



CULTIVATING CAPISTRANO: HISTORIC VALLEY GARDENS & LANDSCAPES OCTOBER 11-13

As you all are aware by now, this year's annual conference is to be held at San Juan Capistrano, down in Orange County. This will be a three-day conference, with an optional workshop offered on Friday followed by a reception; lectures and a business meeting Saturday morning, and after lunch, a walking tour of the town, an optional dinner and garden tour; on Sunday, more tours of several interesting places.

Friday's workshop is on "Cultural Landscape Preservation and Documentation." Karen Adams, a landscape architect for CA State Parks who works at the Will Rogers State Historic Park in Santa Monica, and Noel Vernon, Assistant Dean at the College of Environmental Design at Cal Poly, Pomona, will teach us how to employ the NPS guidelines that were briefly reviewed at our Sonoma conference last year. Friday evening, there will be a hosted cocktail reception at the O'Neill House Museum, located in the Los Rios Historic District.

Saturday, Alana Jolley will tell us about the Joel Congdon farm house, a Victorian-style home built in 1876-77 by Joel Rathbone Congdon, a descendant of Scots/Irish immigrants. The ethnicity of the site encompasses Native American, Spanish, Mexican, English (Scots/Irish Celtic traditions), Japanese, and American influences. Congdon operated the first walnut farm in Orange County (which was then still L. A. County) and Alana will talk about the agricultural history of the property. She

hopes to follow up her talk with a tour of the home, but is still waiting for permission from the city, who restored the building in 2000-2001 at a cost of \$350,000.00. They have yet to decide what to do with it; it has been sitting vacant and unused in its beautifully restored condition for over a year. We will visit the farm regardless, and you will meet "Farmer George" who operates a portion of the site as South Coast Farms - strictly organic!

Alana has studied, researched, and written about San Juan Capistrano's history for over ten years. She served as the SJC Mission Museum Director for five years, but resigned a year ago to finish her degree in Educational Anthropology. She has been a member of the Mission Docent Society for over ten years, also serving a term as President, and performing as a Living History character (Nancy Kelsey). Alana formed the Mission Garden Club (known as the Gardening Angels) six years ago, and was the Director of the Mission's annual Garden Festival for six years.

Susan Chamberlin will speak on "Mission Revival Architecture and Gardens." The Mission Revival architectural style was essential to the transition from

the Victorian styles that predominated throughout the United States in the late 19th century to regionally-appropriate styles based on culture and climate that were adopted in California, the Southwest, and Florida in the 20th century.



Southern California Building, Midwinter Fair, San Francisco, 1894.

Garden designers as well as architects contributed to the Mission Revival style. The origins of this style in the Arts and Crafts Movement will be examined along with the sources that inspired architects and landscape architects at the time. Original plans, photos, and published accounts will be used to illustrate examples of Mission Revival buildings and gardens.

You all know Susan as the longtime CGLHS member who served the organization so capably for several years as our Publicity Chair. She is adjunct faculty at Santa Barbara City College and teaches garden history every fall in the Environmental Horticulture Department. Susan has a B.A. in landscape architecture from UC Berkeley, a landscape architect's license, and an M.A. in Architectural History from UC Santa Barbara. Her book, *Hedges, Screens & Espaliers*, was published in 1983, and she has contributed articles to *Pacific Horticulture*, *Arts and Architecture*, *The Los Angeles Times Magazine*, *Woman's Day*, *The Santa Barbara News-Press*, *Santa Barbara Magazine*, and the *Santa Barbara Independent*. She is currently the Pearl Chase Society representative on the City of Santa Barbara's Franceschi Park Master Plan Advisory Committee.

Our third speaker will be Judith M. Taylor, MD, author of *The Olive in California, History of an American Immigrant*, which is also the subject of her talk. Dr. Taylor is a retired neurologist, born in London and educated at the University of Oxford, who now writes history as an independent scholar. She had always been deeply interested in medical botany and the history of horticulture and agriculture. When the Taylors planted two dozen olive trees in their new garden in Marin she became fascinated by their beauty, their history and their importance in feeding the world. Since she could not find a book about the trees, she decided to write her own.

Dr. Taylor has most recently been investigating the archives of several San Francisco institutions, among them, the San Francisco Garden Club. In the 1930s, this group produced a series of four booklets recording the early garden landscape memories of residents in five communities, San Francisco, San Jose, Marin, the East Bay

and the S. F. Peninsula, an invaluable record for garden historians. *Reminiscences of Peninsula Gardens from 1860 to 1890* was written by Florence Atherton Eyre and combined into one booklet with *Reminiscences of East Bay Gardens from 1860 to 1890*, written by Bell Mhoon Magee. It was published in 1933. *Reminiscences of Early Marin County Gardens*, was written by Margaret Kittle Boyd in 1934. *Vignettes of Early San Francisco Homes and Gardens* was compiled by Mrs. Silas H. Palmer in 1935. *Vignettes of the Gardens of San Jose de Guadalupe* was compiled by Helen Weber Kennedy and Veronica K. Kinzie, and published in 1938.

