



EDEN



California Garden and Landscape History Society Journal

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GARDENS & LANDSCAPES

Bill Grant

We all know what gardens are. Right? But what about landscapes? When this society was formed, there was a serious argument about the way we would meet the world with our name. Because there are many landscape designers in our group, it was felt that both words must be in our title.

If you were to ask most people what a garden is—well, the answer would probably be an area where flowers and shrubs (maybe trees) are grown. Fair enough.

But what if you asked, “What is a landscape?” Ah, now we have a problem. I have asked any number of friends this question, and never once have I had the same answer. And members of the society have often asked the same question.

Since I recently proposed and instituted a new committee project for our society—the formation of Regional Garden Groups, whose first task will be the cataloging of California landscapes and gardens of historical importance—it now becomes necessary to arrive at a consensus about which kinds of gardens and landscapes should be included in this catalog. Majority opinion at the conference did settle a cutoff date for the project. We are to list all the gardens and landscapes established before 1950 in the state, county by county, and publish the findings. In that way, there will be a printed record for the use of anyone interested in the subject. Now, how to settle the debate about garden versus landscape?

Let me use Watsonville, a town near my residence, as an example. In the city center, over 100 years old, there is a square city block that has been used as a place for locals to sun themselves on the many benches, for the occasional band concerts in the rather ugly bandstand, and for patriotic and

seasonal events. There are many different trees, most of them native to California. The place has not changed since I moved here in 1959. But there is no garden! That is what I call a landscape.

If we look at the University of California at Santa Cruz Arboretum, where I have been a volunteer for twenty years, we find a different situation. This is a world-famous collection of plants from the Southern Hemisphere. There are Australian Gardens, New Zealand Gardens, Mediterranean Gardens—all clearly marked. The word *arboretum* has changed in its current usage. It once meant a collection of trees (the Latin word makes that quite clear), but today it can mean a number of things. UCSC does have a magnificent collection of conifers, but for the rest of the Arboretum there are more shrubs and plants

than trees. The site could just as well have been named botanical garden, but the Regents said they had enough of those. So to get established, it had to use its current name. This example does not help to clarify our discussion. But it shows how meanings can be so various.

To return to the Latin meaning of these words: the dictionary defines *garden* as a “piece of ground devoted to growing flowers, fruit, or vegetables.” Have a look at the photographs of Italian or French Renaissance “gardens” and all you see are trees, water, and statues. Yet the word landscape rarely is used in their descriptions.

With *landscape*, the dictionary will confuse rather than clarify for most people because there are many definitions. The one I chose is best for my purpose here: “an expanse of natural scenery seen by the eye in one view.” The key word there is “natural.” I can think of some great landscapes that qualify by that definition. Ninfa, south of



Garden or Landscape?

Rome, as seen from the road above, gives the viewer at one glance the panorama of what appears to be natural. Once inside the grounds, one sees it is not as natural as one first thought. However, it is definitely not a garden, even though there are flowers.

The two words are almost the same in spelling and meaning in German: *Landschaft* and *Garten*. If you have read any of the German poetry of the last two centuries you will have “seen” a lot of landscapes in the many romantic images offered by the famous poets. *Garten*, on the other hand, has a connotation of a little plot or yard, and the city dwellers in Germany often have a small plot of ground outside their area where they grow vegetables and flowers.

In French, *paysage* would be the equivalent of landscape and is used only for nature, properly speaking. Size plays a part in its connotations too. *Jardin* is very much a smaller entity. And the word *parc* is more frequently used than it is in English. Here the meaning is the garden area around a chateau or large house, or a public park.

Of the many people I asked about this, nearly everyone said a garden had to have flowers to be called a garden. I think that is what the general view would be if we could obtain a larger sampling of opinion. About landscape, opinions varied a great deal. However, when the word is used as an adjective and added to design or architect, the focus is much clearer. This eliminates “natural” only in the sense that what is created may look that way, but it has, in fact, been contrived.

Then there is the National Park Service’s definition of landscape. The following was culled from a sidebar used in an article on the NPS titled, “Taking The Initiative,” by Jane Brown Gillette. It appeared in the May 1997 issue of *Landscape Architecture*. First, there is the all-encompassing definition for what they term a cultural landscape: a geographical area (including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein) associated with a historic event, activity, or person, or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values.

Under this umbrella, there are four subgroups for defining the general types of cultural landscapes, but they are not meant to be mutually exclusive: **historic sites** (i.e., battlefields); **historic designed landscapes** (laid out by a landscape architect, master gardener, etc.). “The landscape may be associated with a significant person, trend, or event in landscape architec-

ture or illustrate an important development in the theory and practice of landscape architecture. Aesthetic values play a significant role in designed landscapes. Examples include parks, campuses, and estates.” To continue: **historic vernacular landscapes**, those that evolved through use by the people whose activities or occupancy shaped them (i.e., a farm complex or rural historic district); **ethnographic landscapes** (sacred religious sites, massive geological structures).

