

# Prehistoric Plant Scavenger Hunt!



Check out these “living fossils” at Heritage! These plant species have been around since prehistoric times, and may even have been a dino’s dinner. On your next adventure at Heritage, see if you can find them all!



**Dawn Redwood**—Species dates to around 50 million years ago.

- The Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) was thought to be extinct for millions of years, but in 1941 it was found in a remote area of China.
- This tree grows rapidly and can reach at least 90 feet tall.
- The Dawn Redwood is a deciduous conifer, meaning it sheds its needles in late fall.

**Hint:** This tall tree can be found near the Windmill.

**Umbrella Pine**—Species dates to around 230 million years ago

- The tree species Umbrella Pine (*Sciadopitys verticillata*) has been on earth since prehistoric times, starting in the upper Triassic period, making this tree a living plant fossil.
- This tree is native to Japan.
- The wood of the Umbrella Pine has been used to make boats and the bark has been used for caulking for sealing gaps.
- The tree is relatively disease- and pest-free and can even take salt spray without being damaged.



**Hint:** This tree can be found beside the path to the Sundial Garden.



**Ginkgo Tree**—Species dates to around 240 million years ago.

- The tree species Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) is native to China.
- Research shows that when Ginkgo is taken as medicine it can help improve memory, stimulate brain function, reduce heart problems, and boost the immune system.
- Female Ginkgo trees have very stinky fruit, so most Ginkgo trees planted are male.
- Ginkgo leaves resemble a duck's foot.

**Hint:** This tree is in the center of the Arbor Bowl. Look for its distinctive leaves!

**Ferns**—Species dates to around 300 million years ago

- There are over 20,000 species of fern on the earth.
- Ferns like shady, moist areas and are great for ground cover.
- Many animals use ferns as shelter from rain and predators.
- Ferns use spores to reproduce instead of flowers or seeds like many other plants.

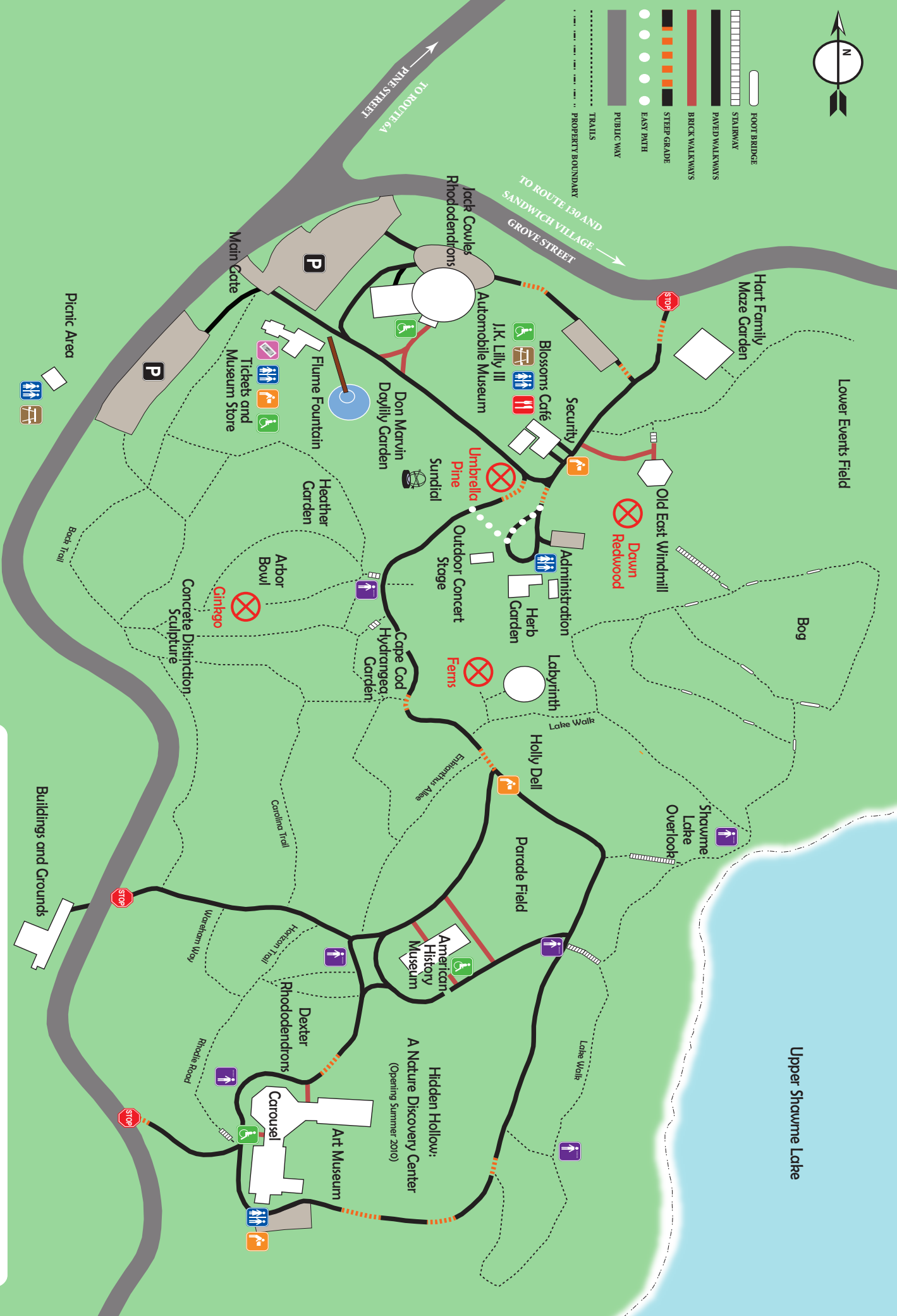


Photo: Lance Keimig Photographics, 2007.

**Hint:** You can find lots of ferns in the Heritage gardens, especially around the Labyrinth!



- FOOT BRIDGE
- STAIRWAY
- PAVED WALKWAYS
- BRICK WALKWAYS
- STEEP GRADE
- EASY PATH
- PUBLIC WAY
- TRAILS
- PROPERTY BOUNDARY



Map Not to Scale

- PARKING
- TICKETS
- RESTROOMS
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY
- CAFE
- BLOSSOMS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- SCENIC VIEW
- PICNIC AREA
- GUIDE BY CELL
- AUXILIARY EXIT