Dr. Taylor's article on the San Francisco *Vignettes* was published in *The Argonaut, Journal of the San Francisco Historical Society*, Vol. 12, No. 2, Winter 2001. You may find the text of the article on her new web-site along with another article on "Sydney Stein Rich, 1906-1956, Forgotten Gardener of Golden Gate Park," and some reviews written for the San Francisco Garden Club newsletter. Dr. Taylor has a new book ready for publication, *Tangible Memories: Californians and Their Gardens, 1800-1950*, based on an unpublished manuscript by the well known California garden historian, Harry M. Butterfield. She is already hard at work on her next opus, tentatively titled *On Balance: How the World Got Into Your Garden*, a compilation of information about patterns of plant importation. Judith's web-site address is:

<http://hometown.aol.com/jtaylor196/myhomepage/index.html>

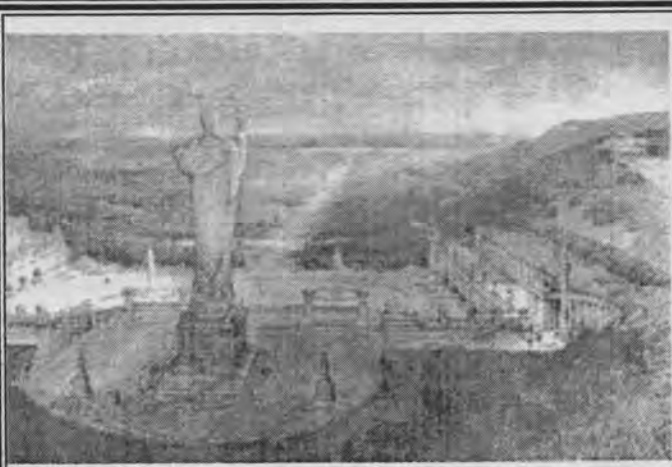
After lunch, we will take a walking tour of San Juan Capistrano, including the Los Rios Historic District, which contains several adobes from both the Spanish and the Mexican/Rancho era, and other historic buildings. We will see the famous Mission built in 1776, number seven in the string of twenty-one. When the property

was desecularized in 1845, it was used as a single family dwelling for the next 20 years. In 1865, it was returned to the Catholic Church.

We have decided to offer the option of a dinner for socializing and networking again this year on Saturday evening. You may recall reading about Carol McElwee's lovely Capistrano Beach house



SJC Mission garden



Burnham's drawing of proposed Athaneum

After the spring issue of *EDEN* was mailed out with Phoebe Cutler's lead article, "Summit Planning on Telegraph Hill," she wrote to say, "I should point out that the Burnham drawing of the giant Athena [shown above and in the spring issue] was *not* for Telegraph Hill, but for an "Athaneum," a scholarly retreat, for an unspecified summit to the south of Twin Peaks facing Lake Merced, probably Mt. Davidson where the controversial cross is. The image does convey Burnham's Roman grandiosity better than the correct one." Below are the correct photograph and accompanying text:

"Reflecting the period's obsession with the legacy of Imperial Rome, Burnham turned the enlarged park into an "I, Claudius" split-level. Two huge terraces, separated by a 25-foot drop and joined by a Capitoline Hill-style stairway, created an expectation of elephants, gladiators and Visigoths in shackles. To complete the metaphor, the imaginary, surrounding buildings recall *insulae*, or apartment blocks, from first-century Rome."



Burnham's Perspective: San Francisco History Center, S. F. Public Library

Turnbull, great-grandson of prominent New York architect George B. Post, is best known for his designs at Sea Ranch in Sonoma County, and Kresge College at UC Santa Cruz, projects on which he collaborated with Charles Moore, Donlyn Lyndon, and Richard Whitaker as MLTW Architects.

Eckbo's designs are highly appreciated by both clients and design critics and have influenced the work of many landscape architects world-wide. He received the 1975 American Society of Landscape Architects' (ASLA) Medal of Honor.

Royston began his career in the office of Thomas Church and then partnered with Eckbo before forming Royston, Hanamoto, Alley & Abey. He was conferred an ASLA president's medal in 1989.