So who really cares—since we are so casual in our use of the two words that there is never going to be complete agreement about definition. But I hope this short essay will prompt others to join in the discussion. Those who wish to actively participate in the work of the new Regional Garden Groups may begin by joining an e-group specially formed for this purpose. You register by sending a message to: californiahistoricalgardenregistry-subscribe@egroups.com. Those who don’t have email may contact me directly at 1678 Pleasant Valley Road, Aptos, CA 95003. Have any of you ideas to offer the committee?

ELECTION RESULTS FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President:	Laurie Hannah
Vice-President:	Bill Grant
Recording Secretary:	Thea Gurns
Membership Secretary:	Glenda Jones
Treasurer:	Kathleen Craig
Members-at-Large:	John Blocker
	Roberta Burke
	Lucy Warren



The usual suspects: Graham, Mori, Craig, Blocker, Warren, Jones, Burke, Gurns, Chamberlin, Grant, Hannah

SPRING 2001 BOARD MEETING

A reminder that all **members of the Society are welcome to attend any Board meeting**, but we do need some advance notice of intention to attend, so we can be certain of having enough space for everyone. The Board meets twice a year at present, in spring and fall and we try to alternate locations between north and south as we do the conferences, so the onus of travel expenses is not always on one section of the state. Our Spring 2001 meeting will be held at Laurie Hannah's home in Santa Barbara the weekend of March 9-11. Please contact Laurie in advance if you are interested in attending this meeting.

DIRECTORY ALERT!

All members please be advised that our Membership Secretary, Glenda Jones, will soon commence work on a new Membership Directory for publication and distribution in April of 2001. If you have additions or corrections for your current directory listing, or have moved since last April, please pass this information along to Glenda as soon as possible care of P.O. Box 1075, Palo Alto, CA 94302-1075.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

By the time this issue of *Eden* is mailed to you, we may still not have a president-elect of the United States. I am glad that, by comparison, our elections in CG&LHS have been so simple and uncontested. Of course, that is not surprising when most of the candidates are running unopposed! Nevertheless, I am happy to have been elected the second president of this organization and I look forward to the challenges that the position may bring.

I would first like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the entire society, to say thank you to past president Mitzi Van Sant for her fine leadership over the last three years. Under her watchful eye, our organization has grown to 150 members and become a non-profit California corporation. She has graciously hosted a beautiful web presence for us on her business web-site and has efficiently chaired many board meetings and business meetings at our annual conferences. Following in her footsteps will be no mean feat.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting are enclosed with this issue of *Eden*, but I'd like to draw attention to the creation of a Finance Committee. The commit-

tee will prepare yearly budget proposals which must then in turn be approved by the whole board. It will also oversee the financial situation of the organization and make recommendations for ways to increase income and ensure financial stability. Lucy Warren has agreed to serve as Committee Chair.

It has been over a month since our annual meeting was held in Monterey, but I am still feeling the excitement that was generated at that meeting, when I talk with various members about it. We reached a new plateau there, generated by the enthusiasm that new attendees bring, as well as the chance for people to network and brainstorm together about issues that are important to all of us. Our breakout discussion groups were positive and have the potential to propel us into further action.

For those of you who weren't able to attend the annual meeting, I would like to briefly summarize the gist of the discussion groups. We broke into six groups, and each group was facilitated by a board member who gave a brief report afterwards on what was said.

1. Newsletter: Marlea Graham led the discussion. The focus was on two points: how to generate new articles and whether it was time to try putting out an annual scholarly journal in addition to the quarterly newsletter. It was agreed that personally inviting members to write on particular topics seems to work better than general appeals and waiting for inspiration to strike. However, since the Editor doesn't know every member and their areas of special interest, she needs your help to determine who would like to write about what. The possibility of making the journal an e-journal to save on publication costs was also proposed. Marlea will be looking into this fur-

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Many members' dues come up for renewal this quarter. We wish to take this opportunity to again urge you to consider becoming a Sustaining Member of CG&LHS by making a contribution of \$50 or more when you renew.

John Blocker & Thea Gurns
Susan Chamberlin
Carol Coate
Kathleen Craig
Besty G. Fryberger
Virginia Gardner
Marlea Graham

Bill Grant
Laurie Hannah
Marge Howard-Jones
Margaret Mori
Michael Reandean
Mary S. Smith
Dick Turner

ther in the very near future.

2. Web-site: Roberta Burke led the discussion. The group looked at the purpose and methods of creating a web-site for the organization. They discussed who might become the web master and keep the site current, and what the start-up and annual costs might be, depending on who designed it. Other ideas were: publishing the newsletter electronically on the web-site, and what other types of information might appear on the web-site, such as garden features, future events, and links to related sites. This group will continue to plan the site, research costs and submit a proposal to the board for implementation.

3. Estate Gardens: Margaret Mori led the discussion. An invitation was extended to anyone interested in any way, shape or form in estate gardens. The agenda of this diversified group was problem-solving through shared experience and knowledge. Three quite varied case studies were presented for discussion. The first of these was a privately-owned estate in the Napa Valley, suspected to have been originally laid out by the German landscape designer, Rudolph Ulrich. No firm evidence of this supposition has yet been found, but the search will continue using some new ideas obtained through networking. A newly built adobe home and beginning landscape work along the Feather River in the Sierras provided the next topic, and here the emphasis was on record-keeping and the process of documentation for posterity. A local member of a Monterey adobe preservation group made the last presentation, the focus here being on the exploration of options for using publicity to enhance fundraising and public participation. We hope to have an update from these members at our next session, or perhaps, an article in some future issue of *Eden*.

