

BEVERLY HILLS COPSE

Phoebe Cutler

The popular image of Beverly Hills describes a place of sprawling mansions, opulent hotels, glossy boutiques, and spoilt teenagers. In the mind of an interloper with a horticulturist bend, this vision omits the city's most memorable feature – the luxuriant green canopy created by its extensive network of street trees. The 52 different varieties that march in an orderly fashion up and down the arteries turn this enclave into an urban oasis that, even by the standards of an area that prizes street trees, is exemplary.

Two final, add-on sentences in the introduction to the section on Beverly Hills in David Gebhard and Robert Winter's An Architectural Guide to Los Angeles (1965, 2003) acknowledge the importance of this distinctive canopy. However, particular streets dense with camphors or Aleppo pines, unlike the John Lautner or R. M. Schindler houses, merit no special entry. The following essay was written 16 years ago in the conviction that streets such as North Beverly (California and Mexican fan palms) and South Roxbury Drives (American elm) deserve equal notice. The article was written in the twilight of the Urban Forestry Act, which, although passed in 1972, was not funded until '77. More importantly the piece was the humble pie of a Northerner who had just made a rare visit to the Southland following a failed effort to introduce uniform street trees to her own stark San Francisco thoroughfare. – P. C.

Beverly Hills could have served as a vivid symbol for the urban forestry movement. Cinema ads with giant fan palms, film footage of green and gracious streets, and universal name recognition were in place. There only lacked a shift in the public's attention from the city's putative part in movie glamour to its confirmed dominance in arboriculture. Regardless of constituency – the affluent professionals and retirees of its early days, the movie nabobs of its middle years, the Arab influx of the present – the city has consistently outspent all but the two or three most populous cities in the nation in the maintenance of its street trees.

Beverly Hills is, and always has been, a privileged spot. To begin with, its location is excellent. Although surrounded by Los Angeles, it has retained independence because of its ample water supply. In fact, its 19th century Spanish name, Rancho Rodeo de las Aguas ("the gathering

of waters") refers to the streams of Benedict and Coldwater Canyons and the canyons above them.

More, however, than the double blessings of favorable location and prosperity account for the city's success. It has also profited from early and rigorous planning. Indeed, the upper section, begun in 1906, is probably the foremost representative on the West Coast of the Olmsted school of land planning. Both the developer, Burton Green, and the landscape architect, Wilbur D. Cook, came from the Boston area. (The name Beverly honors the town 20 miles north of Boston where Green grew up.) Cook, the first prominent landscape architect to be involved in the city's planning, not only grew up in Boston, but worked in the Olmsted Brothers office in neighboring Brookline. Assisted by the New York-turned-California architect Myron Hunt, Cook's contribution was the subdivision design for the up



Beverly Hills circa 1927 (M. Graham)

per residential section northwest of Santa Monica Boulevard. The curvaceous treatment of the road recalls such Olmsted precursors as Riverside outside Chicago and Long Island's Forest Hills Park. Planning strictures confined commercial activity to the perimeter of Santa Monica Boulevard and to the flat area, initially known merely as Beverly, to the south. Of critical importance to later tree planting were the elongation of the blocks and the assignment of all utilities to alleys behind the house lots.

Inheriting this early master plan, Raymond E. Page, EFASLA, has been the landscape architect most consistently and deeply involved with the evolution of Beverly Hills. He came in 1919 to work in the development's 10-acre nursery and today at 92, still lives and works in the community. During this first phase of planting, the Rodeo Land and Water Company was systematically introducing Australian trees. A few still survive in Beverly Garden, the park along Santa Monica between Cañon and Rodeo, but most had to be removed when excess watering caused them to bolt and die.

Page was the natural choice to head the Street Tree Committee formed in the forties to direct the second planting campaign. He points out that Beverly Hills has always approached its street trees differently than most cities. Generally, municipalities control the trees along the major boulevards and claim an easement over the sidewalk planting strips in the residential neighborhoods. In those areas citizens, loosely limited by a permit system, are in charge. In Beverly Hills, however, all street trees are city property. In effect, the city attaches to its trees the same importance other municipalities reserve for their streets. Beverly Hills outlaws citizen interference with trees in the same way the normal city disallows individual repair of potholes or water main breaks.

If the community did not back its code with

WARNING!

In our last issue, we posted our new Membership Secretary's address in three different places, but the address in the old directory was a typographical error. If you sent your dues to 323 East First Street, the Post Office probably returned it to you. Please send dues checks to **3223** East First Street. The Editor apologizes for any inconvenience.

money, such an authoritarian policy would be disastrous. A 1974 survey of 864 cities showed that the typical American municipality spends slightly over 1/2 percent of its budget on street trees. Beverly Hills allots eight times that proportion to its 30,000 street trees. The \$2 million it lavishes on its road planting exceeds by a

half what the exemplary city of Seattle spends (with four times the number of trees and fifteen times the population). Beverly Hills's budget is twice that of the equally admired Cincinnati, which boasts 50,000 trees (1985 statistics).

Typically, most cities maintain no systematic street tree care, working only on an *ad hoc* basis. Beverly Hills pursues a strict pruning schedule, rotating on a one-to-four-year basis according to species. The city employs a staff of 10 full-time tree trimmers and contracts with one of 10 independent contractors, forbidding the use of chainsaws except for large-scale work. Most extraordinary is the custom of replacing diseased or removed trees with a minimum of a 36-inch box size tree. In Beverly Hills every street tree is a star.

The effect is immediate. Driving in along Sunset or Carmelita one suddenly enters a cool and verdant glade. Long, uniform columns of trees wend their way into the hills. A procession of Aleppo pines, complementing the street name Sierra, passes into a stand of ficus along Sunset. Jacaranda arch over Oakhurst, and Arizona ash identify Rexford Drive all the way up into Coldwater Canyon, where Canary Island pines take over.

Not the pine nor the ash, but the palm has come to symbolize this city. In San Francisco the messy palm with its litter of fronds is forbidden. In Beverly Hills the palm soars above all other plantings, proclaiming that here the tree, not the house, is ascendant. A Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*) stamps the cover of the city's annual report and



Beverly Drive c. 1940s (M. Graham)

frames movie ads using the Beverly Hills venue. Alternating species of palms create rhythmic patterns of long and lithe, stout and sturdy. *Washingtonia robusta* alternates with Canary Island date (*Phoenix canariensis*) in a march up Cañon. Variations on this pattern, including the California fan palm (*Washingtonia filifera*) occur along Beverly, Hillcrest, and Wilshire in the flats.

A real estate phenomenon known as "teardown" underscores the high status of the street trees in Beverly Hills. For example, a purchaser might demolish a 3,000-square-foot house and erect a 10-to-15,000-square-foot palazzo. This process might involve merging three or four standard lots for one house. Redevelopment, whether large or small, often entails the relocation of one of the street trees. The city requires the purchaser to move the tree intact or to replace it with one of equal size, which may well cost \$10,000. In addition, the builder must pay a \$10,000 security deposit for a year in case the new or transplanted tree does not survive. In sum, street trees can have more value than houses.*

A cursory inspection of the residences in Beverly Hills reinforces this conclusion. The houses—pseudo-Colonial, Graeco-Roman and such—are remarkably undistinguished. If it were a matter of the houses alone, Jimmy Stewart, Jack Benny and Lucille Ball wouldn't have looked twice at their properties. The abundance of water wouldn't have been enough to attract Douglas Fairbanks and Jack Palance.

In this period just on the other side of the urban forestry movement, Beverly Hills stands out as a model. Most cities avoid or do not attempt uniform planting, either because they have forfeited control to disunified citizen action or because of exaggerated fears of single species infestations. The elegant parade of palms up Beverly, or the sibilant stand of Aleppo pines on Sierra, or Canary Island dates on Lexington argue for more extensive use of at least individual street monoculture. Recall too, that Raymond Page has witnessed in his lifetime a failed first planting and the maturation of a second one. With all of its air of dignity and permanence, Beverly Hills is younger than its oldest landscape architect.

*The value of street trees is more than aesthetic, particularly in Los Angeles. Tests there have demonstrated that in one day 20,000 well-spaced trees can absorb 90 pounds of ozone. See George P. Hanson and Linda Thorne, "Vegetation to Reduce Pollution," *LASCA Leaves* 22, No. 3, 1972, pp. 60-65.

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[The original article, which appeared in the *ASLA* journal, *Landscape Architecture*, in June 1988, titled "Street Trees Are Stars in Beverly Hills" is reprinted here with the permission of the author and the *ASLA*.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

Phoebe Cutler



It was 1970. The war in Vietnam still raged. I was in Texas, an escapee from U. C. Berkeley's three-year graduate program in landscape architecture, recently instituted to take advantage of the buzz around Earth Day. A landscape firm in Dallas took pity. The raw beginnings of how I ended up as Secretary of CGLHS.

From that "Year Abroad," I fashioned a thesis on the park work done during the New Deal. My intention was to write about the WPA (Works Progress Administration). J. B. Jackson, the eminent and eminently enjoyable geographer, was just beginning his trans-continental motorcycle shuttle between Berkeley and Harvard. He insisted I include the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps). As a result, when I had done with the masters program at Berkeley, following two years ornamenting PG & E substations and nuclear power plants, I was the first employee to be hired, in 1976, by the California Conservation Corps.

To date I have come full circle and am working once more on Depression parks. My short-suffering husband Desmond Smith (second marriage) takes special pleasure, as a "Resident Alien" from London and Glasgow, in jaunts to Missouri state parks and North Dakota Peace Gardens. My son Bayard Martensen used to mow the lawn but can't spare the time from his computer anymore.

Phoebe has been serving as our Recording Secretary since 2002. She is the author of *The Public Landscape of the New Deal* (New Haven: Yale University Press, c1985), made a presentation on WPA landscaping in Oakland at our Berkeley conference in 1997, and has written several articles for EDEN, including this issue's "Beverly Hills Copse." Her current project is a publication on Oakland's Woodminster Cascade. (See EDEN, September 1998, Vol. 1, No. 8, "Howard Gilkey" and Spring 2002, Vol. 5, No. 1, "Summit Planning on Telegraph Hill".)

CALIFORNIA TREE TRENDS - A Brief Summary

Marlea Graham

Since the early days of its first foreign occupation by the Spanish, trees have played an important part in the California landscape. Victoria Padilla's *Southern California Gardens* has an entire chapter featuring the trees of that portion of our state. She reminds us that the olive, the pepper, citrus, pomegranate, and date palm were early tree immigrants, brought here by the mission fathers and spread as far north as Sonoma. Most unfortunately, the predominant role of our native oaks and redwoods was to be cut down to build housing and provide other amenities such as firewood for settlers. Early views of San Diego and the Los Angeles basin show a landscape largely devoid of trees, though stumps of oaks and other trees remained to tell the tale of an earlier forested landscape.

