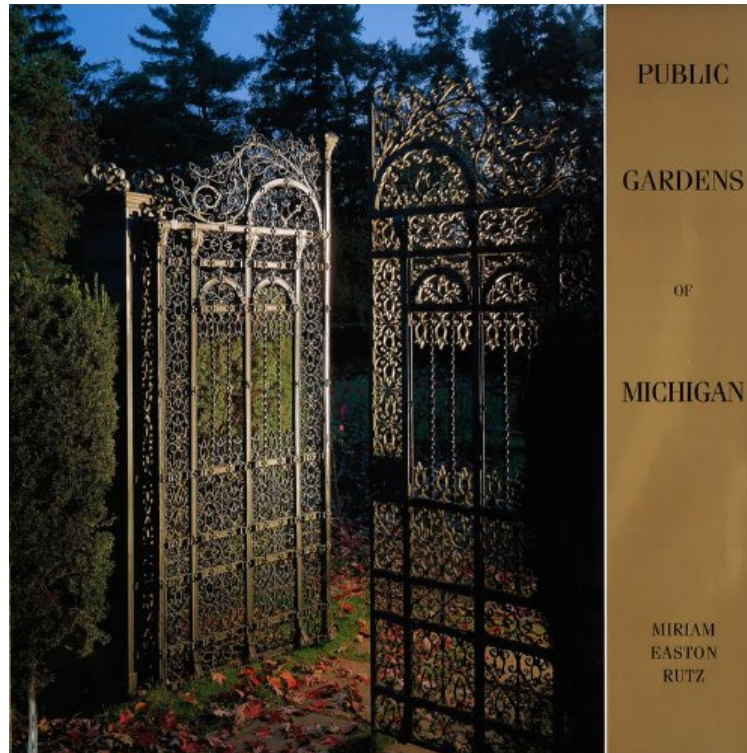


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## Public Gardens of Michigan

*Miriam Easton Rutz*

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**Miriam Easton Rutz : Public Gardens of Michigan** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Public Gardens of Michigan:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Not just for Michigan!By EllenThis beautiful book is a mini-course in design and the use of public spaces. From Europe through the Arts and Crafts Movement to modernism and children's gardens, Ms. Rutz connects Michigan's gardens to styles and traditions around the world. The stunning photographs--and there are often 4 on a page-- reinforce the text, showing connections between Michigan's showplaces and their roots.Thirty four gardens in Michigan are highlighted, from the Grand Hotel Gardens on Mackinac Island to Marquette Prison, Kellogg headquarters, Dow Gardens, several colleges and universities, downtown Marshall and Holland, and Hills Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak. It is a virtual tour of the state of Michigan.Even though I live on the west coast and may never see most of the spaces described, I have this book on the coffee table to enjoy when I need an escape from the clutter of my life. Turning the pages I visit Paris, Cranbrook Art Museum, Flint, and mansions around the world. I sometimes get inspired to try something new in my own backyard, but usually just relax and enjoy the hard work of others.Read it for information--it is outdoor art history--or for relaxation, but don't think it is only for people in Michigan.

Michigans glorious public gardens display the rich tapestry of the garden design traditions of the Great Lakes State. The earliest public gardens date from 1701, when Cadillac founded Detroit. These French baroque style elements,

their Dutch counterparts, and the English Landscape traditions brought by waves of settlers and intellectuals exist side by side with more recent innovations such as Arts and Crafts influences, Japanese gardens, and industrial motifs. Vast industrial fortunes allowed industrialists such as Henry Ford, Edsel and Eleanor Ford, and Charles Stuart Mott to build expansive estates with beautifully structured gardens that are now public spaces. A commitment to green space, as evidenced by Michigan State University's land-grant mission and horticultural landscape architecture influences, also contributed to the unusual and enchanting beauty of Michigan's public gardens. More than a tour guide, *Public Gardens of Michigan* reveals not only the beauty and majesty of the gardens, but the wealth of design inspiration that Michigan landscape architects both borrowed from and gave to the world. Miriam Easton Rutz uncovers the history, politics, and legacy of Michigan's public gardens. From stately cemeteries to whimsical zoological parks and breathtaking vistas, readers will delight in discovering the awesome grandeur of this lush and historic garden state.

About the Author Miriam Easton Rutz taught Landscape Architecture at Michigan State University from 1976 to 2000, designed the flower gardens on Michigan's Capitol grounds, and helped prepare a master plan for the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House. Rutz is a contributor to *Pioneers of American Landscape Design* and *Midwestern Landscape Architects*.