4. Regional garden documentation: Bill Grant led this very popular group. Their purpose is to form regional groups to record public and private gardens throughout the state by county. The group needs to come up with guidelines, such as what time period they are looking at, to know what to include in the project. This is a long-term project, (possibly 8-10 years), the goal being some sort of publication. In the meantime, Bill has set up an on-line discussion group to facilitate the organization of the documentation process. See the lead article by Bill for instructions on how to participate.

5. Logo: Susan Chamberlin led the group discussion, which centered on whether to keep the century plant motif currently in use on our brochure or to design something new. This group came up with several concepts for

a new logo, as well as a plan of action. The concepts included an arch or gateway of stonework, a grapevine, and the California poppy. Keeping it simple is important, as our organization name is long and incorporating the logo into a heading could be difficult. One novel proposal was the use of the Chinese chop symbol for "garden." But it is essential to have something soon for future conference ads, stationary letterheads, and simply as a symbol people can identify with the CG&LHS. The group is asking for artwork submissions for review and is using e-mail for networking. Contact Susan at susanchamb@aol.com.

6. Preservation: Led by Kathleen Craig, this group discussed three areas of importance to them: networking and advocacy within one's own community and alerting locals to gardens worth preserving; educating members on the process of documenting gardens, and doing the actual documentation work, which is essentially what the regional groups will do. The group strongly recommends either a pre-conference workshop on the process of historic documentation and assessment, or a training session within the annual meeting, so that members will all be working from the same standards and guidelines.

These discussion groups were a great catalyst and work has already started on some of these projects. Let's not sit back and forget about them! Stay in touch with others through e-mail or the discussion group. If you are interested in working on any of these projects, please contact the group leader mentioned above or the relevant committee chair. We still need one for the Preservation Group. Any volunteers? Let's use this opportunity to work together and we will get more work done.

—Laurie Hannah, President

A SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE TALKS

For those who were unable to attend our annual conference in Monterey this October, we have provided here a brief summary of the contents of each lecture.

The Landscape & Development of Early Monterey

Tom Brown's presentation began with a clear demonstration of how the early Manila galleon trade routes—and their contingent needs for a reliable source of fresh water and wood for ship masts—facilitated the establishment of Monterey. The physical layout of the town was begun first with the placement of the customhouse in a direct line from the ship anchorage, skirting the estuary marshlands and building on the first available piece of

firm land. The ways and means by which the early settlers of Monterey produced their own food and other necessary supplies was illustrated with a series of early British watercolors. These showed the siting of the Presidio with accompanying horse and cattle ranch, as well as the Carmel mission with its orchards and gardens. Tom underlined the continuing importance of these and similar historic garden sites as museums of genetic stock that have renewed value for present-day nurserymen. Cuttings from one of the still-existing, original pear trees, brought from Spain by the Jesuits, have been taken for propagation, eventual distribution and preservation of this very old variety. It is hoped that some early grapevine hybrids found in another location may provide a solution to a disease to which all modern grape rootstock is susceptible. The early illustrations of Monterey, many of which came from a collection at the Bancroft Library, were a visual treat, and as always, Tom's interpretation of history is thought-provoking and rewarding.

—Margaret Mori

Rudolph Ulrich & the Hotel del Monte

Julie Cain began her lecture by pointing out how the Central Pacific Railroad "ran through" much of this German landscape gardener's career. Per Dr. Streatfield's brief biography, Ulrich came to California from Ohio around 1872-73, and began working on "Millbrae," the estate of Darius Ogden Mills on the San Francisco Peninsula. Commissions followed for other estate work in the area: Milton Latham's estate, "Thurlow Lodge," and James C. Flood's estate, "Linden Towers." Exact dates are still uncertain, but around 1880-81, Ulrich made the acquaintance of Charles Crocker and Leland Stanford. He was hired to work on the Stanford estate at the Palo Alto Stock Farm, and around the same time, Crocker came up with the idea for building

the first seaside resort hotel in California in order to increase revenues for the railroad by luring tourists out from the Eastern states. Ulrich spent approximately ten

years of his career on developing the variously reported 106-to-200-acre grounds of the Hotel del Monte. It was his largest single project, aside from the three Exposition jobs that followed his resignation from the Del Monte in 1890. Ulrich worked continuously until his death in San Diego in 1906, (we now have a copy of his death certificate), on everything from several other resort hotel projects with railroad links (the Rafael in San Rafael, the Raymond in Pasadena, the Arcadia in Santa Monica) down to small estate jobs of only one acre (Epworth-by-the-Sea in Santa Cruz). Widespread exposure to Ulrich's style of classical European gardening of the day (beginning close to the buildings with ornate carpet bedding and exotic plants, and graduating to more natural landscaping the further away from the central buildings one moved) resulted from the volume of tourists passing through Ulrich's resort hotel landscapes. Consequently, this style, plus his innovative collections of desert plants, continued to have an impact long after his death. We look forward to publishing a more detailed article on the subject in our journal soon.