The expanding population that followed the Gold Rush of 1849 and the advent of statehood served only to exacerbate this problem. The oak and redwood forests of Oakland built the houses of that town, of Mission San Jose, San Francisco and Contra Costa County. Per Sherwood Burgess (*The Forgotten Redwoods of the East Bay*, 1951), a large amount of redwood lumber was also shipped to the Hawaiian Islands.

By 1862, most of the Sacramento valley was treeless, and the state legislature passed a law to protect timber, even disallowing the cutting of trees on private land or public streets. In 1868, the Tree Culture Act was passed, to actively encourage the planting of shade and fruit trees along California roads. Individual counties would manage the program as they saw fit, and dispense to the land-owner a bounty of \$1 per viable shade or ornamental tree planted and cultivated upon its fourth anniversary of decorating some public roadside. The scheme never amounted to much, due to both a lack of adequate funding, and a lack of interest on the part of the general public.

In the spring of 1870, the State Board of Agriculture wrote of the need to plant artificial forests, and offered \$50 in prize money "for the purpose of calling the attention of our land-owners to this subject." The prize was to be paid "for the largest quantity of useful forest trees planted during the

year." On February 11, 1871, the *Pacific Rural Press* (PRP) reported that "We have now three claimants for this premium: E. F. Aiken and Thomas Edwards, of Sacramento County, and James T. Stratton of Alameda County." Aiken reported planting nearly 29,900 trees over the course of the previous year, an assortment of Lombardy poplar (*Populus italica*), Balm-of-Gilead (*P. x gileadensis*) and *P. multicaulis*, the white mulberry (*Morus alba*), California black walnut, American white maple, and both Spanish and American chestnuts. Edwards planted 7000 locust trees to be used for fence posts. Stratton covered 53.5 acres with 30,000 blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*) and 3000 red gum (*E. rostrata*) planted in forest form, eight feet on center. These were grown from seed gathered in December of 1868 from trees belonging to him that were then seven years old, so planted circa 1861. Their value was believed to be for use as pilings, flooring "and other purposes."

These three were scarcely typical landowners interested in beautifying their property. Aiken was the proprietor of Glen Gardens, a nursery located about one mile east of Sacramento, selling fruit, nut and shade trees as well as grapevines. In a later issue of the journal, Aiken remarked on the trees "which once graced our river, tempered the atmosphere and gave protection to the adjoining plains from sweeping winds [having] entirely disappeared; the woodchopper's axe has stripped the river farm of nearly all hard wood timber and the owners are now obliged to rely upon the growth of willows for firewood."

Stratton was a bit of a mystery. Robert Leroy Santos, author of the definitive book on this state's gum trees (*The Eucalyptus of California: Seeds of Good or Seeds of Evil*, 1997), reports that Stratton is said to have gotten his first eucalyptus seed from Annie Taylor of Alameda. Bishop

Taylor sent his wife the seed from Australia during his 1863 visit, and she is supposed to have widely distributed both seeds and seedlings from that point on. Stratton was the first to commercially plant blue gums on a large scale, in 1869 covering 45 acres on the hills of Castro Valley in Alameda County. The April 22, 1871 issue of the PRP carried his advertise



ment for 10,000 Australian gum trees, first class plants, 6-12" high, transplanted into boxes in good condition for transportation, price \$6 to \$112 per 1,000, Jas. T. Stratton, agent, corner 12th Street [sic: East 12th was correct] and 9th Avenue, Brooklyn, Alameda County. The only Stratton in the city directory at that time described himself as a surveyor, (he was Surveyor-General of San Francisco at one point), and a few years later, he added "land agent" to that. There was never any mention of his tree business in the directories. By 1875, Stratton was reported to have 192 acres planted to eucalyptus, and the *Pacific Rural Press* stated that he was operating "the biggest gum tree farm in the state." An early map of the area (*Official and Historical Atlas Map of Alameda County*, Thompson & West, 1878) shows two large plots of land labeled "James T. Stratton" and "gum forest," located near the junction of Hwy 680 and Crow Canyon Road. A great number of gum trees persist in the area today, lining the creek beds and encircling Don Castro Reservoir.

Harry Butterfield had some reason to believe that Stratton was affiliated with the Bailey family in their Australian Forest Tree Nursery located at 1115 - 3rd Avenue in East Oakland as early as 1874. The basis for this belief is not cited by Brown (*California Nurseries and Their Catalogues - 1850-1900*, 1993), and Taylor/Butterfield's comment (in *Tangible Memories*, 2003) that Stratton owned the Bailey nursery appears to be erroneous. James Bailey and his son, George R. Bailey, were always the sole proprietors of the business according to the city directories. Since the Baileys and Stratton lived within blocks of each other, it is probable they were at least acquainted. It seems unlikely Stratton would have been supplying the Baileys with nursery stock, since a *PRP* article of January 1874 stated that "Mr. Bailey of Brooklyn has over a quarter of a million of gums" on his own 44 acres of land. But the Bailey nursery also contracted to plant gum forests, per an 1877 directory advertisement. Given a later statement found in an Oakland newspaper, that "All the large forests of Blue Gum and Cypress trees which can be seen so extensively grown in this county were planted by this firm," it seems most likely that the Baileys received the commissions to plant the trees Stratton reportedly sold to land developers such as G. P. Jones (35,000 for Berkeley), Edward C. Sessions (25,000 for East Oakland), and others per the *PRP* report of 1876. Possibly he also recommended their services to others.

Stratton won the prize money, having planted the largest number of "useful" trees in the allotted time period, but a letter of protest was filed by at least one reader who felt Aiken was more deserving, in that he had planted many

different kinds of trees of greater value. This malcontent, who signed himself only by the initials T. H. H., complained of the "doubtful utility" of the eucalyptus, "even if it can be grown successfully, which we very much doubt as it naturally becomes topheavy, the limbs growing much faster than the body or the roots; and when the ground becomes wet and soft, they are liable to blow over in the first hard gale of wind that blows, especially in light soils, or adobe soil... It seems to be a fast-growing tree in our soil and climate; and as giving variety to the lawn and landscape garden, a few of these trees judiciously interspersed, and carefully trained and guarded, are ornamental, and may be properly introduced but we doubt the propriety of encouraging the growing of forests of these trees, until they have been more successfully tested than they have yet been in California." No one seems to have heeded this warning.

In June of 1870, four prominent members of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society (Marshall P. Wilder, Charles Downing, George Ellwanger and P. Barry, the latter two professional nurserymen from Rochester, New York) paid a visit to northern California, "chiefly with a view

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CALIFORNIA'S EUCALYPTUS "BOOM"

What was the attraction of the gum tree? The populous areas of the state had largely been denuded of trees for shade, beauty and utility. Wood was needed for heat, fuel, and construction. Unfortunately, those who touted the value of gum trees failed to understand that the wood that made good lumber in Australia came from mature, 100-to-300-year-old trees. The tree was also believed to have various health-giving properties, the role of the mosquito as a vector for malaria not being understood at that time. *Appleton's Journal* (January 31, 1874) reported that the eucalyptus "is said to possess the singular property of absorbing ten times its weight in water from the soil, and of emitting a camphorous vapor which possesses the power of destroying miasmatic influence in fever-stricken districts." The writer added "it is hoped that Southern planters will regard the subject of sufficient importance as to give the tree a trial on American soil." The oil derived from the tree was also thought to have medicinal value far beyond its true usefulness. In a review of these claims for the eucalyptus, *The Argonaut* sarcastically remarked that it's bark would improve that of a dog.

Eucalyptus globulus was given the synonym of fever-tree, and in 1875, William P. Gibbons published a ten-page article in the *Overland Monthly*, in which he proposed that a two-mile wide belt of eucalyptus trees should be planted the length of the Sacramento, San Joaquin and Tulare valleys, 375 miles in all, to inhibit the malaria which would naturally arise when these lands were irrigated for the cultivation of crops.

The Ladies' Repository journal of Dec. 1876 carried a small paragraph about the planting of eucalyptus trees outside Rome "with a view to rendering it more salubrious... In one part of the Campagna, a monastery, formerly uninhabitable during a portion of the year [due to malaria], is now occupied constantly. This change is due to the Eucalyptus." *The Catholic World* of May 1889 carried a full report on the experiment, translated from the original French. At its close, the author stated, "As is well known, the eucalyptus has been cultivated in fever-stricken sections of California with results similar to those mentioned in this article."

Who planted and grew the trees? Based on data found in the 1858 master catalogue of William C. Walker's Golden Gate Nursery in San Francisco, plus advertisements appearing in the 1857 editions of the *California Farmer*, Harry Butterfield determined that Walker was the first proven to import and plant eucalyptus for commercial distribution. R. W. Washburn of the Shellmound Nurseries and Fruit Garden (yet another Brooklyn resident) was also known to have played a part in the early distribution of seeds and trees. "The nursery's single sheet 1856 catalogue... listed Australian gum trees for \$5 each..." (Taylor/Butterfield). Washburn's nursery should not be confused with that of Reuben Groves—the Shellmound Park Nursery, located in North Oakland, west of the Temescal Station and the Oakland Trotting Park. Indian shell mounds existed in both places.

Though some writers include Stephen Nolan of Oakland with these other pioneers, no hard evidence was found until 1871, a catalogue listing 34 species stocked at his Belle View nursery. Second-hand reports that he hired a sea captain to bring back seed, while likely, remain unsupported. The *Tilton's* visitors of 1870 do comment on his possession of *Eucalyptus stricta*, "one of the best species."

Less definite information is available for southern California, but Santos credits William Wolfskill with being the first to plant gums on his ranch there, having also obtained seed from the ubiquitous Annie Taylor of Alameda sometime between 1863-65. Padilla gives equal credit to Verdugo, Workman, Banning, and Sanchez, saying that the seed received from Mrs. Taylor was divided equally among them, and that each planted his share.

In 1872, the *California Farmer*, published by former Sacramento nurseryman James L. L. Warren, offered a promotional giveaway. Every new subscriber would

receive a free packet of eucalyptus seed. The Central Pacific Railroad planted eucalyptus trees in volume — both in the north and the south — to be used as railroad ties, poles and firewood, etc. They also wanted to attract settlers to their right-of-way lands, and thought to beautify them by planting the gum trees in



large numbers. When they found the wood was largely useless for ties and poles (due to a tendency to twist, check, and crack), they quietly abandoned the project.

