in 1981. The Masons initiated the project to provide locations for concerts and practice sessions for the youth of the International Music Camp. The Masonic Auditorium is one of the many shared projects in the International Peace Garden that encourages friendship between people of the United States, Canada, and many other countries of the world. The Auditorium was built in the Masonic symbol shape, which is square and compass, and seats about 2,000 people. It is available for rent to the general public.