—Marlea Graham

Lester Rowntree

Rosemary Donlon's presentation on native plant advocate and writer Lester Rowntree was a nice complement to the other speakers of the conference, as Rowntree was a resident of Carmel for many years. A native garden planted in Carmel in her honor is currently in danger of being lost, due to development of the neighboring property. During Donlon's presentation, we learned that

Gertrude "Nellie" Ellen Lester was born in England in 1879, emigrated to Kansas, and then moved to Altadena, California and lived in a Quaker community. After a relatively short marriage which ended in divorce in 1932, her gardening activities, begun as a



Hotel Arcadia, Santa Monica

child, became a focus for existence but also a means of staying financially afloat. When she was not living at home in Carmel, Rowntree spent most of the year travel-

ing the back roads of California alone, “meeting [native plants] in their days and seasons.” She collected plants and seed for exchange and for sale to botanic gardens and nurseries. She wrote continuously on their positive attributes and how best to grow them in a home garden. Donlon told us that Lester took thousands of photographs (now located at the California Academy of Science) on her trips and made copious notes on each one. Donlon explained Rowntree’s peripatetic lifestyle by giving us a travelogue in both black & white and color, using many of Rowntree’s own photographs to illustrate the stark beauty of California’s varied landscapes. Her talk was a refreshing departure from the typical slide lecture, reminding one of actor Hal Holbrook’s famous interpretations of Mark Twain and his works. Rosemary, while not in character or costume, gave much of her presentation in Lester Rowntree’s own words, allowing those of us who have not read Rowntree’s two books and numerous articles to get a feel for her style and message. Rosemary has been documenting Rowntree’s work for many years. We look forward to her completed bibliography of Rowntree’s writings, now in progress, as well as future projects on this relatively uncelebrated naturalist.

—Laurie Hannah

The Gardens of Old Monterey

Frances Grate graciously agreed to speak from the floor without visual aids when scheduled speaker Al Graham was unable to appear, due to a sudden family emergency. Frances, in addition to being a member of CG&LHS, is also active in Monterey’s Historic Garden League and the Heritage Roses Group. She designed the lovely gardens of the Cooper-Molera complex, the National Trust property run by the State of California that topped our tour list. She has also been actively involved with the preservation and refurbishing of the gardens at Mission San Juan Bautista, this too under state control now.

Monterey was the capital of the Spanish colony, Alta California. However, it was during the Mexican era of 1820-1850 when many of the buildings in Monterey’s historic district were constructed. The California Gold Rush propelled San Francisco and Sacramento to prominence, ended Mexican control of Alta California, and eliminated Monterey as a significant city. Monterey “went to sleep,” but this saved it for posterity. Today its gardens represent a range of styles.

Many of the garden spaces along the Old Monterey “Path of History” were planted in the 1820s and 1830s,



Frances in her garden

but only fragments of their original hardscapes and horticultural materials remain. The Robert Louis Stevenson House garden and the Pacific House Museum garden (done by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.) were installed in the 1920s along the romanti-

cized lines of the Spanish Colonial Revival period, now an historic era in its own right. Aside from one ancient fruit tree and an 1860s Monterey cypress tree (*Cupressus macrocarpa*), the 2.5 acre Cooper-Molera Adobe gardens date from the 1980s. The orchard is historically sited; the rest of the garden represents what it may have been like during the Victorian era of the Cooper family, which included a horticulturally sophisticated member of the Vallejo family. Casa Soberanes (also called the House of the Blue Gate) has a somewhat unique, vernacular Monterey-style cottage garden. Enclosed with clipped Monterey cypress hedges, its flowerbeds are outlined with abalone shells and old bottles.

—Susan Chamberlin

[And though the plantings at the Carmel mission are wholly incorrect from the historian’s point of view, many members, including yours truly, still found much pleasure in wandering among this cheerful floral display at the end of a very exciting weekend.—mAg]

ROY RYDELL (1915-2000)

Susan Chamberlin

Landscape architect, artist, and preservationist Roy Rydell died of pancreatic cancer at his Bonny Doon residence in the Santa Cruz Mountains in late October. Rydell was the landscape architect of the Pacific Garden Mall in downtown Santa Cruz, one of the first main streets in America to be redesigned for pedestrians. In the 1960s he crusaded to save the historic buildings that had fallen out of fashion along Pacific Street and then helped mobilize downtown occupants to build the mall. Abbot Square, a pocket park Rydell designed on Cooper Street in the 1970s to commemorate another preservationist, linked the Octagon Museum and the Cooper House. An early example of adaptive re-use, the mall, many of its build-

ings, and Abbot Square were destroyed by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and subsequent, sloppy work of demolition crews. The Octagon and Rydell's office, in a Maple Street Victorian home he had restored, survived.

Rydell's career as a landscape architect was probably at its peak in the 1970s, a period just recent enough that it is not yet appreciated. He excelled at residential design using a sophisticated plant palette at a time when environmental planning was all the rage in the professional journals, and many designers relied on about ten species of plants. Thomas Church recommended him for the Sunset Books Building garden commission.