By the late 1870s, William Blair had acquired several hundred acres of land east of Mountain View Cemetery, in what is now Piedmont. He operated a dairy and a quarry there. In 1888, the *California Florist* remarked that the late Mr. Blair had "led the way in planting gum trees in Alameda and Sonoma Counties." Nurseryman A. D. Pryall of North Oakland was reported to be another proponent of the gum tree, who "has for some years urgently advocated the planting of this useful and ornamental tree" (PRP article reprinted in *The Oakland Homestead*, January 17, 1874). W. A. T. Stratton of Petaluma (was he related to James T.?) and Major Locke of Pasadena were reported to be the two largest producers and distributors of gum trees in the 1870s. In 1873, the Petaluma grower shipped 5,000 seedlings in one day, and by 1877, Locke supplied 200,000 seedlings throughout the year. The Central Pacific Railroad alone purchased 250,000 seedlings from Locke, and 300,000 from George Baxter of Hayward, yet another Australian tree specialist. Because production of seedlings could not keep up with the demand, a great deal of seed was also sold.

While Baron Ferdinand von Mueller of Australia was the worldwide proponent of the eucalyptus tree, (he wrote a 10-volume work on the subject), in California, Ellwood Cooper of Santa Barbara was his foremost disciple. In 1876, Cooper produced a book titled *Forest Culture and Eucalyptus Trees*, "the only complete and reliable work on the Eucalypti published in the United States." The book was composed in part of a printed copy of a lecture delivered by Cooper to the Santa Barbara College Association, but also a portion of the writings of Baron von Mueller, his descriptions of all the known species, and a seed catalog. The intent of the book was to provide information and promote the growth of eucalyptus in California. In this book, Cooper reported that, "At 'Ellwood,' my home, twelve miles west of Santa Barbara, I have growing about fifty thousand trees." The July 1876 issue of *Appleton's Journal* included an article on "Santa Barbara" by Albert F. Webster. He wrote that "The two predominating native trees of the place are the live-oak and the sycamore. But the people plant a little shoot of the Australian blue-gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*), and in two years it becomes a shade-tree fifteen or twenty feet high."

John McLaren planted thousands of eucalyptus trees around Coyote Point and elsewhere in San Mateo County in the 1870s, including those along El Camino Real

which were initially intended only to serve as temporary protection for the elm trees also lining that avenue. Golden Gate Park today boasts more than 50 varieties of gum tree. According to George Lull, (*A Handbook for Eucalyptus Planters*, 1907) the Widney and Nadeau Groves near Los Angeles were planted in 1874-75. Padilla quotes from a book by Ludwig Salvatore, who visited Los Angeles in the 1870s. He mentioned a large forest of 190,000 trees, "on the Anaheim branch of the Southern Pacific, where it crosses the San Gabriel River, about 12 miles from Los Angeles... This forest belongs to the Forest Grove Association of which Judge Widney is president." The seed came from San Francisco. In 1877, the State Board of Forestry established experiment stations in Santa Monica, Chico, Merced, Hesperia, San Jacinto, and Lake Hemet. The Santa Monica station alone distributed 76,000 eucalyptus seedlings to 421 interested growers.

Adolph Sutro planted his Sutro Forest in San Francisco in 1880-81 with pine, cypress, and a preponderance of eucalyptus. In *The Californian, A Western Monthly Magazine* of 1880, Josephine Clifford described a vernacular cottage garden planted by her family, and mentioned that her brother planted "little snips of eucalyptus, about six inches high" for a row of trees fronting their cottage in the Salinas Valley. Her mother also "filled a little box with earth and two bits' worth of eucalyptus-tree seed... and in an incredibly short time she had a miniature forest on hand." An 1882 editorial in the *Los Angeles Daily Times* discussed the feasibility of eucalyptus as a money crop.

The U. S. Army began planting the San Francisco Presidio with blue gums and Monterey cypress in 1883. By 1892 over 300,000 trees had been established to provide a windbreak and prevent erosion. It was in the 1880s that the Judson Dynamite and Powder Company of Albany planted eucalyptus on what was then called "Cerrito Hill," with the intention of blocking the view of the works as well as the effects of future accidental blasts from nearby residents. Abbot Kinney was Ellwood Cooper's able successor in promoting the planting of eucalyptus in the south. As roadmaster for the Santa Monica area, Kinney lined the roads with gum trees. He also planted them on his ranches there and in the San Gabriel Valley. Serving as Chairman of the Board of Forestry from 1886-88, Kinney was responsible for launching another Experiment Station program that "resulted in the planting of thousands of eucalyptus." Santos reports that Kinney's 1895 book, *Eucalyptus*, became the new bible for growers throughout the state.

It was recommended that gum trees be used as windbreaks to protect citrus crops in the south. The growth-inhibiting or allelopathic properties of gum trees were not clearly understood at that time. Any other trees planted within 20 feet of the gums soon died.

In the early 1900s, the eucalyptus boom took on renewed life. A scarcity of lumber in the East generated the fresh belief that eucalyptus could provide commercial grade hardwood timber for the "industries, manufacturers, and arts." Promises of a \$250 investment reaping \$2500 in ten years caused farmers to rip out crops and plant eucalyptus. Life savings were invested and soon lost.

In 1906, the Santa Fe Railroad was planting thousands of acres of eucalyptus at Rancho Santa Fe. Like the Cental Pacific before them, they soon discovered this wood was essentially useless for their purposes, but the trees remain today. In 1909, a series of articles appearing in several publications such as *The Grizzly Bear*, *Overland Monthly*, and *California Weekly*, all once again blythely promoting the planting of eucalyptus forests. "Fully 100 companies" were reportedly engaged either in planting seedlings, contracting to plant them out, selling acreage for prospective plantations, and selling stock in companies whose objective was to plant, care for or harvest the products of these trees. *The Grizzly Bear* (April 1909), without naming names, spoke of a corporation that had established "the first exclusively eucalyptus nursery...two years ago." The first commercial planting of the trees was done in 1908 at Tulare County. Another 1,600-acre planting was just nearing completion, with more projected for 1909 and 1911. The State Dept. of Forestry colluded in this new movement by providing a spate of articles, brochures and seedlings.

Theodore Payne is reported to have cornered the market on eucalyptus seed, and Padilla wrote that "his firm became the headquarters for eucalyptus seed in the nation. He shipped seed not only to all parts of the United

States where eucalyptus could be grown, but to Mexico, South America, Germany, and France...In one season he collected 1500 pounds of eucalyptus seed of different species, but chiefly *Eucalyptus umbellata* and *E. camaldulensis*."

Frank C. Havens and Francis M. "Borax" Smith formed a partnership in a scheme to develop the Oakland hills area. They bought up thousands of acres between Mills College and the Berkeley line, all still largely denuded of trees at that time. To improve salability, Havens planted millions of trees – eucalyptus, of course. He created a private forest service of 50 men to look after the trees. A prospectus for his Mahogany Eucalyptus and Land Company of Oakland showed nine nurseries belonging to the company, all in full operation; the company's arboretum supposedly contained 60 varieties of eucalyptus. Havens even built a sawmill. The company was incorporated in December of 1910, and according to Santos, had dissolved by February of 1913, though a biography of Havens appearing in *Notables of the West* (1915) indicated that the company was still functioning at that time, "its chief object the forestization of the bare hills behind Oakland and Berkeley." Possibly this was mere hyperbole to keep the stockholders at bay.

Oddly enough, in 1921 Professor E.J. Wickson dismissed the latest craze. "It is doubtful if [it] has really had much effect on the California landscape. Still, of course, the eucalyptus remains as perhaps the most important shade and fuel trees ever introduced to California, even though it be not a good thing to gamble with." (*CA Nurserymen & the Plant Industry, 1850-1910*). Though reduced from "craze" and "boom" status, dissemination did not stop there. Private individuals, such as Max Watson of San Diego, continued to promote and plant eucalyptus trees throughout the state. The love of these trees was a powerful avocation for Watson, and he brought the interest with him when he moved to San Jose in 1924. He had a nursery near Sunnyvale and another on Alum Rock Avenue east of San Jose. Until his death in 1968, Watson continued to promote the spread of this "valuable genus of trees throughout temperate regions of the world" for ornamental and reforestation purposes and for soil erosion control (*California Horticulture Journal [CHJ]*, 1969).

As a writer for *The Argonaut* had once complained "this absurd vegetable is now growing all over the state. One cannot get out of its sight."

For further reading on the world-wide eucalyptus boom, see *The Eucalyptus: A Natural and Commercial History of the Gum Tree*, by Robin W. Doughty (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000).

HOW TO JOIN CGLHS

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and up.

(continued from page 5)

to examine the orchards, vineyards, and gardens, as well as the more important native trees and plants of that state, and believing that it may be interesting as well as useful to make public the results of our investigations, the following notes are submitted" in the September-December issues of *Tilton's Journal of Horticulture and Floral Magazine*. The first two segments were devoted primarily to reports on the quality and type of fruit being grown in Northern California. The third installment touched briefly on the issues of insects and diseases, the market situation, the quality of the fruit, plus a brief paragraph on garden vegetables, before coming, finally, to ornamental trees and plants.

"On arriving in California, we were at once struck with the character of the trees and plants which we saw in the gardens, public streets, etc. Instead of the elms, maples, etc., which prevail at the East, we saw Australian acacias and eucalyptus, and the Mexican pine (*Pinus insignis*), and Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*). These are everywhere planted as the common trees. Nurserymen informed us that the first trees, and, in many cases, the only ones, asked for by persons beginning to improve their city or suburban lots, are the eucalyptus, acacias, *Pinus insignis*, and *Cupressus macrocarpa*. The reason for this is, that these trees grow rapidly, transplant easily, and are adapted to the climate."

In San Francisco, the visitors toured William Patterson's nursery grounds, (where they saw *Eucalyptus globulus*) and Woodward's Garden. They were also invited to visit Mr. Woodward's estate in Napa County. They saw the U. S. Army's grounds at Black Point, and on Alcatraz and Angel Islands. In Santa Clara, they stopped at General Naglee's estate, and the nursery of L. F. Sanderson. In Oakland, they toured four private estates as well as what they referred to as Nolan's Botanic Gardens (Belle View Nursery). Though the writer occasionally expressed amazement at the size obtained here for such plants as roses and geraniums, "at every step we were amazed at the extraordinary rapid growth of trees here—the effects of good soil, good care, and a perpetual summer."

