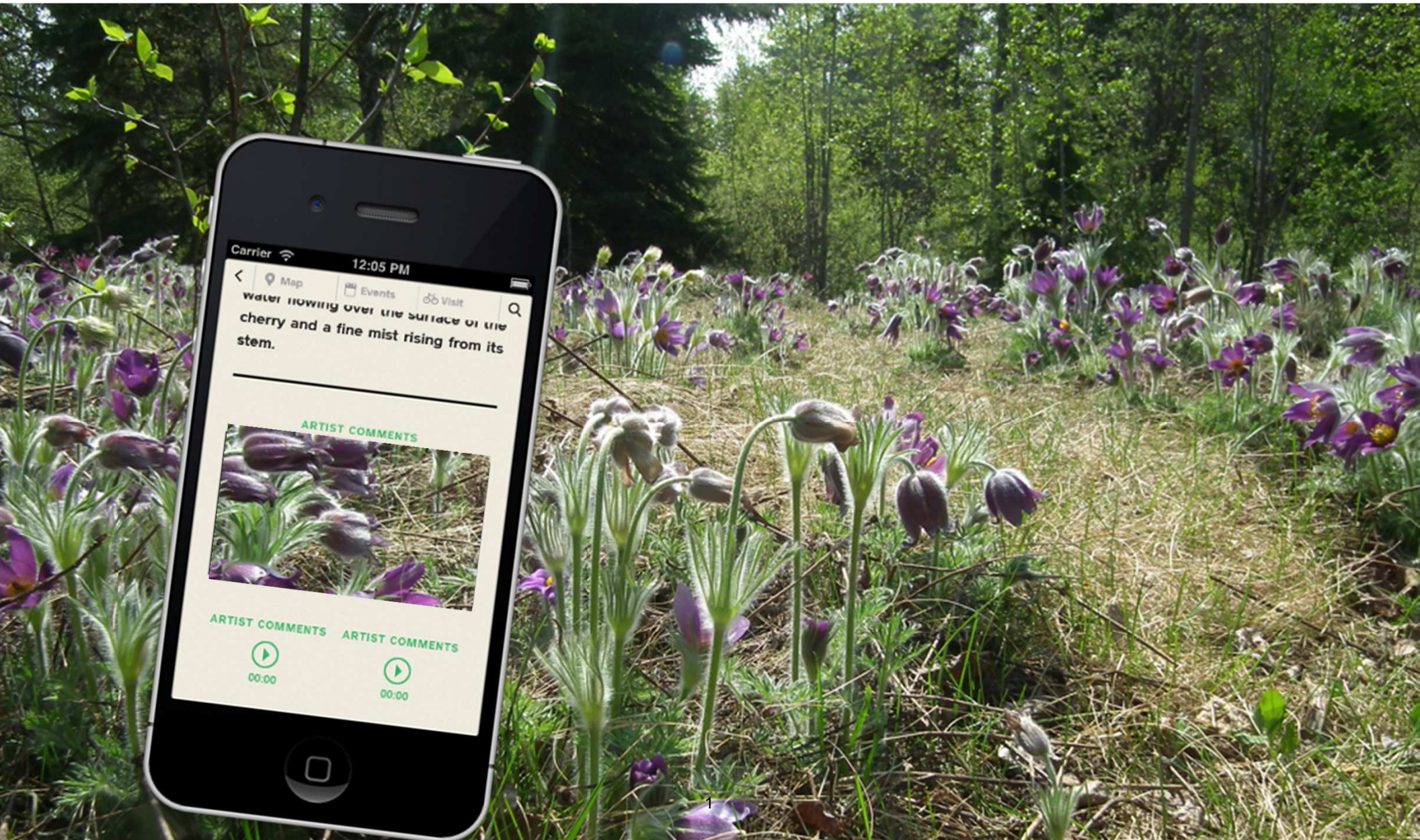# Interpretative Apps
for Gardens

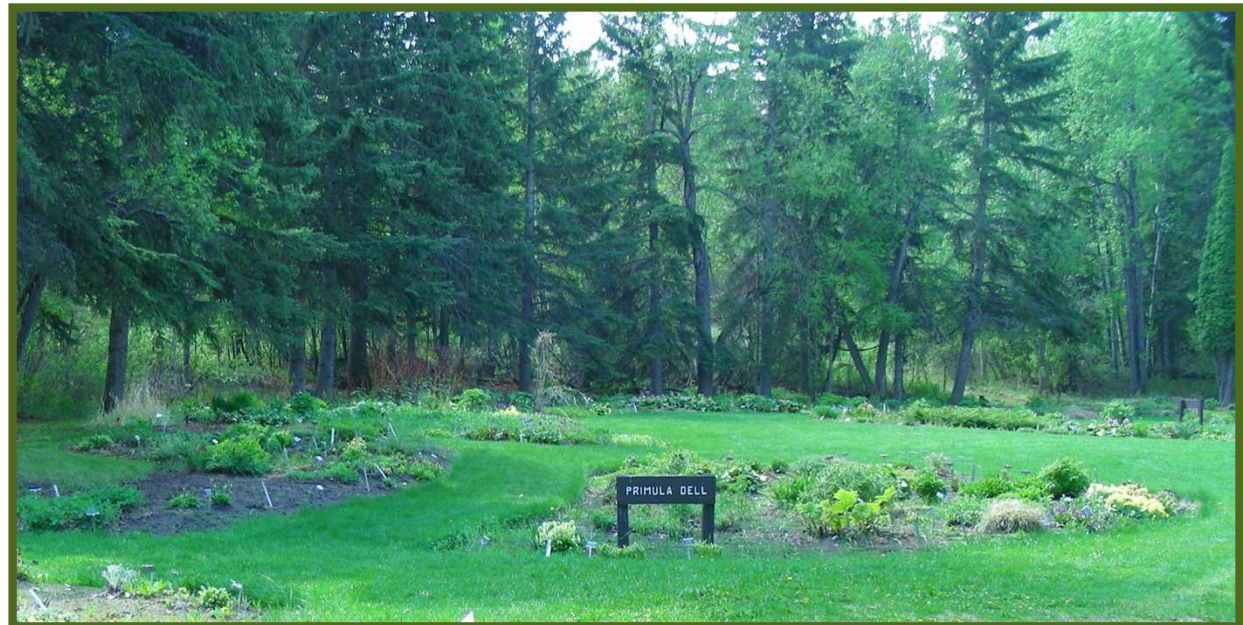