Born in Minnesota in 1915 and married to Frances Cooksey in 1942, Rydell was educated in engineering, architecture, and art. He attended the University of Southern California and UC Berkeley. An engineer at Douglas Aircraft in El Segundo during World War II, Rydell and his wife moved to the Kings Road neighborhood of Hollywood in 1943 because they were attracted to its vibrant cultural life. They became friends with many of the *avant-garde*, and although Roy admired and was inspired by Schindler, he moved in a postmodern direction with his career.

Roy's interest in garden design first began when he took a job in a nursery. His painterly use of plant colors and textures and his architectural approach to outdoor space were evident in the many articles featuring his work in *Sunset* magazine, often with no credit given. He had a talent for horticulture and was espaliering, pleaching, and pollarding trees long before the recent revival of these ancient techniques. Rydell's own charming and eclectic garden in Bonny Doon was featured in the February 1985 issue of *Garden Design*, the February 1978 issue of *Sunset* and the *Sunset* book, *Small-Space Gardens*. Seen in the background of the garden is the 1884 Ocean View Schoolhouse, which he and his wife rehabilitated as a residence after purchasing it for \$1500 in 1949.

Rydell retired from practice as a landscape architect in the late 1980s and devoted himself to painting and fundraising for the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History. Friends quoted in the *Santa Cruz Sentinel's* obituary notice called this "his most visible legacy," and noted that his contributions to the area's cultural community are immeasurable. The Roy and Frances Rydell Visual Arts Fund was endowed by the Rydells shortly before Frances' death in 1998. Rydell's papers are archived in the University of California Santa Cruz Library Special Collection. [Unfortunately, there seem to be no finding

aids on the On-line Archive of California/UC Santa Cruz site. Maybe if you call or write, they'll send you a photocopy of the finding aid.]

BOOK REVIEWS & NEWS

The Chronicle of the University of California: A Journal of University History has devoted their third issue (Spring 2000) to the topic, "West of Eden: The University and the Environment." The first part discusses creating and preserving the University's environment, and the second part tells the story of the University's role in the broader environmental movement in California. Articles cover Strawberry Creek and the conservatory on the Berkeley campus, the farm and garden projects at Santa Cruz, a remembrance of Mildred Mathias at UCLA, Aldrich Park at Irvine, and the new campus at Merced. Beyond the University, authors address saving the redwoods, saving San Francisco Bay, the University in the High Sierras, and poets and naturalists. Copies of this issue are available for \$15.00 from Carroll Brentano, Center for Studies in Higher Education, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-4650. Checks are to be made payable to UC Regents.

—Margaretta J. Darnall

The Lawn: A History of an American Obsession. Virginia Scott Jenkins (Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1994), 246 pp., \$14.95.

The American Lawn. Georges Teyssot, ed. (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999), 203 pp., \$34.95.

Two recent books explore the American fascination with the front lawn, and both conclude that it qualifies as a peculiar cultural institution. The first, *The Lawn: A History of an American Obsession*, by Virginia Scott Jenkins is based on an American Studies dissertation. Jenkins reviews the lawn from a cultural perspective with little about its design. The second, *The American Lawn*, accompanied a 1998 exhibition, *The American Lawn: Surface of Everyday Life*, at the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal and contains a series of essays by different authors, all focused on lawn design and its implications.

Jenkins relies heavily on archival material from various departments of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC. Some of her research about golf courses and the United States Department of Agriculture is included in her essay "Fairway Living: Lawncare and Lifestyle from Croquet to the Golf Course" in *The American Lawn*. She writes from the perspective of a cynic

exposing the folly and environmental carelessness of the lawn care industry, with constant reminders of the race and socio-economic status of the lawn growers. She virtually ignores the California xeriscapes which abandoned the lawn many years ago. Yet, her final message is the need for an alternative domestic landscape.

The American Lawn is broader and more forgiving in its approach. The first four essays are the most revealing. Georges Teyssot, the editor, provides an overview in "The American Lawn: Surface of Everyday Life." He, like Jenkins, questions its venerability, but provides a well-illustrated history of its design, and concludes that it is simply part of "the American way of life." Monique Mosser's essay, "The Saga of Grass: from Heavenly Carpet to Fallow Fields," discusses the iconography of the meadow since the Renaissance. Therese O'Malley, in "The Lawn in Early American Landscape and Garden Design," demonstrates that the lawn was not just a nineteenth century suburban conceit, and Alessandra Ponte follows this with a survey of the American professional literature from 1850 to 1950. Inevitably, quotations are repeated, and there are contradictions among the essays. These authors, too, appear unaware of how far California designers have gone with alternative suburban visions. Still, overall, *The American Lawn* is an excellent review of the subject. Its notes and bibliographies alone make this an important source for historians of the American garden, even the California garden.

—Margaretta J. Darnall

Now is the time to order your copy of the Garden Conservancy's 2001 *Open Days Directory*. The price for non-members is \$15.95 plus \$4.50 for shipping & handling. You may also order a coupon book of admission tickets (6 for \$25, a savings of \$5 over on-site purchase). If you wish to join the Conservancy and receive their newsletter, dues are \$35/year for individuals. Make checks payable to The Garden Conservancy, Open Days Directory, P.O. Box 219, Cold Spring, NY 10516. Credit card orders may be placed by calling toll-free 888-842-2442, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, EST, or by fax 845-265-5392.