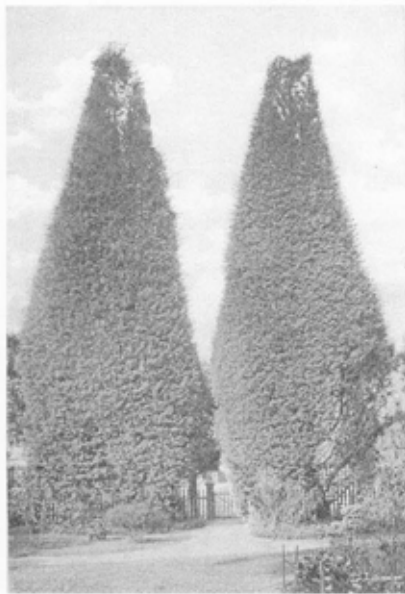
Stephen Nolan's "collection of trees, especially of coniferae, is very large, and embraces all the more

important California species that have been brought to notice." A list of the most interesting varieties followed, all ranging in height from 10-12 feet at that time.

In 1863, Governor Leland Stanford had specified that the grounds of the State Capitol in Sacramento should have "a beauty and luxuriousness that no other capitol can boast." Eight hundred trees and flowering shrubs—200 varieties from all parts of the world—were planted during the winter of 1870-71 (Max J. Schuster and Gregg Peterson, *Capitol Park Trees, A User's Guide*, 1982). Harry Butterfield reported that the next big planting took place when Frank Kunz was appointed State Gardener in 1877-78. More planting took place in 1887, and 1896-97. In 1912 a large planting of native species was added, including palms, conifers, and broadleaved trees (Butterfield, *CHJ*, 1969).

Not every citizen with a horticultural bent agreed that there was a tree crisis. An 1878 letter to the *Daily Alta California* newspaper, reprinted in the *PRP*, carried a critical reply to someone's earlier accusation about the logging of trees in Santa Barbara. "When the Americans took California there were no forests near Santa Barbara to be felled... So far as the tree question is concerned, there is no cause for alarm; the State is gaining more trees every year than it loses. The destruction of old trees is rapid in Mendocino, Humboldt, Santa Cruz, western Sonoma, and the shores of Lake Tahoe, but the young trees are growing

up, and the forests are in no danger of decreasing in area... while in the valleys the planting of fruit, timber and ornamental trees is making gratifying progress... we expect that in 50 years the economy of water will have made such advances that the Sacramento, San Joaquin and Salinas valleys will be as thickly settled with dwellings embowered among trees as are Napa, Sonoma and Petaluma now, and the changes made for the better there within the last quarter of a century are little short of the marvelous." Santa Barbara's famous 'Tree of Light' a Norfolk Island Pine, also known as a Star Pine, (*Araucaria heterophylla*) was planted as a sapling by Dr. Robert F. Winchester, to celebrate the birth of his daughter. It was purchased from Goleta nurseryman Joseph Sexton in 1878. In ad



Cypress Trees in Oakland c. 1910 (M. Graham)

dition to araucarias, Sexton advertised his offering of a variety of palms and other rare shade trees.

The pages of the *PRP* were often filled with advice about planting trees, but which trees? Nurserymen were often guilty of submitting pieces of special pleading for the varieties they also just happened to be selling. One anonymous contributor complained that, of the usually recommended varieties, cottonwood grows quickly but is dirty (the wind strewing bits of "cotton" throughout one's property), lacks grace and grows too large, and sheds a sticky, gummy substance besides. The Lombardy poplar grows rapidly too, but its only recommendation (in the writer's opinion) was as a landmark along with willow to mark a water source. He considered it useless as a shade tree. Too many evergreens are "offensive to good taste." The locust is beautiful but short-lived, the elm too slow-growing, though graceful. What was his preference? Why, the white mulberry, of which he no doubt had an overabundance, the boom for creating a silk industry having dissipated somewhat by this time. The fruit he rated as a plus – food for the birds – with no mention of the mess they make. The leaves were still touted as food for silkworms, with no consideration of how a tree of half-eaten leaves would decorate in one's landscape.

George H. Beach of Napa County, and formerly of the New England Nursery in Marysville, wrote to the *St. Helena Star* in 1880 (reprinted in the *PRP*) warning of the need to head back eucalyptus periodically on a small plot, and lauding pepper trees in their stead. In the same year, nurseryman Leonard Coates wrote from Yountville (Napa Valley Nurseries). He discussed the relative merits of gum trees and walnuts, but closed with a strong recommendation for the catalpa as a valuable timber tree, and of which he had a number for sale. He also had compliments for *Acacia mollis* (Black Wattle) and *Magnolia grandiflora* as evergreen plantings. But a small paragraph in the Fresno Bee warned readers that magnolias are no good in dry, inland climates. They needed large quantities of water to thrive and were particularly recommended for planting on swampy ground.

The UC Berkeley Tree Fund

Mentioned in our last issue, the UC Berkeley Tree Fund welcomes contributions towards the preservation and replacement of campus trees. Make checks payable to UC Berkeley Foundation, University Relations, 2440 Bancroft Way, #2400, University of California @ Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720-2400.

To give online, go to <http://landscape.ced.berkeley.edu/~treefund/howtogive/giv2.htm>.

In 1892, Abbot Kinney wrote to the *Garden & Forest* journal, confirming this warning. He stated that, although his Kinneloa Ranch (Lamanda Park) had some of the most vigorous specimens of this tree in southern California, "it is more successful when near the coast. In the interior, where the air is very dry, it is smaller and flowers but little. At Riverside it lives, but amounts to nothing." Most unfortunate for the appearance and logic of Magnolia Avenue, though Padilla suggests it was money rather than water that put paid to the extensive use of this tree. Magnolias were then selling for \$2 apiece, while blue gums and pepper trees could be had for a few cents each. For whatever reason, "only six magnolias were planted at each one-half mile street intersection over a stretch of twelve miles."

Another famous tree-lined street was Euclid Avenue in Ontario. W. B. Chaffee planted it out from Ontario to Cucamonga in 1882. "Gum trees and silk oaks (*Grevillea robusta*) alternated. Palms and pepper trees were planted originally in the center [divider] but were removed later for the car line" (Butterfield, "Some Gardens, Parks, Roadside and Street Plantings in California," *CHJ* 1969). Several writers have informed us of the widespread horticultural influence Dr. Franceschi wielded through his importation of many new varieties of trees to this state at the turn of the century. His 1894 research into existing varieties in Santa Barbara revealed thirty different palms, many of which dated back to the 1860s. Butterfield wrote, "To Dr. Franceschi, palms were 'the kings and princes among plants' and his 1897 catalogue offered 87 varieties and species. By the time he left Santa Barbara in 1909, Franceschi estimated that some 150 varieties and species of palms had been introduced into the Santa Barbara area.

Peter D. Gambee ("California's 'Tree Trends' in the Urban Forest", *California Landscaping*) mentions three specific trendy trees: the palm, the liquidamber and the deodar cedar, "each of which enjoyed its heyday of popularity." Though palms were planted throughout the state in the 1890s – historic rows remain today, in Oakland to mark the long drive up through the estate of F. M. "Borax" Smith, lining the entry road to Stanford University, and at Kearney Park in Fresno – they are today viewed as a particular symbol of Southern California opulence. Two fine examples of the Chilean wine palm (*Jubaea chilensis*) mark the entry gate at Riverside's White Park, and the Washington fan palms of Victoria Avenue were planted in 1877.

"Civic leaders recruited craftsman artisan Ernest Batchelder as one of its chief city planners, in an effort to help beautify downtown Pasadena. Local women's clubs and the Chamber of Commerce urged Batchelder to begin

acute allergy to pine and acacia pollen. In some parts of the country, bans have been established against the planting of pollen-producing tree varieties.

In 1910, the Arboricultural Society of Southern California was established, its primary purpose to stimulate the planting of street trees. With regard to individuals who popularized the planting of trees lining our city streets even today, Padilla remarked, "Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon Dr. A. B. Doremus of Santa Barbara, [the famous Italian stone pines are to his credit], George Marston and Kate Sessions of San Diego, William S. Lyon and J. C. Harvey of Los Angeles, for promoting the cause of the tree in the street, the park and the home garden."

Jack Reeves, partner to nurseryman Hugh Evans, receives the credit for supplying the trees to Beverly Hills. Dr. Samuel Ayres, Jr., was impressed by the flowering trees of Hawaii and saw no reason why Los Angeles couldn't grow the same trees on its city streets. The "Los Angeles Beautiful" movement grew out of his endeavors. Though the interest in civic beautification waned following two World Wars and the depression, Padilla cites those who continued their life-long dedication to the task: in San Diego, Kate Sessions and Alfred D. Robinson; in Santa Barbara, E. O. Orpet; in Santa Monica, Hugh Evans, and later his sons, particularly Morgan Evans. John McLaren took great pride in the volume of trees he was responsible for planting in his lifetime, reportedly somewhere close to one million trees by his calculations. This included not only his work at Golden Gate Park, and the 70,000 gums planted at Coyote Point, but also his city street plantings in San Mateo. In one year, he planted nine avenues with 2,250 elms, 3,230 pines, 20,000 blue gums and 300 red gums.

Aside from their obvious beauty and environmental benefits, trees have a particular importance for landscape historians because they are often the only remnants of once-glorious gardens. Today we've come full circle, with much needed care for venerable trees being scanted due to tight budgets, as at the University of California in Berkeley. Once again, the majority of the populace seems unmoved by the threatened losses, and less than eager to foot the bill for needed care or replacements of historic trees. *Garden Design* magazine recently featured a small item on what alarmists may fear is the wave of the future: a San Diego sculpture exhibit of thirty street "trees" created from metal and other materials. These are "planted" along a one-mile stretch from Hawthorne Street to Broadway Pier, and will be on display until November. Check them out in person, or online at www.thebigbay.com/urbanntrees. If you don't like what you see, go plant a real tree!

CORNERSTONE FESTIVAL OF GARDENS: SONOMA

Peggy Darnall found an item in the *Wall Street Journal* quite recently about this new enterprise. It is a commercial business created by Chris Houghie and inspired by a visit to the annual garden festival at Chaumont-sur-Loire, the French answer to the Chelsea Flower Show, but with a host of international designers. The complex just opened in June of 2004, and will include a branch of Sloat Garden Center as well as the company Artefact Design & Salvage. A Market Cafe and bookstore will be added to the site too, but the central attraction is the gallery of gardens. Sixteen have already been installed, and they expect to reach a total of 25-28 eventually. Different designers, some of them internationally known, have created each garden "room". Names that we actually recognized on the website page included Pamela Burton, Planet Horticulture (Roger Raiche's new business located in Sonoma), Topher Delaney, and Martha Schwartz. The garden rooms will change and feature new designers every couple of years. Admission to the garden gallery is \$9 for adults, with reduced rates for children and seniors. Hours are 10-5 daily, except Mondays, when they're open from 12-4. The address is 23570 Hwy 121, Sonoma, CA 95476. Telephone: 707.933.3010. Website: www.cornerstonegardens.com.