As the number of historic buildings, gardens, and landscapes diminishes, and those that remain are rehabilitated or adapted for reuse, the value of this documentary heritage of California's built environment increases proportionally. These four collections have been and continue to be actively used for scholarly research, monographs, exhibitions, and restoration. Through this grant, the Environmental Design Archives endeavors to protect these significant materials while increasing their accessibility. Online access to the collections will be available through EDA's web-site: www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedarchives/ [Reprint of an EDA press release]

The Tiles of Casa del Herrero

Bryn Homsy is working on a volunteer project to preserve the Spanish tile fountains at Casa del Herrero. "Our water down here is horrid! Calcium carbonates precipitate into crystals onto the surface of the tiles, causing a cloudy film to obscure the beauty of the tile. This crystallization not only has the possibility of damaging the tile glazes but it greatly compromises the integrity of the grout between the tiles. I feel



it is imperative to maintain the health of the fountains. If you hear of someone who knows more than I do or wants to fund something of that sort, please give them my e-mail address. I have already contacted the Tile Foundation and a very helpful conservator in Los Angeles. I will keep you posted." [Photo: Vogt, Montecito, CA's Gdn Paradise]

A TIMELINE FOR JOHN MCLAREN

A recently received inquiry from fellow landscape historian, Charlotte Duval, led to this project. She has been doing research on the 60-acre Santa Cruz estate of C. C. Moore, president of San Francisco's Pan-Pacific International Exposition of 1915. The property name, Rancho Los Ojos del Agua, was kept over the years by its several owners. At the close of the Exposition, there were many newly planted trees on the grounds of the Presidio that the Army wanted removed again. Moore obliged by taking five truck-loads south to his Santa Cruz property. Some garden design work is believed to have been done by John McLaren at that time, but photographs dated 1912 indicate there were already extensive gardens on the property, and it isn't yet known how much McLaren did there or who did the earlier design work. Charlotte is looking for any details relevant to this job, and wanted to know if there was an existing concise biography of John McLaren's work in California, besides his well-known 56-year-long tenure at Golden Gate Park. A quick search suggested that nobody has yet created a comprehensive listing of McLaren's work. The Editor has compiled the following list from brief notes made where McLaren's path crossed that of Rudolph Ulrich, from books on hand and the Internet. We invite members to contribute any further tidbits they may know of, also to add to the data on these pages, and correct any errors. Contact Marlea Graham, 100 Bear Oaks Drive, Martinez, CA 94553-9754. Email: maggie94553@earthlink.net.

1872?-1887: There seems to be some confusion as to when exactly JM arrived in California from Scotland. On the Internet, we found dates ranging from 1870 to 1872. In the forward to his 1908 book, JM himself refers to his "gardening experience of thirty-five years in various parts of California," which would seem to set his California arrival date at 1873 or '74, depending on delays between the writing and publishing dates for the book. Raymond Clary—author of *The Making of Golden Gate Park, The Early Years: 1865-1906* and its sequel, *The Growing Years: 1906-1950*—cites *Master Hands in the Affairs of the Pacific Coast* (1892), which states that JM was educated in the public schools, apprenticed as a landscape gardener, practiced his profession on several estates in Scotland, worked at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh, and came to California in 1872.

After McLaren's death, the *San Francisco Call-Bulletin* ran a series of articles written by J. Lawrence Toole and titled, "John McLaren's Life—A Saga of City's Sand Dunes." According to these articles, based

on interviews with McLaren, he was born December 20, 1846, not far from Stirling Castle in Scotland. He attended school at Milton. "I was learning my trade in Scots gardens around Edinburgh and had gotten as far as Gosford House, seat of the Earl of Wemyss. Aye? Well, right after that I went to do some real studying at Edinburgh's Botanical Gardens.

After that I came to this country and worked a while in New York. That was about 1870, the time of the Franco-Prussian War. Well, I heard so much about California and San Francisco that I came right out...I was doing some gardening work and tree planting down at San Mateo, working for people like George Howard, D. O. Mills, Alfred Hoyt, William C. Ralston, and 'Pong' Easton, who had places, beautiful places too, between San Mateo and Millbrae."

His first California patron was probably George Henry Howard (1826-1878), who inherited a large chunk of the Rancho San Mateo from his brother, William D. M. Howard (1819-1856), an early hide merchant and wealthy investor in California real estate. William left a young widow and son behind, and his brother married her and became the boy's guardian. The estate was called El Cerrito, and sometimes Howard's Mound, as there was a large hill on the land. The property was landscaped during William's period of ownership, and improved further under George's stewardship. In 1865, Olmsted worked there, per *The Papers of FLO, Vol. 5: The California Frontier, 1863-1865*.

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Our heartfelt thanks to those members who have helped to put us on solid financial ground by becoming Sustaining Members at \$50+.