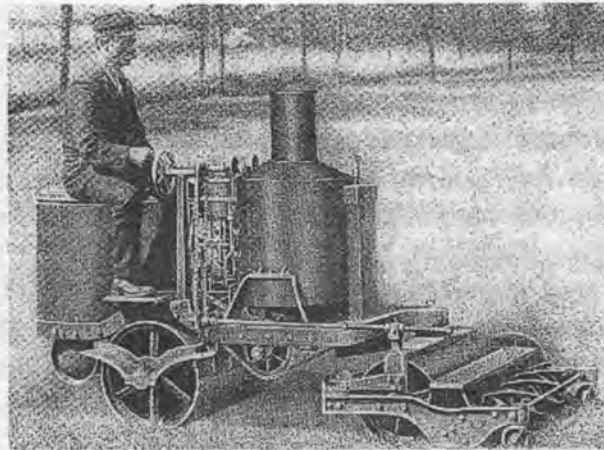
General Garden History Releases

Garden Mania: The Ardent Gardener's Compendium of Design & Decoration, by Philip de Bay and James Bolton (Clarkson Potter, 2000), 400 pages, softcover with a hard slipcase, illustrated throughout in b&w and color, \$35.00.

"De Bay and Bolton examine all of the trends in Western gardening from the 17th century on. From garden follies and temples to urns, statues, and topiary, the authors display hundreds of color prints of the most important examples of garden design and decoration." [*Garden Book Club review.*] Members may find this a useful reference book. We've ordered a copy for perusal.

Gardens of Colony and State. The Garden Club of America has just produced a facsimile edition of this now very hard to find 1931-34 book. This is a two-volume portfolio, weighing 15 pounds, with gold-imprinted title on a green linen ground. It's reviewed as, "A landmark survey of pre-1840 American gardens and gardeners...a lasting record of many gardens no longer in existence." Cost is \$150 per set plus \$15 shipping & handling. Orders can be mailed to: The Garden Club of

America, 14 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022. [No phone or fax numbers were provided in the announcement. Thanks to Peggy Cornett, Director of the Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants at Monticello for this information.]



Simpson Lawnmower & Roller, 1906

COMING EVENTS

January 13, 2001: 2001 Garden Lecture Series at Rancho Los Cerritos. A one-hour slide

lecture on "Mediterranean Influences on California Gardens," by Kenneth S. Nakaba, FASLA, followed by q&a period, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Nominal fee, no reservations required. Call 562-570-1755 for details. Adobe house and gardens open for hourly tours from 1:00 p.m. onward. The Rancho is located at 4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach, CA 90807.

January 14-17, 2001: Renovation & Restoration 2001 trade exhibit and conference in Washington, DC. For details see web-site: <http://www.egiexhib.com> or leave a message at 800-982-6247 and they'll return your call.

February 10, 2001: If you've been wanting to learn more about utilizing historic rambling roses in the landscape, here is your chance to learn from a master! Bill Grant is teaching a one-day seminar, "Rambling Roses: Selection, Cultivation and Display" at the UCSC Arboretum, Horticulture Building, entrance on High Street, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fee \$75, enrollment limited. Call (800) 660-8639 or see the web-site: www.ucsc-extension.edu.

February 10, 2001: Garden Lecture Series at Rancho Los Cerritos, Long Beach. Slide lecture on "English Influences on California Gardens," by Christine Rosmini. See January 13 notice for full details.

February 15, 2001: This is the deadline for applications for a summer job opportunity for students. The Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Records (HABS/HAER), a division of the National Park Service, is seeking applications from qualified individuals for summer employment documenting historic sites and structures of architectural and technological significance.

You may wonder what this had to do with gardens, but the **HABS/HAER are now in the process of adding a third branch, the Historic American Landscape Survey**, (HALS), so it could well be worth your while to inquire about these jobs. It will all depend on how quickly the committee can get their ducks (finances, material, staff, methodology) lined up. Duties involve on-site fieldwork and the preparation of historical reports and measured and interpretive drawings for the collection at the Prints and Photos Division of the Library of Congress. Projects last 12 weeks, beginning May/June. Salaries range from entry-level positions at \$4500 to more senior positions at around \$8500 for the summer, depending on job responsibilities, locality of the project and level of experience. **We repeat, applications are due by February 15, 2001.** For information, or to download the application form, visit the web-site:

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/habshaer/joco/summerjobs.htm>. Snail-mailers may write to: Summer Program Administrator, HABS/HAER, NPS, 1849 C. Street NW, NC300, Washington DC, 20240. Phone: 202-343-9626 or -9618. Email: robbyn_brooks@nps.gov.

For further information about the Historic American Landscape Survey, see the same web-site: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/habshaer/>. The ASLA, NPS and the Library of Congress have established a Memorandum of Understanding for a cooperative effort on this project. ASLA members can email the HP-PIG Subcommittee

through their own web-site at: www.asla.org. Many other organizations such as the Garden Club of America, the Catalog of Landscape Records in the United States, the Library of American Landscape History and other interested groups will be invited to participate. This ties in nicely with Bill Grant's new project—our lead story.