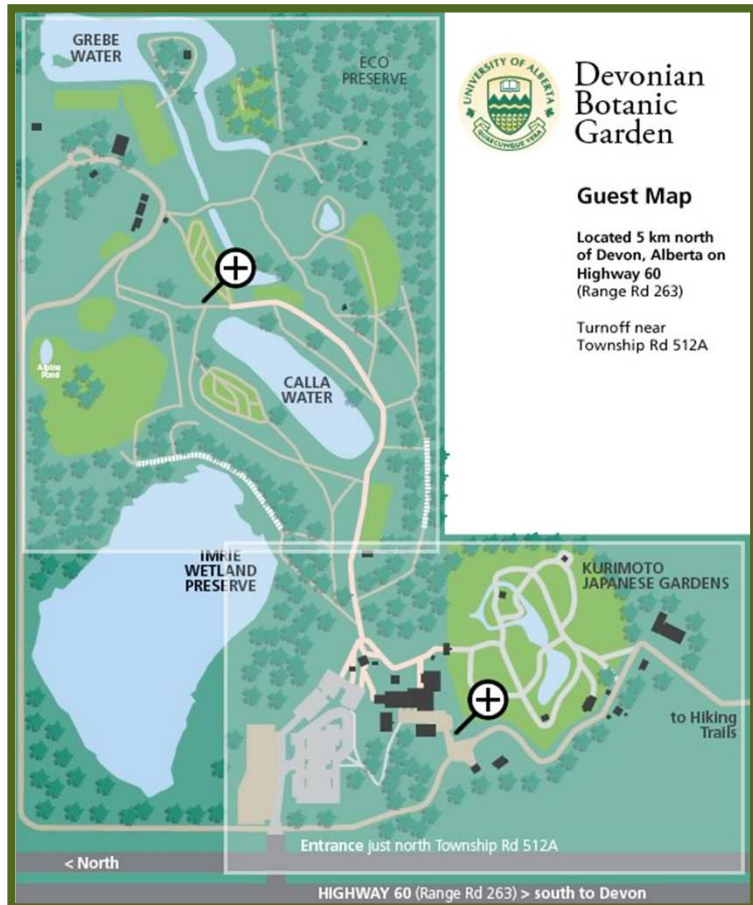by Dr. Dene Grigar, Director & Professor, Creative Media & Digital Culture, WSUV