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The Howards did a lot of traveling in Europe, but one modern account that suggested George Howard actually met JM in Scotland and invited him to come back to California and work on the estate is apparently inaccurate. Clary says JM “went to work on the Howard family estate, as well as the [James] Lick and [General H. M.] Maglee [sic: Naglee is correct] estates.” The latter two were located in the San Jose area, and since both were known to have been landscaped originally by James R. Lowe, Jr. in the 1850s we must assume McLaren came on the scene after Lowe retired. Streatfield (*California Gardens: Creating a New Eden*) says JM “became the Howards’ head gardener in 1876,” which seems in accord with Clary’s statement that he also married that year. McLaren left the Howard estate in 1887, when Howard died and William Hammond Hall offered the job of assistant superintendant at Golden Gate Park. Clary states that, according to Park Commission minutes, “McLaren was appointed superintendent of Golden Gate Park on July 29, 1890, and held that position until his death in 1943.” However, he continued to take other jobs on the side throughout his life.

~1874?: McLaren planted the trees on El Camino in the 1870s. He was hired to do this work by Howard and other wealthy Peninsula landowners. He planted elms interspersed with eucalyptus as nurse trees, the elms all languished—probably due to lack of water—and the eucalyptus prevailed. They were planted from San Mateo to the Mills estate in Millbrae. The *San Mateo Times* for July 25, 1874 says, “We have been informed that Mr. D. O. Mills, of Millbrae, intends putting out a double row of trees on either side of the road from Millbrae to San Mateo.”

~1890s: At some point, probably in the 1890s, D. O. Mills hired JM to come identify and label the many exotic trees that Ulrich had planted for him at Millbrae. (Michael Svanevik, *San Mateo Times*, 7.21.1986) McLaren also states he worked for Mills, but the extent of the work done is not certain. Olmsted looked at the property in 1865, and Ulrich worked for Mills in the early 1870s.

~1890s: Agnew State Hospital, San Jose.

1893: JM landscaped a group of five small estates in Burlingame Park, designed by architect Arthur Page Brown. (Kevin Starr, *Inventing the Dream, California Through the Progressive Era*)

1893-94: JM was appointed landscape architect for San Francisco’s Mid-Winter Fair. Clary reports he resigned from the position on learning he would be taking orders from M.H. de Young. It has also been reported that JM was furious at the damage done to the park plantings by visitors during the fair, not to mention the mess left behind by many fair exhibitors. He consequently used all his influence to keep the 1915 fair out of the park.

~1895: Will & Jennie Jeter bought “Cliff Crest,” at 407 Cliff Street in Santa Cruz, a Queen Anne-style Victorian built by Damkroeger in 1887. It is now a B&B, “nestled in gardens landscaped by John McLaren.” Jeter served as Lt. Governor around 1895 and was virtually the Governor, as the incumbent was incapacitated by ill health.

~1896: San Mateo Park, a residential development built by George Howard, Jr., architect and son (stepson?) of JM’s first patron. The Park is apparently still a prime residential area today. Howard Jr. was very busy on the Peninsula, and it seems likely that he invited JM in for other landscaping projects he was involved with there. There is some suggestion that he worked with Howard on landscaping the whole of Burlingame.

~1900: In Oakville, on the Napa River, “a ruined estate where beer barons once bred quarter horses, and at the turn of the century, John McLaren laid out and planted a magic garden of palms, cactus, eucalyptus and giant bamboo.” It was most recently known as Kurt von Meier’s Diamond Sufi Ranch. What was its previous name? Who were the beer barons and does this “ruined” estate still exist?

~1900: The Tiburon property of the Keil family, known as Keil Cove. “Using a carefully chosen mixture of native and exotic trees, McLaren created the effect of naturalistic scenery rather than of a cultivated garden.” (David Streatfield, *California Gardens: Creating A New Eden*)

~1901: The Carnegie Library at Sacramento/Lyon/Baker in San Francisco.



Waterfall at C. C. Moore estate, July 4, 1912

~1901: Casa Peralta, now a house museum in San Leandro.

1906: Dunsmuir House in Oakland: "McLaren is said to have assisted the Hellmans in designing the gardens." The house was built in 1899, purchased by the Hellmans in 1906. They called it Oakvale Park. There is a large variety of trees: Camperdown Elms, Bunya-Bunya, etc. Clary and David Gebhard, et al., (*A Guide to Architecture in San Francisco & Northern California*) agree on McLaren's involvement.

~1906-20: San Jose's Hanchett Park and nearby Hester Park, both residential subdivisions "laid out by landscape architect John McLaren...different varieties of trees lining each residential street..heavily Wrightian Arts & Crafts persuasion" bungalows. (Gebhard). The California Preservation Foundation notes that palm-lined Martin Avenue is an important streetscape worthy of listing on the National Register.