[Thanks to Margaret Mori for this item.]

February 16-18, 2001: 18th Annual California Mission Studies Association Conference, to be held near the Royal Presidio Chapel in Monterey. Two themes have been selected for next year's conference: *Preservation and Conservation* and *The History of Monterey*. The deadline for submission of abstracts was October 1, 2000. For information, contact Rebecca Allen, 5248 Carriage Drive, Richmond CA 94803. E-mail: pastforward@home.com.

March 10, 2001: Garden Lecture Series at Rancho Los Cerritos, Long Beach. Slide lecture on "Asian Influences on California Gardens," by Bud Sutton. See January 13 notice for full details.

May 9-12, 2001: Places of Cultural Memory: African Reflections on the American Landscape, in Atlanta, GA. The goal of this conference is to convene interdisciplinary panels of experts whose presentations will assist in the fuller identification, evaluation, documentation, preservation, and interpretation of relevant building sites, districts, structures and objects. This is a collaborated effort of the National Park Foundation, the National Park Service, the National Association for African American Heritage Preservation, the U.S. Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, Howard University, the Slave Route Project of UNESCO, and the Smithsonian Institute. For more information, contact Brian Joyner, NPS, 1849 C Street NW, 350 NC, Washington DC, 20240. Email: Brian_Joyner@nps.gov. Phone: 202-343-1000.

September 27-29, 2001: 13th Biennial Conference on Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes held at Old Salem, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

October 14-18, 2001: 9th International Conference on Heritage Roses, Charleston SC. Bill Grant may be arranging a pre-conference tour of gardens in the area to bridge the gap between this event and the one above so we can easily attend both in one trip. For application forms, write to: Charleston Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, P.O. Box 975, Charleston, SC 29402 or call 803-853-8000. Check with Bill about possible additional tours.

October 26-29, 2001: The Australian Garden History Society conference theme is to be 'Federation: A Celebration' in honor of the 100th birthday of their nation, and will focus on the Federation Period in Melbourne from 1901 to 1920. The tour will cover Sydney, Tasmania, Canberra, Victoria, etc. Again, see Bill for details, or look for them in our Spring 2001 issue.

ODDS & ENDS

Our next conference site for 2001 will probably be in the Napa/Santa Rosa area with a tentative theme of "History of the Wine Country." If you have any suggestions about gardens to visit or lecturers for this conference, please contact Bill Grant, conference coordinator. For 2002, we're looking for ideas in the Los Angeles area, (Hollywood, UCLA, Getty Museum, and San Diego Zoo have been suggested to date) and 2003 is to be in Palo Alto in conjunction with the Stanford University Art Museum exhibit on "Viewing the Changing California Garden."

Garrett Eckbo (1916-2000), died in May of this year. The notice in *Pacific Horticulture* names him one of the leading practitioners of the profession of landscape architecture in the twentieth century...He loved working on private gardens, and, along with Thomas Church, lead a movement that established the distinct character of California gardens in the post-World War II era."

Jenny Randall advises you may find an article on Luther Burbank's newly restored Goldridge Farm in Sebastopol appearing in the December 2000 issue of *Country Living Gardener*. There is also an article in the November 2000 is-

ssue of *Garden Design*, this one featuring Ganna Walska, owner of Lotusland in Santa Barbara. While the text focuses on the "Lotus Lady," the graphics feature time lines, a bird's-eye-view of the estate with design credits for the various areas including remodels, historic and contemporary photographs. See "Lotus Lady" by Susan Osborn, on pages 76-87. If you're up for a tour of Lotusland in 2001, contact tour guide Fran Wilder at Armstrong & Hedges, Ltd., Purveyors of Fine Travel, 29 Brehaut Ct., Alameda, CA 94502. Phone: 510-521-1141 Web-site: www.teagardentravel.com.

For those in search of educational funding, the Douglas Dockery Thomas Fellowship in Garden History and Design is given by the Garden Club of America. "This fellowship furthers the study of history and design in the American Garden, looking to the future of gardens and the unique place of gardens in our environment. It provides funding of \$4000 annually for graduate students at an accredited U.S. institution." For information, contact GCA, 14 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022 or see the web-site at: www.gcamerica.org.

In a previous issue, we mentioned the possibility of using postcards found on e-bay and in antique stores as documentation of garden history. A consultation with Pat Hathaway of California Views Historical Photo Collection in Monterey provided a more experienced viewpoint on this subject. Pat has a binder filled with examples of photographic manipulations, demonstrating that photographers (or maybe the printers) were pretty good at "editing" their material even in the old days. He showed us two views of the same landscape. The first is of a building on the shore of a lake. On the second card, the house has been "removed," but the ghost reflection of it in the lake remains! And in the case of our "Sherman Rose," not only could they change the color (we've since

seen the flowers depicted variously as white, yellow, pink and red), they were not above adding more flowers than naturally appeared if they thought it would increase saleability. And sometimes the e-bay sellers give wrong information. We found "A Garden View" and were told it was in San Jose. We accepted this right up until we found the identical view with additional information on



A Ride at the Alligator Farm, Calif.

the front of the card, identifying it as "Dr. Hoyt's Residence in South Pasadena." So don't put too much trust in the phrase, "Seeing is believing." Sometimes seeing and believing just aren't enough.