SOME RECENT CHANGES AT THE STANFORD ARIZONA GARDEN

Those who attended last year's conference at Stanford were privileged to tour the only complete existing example of Rudolph Ulrich's Arizona Garden in California. Early photos from the Stanford archive testify to the presence of numerous mature specimens of the saguaro cactus, brought back by Ulrich from the Sonoran desert via the Southern Pacific Railroad. Their presence is clearly documented, from when the garden was first laid out through the 1890s and early 1900s, but none of these magnificent specimens survived to the present day. While vandalism and theft may have played a role in this disappearance, the culprit was more likely the damper climate and soil, plus the occasional freeze and snow that visit the Bay Area every 10 years or so. The recent availability of funds led to a decision to recreate the columnar aspect of the garden by employing the hardier *Trichocereus terscheckii*. This species is native to northern Argentina, and can reach up to 40 feet in height. A number of 3-4' specimens have now been planted along the central walkway of the garden.

FAIRMOUNT PARK - A Brief History

Excerpts of a document compiled by Patricia A. Stewart, and originally presented to the Cultural Heritage Board on December 18, 1985, are reprinted here with the permission of the Riverside Parks and Recreation Department. We have omitted details of park history that do not pertain to the landscape.

Fairmount Park is Riverside's Landmark #69. It occupies approximately 180 acres near the Santa Ana River, northeast of Mount Rubidoux. The largest park in Riverside, and the second oldest [after White Park], the original acreage was dedicated as parkland in 1898. It has grown and evolved along with the City since 1870, and has a history all its own. Located in what was a swampy area "with a most forbidding aspect" according to an early historian, the park now consists of large picnic areas around lakes, with play areas for children, a bandshell, a large rose garden, a golf course, lawn bowling, and special monuments. Palms, Montezuma cypress, eucalyptus, and other species of trees grow in the park; many of them are unique specimens. The smaller Fairmount Lake, occupying 5.5 acres, has been in existence since 1904; Lake Evans, covering 36 acres, plus Brown Lake with two acres, were opened in 1924.

The Fairmount Heights tract was subdivided in February of 1883, by attorney John G. North. North has been given credit for suggesting the name of Fairmount Heights, as well as that of the parent corporation, Fairmount Park Land Company, organized in 1890. The name originated with Philadelphia's Fairmount Park.

In 1893, C. M. Loring suggested to Samuel Cary Evans Sr., an early Riverside land speculator, that Evans donate land for a park, as he controlled the lands west of the subdivision. He eventually did donate additional acreage and water rights to Spring Brook, which formed the original Fairmount Park Lake.

North Hill, part of the subdivision and originally called Fairmount Hill, became a quarry. In 1895, the City's Board of Trustees (City Council) launched a program to improve streets by paving them, establishing a rock and gravel base. Granite curbs and gutters were also called for. To obtain stone, the City purchased 35 acres from Fairmount Land Company, which included Fairmount Hill and the meadow through which Spring Brook flowed. The pur-

chase agreement stipulated that the meadow would become a park.

On October 6, 1897, an ordinance was adopted dedicating the 35 acres; Fairmount Park was officially opened on Arbor Day, April 9, 1898. In 1896-97, Capt. Charles M. Dexter and a committee of the Grand Army of the Republic (Union veterans of the Civil War) requested City permission to plant trees and improve the area that had been unofficially a public playground and picnic area, but was officially becoming Fairmount Park. At Dexter's urging, the City provided the money for trees and ultimately took over direct responsibility for further development.

In 1903, Evan's donation of 12.5 acres contributed Fairmount Lake, which was made by adding a simple dam across the brook, with the lowland of the streambed delineating the lake to a maximum depth of 10 feet at the dam. In 1910, George N. Reynolds, a major downtown merchant, returned from a trip to the Orient and, inspired by the things he'd seen there, donated several improvements and expansions to Fairmount Park Lake. The result was a group of islands and soil causeways, connected by arched wooden bridges in modified Japanese style. A lotus bed was started in the shallow east end, bordering on the present Bowling Green Drive. The bridges became rickety and were replaced with cement bridges in about 1920, two of them still existing today. A great flood in 1938 wiped out the lotus bed, much of which was replanted by volunteers only to die of neglect in the 1960s, and it was subsequently covered over by debris from the Main Street Mall improvement project.

The Park Board was eager to make more extensive improvements, and a \$30,000 bond issue was voted in 1910 to improve the park, including funds for a swimming pool and a wading pool at the west end of the lake. An additional 18 acres was donated by Mayor Samuel C. Evans Jr., and his brother Pliny T. Evans. The Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, sons of the nationally rec-

W. S. LAKE IN FAIRMOUNT PARK, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA.



ognized landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, were working on preparations for the 1915-16 Panama-California Exposition at San Diego. Mayor Evans, the Park Board and the City Council arranged for the firm to draft a development plan for Fairmount Park, including lake modifications, new roadways, tree planting, the swimming pool, etc. The Olmsted Brothers submitted their proposal in June 1911, and the Mayor and Park Commission heartily endorsed it. Commissioner Hardman was engaged to carry out the plans as submitted, and was commended for doing so in May 1912. Careful accounts were kept of the enterprise. The final step was the improved entrance to Fairmount Park on Locust, to follow the Olmsted plan. [Copies of the Olmsted planting plans, obtained from the City Parks Department, will be on display at this fall's CGLHS conference.]

Playgrounds for children were an innovation by Jacob Riis (1849-1914), a newspaperman and social reformer. About 1900, cities recognized the need for special areas for children to play, with special equipment for gymnastics and other exercises.

Before the 1911 Olmsted Plan, Fairmount Park had some play equipment, such as swings and merry-go-rounds scattered through the older part of the park. The Olmsted Plan consolidated the play areas into one, located near the plunge just at the foot of North Hill and Banks Drive. Swings, slides, merry-go-rounds, a sand lot, and a special play lot for tots were included. In the mid-1950s, the equipment was updated and refurbished to the present "cowboy" theme. A favorite piece of play equipment was a 1920 fire engine, which had to be removed in 1983 because it was hazardous.

In 1923, the Olmsted Plan for Fairmount Park was rediscovered in city archives, and was brought to the attention of local architect G. Stanley Wilson, who presented a plan to the local Kiwanis Club. The Kiwanis promptly endorsed many of the features which had not yet been implemented—particularly the enlargement of the lake. With promotion from the Kiwanis, the idea of expanding the lake drew popular support. Mayor Samuel Evans donated more than 40 additional acres toward expansion of the lake. The City Engineer drew plans for construction of a dam to hold back water in the existing Fairmount Park Lake. This dam

was designed as a spillway for water to fall from the Fairmount Park Lake into the proposed second, lower lake. The two lakes were not connected due to the extreme amount of dredging that would have been necessary to equalize the water levels in both lakes.

Sixteen workmen and 24 mules were used to remove 50,000 cubic yards of earth from the proposed lake bottom. Mounds of dirt in the middle of the new lake bed formed two islands, one an acre in area and the other five acres. Over a thousand loads of decomposed granite came from North Hill to build the dam and to surface the new road laid out around the park. The new lake was named Lake Evans, in honor of Mayor Samuel C. Evans, Jr., and the new road was named Dexter Drive, in honor of Capt. Charles M. Dexter.

An appendage to Lake Evans, Brown Lake, was thought to be part of the Spring Brook streambed, but it is not shown on any early tract maps before 1924. It was created as a result of the Lake Evans excavation in 1923. When the larger lake was filled with water, what came to

be called Brown Lake also took on water at the same level. The lake was used as a fish hatchery and even for swimming, according to various accounts. Mr. Brown operated concessions at the park. In 1937, Brown Lake froze thick enough to allow ice-skating.

As early as 1911, the City Parks Commission had discussed the desirability of es-

tablishing a Municipal Golf Course. Around 1930, Ira Fallon Jr., and his family developed and operated a nine-hole course north of and adjacent to the park, called Riverside Country Club. In 1945, the Mission Inn purchased it and increased the acreage, operating the course until it was sold to the City in 1960. It was then leased to a concessionaire until 1979, then operated by the City until it was again leased in 1981; it is still under lease at this time.

Lawn bowling greens were added, with the formation of the Riverside Lawn Bowling Club, which continues to the present day. The city's original agreement with the club was that it would "furnish and maintain" a site in the park (which they still do today) if the club would raise money to install the bowling green and equip it with lights.

Local nurseryman R. P. Small owned a piece of land along Lake Evans where he raised bedding plants. This



plot comprised the only private property on the lakeshore. It was offered for sale to the City; however, they expressed no interest in buying the property until Small applied for a building permit for a lakeshore home in about 1932. This led the City Council to reconsider the offer and purchase Small's land.

In 1939, a reflecting pool was dedicated at the Park's entrance at the corner of Redwood Drive and Dexter Drive. This pool and surrounding area, designed by landscape gardener Dorothy Dunbar, is flanked on either side by concrete benches, palms which were moved from other areas of the park, and a spacious lawn. Today the pool is filled in with a planting of miniature roses.

Fairmount Park Rose Garden had the first planting of roses in 1956, when the Riverside Floral Arts Group won 200 bushes from the rose growers' annual "Fashions in Roses" show at the Mission Inn. At that time, the public rose garden was located in White Park in downtown Riverside, and there was no extra room for more roses; in fact, the roses already growing there were to be removed as plans were in the making for a recreation building in the park. Ellis Kindig submitted plans for a new site for the rose garden in Fairmount Park at the corner of Redwood and Dexter Drives. The garden was laid out in a formal design with curbs around each bed. The garden has been an All American Rose selection display garden for the past 30 years and has over 1,300 bushes, many of them award winners.

In 1979, plans for major changes in the entire park were proposed, but the changes were so radical that a group of citizens opposed the concept. The outcome of the proposal was to rehabilitate Fairmount Park as it is laid out, keeping its geography and topography, and to use a Mission-revival style of architecture (characteristic of the early 1900s) in the structures. In the same year, the Fairmount Park Citizens' Committee was formed to assist the Riverside Park and Recreation Department with volunteer labor at the park. Growing from a study group, the Committee has donated many hours of labor as well as financial contributions toward park refurbishment. From repairing picnic tables to rebuilding the Redwood Drive Bridge, the Committee has worked on every area of the park.