~1911: The Casa del Rey hotel in Santa Cruz. "The hotel's garden courts were laid out by Golden Gate Park's designer." (Ross Gibson's *Empire of the Casa del Rey*) We have a postcard showing a very formal landscaping of the front gardens, certainly reminiscent of some of JM's work at Golden Gate Park, but Gibson doesn't say whether JM did this work as well as the interior "Spanish-style" garden courts.

1912: Villa Montalvo in Saratoga. Though it's been previously accepted by many that family gardener George Doeltz laid out the grounds of James D. Phelan's estate, Gebhard states that McLaren was the landscape architect. It may have been the case that McLaren provided the plan and Doeltz implemented it, as occurred at the Phelan estate in Santa Cruz, where Ulrich designed, and Louis Doeltz implemented. (Frank Perry's new edition of *Lighthouse Point: Illuminating Santa Cruz*, has a short biography of the Doeltz's.)

1912-1915: Landscape engineer for the 1915 Pan-Pacific World's Fair at the San Francisco Marina. (Louis Christian Mulgardt, *The Architecture & Landscape Gardening of the Exposition*) One web-site indicates the Army loaned JM space for a nursery to propagate plants as needed for the Exposition from 1912, and that the iceplant he used probably came from cuttings taken from landscaping previously done by the Army to disguise their gun batteries along the San Francisco coastline.

~1914: Judah L. Magnes Memorial Museum, 2911 Russell Street, Berkeley. "Gardens designed by JM," approximately 86 years ago.

1914: Lithia Park in Ashland, OREGON, a delightful place. JM was invited by the city fathers to create a

design for a park in 1914 and construction was begun in 1915. The park is rectangular, following the course of a creek that runs through the center of town. Clary states that, "the park superintendent was frequently "loaned" to other communities to help design their public parks...He also says JM aided the State when Sutter's Fort was made into a state park, no date.

~1915?: Streatfield mentions a McLaren Nursery in San Francisco that operated during the the midteens, and provided design services. Clary states that JM's son, Donald, "followed in his father's footsteps and became a nurseryman, and that the two owned and operated a nursery on El Camino Real in San Mateo County. However, one web-site source states that Donald was employed by a shipping business overseas. Both might be true. He died in 1926. Gebhard mentions a Donald MacLaren, landscape architect, who was hired by the city of Redlands to improve their streets and parks. Further investigation is called for here.

~1915: C. C. Moore's estate, Los Ojos del Agua in Santa Cruz, still privately owned.

~1915: Stanford University Oval. The University's web-site says it was a McLaren apprentice, Gardiner Daily, who redesigned the Oval (a teardrop-shaped lawn at the end of the palm allee on Palm Drive) in the 1920s, but that doesn't preclude McLaren having done something there in '15. He proposed the creation of a collection of citrus for Stanford in 1915. This was implemented and is today preserved in their Citrus Court.

1921: JM is credited by some with the planting of Pioneer Park on Telegraph Hill in 1921. Phoebe Cutler, author of "Summit Planning on Telegraph Hill," *EDEN*, Vol. 5 No. 1, p.2, mentions only that McLaren "supervised plans for grading the winding road..." and other aspects of the hardscape.

~1923: Riverwood Castle Inn in Ben Lomond, built as a private residence, 150 acres designed by John McLaren. Listed on the National Register.

1924: Ellis Lake park in Marysville in 1924.

~1925: University of Pacific central campus, Stockton.

1931: San Jose Municipal Rose Garden. Historian Jack Douglas (*Historical Footnotes of Santa Clara Valley*) writes: "Expert advice was solicited from the great San Francisco landscape architect John McLaren."

1932: The Sharp Park Golf Course in Pacifica, using Monterey cypress, which later died when salt water flooding of the grounds occurred.

1934: McLaren Park, a 318-acre park in San Francisco, was dedicated by McLaren on this date. An "open-space" park, with little landscaping about it.

1938-40: Consultant to the Golden Gate International Exposition, though Julius Girod was the supervising horticulturist. (Starr, *Endangered Dreams*, and Eugen Neuhaus, *The Art of Treasure Island*)

Date Undetermined: The clippings file on Albert E. Kent of Kentfield (another Ulrich client) at San Rafael Civic Center library has an article stating Kent was a personal friend of JM's and that many trees on the estate were planted by him, no dates given. The Kent family papers may provide further clues.

Publications:

Articles:

Streatfield lists at least one article written by JM for *Sunset* magazine, "A Year-Round Garden," February, 1930. There may be many others. See the *Reader's Guide*.

Books:

Gardening in California, Landscape and Flower (SF, A. M. Robertson, 1908, 1914 and 1924).

