8. Chinese Bridge
Notice the Chinese symbols on the walkway – translation luck, peace, prosperity, and happiness. The bridge spans a canal, home to many beautiful fish.

9. Mount Cox
Douglas Chandler’s fondest dream was to build a mountain with a cascading waterfall. Portrait subject, Governor James Cox of Ohio sent the funds as a gift, urging his close friend to fulfill his dreams. The mountain was finished in 1952 using hundreds of tons of large boulders brought in from neighboring ranches. When Chandler died suddenly in early 1955, the planned waterfall was forgotten. The fabulous feature was completed by the Bradfords during restoration of the Gardens in the 1990’s.

10. Trellis Pond
The old mill stepping stones rest beneath a ceiling of wisteria. The rock formations were designed by Douglas to look like a turtle a camel, and a sea horse. They keep watch over a stone and mortar Chinese junk that never sails.

11. Stone of the Immortals
Douglas fashioned this stone sculpture after similar structures found in Chinese Imperial Gardens. The large Fu Dog Stone is a symbol of luck and protection for the Gardens. Shaded by enormous trees, this artwork was constructed from porous, native rock, mortar, fossilized sea shells, and a marble Kuan Yin relief.

12. Labyrinth
The Labyrinth is one of Chandor Gardens modern features, and was completed in 2008. Placed atop the old parking lot and encircling the Stone of the Immortals, the Labyrinth is fabricated from antique Thurber bricks. Crushed granite was chosen to form the path, for the quality of sound when walked upon.

13. Moon Gate
Built in 1949, the Chinese Moon Gate was constructed by the artist with mortar, stone, roof tiles, split sewer pipe, bottles, and handmade ceramic figurines. Chandor’s unique three dimensional Chinese lake diorama built into the wall was restored in 2010.

14. Chi Ling Fountain
This enchanting fountain was constructed in the 1940s by Douglas Chandler using Chi Ling statues found in New York City, Coke and 7-Up bottles, colored marbles, and his own handmade ceramic tiles. The original statues were restored in 2009 by Fort Worth artist Michael Pavlovsky and placed in the home for preservation. Today, bronze replicas have replaced the original sculptures.

15. Buddha Niche
This lovely spot features a happy Buddha statue tucked within the ivy covered stone wall. Douglas embedded marbles in the niche and fashioned the rock wall accents in the shape of lotus blossoms. Two small fountains complete the serene scene.

16. Cave Grotto
This rock grotto and meditation area is complete with a concrete bench designed and built by Douglas Chandor.

17. Ina’s Walk
Douglas Chandor designed this stone and brick pathway in 1936 as the initial feature of his garden. The Latin inscription in the walk is Douglas’ message to his wife: “May this little garden flourish, consecrated to Ina in the year of Our Lord Edward the Eighth, forevermore.”

Thank you for visiting Chandor Gardens

Chandler Gardens Walking Tour

What began as an artist’s dream in 1956 stands today as a world renowned garden. Douglas Chandor, an Englishman who came to this country in 1926, established himself as one of the great artists of the 20th century. His portraits of President Herbert Hoover, President Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill are among five of his paintings exhibited in the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery.

Following their marriage in 1954, Douglas Chandor and Ina Kuteman settled in her hometown of Weatherford Texas. The couple began their home and surrounding gardens, which they named White Shadows, on family ground in 1956. A cactus covered, caliche hillside evolved into a series of “garden rooms” featuring English and Chinese motifs. When questioned about his passion for gardening, Douglas would reply that he was given the skills to paint in order to build his garden.

White Shadows flourished under Douglas’ care for 16 years until his death in 1955. As a tribute to her husband, Ina changed the name to Chandor Gardens and kept it open to the public until 1978 when she passed away. For the next 16 years the garden fell into a state of neglect. Melody and Chuck Bradford purchased the garden in 1994 and lovingly restored the home and gardens. The City of Weatherford acquired Chandor Gardens in 2002.

For more information call 817-613-1700 or visit www.chandorgardens.com