Phase One of the Huntington's Chinese Garden.
Drawing by Jin Chen. ©The Huntington

CHINESE GARDEN AT THE HUNTINGTON

No, it isn't historic yet, but it is of great interest, since there are practically no public Chinese-style gardens in California at the present time. (If you know of some, we would appreciate learning more about them.) The website (www.huntington.org/Information/ChineseGarden.html) tells us that, "The first phase of what will be one of the largest classical Chinese gardens ever built outside of China has begun construction at the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. It is the most ambitious garden ever to be undertaken at The Huntington, and will cover approximately 12 acres. The first phase is three acres." That is not expected to be open to the public until

early in 2007. A \$10 million bequest from the estate of the late L. A. businessman and philanthropist Peter Paanaker and a \$500,000 grant from The Starr Foundation of New York "has enabled The Huntington to move forward on the project, which has been under discussion for several years." Landscape architect Jim Chen created the design for the new Huntington garden. The large lake that will be the centerpiece of the garden connects downstream with the 9-acre Japanese Garden. Possibly as a kickoff event for promoting this garden, this year's National Bamboo Conference will be held at the Huntington on October 15-16, and a Bamboo Bazaar, featuring sales of plants and related arts & crafts will be a part of the event, from October 15-17, in the parking lot area in front of the museum.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

The Garden Writers Association awarded **Betsy Clebsch** a Garden Globe Award this year for her *The New Book of Salvias*. Congratulations, Betsy.

Laurie Hannah is now serving on the board of the Council of Botanical and Horticultural Libraries (CBHL). It is a rotating 4-year position, and this year Laurie is President until June of 2005. CBHL is the leading professional organization in the field of botanical and horticultural information services, with approximately 250 members in the U. S. and overseas.

BOOK REVIEWS AND NEWS



Building San Francisco's Parks, 1850-1930, by Terence Young, (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004), b&w illustrations, 260 pages, \$45, ISBN: 0-8018-7432-7.

San Francisco's Golden Gate Park offers an endless field for scholarly study. *Building San Francisco's Parks* is a somewhat misleading title for this latest foray into the Park's history. The author, Terence Young, is a geographer, and this study began as his Ph.D. dissertation at UCLA. His methodology and point of view are those of a geographer, rather than a landscape designer or horticulturist, although he does draw from those fields. We find the usual irritating academic apologies for studying the work of native born, middle class white males and dismissal of women and immi-

grants as substrata of society. Women and immigrants were hardly underclasses in San Francisco.

Young identifies four social ideals, what he calls the four virtues – public health, prosperity, democratic equality, and social coherence – as the motivation behind the public park movement in the United States, and sets out to demonstrate how they shaped Golden Gate Park. He divides the Park's history into romantic and rationalistic phases. The romantic refers to the development of the scenic aspects of the park, while the rationalistic focused on beneficial activities, such as organized athletics or intellectually enriching institutions. The final chapter lists and summarizes the development of smaller parks throughout the city.

The outstanding selection of historical photographs and prints of Golden Gate Park from an unusually wide range of sources is a highlight of the book. These pictures and the extensive notes are among its most rewarding aspects. The biggest weaknesses are a lack of understanding of the real importance of French practices to American parks, particularly San Francisco's, and a reliance on unreliable secondary sources for some of the factual material.

Young traces the origins of the American urban park movement to Frederick Law Olmsted's visit to Birkenhead Park in Liverpool, England. Later, Young notes that in 1871 Olmsted referred William Hammond Hall to two books on the Paris parks. Paris was actually the more important source and inspiration for American urban parks, park systems and parkways. Baron Haussmann's Paris plan included a hierarchy of parks around and throughout the city, linked in many cases by parkways. An understanding of San Francisco's early fascination with France would help integrate the later references to Daniel Burnham and Edward Bennet's 1905 plan for the improvement of San Francisco.

Many myths surround the monuments of Golden Gate Park, and much of their history is lost. The Conservatory of Flowers is an example. Young describes it as a "large, steel-framed glasshouse, modeled on one at Kew Gardens in London...imported from England by a wealthy San Jose resident, James Lick." The glasshouse did come from Lick's estate, but it was made of redwood, not steel, and it is highly unlikely that it came from England. Although immaterial to the overall premise, such oversights detract from the book's general credibility.

Golden Gate Park is still a field for study. Young's contribution will open doors for new research and new insights into its historical context. —Margaretta J. Darnall

From a Victorian Garden, Creating the Romance of a Bygone Age Right in Your Own Backyard, Michael Weishan & Christina Roig, (New York: Viking Studio, Penguin Group (USA) Inc., 2004), 144 pages, color and b&w illustrations, \$32.95, ISBN: 0-670-89426-5.

The focal point and anchor for this book is Point Ellice House in Victoria, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. What makes the book pertinent and of possible interest to California landscape historians is the process of documentation and restoration that is revealed as you read the book. The property was owned by the same family from 1867 to 1974, at

which time it was purchased by the provincial government to become a house museum. That the house is fully furnished with original family possessions is unusual enough, but the O'Reilly family were savers, and an astonishing amount of information about the house and grounds has been preserved in the form of letters, books, catalogues,

and photographs. Weishan and Roig use this historical material to provide the novice with point by point instruction on how to plant a Victorian garden. Along the way, they also tell the story of the creation of this historic garden and explain the processes of research and restoration employed by the local government.

Chapters include instruction on Victorian theories and methods for planting lawns, fences and hedges, woodland gardens, laying out pathways, foundation planting, garden ornaments, interior planting, kitchen gardens, and cutting gardens. Relevant passages are provided from contemporary authorities such as Frank Scott (*Suburban Home Grounds*) and Edward Kemp (*Landscape Gardening: How to Lay Out a Small Garden*). The appendix includes such diverse subjects as "Tips For Hedges and Border Screens," "Hosting A Victorian Garden Party," including some of Mrs. O'Reilly's favorite recipes, and "Playing Croquet the Victorian Way."

The book has its failings: letters are missing from words here and there throughout the text, alas, an all too common problem in publishing today. At the end of a page about scented geraniums, the reader is told, "For a list of Victorian-era scented geranium varieties, see page 119 in the appendix." Not only is it not on page 119 (that is devoted to roses), it seems to have been left out of the book entirely. Possibly some editor felt the need to cut out a page or two and didn't realize the peripheral damage done.

The book has a bibliography that includes both modern volumes on plants and the subject of garden restoration, as well as historic texts such as Joseph Breck's *The Flower Garden* (1856) and Peter Henderson's *Gardening for Pleasure* (1893). Given that these older books are no longer easy for everyone to find, *From a Victorian Garden* provides a service in making some of this material available to the general public in text quotations. There is no question that it provides an informative look at the history and restoration of the Point Ellice House garden.

—Marlea Graham



1426. *Eucalyptus globulus*. Shrub on a young shoot. (C) 1912, N. S. S.

Distinctive Trees, Shrubs, and Vines in the Gardens of the San Francisco Peninsula, by Albert Wilson, (Menlo Park, CA: Albert Wilson, Happy Hours, 1938). 182 pages, black & white photographs.

Happy Hours was the name of Wilson's home on Creek Drive in Menlo Park. His own introductory remarks explain the purpose of the book. "The San Francisco Peninsula is one of the richest garden sections in the state of California...Populated by garden enthusiasts, this district has become known throughout the world as a result of its horticultural achievements." The really extraordinary thing about this survey is that Wilson gives locations for each of his trees, including the addresses of private estate gardens. "May I make a special request?" he writes "that, before entering a stranger's estate or garden to see any listed plant, the student first telephone or write the owner for permission to do so. This courtesy we all want to extend to those who have been so generous with allowing access to their places for the success of this book."

Records provided include the trees planted on the Mills estate in Millbrae (since subdivided), and the trees planted on the grounds of Stanford University near Palo Alto. Wilson includes details of tree height and estimated year of planting. At the time of publication a *Magnolia grandiflora* planted at the Hidden Villa Ranch estate of Frank Duveneck (a client of Wilson's) was 75 years old. Today, this property is a public park, and you may go and investigate whether the tree has survived to celebrate its 140th birthday. Unfortunately for the historian, the book is ordered alphabetically by tree name, not location. It would be useful to have a cross-index arranged alphabetically by estate. Anyone looking for a little project to pass the time? —M. Graham

Gardens of Revelation, Environments by Visionary Artists, by John Beardsley, (New York: Abbeville Press, 1995 hardcover, 2003 paperback) 223 pages, color photographs, \$32.50 (paper), ISBN: 0-7892-0797-4.

This book documents vernacular "landscapes" which do not much involve the use of plants. Six of these landscapes are in California: the Bottle Village in Simi Valley, the Desert View Tower/Boulder Park Caves in Jacumba, Imperial County, the Forestiere Underground Gardens in Fresno, Romano Gabriel's Wooden Garden in Eureka, the Old Trapper's Lodge, originally on the grounds of a motel near Burbank, but now on the campus of LA Pierce College in Woodland Hills, and the Watts Towers. All the landscapes described in this book are extraordinary, and may serve to expand your ideas about what a "garden" can be.

near Burbank, but now on the campus of LA Pierce College in Woodland Hills, and the Watts Towers. All the landscapes described in this book are extraordinary, and may serve to expand your ideas about what a "garden" can be. We wish to make the following corrections to our comments in the last issue of *EDEN* regarding **Professor Marc Treib's books**. There never was a Monacelli version of the Church book (*Thomas Church, Landscape Architect: Designing a Modern California Landscape*). The information we obtained from the Internet was misleading in this regard. William Stout Publishers are the first and only printers of the book. We also mistakenly stated that the Noguchi book (*Isamu Noguchi & the UNESCO Garden*) was a reprint. It too is a totally new book. *A Guide to the Gardens of Kyoto* is a completely new edition, but it is a revision of the older book. Apologies to Professor Treib and our readers for these errors.

Garden History Reference Encyclopedia CD by Tom Turner. We were intrigued to see this title in an advertisement for the Landscape Architecture Bookstore. The text states that, "This CD presents the history and theory of garden design and landscape architecture as a single hyperlinked document in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format. Source documents and images are linked to each other, to commentary, to garden descriptions, and to websites maintained by individual garden owners. To learn more about this CD, see the publisher's website, www.Gardenvisit.com. To order, contact the Landscape Architecture Bookstore, PO Box 753, Waldorf, MD 20604-0753. Website: www.asla.org. Email: asla@tascol.com. For phone orders, call 800-787-2665. Stock #T381, \$35.00.