Other records:

We have not yet had a chance to review the following two sources for mention of other McLaren projects: The McLaren daybooks and diaries (and who knows what else) have been preserved, and these may be found in the John McLaren Collection at the San Francisco Public Library.

There is a series of letters from McLaren to his patron, George Howard, and Howard's son (step-son?) at the San Mateo Historical Society. There may be other helpful information there as well. Good hunting!



Moore estate photos: Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History

BOOK REVIEWS & NEWS

Hearst Castle: The Biography of a Country House, Victoria Kastner, (New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 2000), 240 pp., \$49.50.

The collaboration between architect, Julia Morgan, and patron, W. R. Hearst, is the overriding theme of *Hearst Castle: The Biography of a Country House* by Victoria Kastner. Kastner has been on the staff at San Simeon since 1979 and knows the place and its documents well. This book, complete with glorious color photography, is a fine introduction to Hearst Castle, its architecture, landscape, and collections.

Hearst Castle at San Simeon, *La Cuesta Encantada*, is as mythical as its creator, William Randolph Hearst. First time visitors, convinced that it will be little more than stage sets for a parvenu, are amazed by its design integrity. Kastner effectively dismisses Aldous Huxley's fictional version in *After Many a Summer Dies the Swan* (1939) and Orson Welle's film version, *Xanadu*, in *Citizen Kane* (1941).

The section on the siting, gardens, and plantings will be far too brief for readers of *EDEN*. However, as with the buildings, it is clear that the landscape was never static and underwent constant revision. Julia Morgan was responsible for the overall site plan and magnificent swimming pools, but according to Kastner, the less known Bruce Porter designed the gardens. Porter's role is still unclear. Several horticulturists were also instrumental in the development of the gardens, and David Streatfield (*California Gardens: Creating a New Eden*) credits Charles Gibbs Adams, a Santa Barbara garden designer. A more complete history and documentation of the gardens is needed to clarify the roles each of these designers and plantspeople played in their development.

Hearst Castle is the best overview of the design, collections, and life at San Simeon to date. However, designers may grow bored with the discussions of the visitors and parties, while others may find Kastner's building chronology tedious. In general, she balances the two facets well and conveys the sense of San Simeon

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as a work in progress. Above all else, it was an ever changing, never finished ensemble of buildings, gardens, and collections.

—Margaretta J. Darnall

Trees and Gardens of Balboa Park, Kathy Puplava and Paul Sirois, photos by Greg Lambert, (San Diego: City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department and Tecolote Publications, 2001), 274 pp., spiral-bound softcover, \$25.00.

Great parks serve the community not only by providing open spaces for recreation, but also in creating the environment and setting for cultural and educational opportunities. As early as 1868, foresighted San Diego civic leaders, who envisioned a precious jewel that would beautify and improve the city, set aside 1400 acres of land “to be for a park.” However, it was not until 1889 that “town people began to take an interest in the park” and it started evolving into the splendor that is Balboa Park today. Its horticultural abundance is astounding, but largely unrecognized by the general public.

Upon completion of a tree survey of the park, Kathy Puplava, Balboa Park Horticulturist, and Paul Sirois, Park Arborist, set forth to create a book that would enable others to appreciate the arboreal resources of the park, and provide accurate botanical and historical references. A grant from The San Diego Foundation and the Favrot Fund facilitated this endeavor.

Concluding that a comprehensive account would be both overwhelming and excessively expensive, the authors selected about one hundred tree species to represent the interest and diversity of the park. While the book is meticulous on botanical accuracy, it is also very readable for those without horticultural background. Each tree included has a color photo, leaf illustration, common name(s) and botanical description, as well as small map segments showing where examples can be found in Balboa Park. Time has provided many beautiful, mature examples of both common and unusual species.

One of the book’s most fascinating features is information specific to the trees’ situation in Balboa Park. Rumors abound regarding trees allegedly planted by the famous nurserywoman, Kate O. Sessions. Careful research has sorted fact from conjecture. While few trees can be specifically attributed to Kate’s nursery, numerous species are indicated as having been popularized by her. Explanations of Latin names, botanical quotations, information on how native peoples have utilized various parts of the trees all add to the interest and “personalize” the trees.

Residents and visitors alike will also appreciate the inclusion of descriptions and historical background for many garden areas in the park. The Botanical Building, for example, is the largest garden structure in the park, built for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. Park records have enabled the authors to trace the popularity and neglect of the building to the present. It amazes some visitors that gardens such as the Desert Garden date back only to 1976.

Residents will appreciate a special appendix that lists blooms by season, general maps of the park, and a ruler on the back cover for determining leaf or trunk size. This is a book that is meant to be both used and enjoyed.

