

Northward



A garden, you, and the scent that surrounds.

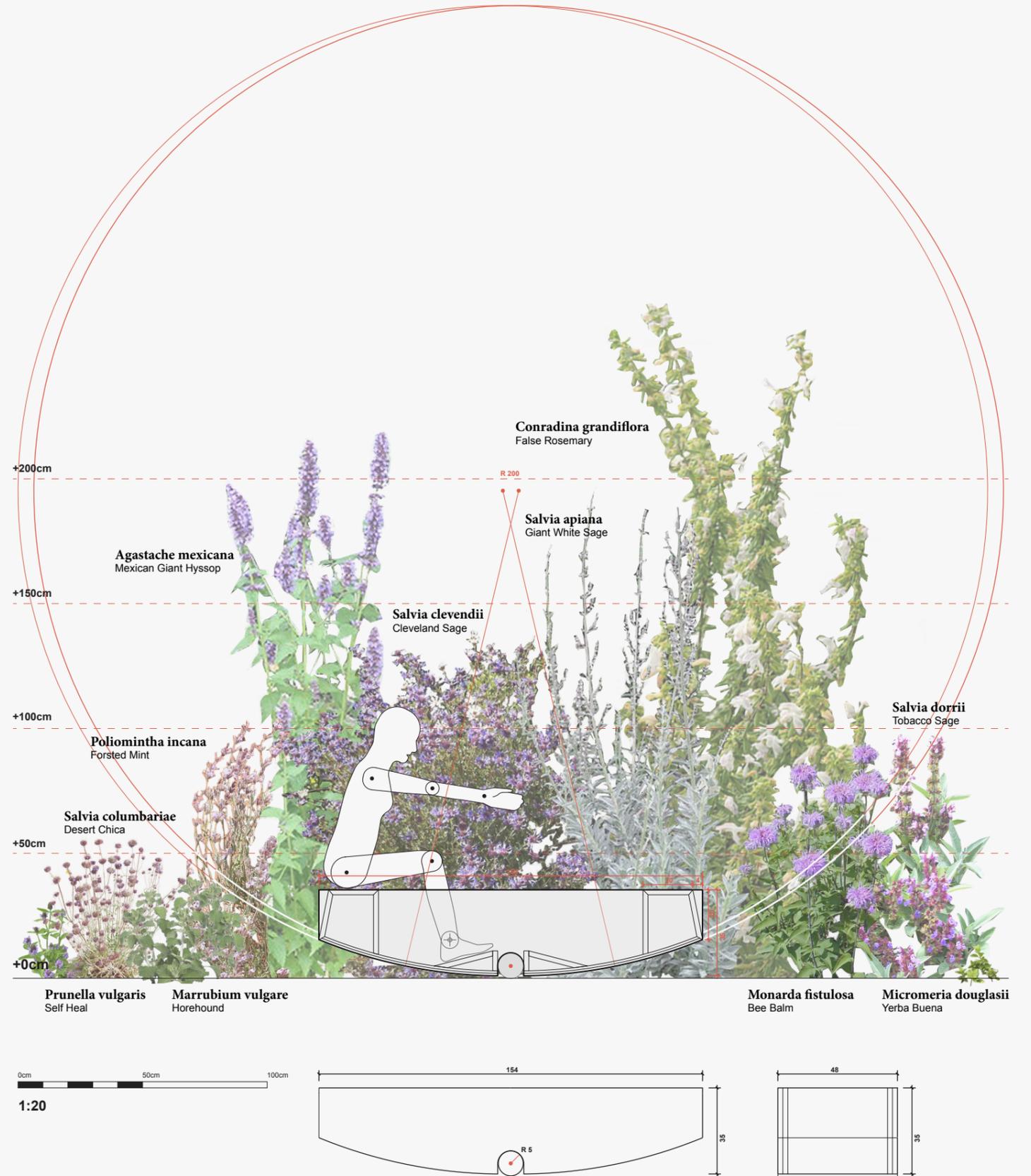
Northward is an installation designed to attract visitors through sensorial play. A simple grated structure is embedded in a lush environment of flowering plants native to North America. Visitors may recognize the scents of mint and rosemary coming from the wild cousins of the more common cultivated species, but visitors will also be introduced to the aromatics of less familiar plants like yerba buena.

Scattered around the garden is a fleet of rocking seats for two. The rockers honor the continued use of these plants by cutting, crushing, and mashing the plants through their rocking motion. By design, the scents of the plants will be released by the rockers as they are played with. The small footprint of the rockers and the presence of the grate, which protects and delineates the area of play, insures that the garden area is resilient to visitors. It is our hope that the kind of play that simulates the cultivation of these plants fosters a deeper appreciation for native flora, and also leaves the visitors with a sense laden memory of their visit to Reford Gardens.

Aromatics

Name		Range	Use
Yerba Buena	<i>Micromeria douglasii</i>	Coastal N. America	Medicinal, Food
Self Heal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Common	Medicine
Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Common	Medicine
Desert Chia	<i>Salvia columbariae</i>	American Desert	Medicine, Food
Bee Balm	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Common	Tea, Medicine, Food
Tobacco Sage	<i>Salvia dorrii</i>	American Desert	Aromatics, Medicine
Frosted Mint	<i>Poliomintha incana</i>	American Desert	Food
Blue Sage	<i>Salvia clevedii</i>	Coastal N. America	Tea, Aromatics
Giant White Sage	<i>Salvia apiana</i>	Coastal N. America	Incense, Medicine
Mexican Giant Hyssop	<i>Agastache mexicana</i>	Semi-Arid America	Tea, Food
Purple Giant Hyssop	<i>Agastache scrophulariifolia</i>	Semi-Arid America	Aromatics, Medicine
False Rosemary	<i>Conradina grandiflora</i>	Semi-Arid America	Aromatics, Medicine
Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Common	Woodworking, Aromatics

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Aromatic plants, a rocking chair, and the visitors themselves are brought together in their difference. The expanded mesh platform sets forth defined limits which garden goers and the aromatic planting can chose to oblige or better yet challenge or intrude upon.