Peggy Darnall sent us information on *Places, a Forum of Environmental Design*, an academic journal now in its 20th year of publication. "Donlyn Lyndon, Professor of Architecture at UC Berkely, [and author of *The Sea Ranch*] is the editor. The journal is sponsored by UC Berkeley, the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, and the Design History Foundation. The Summer 2003 issue is devoted to parks. This issue and the journal in general have an international scope, but the California connection abounds. The park issue includes "Reimagining the Los Angeles River as a Linear Park," with reference to the 1930 Olmsted-Bartholomew Plan for the Los Angeles Region, and "Crissey Field: A New Model for Managing Urban Parklands," a review of the recent San Francisco project for the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. This issue is available for \$12.00." One-year subscriptions are \$35 (\$45 in Canada and \$55 elsewhere), though it wasn't clear from the advertisement

how many issues per year. Send check or credit card information to Chris Cudebec, Business Manager, *Places*, POB1897, Lawrence KS 66044-8897. Email ccudebec@allenpress.com. Phone: 800.627.0629 x 217. *Washington Township, A Pictorial History*, written and researched by Carrie Carruthers, (Fremont, CA: Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation, 2000). ISBN: 0-9705072-0-8. (Unable to find a price, but local history museums may carry it.)

This book is full of wonderful old photographs and postcard illustrations, and answers some questions we had about the landscape history of this area. There's a short section on Charles Howard Shinn and his family nursery business, quite a bit more about John Rock's California Nursery Company. There's a photo of dozens of huge, boxed-up Canary Island palms loaded onto railroad flatcars, ready for shipping to the 1915 San Francisco World's Exposition. There's also a reference to George Roeding having trained Nigel Keep, gardener to William Randolph Hearst at San Simeon. G. W. Patterson's property, Ardenwood, is also mentioned, and we learned that the property acquired that name when a production of "As You Like It" was put on there in 1898. The best surprise of all was the explanation of a little mystery – what and where was Palmdale? I'd come across a photo on the web some time ago, without any explanation other than the suggestion that it was somewhere in the South S. F. Bay Area. Thanks to this book I now know that the gardens of Palmdale were located in Mission San Jose and date back to 1852. "Looking to create a beautiful private garden for his family, first resident E. L. Beard sent around the world for seeds and graftings that enabled him to establish an extensive nursery of exotic plants. Continuously held in private hands, the grounds of Palmdale have given pleasure to a number of owners, all of whom took great care to maintain and, in many instances, to enhance the gardens originally landscaped by Beard." Juan Gallegos took over the property in 1880, adding a 75-foot swimming pool and a 60-foot water fountain to the gardens. The Gallegos also put in 600 acres of vines and started a winery. Built of brick, this was destroyed by the 1906 earthquake. In the late 1920s two sisters (Irene

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COMING EVENTS

Fall will bring a new round of **plant sales** at local arboreta and horticultural departments of local colleges. See the latest issue of *Pacific Horticulture* for full details.

August: The Ruth Bancroft Garden, in conjunction with the Garden Conservancy, is sponsoring a series of classes on the Dry Garden. Fee: \$70. Pre-registration required. Call 925.210.9663 or see the website: www.ruthbancroftgarden.org. Opportunities to visit the garden this month include: 8.14: Palms in the Garden, 8.28: Moonlight Garden Tour. Reservations are required for these events. The bearded iris plant sale is on October 16, 9:30-2pm, 1500 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek.

August 16 - December 13: Landscape Design, a college credit class with Robert Walton, sponsored by Descanso Gardens and Mt. San Antonio College. Fee \$30 plus college fee; for information and registration call 818.949.7980 [Descanso, we presume - no contact info provided for Mt. San Antonio College] or see www.DescansoGardens.org.

August 27-28: The 4th Biennial Historic Plant Symposium at Monticello, sponsored by the Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants, "Early American Nurseries and Nurserymen." Noted garden and horticultural historians Elizabeth McLean (Philadelphia), Therese O'Malley (National Gallery of Art), Robert Cox (American Philosophical Society), Chuck Wade (former director Queens Botanic Garden), and Denise Adams (garden consultant and author of *Restoring American Gardens, An Encyclopedia of Heirloom Ornamental Plants, 1650-1940*) will discuss the Bartrams, the Prince and Parson family nurseries, Bernard McMahon, David Landreth, Andre Parmentier, and others. This year's sessions will take place at the new Jefferson Library. Contact Peggy Cornett. Phone: 434.984.9816. Email: pcornett@monticello.org. Website link: www.monticello.org/chp/plant_symposium.html.

Note: If you can't attend the conference, order a copy of *Twinleaf*, the journal and catalog (No. 16, 2004) of the Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants. It features an article by Director Peggy Cornett on the William Prince nursery in Flushing, New York, titled "Encounters with America's Premier Nursery and Botanic Garden." Send \$2 to: The Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants, Monticello, PO Box 318, Charlottesville, VA 22902. Website: www.twinleaf.org.

CGLHS member Julianne Burton-Caravajal has advised us of several fall events organized by the Monterey History & Art Association, of which she is also an active member.

September 5 & October 3: "Walking Tours of the Monterey Mesa: Homes, Gardens, History." Hours: 1 - 2:30 pm. Other scheduled events include a slide presenta-

tion by historian Edna Kimbro on "Early Monterey", **September 25** from 2-4 pm at the Stanton Center History Theater on the waterfront in Monterey, admission \$10 (\$5 for members). Julianne is curating a Center exhibit on "The Monterey Mesa in the 1920s" at the same time. On **October 9**, there will be a bus tour to a "Trio of Borondo Adobes (Salinas, Carmel Valley, Monterey)", 9:30 - 3:30 pm, \$40 including lunch and transportation. Reservations required for this event. Contact Shawna Hershfield at 408.372.2608 x11. Two current displays of interest: at the Maritime Museum, Stanton Center, "Tales of Two Adobes" (admission \$8), and at the Museum of Art and History in Santa Cruz, "Arc of Adobes" (admission \$5).

September 7-10: Montecito Private Estates Garden Tour, includes Lotusland, Casa del Herrera, several private gardens including three more designed by Lockwood de Forest, and some local nurseries. The tour fee is \$496 and includes transportation, shared lodging for three nights (at the Hotel Santa Barbara - single supplement is \$186), some meals, garden entry fees, special guides (in some cases, the landscape designer), and a gratuity for the driver. Registration is limited to 22 participants, so don't delay signing up for this one. Organized by Robert Giehl of Inspiring Gardens, 954 Beech Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050. Phone 740.397.7406. Email: rob@inspiringgardens.com.

Advance deposit of \$200 required, due August 7th but try anyway. West coast contact is Dot Maley, 408.299.2635 x 1017. Mr. Giehl is an experienced tour organizer. We are told he will soon be organizing tours for Pacific Horticulture Foundation.

September 12: The 13th Annual Garden Tour and Tea, 12 gardens (self-drive), Eureka area, benefits Humboldt Botanical Gardens, 707.442.5139, www.hbgf.org. Tickets \$20.

September 17-18: California Historical Society, symposium on "Preserving Through Secondary Uses", at the Newark Hilton Hotel, 39900 Balentine Drive, Newark. To book a room, call 510.490.8390 or see their website: www.BayAreaHilton.com. Tours will include two historic houses in the Niles area. CHS, 675 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94155. Phone: 415.357.1848. Website: www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/

September 19: Garden Conservancy Open Day, five private gardens in Mill Valley (4) and Muir Beach (1), all new, never been open before. If you're not a member and didn't purchase a copy of the book, check your local paper's garden section for times and addresses.

September 21: "The New City Beautiful: Reimagining Urban Horticulture at Millenium Park in Chicago and The Battery in New York City." Warrie Price, president of The Battery Park Conservancy in NYC, landscape architect Piet Oudolf, and John H. Bryan, chair of Millennium Park Conservancy in Chicago, are the scheduled speakers. This program is sponsored by the Garden Conservancy and *House & Garden* magazine. Tickets are \$135 for nonmembers, \$120 for members of the Garden Conservancy or Historic Hudson Valley. Visit www.gardenconservancy.org for information on how to register, or call 845.265.2029.

October 1-3: at the L.A. County Arboretum, Arcadia and **October 8-10:** at Strybing Arboretum, San Francisco Gardening Under Mediterranean Skies IV – "Exploring California Style." Speakers include Chris Woods, Glenn Keator, Dave Fross, John Greenlea, Trevor Nottle, Russ Beatty, and Chip Sullivan. In three ninety-minute sessions, registrants will choose from an array of workshop topics, each presented by a local speaker proficient in the subject. Other highlights include a symposium bookstore/gift shop and a plant sale featuring California's top nurseries offering native and mediterranean-climate plants (from Annie's Annuals to Yerba Buena Nursery), and an optional all-day garden tour (in SoCal, owner and professionally designed gardens in Pasadena; in NorCal, small urban gardens in Palo Alto as well as estate gardens in Woodside and Los Altos). Lunch is provided for all three days. Fee is \$165 before September, \$195 after, garden tour \$125 additional (those tour buses are pricey and think of the cost of fuel too). These prices are for subscribers to *Pacific Horticulture*, and members of the Mediterranean Garden Society, Strybing Arboretum Society, and LA Arboretum Friends. Non-members pay \$30 additional for registration and \$15 more for the garden tour. The tour has a limited capacity so if you want to see the gardens, don't delay sending in your registration to *Pacific Horticulture* Symposium, PO Box 680, Berkeley, CA 94701. Registrations received before Sept. 20 will be confirmed by mail. For more information, see the website: www.pacifichorticulture.org/medskies/, email medskies@pacifichorticulture.org or call, toll-free, 866.633.7543.

October 3: Autumn Garden Tour, (self-drive) of eight private gardens, 9-5 pm, sponsored by Merritt College Hort. Dept., 925.254.4937. Tickets \$40.

October 7: "Art in the Garden" with Pam Waterman, Thursday morning, 9:45-12 pm, LA County Arboretum, fee \$35, pre-reg. required. 626.821.4624 or www.arboretum.org.

October 9: Library Book Sale, new and used publications on sale, benefiting Blakley Library, held at the Botanic Garden, 1212 Mission Canyon Rd, Santa Barbara, 9 - 3 pm.

October 13: "Musings of an Australian Gardener", lecture by Trevor Nottle, author of *Gardens in the Sun*, *Growing Old-Fashioned Roses*, contributor to the excellent *Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens* (reviewed in our Fall 2003 issue), and speaker at this year's Mediterranean Skies symposium. Western Hort. Society, Covington Elementary School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos. 650.856.6454, lesliekdean@mindspring.com.