—Lucy Warren

[Quotations in the first paragraph come from another useful book, *The Romance of Balboa Park*, by Florence Christman (San Diego: San Diego Historical Society, 1985). *Kate Sessions, Pioneer Horticulturist*, by Elizabeth C. MacPhail (San Diego: San Diego Historical Society, 1976) is another that will shed light on the early development of the park. We have not yet seen the relatively new *Balboa Park: A Millenium History*, by Roger Showley, (Heritage Media Corp., 1999, 200 pp., \$39.95. Anyone interested in reviewing that for *Eden*?)

San Francisco’s Telegraph Hill, David F. Myrick, (San Francisco: City Lights Foundation, 2001), 220 pp., \$34.95. Phoebe Cutler advised us she’d seen a notice that David F. Myrick’s history of Telegraph Hill, originally printed in 1972, was being republished. Our Internet book search engine indicates it was printed in October, 2001, but there must have been some glitch, because nobody seems to actually have it in stock at present. Since used copies of the 1972 edition range in price from \$100 to \$300 (for signed copies) we’ll continue to keep an eager eye out for this one.

Estate Gardens of California, text by Karen Dardick, photographs by Melba Levick, (New York: Rizzoli International Publications, Inc., 2002), 175 pp., \$50.00. The flyleaf reads, “Detailed with loving accuracy in the photography of Melba Levick and in the lucid prose of Karen Dardick, *Estate Gardens of California* showcases fifteen magnificent estate gardens that are uniquely, exuberantly Californian.” A quick browse tells us that not all the estates have historic gardens, however. The Villa Narcissa (Rancho Palos Verdes), Filoli (Woodside), Val Verde (Montecito), Rancho Los Alamitos (Long Beach), Descanso Gardens (La Canada), Lotusland (Montecito), the Huntington (San Marino) and the Virginia Robinson estate (Beverly Hills) are all in-

cluded here. But so is Villa Fiore, the Ferrari-Carano Vineyard in Sonoma County, "a young garden by horticultural standards." And the Collins estate in Beverly Hills? Built in 1952, and the present owners have "spent considerable time and effort renovating the gardens." Will you learn anything new from this book? Probably not. Are the photographs lovely? Yes, they are. Is the book worth the rather large price tag? Perhaps.

Taking a Garden Public: Fund Raising and Development, Number 2 in the Garden Conservancy Preservation Handbook Series. Book number 1, *Feasibility and Startup* has gotten rave reviews. Now comes the companion volume. It too is "a compilation of valuable advice and case studies contributed by experts in the field, aimed at small, often new, organizations faced with the daunting task of saving or restoring a garden...[it] is for the gardeners, board members, staff, and volunteers who are hard at work raising funds to maintain and preserve America's best gardens...Sample chapter titles are: Fund Raising Plans, Special Events, Grant Writing, Capital Campaigns and Emergency Fund Raising...Sample documents were provided by real gardens that have demonstrated some special sort of creativity when it comes to raising funds to support their garden." Binder format, \$24 including shipping and handling. To order, see the web-site: www.gardenconservancy.org or call 845.265.9396. [Excerpt from the Conservancy newsletter.]

COMING EVENTS

August 16-17: Historic Plants Symposium 2002 "North American Plants – Their Cultural History".

This conference, sponsored by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, Inc., will focus on the use of native plants in American gardens, from their discovery by Europeans to their role in 20th-century landscapes. The two-day symposium features a dynamic slate of speakers—Peter Hatch, Mark Laird, Douglas T. Seidel, Peggy Cornett, Denise Adams, Dr. Art Tucker, and Cole Burrell—who will survey the importance of native plants in American gardens and document the development of garden hybrids from indigenous species, including roses.

For more information, contact Peggy Cornett at 434-984-9816; or pcornett@monticello.org. Visit the Monticello web-site: www.monticello.org or CHP's: www.twinleaf.org for updates and further information.

September 13-November 17: "Great Gardens," an exhibit in the educational galleries of the Chicago Botanic

Garden, Glencoe IL. Photographs of great gardens will make up the majority of the exhibit, but a visit to an Arts & Crafts web-site revealed that from Sept. 14 to Nov. 7, "Taking Root: The Tree In the Arts & Crafts Tradition" will be in the North Gallery, an exhibit of diverse objects which will demonstrate "the use of the tree as a metaphor and subject."

September 8-16: Sandra Price is leading a tour of the Loire Valley in France. For details, contact her at Galavant Price, 1275 Hudson Avenue, St. Helena, CA 94574. Phone: 707.963.9504. Email: price@interx.net. Sandra is also planning an Italian tour of historic Tuscan gardens for May 2003.