"Interpretive experiences for visitors to the contemporary Islamic garden will enhance their sense of curiosity, insight, imagination, appreciation and reflection about nature and the Islamic world's diverse cultures through compelling, imaginative, participatory and community building events, programs and media."

GREBE WATER

ECO PRESERVE

University of Alberta
Devonian Botanic Garden

Guest Map

Located 5 km north of Devon, Alberta on Highway 60 (Range Rd 263)

Turnoff near Township Rd 512A

CALLA WATER

IMRIE WETLAND PRESERVE

KURIMOTO JAPANESE GARDENS

to Hiking Trails

< North

Entrance just north Township Rd 512A

HIGHWAY 60 (Range Rd 263) > south to Devon

PRIMULA DELL

MODULE CATEGORY	MODULE TOPIC	MODULE TOPIC	MODULE TOPIC
	Botany	Art	Culture
Orientate	N/A	N/A	N/A
Learn	Botanical science and the Islamic world past and present Biodiversity hotspots in the Islamic world	Designing and Building the Contemporary IG Famous Gardens of the Islamic world Nature and Gardens in paintings of the Islamic world	Test your Islamic World IQ Islamic world communities of Edmonton
Reflect		Take a poetry walk. Take a sound walk.	
Create/Play	Find and identify the plants of the CIG	Design your own Mughal garden Make and share your own CIG soundwalk	Favourite things about the CIG Roulette
Debate	Should Botanic gardens have cultural gardens?	Was the right balance struck between tradition and modernity in the CIG?	
Change	Take the carbon pledge Email your local politician Contact environmental NGO		

1. Modular
2. Customizable
3. Accessible
4. Exploratory/Dialogical
5. Educational/Contextual
6. Intuitive
7. Emotive
8. Compelling
9. Commemorative