Rae Chambers wrote to advise us that the North American Cottage Garden Society has recently merged with the North American Dianthus Society. The NADS suspended independent publication of their previously produced *The Gilliflower Times*. The remaining publication serving both organizations is *Small Honesties*, another Victorian name for pinks. In addition to merging in the

newsletter department, NACGS/NADS have also combined Round Robins and seed exchanges. Each issue of the 20-page newsletter will devote at least four pages to *Dianthus*. If you'd like to join, send a check for \$18 to Ms. Denis Garrett, Membership Secretary, NACGS/NADS, Inc., P.O. Box 188, Pegram, TN 37143-0188.

Alas, we have also been informed, this time by Scott Kunst, of Old House Gardens, that Michael Weishan's newsletter/magazine, *Traditional Gardening*, is no more. In a letter to subscribers he said he had lost a quarter of a million dollars on it. Subscribers can take back issues in lieu of the remainder of their subscription, or "donate" the money to the Garden Conservancy for commercials on Michael's NPR radio program, which, apparently will be continuing for now. *Traditional Gardening*, The Barn at 189 Cordaville Road, Southborough MA 01772. Back issues were priced at \$6 each postpaid, but this may have changed. You can try phoning: 800-244-2233 or email: GardenWorks@traditionalgardening.com.

And we further regret to inform you that the Kansas-based historical gardening newsletter, *Back in Thyme* has ceased publication as well. Editor Nancy Smith said that stopping was difficult, but necessary due to family problems that required more of her time.

While we're on the subject of garden history publications, the Southern Garden History Society has created a bound set of all issues of their newsletter, *Magnolia* from Volume I through Vol. XIV (1985-1999) for \$50 postpaid. Send checks to SGHS, c/o Old Salem, Drawer F, Salem Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27108, attn: Kay Bergey, publications secretary. They're still working on a web-site. We'll keep you posted.

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS

Please welcome (and add to Directory) these new members:

Thomas W. Armour, 264 Monte Vista Avenue, Oakland 94611
 Julie Taylor Clough, 2190 Beach St, #305, San Francisco 94123
 Ann M. Dwelley, 479 El Cielito Road, Santa Barbara 93105
 Karen & Donald Handal, 11 Bryon Rd, Old Greenwich, CT 06870
 John Hammerschmidt, 1574 Country Club Dr, Los Altos 94024
 Joanne Irmas, 44 Yankee Point Drive, Carmel 93923
 Cynthia Jordan, 215 Cardiff Place, Santa Cruz 95060
 Mary Weber Novak, 1401 Hudson Avenue, St. Helena 94574
 Laurie Osborn, 1221-10th Street, Hermosa Beach 90284
 Keith W. Park, 176 Harcross Road, Woodside 94062
 Marty Pike, City Hall, Monterey 93940
 Maria T. Robertson, 10580 Hidden Mesa Place, Monterey 93940

WEB-SITES TO VISIT

Heirloom Flowers is a "world-wide e-discussion group for scholars, collectors, and gardeners with a passionate interest in historic ornamentals. They welcome discussion of all historic ornamentals—trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, annuals, bulbs, and indoor plants—and their history, documentation, identification, current sources, cultivation, and preservation." Joining is free and simple. Send any e-mail message to HeirloomFlowers-subscribe@eGroups.com and follow the directions that are emailed back to you. Originator Scott Kunst is our moderator, coaching new members in correct e-protocol. Sometimes we stray from the straight and narrow: a recent "string" on the origins of gazing balls was quite fascinating. Come join in our lively discussions.

Illustrations This Issue

1. Postcard, "Century Plant in Bloom, State Capitol Grounds, Sacramento."
2. CG&LHS Board, photo courtesy of William A. Grant.
3. Postcard, Hotel Arcadia, Santa Monica.
4. Frances Grate, photo courtesy of Glenda Jones.
5. Old advertisement, Simpson Lawnmower and Roller, 1906.
6. Postcard, "A Ride at the Alligator Farm, California."
7. Color painting from *California*, Union Pacific Railroad, 1924.

Eden

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 Susan Chamberlin.....Central Coast
 Pam Waterman.....L. A. Basin
 Lucy Warren.....San Diego

Deadline for copy for the next *Eden* is: March 01, 2000

California Garden and Landscape History Society

Aims and Purposes

To celebrate the beauty, wealth, and diversity of California gardens and landscapes.

*

To aid and promote interest in, study of, and education about California garden and landscape history.

*

To collect and/or coordinate resources and expertise about the history of California's gardens and landscapes.

*

To visit on various occasions historical gardens, landscapes, archives and libraries in different parts of the State.

*

To enjoy one another's company at meetings, garden visits, and other get-togethers.

California Garden & Landscape History Society

Membership Secretary

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Palo Alto, CA 94302-1075



Do you know this garden? Circa 1924.

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