September 9: The Historic Garden League of Monterey presents a slide lecture by Julie Cain and Marlea Graham on the biography of "Rudolph Ulrich, Landscape Architect of the Hotel del Monte Park," at the Golf Club, Quail Lodge, 8205 Valley Green Drive, Carmel Valley. Non-members are welcome; the following luncheon is \$25, fee payable no later than five days in advance, to Annette Halleen, 25280 Allen Place, Carmel 93923 For additional information, call 831.649.3364.

September 16-22: "Up Close and Personal with Charles Birnbaum." The Austin Val Verde Foundation and Casa del Hererro are sponsoring a weeklong series of small, in-depth workshops and discussions with nationally known landscape architect, Charles Birnbaum, co-editor of *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*, and founder of the Cultural Landscape Foundation under the National Park Service. The event will be held the week of September 16-22, 2002 in Santa Barbara, California. Call for information at 805.969.7092 (this event only) or FAX: 805.969.7518.

It is rare to knowingly watch a paradigm shift occur in one's own profession and even more rare to take advantage of it. Yet, this is exactly what is happening in the field of historic landscape preservation and this is the opportunity the Birnbaum workshops offer. Professional definitions of what constitutes history and exactly whose history deserves to be preserved are changing. The field of historic preservation is currently merging with cultural resources, and landscapes are marginally recognized as somewhere between static colonial battlefields and parks. Charles Birnbaum is leading the way for landscape preservation through what he has defined as, "American cultural landscapes."

[Submitted by Gail Jansen, Executive Director, Austin Val Verde Foundation.]

California Garden & Landscape History Society Presents

"Cultivating Capistrano: Historic Valley Gardens and Landscapes"

October 11-13
San Juan Capistrano



Pre-conference Workshop Friday on Cultural Landscape Preservation and Documentation

Lectures and Garden Tours Saturday & Sunday

CULTIVATING CAPISTRANO
October 11-13

For registration information, please contact: Alana Jolley at (949) 388-6573 or aljmuseum@aol.com

September 27-29 at Strybing Arboretum, San Francisco
October 4-6 at the L. A. County Arboretum, Arcadia
 "Gardening Under Mediterranean Skies III: Design with Purpose." Nancy Goslee Power will be a speaker. The Annual General Meeting of the Mediterranean Garden Society will be held in SoCal on Oct. 1-3, in between these two symposia. To register or for further details, see the web-site: www.pacifichorticulture.org or phone 510.849.1627.

October 8-13: The National Conference of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Cleveland OH. "Cities, Suburbs and Countrysides." Contact NTHP, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Washington DC 20036. Call 800.944.6847 or see www.nthpconference.org.

October 18-22: ASLA Conference in San Jose. See the web listing at http://www.asla.org/nonmembers/republicrelations/calendar/calendar_asla.htm.

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS

Please welcome these new members:

Katie O. Rogers, 114 E. de la Guerra #4, Santa Barbara 93101
 Robin Veder, 1034 Thompson Circle, Folsom 95630
 Kathryn Venturelli, 2535 Sycamore Drive, San Marino 91108

WEB-SITES TO VISIT

New Web-Site for CGLHS

The California Garden and Landscape History Society now has its own web-site: www.cglhs.org. We ask all members to help spread the word—especially if you know of other web-sites that would be interested in linking to us.

Our first forays into cyberspace were courtesy of CGLHS past president, Mitzi VanSant (www.thefragrantgarden.com) and the Mediterranean Garden Society (www.mediterraneangardensociety.org),

who graciously devoted space on their web-sites to describing our organization and its goals. The Garden Web (www.gardenweb.com) and The Bay Area Gardener sites (www.gardens.com) also mention us.

CGLHS founder, Bill Grant, initiated our first actual web-site attempt by hiring Andy Hartmann of Santa Cruz to design pages specifically devoted to the California Garden and Landscape History Society. Bill posted these pages last year on his own personal web-site (<http://members.cruzio.com/~grant>).

In January of this year, Dana Simmons, who teaches e-commerce at Santa Barbara City College, donated the fee for the domain name (cglhs.org) and consulted on various issues. Joel Michaelsen, who has a web-site for the classes he teaches at UCSB, donated time and expertise, revising and transferring the pages that Andy designed to our new web-site host.

Included on the web-site are e-mail links to the editor of *EDEN*, our membership secretary, the publicity committee chair, and the web-site committee. There is also a link for general information. A fuller description of our annual conference will be posted as details are confirmed, and we hope that the site will help us reach a wider audience. Many thanks to everyone!

—The Web-Site Committee

EDEN

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Deadline for copy for the next *Eden* is: Sept. 01, 2002

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 occasion 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

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Do you recognize this garden? Located in Pasadena near the Raymond Hotel.