Text
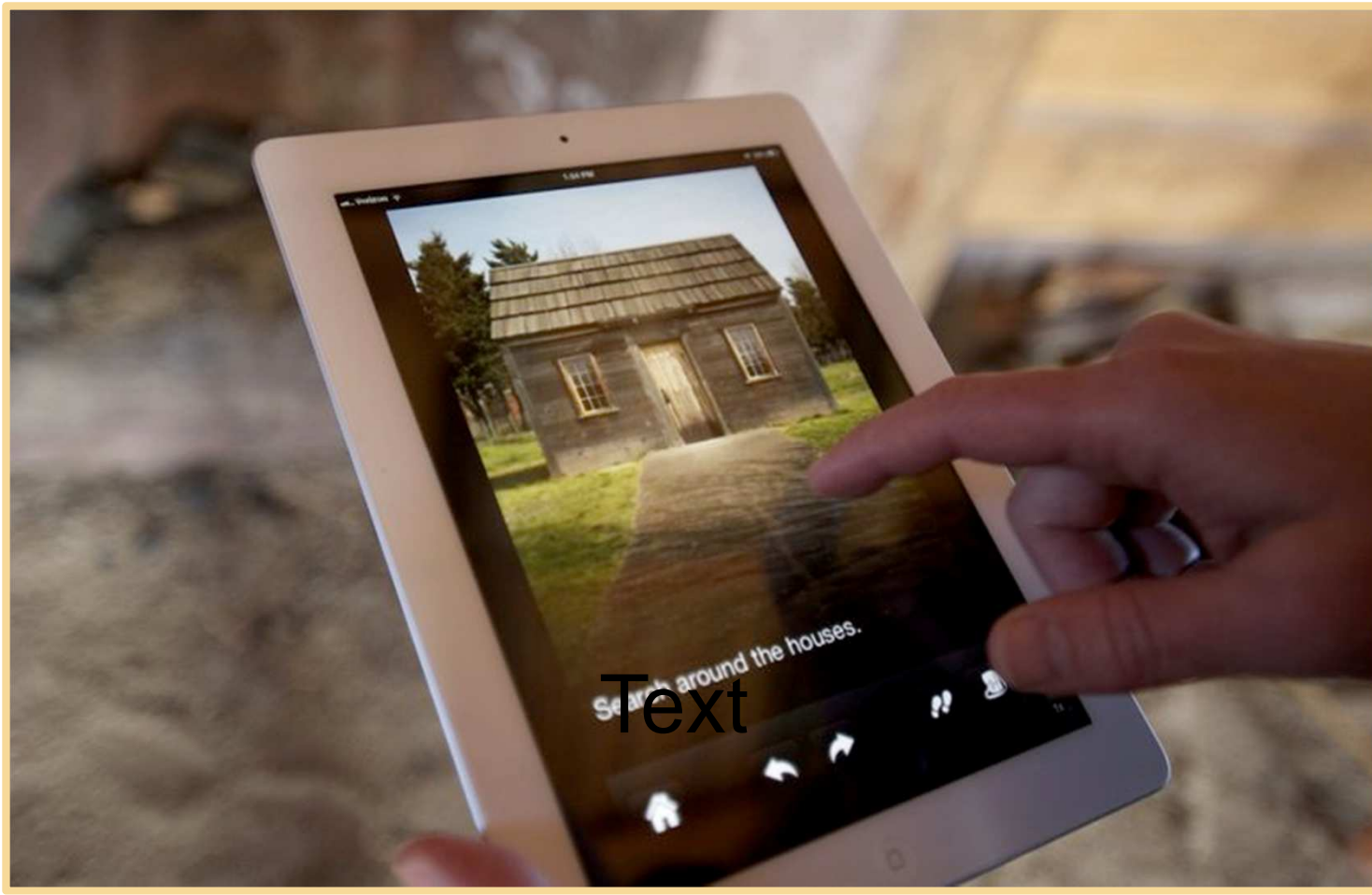
- 22 % visitors, system-wide, receive interpretation through personal services . . . such as lectures, demonstrations, and informal visitor contacts
- 78 % visitors receive interpretation through various media forms, such as brochures, wayside exhibits, and multimedia displays

Text

If signs were used, 6 minutes; if a brochure, 9 minutes; if the app was used, 23 minutes.

1. **Philosophical Considerations**

   Create the app so that it does not detract from the garden experience
   Ensure everyone can use it by complying to ADA standards

2. **Practical Considerations**

   Produce content as location-based and offsite experience
   Create the app so that some information is already downloaded
   Provide only needed information
   Use 3rd party platforms (Facebook, Twitter) carefully
   Make the app easy to update

3. **Aesthetic Considerations**

   Use sound oriented interpretation
   Incorporate visual media sparingly
   Rely on signage already used in the garden

4. **Usability Considerations**

   Break up text with images and limit the amount of text a visitor has to read
   Utilize the camera feature for taking and uploading photos of garden
   Provide maps of tours along with suggested time commitment

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                          ┌─────────────────────────┐
                          │    Web-Based App        │
                          │    HTML5, CSS 3, JS     │
                          └─────────────────────────┘
                                      │
                                      │
                           November/December 2015

       Unity5 ╱                       │                      ╲
              ╱                       │                       ╲
  ┌─────────────────────┐            │            ┌─────────────────────┐
  │   Native App        │            │            │   Hybrid App        │
  │   SDK               │            │            │   PhoneGap          │
  │   If content        │            │            │   If content involves│
  │   involves 3D       │            │            │   integrated         │
  │   modelling, touch  │            │            │   augmented reality  │
  │   interface, etc.   │            │            │                      │
  └─────────────────────┘            │            └─────────────────────┘
              │                       │                       │
              │                       │                       │
  ┌──────┐ ┌──────────┐               │               ┌──────┐ ┌──────────┐
  │ iOS  │ │ Android  │               │               │ iOS  │ │ Android  │
  │      │ │ OS       │               │               │      │ │ OS       │
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                                      │
                          ┌─────────────────────────┐
                          │    Web-Based App        │
                          │    HTML5, CSS 3, JS     │
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