October 14: "The Arts & Crafts Garden in SoCal," Thursday morning, Rick Fisher, 9:45-12 pm, LA County Arboretum, fee \$35, same contact info as for Oct. 7. Fee reduction if you sign for the whole series.

October 15: "Planting Sculpture, Sculpting Plants," lecture by Marcia Donahue, 7 pm, at Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, see address above. Fee: \$15 members, \$18 non.

October 21: "Gardening in Rhythm with a Mediterranean Climate," Thursday morning, Jan Smithen, 9:45-12 pm, LA County Arboretum, address, fee and contact info above.

November 5-7: CGLHS Annual Conference, "The Empire That Citrus Built: Landscape History of Old San Bernardino County." Our speakers will be Professor Anthea Hartig ("Cultural Landscape of Riverside"), Ric Catron ("Franz Hosp, Landscape Gardener") and Fred Boutin ("The Wright Estate"). We will provide guided tours of Riverside's White Park (Dave Rogers), historic Victoria Boulevard (Hal Snyder) and Kimberly Crest in Redlands (Terence Hernstrom) as well as a visit to the UCR Special Collections Library. A list of other landscapes you may visit on your own will also be provided. These include the Asistencia Mission at Redlands, Riverside's Fairmount Park (designed by the Olmsted Brothers in 1911), the Heritage

The Empire That Citrus Built: Landscape History of Old San Bernardino County

Lectures, Luncheon and Garden Tours

November 5-7, 2004 - Riverside, California

California
Garden
& Landscape
History Society

Visit www.cglhs.org or
Contact Marlea Graham
(925) 335-9156
maggie94553@earthlink.net

House Museum, with its newly installed garden, the Jensen-Alvarado Ranch & Historic Park, the UCR Botanic Gardens, and Mt. Rubidoux, where you may find a combination of natural and man-made picturesque landscaping. Nearby attractions include John Greenlea's grass nursery in Pomona, the Santa Ana Botanic Gardens, and the Gilman Historical Ranch & Wagon Museum at Banning.

Saturday's lectures will be held at the Riverside Municipal Museum, 3580 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside. Full details of the conference will be provided in the official packet, coming your way soon. We look forward to seeing you at Riverside.

2005:



February 17-18: Southern Garden Heritage Conference, co-sponsored by The State Botanical Garden of Georgia, the University of Georgia's School of Environmental Design and The Garden Club of Georgia. To receive a program and registration information, please contact The State Botanical Garden of Georgia, 2450 South Milledge Avenue,

Athens, GA 30605. Phone: 706.542.1244. Email: garden@sah.edu.

March 16-20: SF Flower & Garden Show at the Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Avenue, Daly City, CA 94014. Deadline for application to be an exhibitor was July 15, 2004. Email: sf_exhibits@gardenshow.com.

Website: www.gardenshow.com. Phone: 415.771.6909.

April 6-10: 58th Annual Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) in Vancouver, British Columbia. For full details, write to SAH, 1365 N. Astor St., Chicago IL 60610-2144. Phone: 312.573.1365. Website: www.sah.org.

The SAH is again considering the formation of a landscape history study group. Professor Edward S. Harwood, Visiting Fellow at the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles is making a call for papers to be presented at a special session of this conference. The following remarks are copied from the SAH website:

Open Session: Garden and Landscape History

The study of world gardens and designed landscapes is not based on histories written in stone. It is ceaselessly evolving and becoming ever more complex as more and more information becomes available, and as new perspectives

and methodological approaches are brought to bear on both new and existing materials. Nonetheless, we do tend to operate with commonly accepted histories of the major traditions in landscaping, and those histories are, in turn, organized around consensus lists of the major designed landscapes and gardens within each tradition. The purpose of this session is to offer the opportunity for scholars to make their cases for adding hitherto perhaps little known or not fully appreciated designed landscapes and gardens to those lists of key sites. What gardens and designed landscapes should we know far better than we currently do? Why have we not focused on them previously? Has it been because of limitations in our existing histories and approaches? Why should we accord attention to them? Papers devoted to gardens and designed landscapes that were, or are, of great interest and importance in and of themselves, and yet have been overlooked and undervalued, will of course be considered. I am primarily interested, however, in papers on individual gardens or designed landscapes that force us to rethink and reconfigure those histories with which we work, and/or that open up methodological approaches that have been underutilized or ignored.

Please submit abstracts by September 15, 2004

to: Professor Edward S. Harwood, Visiting Fellow, Getty Research Institute, 1200 Getty Center Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90049, eharwood@bates.edu.

May 5-7: The National Park Service, along with a number of co-sponsors, will host a national conference devoted to preserving historic recreation and entertainment sites. Entitled "Preserve and Play," the conference will present appropriate and successful strategies for protecting a range of important resources, from urban recreation centers and school gymnasiums, to public bathhouses, amusement parks, and spas. "Preserve and Play" will be held at the Intercontinental Chicago Hotel, constructed in 1929 as the Medinah Men's Athletic Club. This recently restored hotel is located on Chicago's "Magnificent Mile," just blocks from many of the city's most notable landmarks. "Preserve and Play" will accept presentation and demonstration proposals through September 24, 2004. For more information on proposal requirements, conference themes, and contact information, please visit the conference website: <http://www.preserveandplay.org>.

May 12-16: The Annual Conference of the Heritage Rose Foundation will be held in conjunction with the Celebration of Old Roses at El Cerrito. Speakers, workshops, garden tours. Check the HRF website for full details: www.heritagrosefoundation.org.

ARCHIVES

A recent enquiry from a garden history friend at the Sourisseau Academy for State and Local History at San Jose State University concerned the identity of one C. B. Waterhouse. A photo album full of California garden landscape scenes (306 in all) had come into their possession. They wanted to know whether Waterhouse was a landscape architect and what the significance of his work might be in the overall scheme of things. On the backs of these photos, Waterhouse had noted such details as measurements of gate pillars, botanical names of the plants photographed, and other comments about the landscaping. We sent out a query to our web-linked members, with negative results. A further exchange of information revealed that these gardens could not possibly be the work of Waterhouse, as many of them were famous ones known to have been designed by others. For example, there is a series of shots of Japanese gardens, including one at Point Loma, that at Golden Gate Park, the Eugene de Sabla garden in San Mateo, the Wattles garden in Hollywood, the Rivers' garden in Monrovia, and the Huntington in San Marino. There is a heavy emphasis on gardens in Southern California, particularly Santa Barbara, though a few were taken in the S. F. Bay Area too.

Further investigation by the staff at Sourisseau resulted in the following information: the George B. Waterhouse family lived on Three Oaks Way in Saratoga, across from the Charles D. Blaney estate. They had a son, Clark Booth Waterhouse (1893-1917), who was a landscape student at UC Berkeley. A July 1917 newspaper reported that he had just returned from a trip to San Diego and Los Angeles where he had been doing field work for his college course. (John W. Gregg, 1880-1969, was the first chair of the Landscape Architecture department, founded in 1913. There is an oral history transcript of his career, *A Half-Century of Landscape Architecture*.) Soon after this trip was concluded, young Clark went off to the war in Europe, and was killed by influenza, a sad end for our photographer, but he left behind an invaluable record for California garden historians.

The photos are currently being scanned and some background research is being done on each of the properties identified in the album. Anyone interested in seeing the album before it is digitally available should contact Charlotte Duval by email at cduval@cruzio.com or at Sourisseau, 408.808.2064. Another Waterhouse album, of mostly local properties and family, may be found at the Saratoga Historical Museum, 20450 Saratoga-Los Gatos Road, hours Wed-Sun, 1-4 pm. 408.867.4311. Special arrange-

ments must be made in advance to view their archives. (Be advised that the Sourisseau Society offers small grants for original research projects on local history.)

The Doris Foley Library for Historical Research, 211 North Pine Street, Nevada City, CA 95959. Phone: 530-265-4606. Hours: 10-4 pm, but closed on Thursday and Sunday. www.mynevadacounty.com/library. The ambience here is great! The building was formerly the Nevada City Branch of the Nevada County Library, constructed in 1907, one of those Andrew Carnegie financed for \$10,000. The library's current holdings include local history books, collections on the history of California mining and the Gold Rush, historical and genealogical periodicals, microfilm of 34 local newspapers, U. S. Census records for Nevada County from 1850-1930, county and city directories, state and county vital statistics indexes, extensive clippings files, and maps. They gave us a copy of their "Research Check List" which documents all this material in detail, for example, listing the names and dates of all the newspapers. What's all this got to do with gardens, you may ask. Remember that a mining district would qualify as a historic landscape, and over in the neighboring town of Grass Valley is the Bourne estate at Empire Mines. A close perusal of the newspapers of the day might reveal whether Michael Lynch really did landscape the gardens there.

WEBSITES TO VISIT

The David Rumsey Map Collection: the California Map Atlas Series, <http://www.davidrumsey.com/index4.html>.

This collection carries a great many other maps besides the California ones – from all parts of the world, but the address above will lead you to the California series. We found the site while shopping around for an affordable copy of the reprinted *Official & Historical Atlas Map of Alameda County* (1878). It allows you to look at all the pages of this book, which includes many interesting engravings of historic houses and their grounds. Also included in the series and viewable on this site are the books for San Francisco City and County (1876), Santa Clara County (1876), Sonoma County (1877), Solano County (1878), Fresno County (1891) and Tulare County (1892). This is a commercial site, and they offer copies of the maps for a fee, but it is also possible to enlarge portions of the maps to a legible level, and by right-clicking on your mouse, you can save the enlarged screen view. We now have the enlarged views of where Rudolph Ulrich lived in 1880, the exact location of James Hutchison's Bay Nursery in Oakland,

and the site of James T. Stratton's gum forests in Castro Valley. Enormous patience is required unless your computer has a very fast search and download capability. A trip to your local library's history room may prove less frustrating, but if you can't get to the library, this site could prove to be a real boon for researchers.

ODDS & ENDS

Laurie Hannah has great news about EBSCO and the Garden Literature Index. It is going to be available to libraries sometime in 2004 (we are hoping by September) and it will index 322 unique titles with coverage from 1973 to the present, for a total of about 150,000 articles. Topics will include horticulture, botany, garden and landscape design and history, plant and garden conservation, ecology, garden management, and horticultural therapy. Along with the usual titles in gardening, titles from the core list that will especially interest our group members include: *EDEN* [yipee!], *Australian Garden History*, *Heritage Roses*, *Historic Gardens Review*, *Landscape History*, and *Studies in the History of Gardens & Designed Landscapes*. Look for it soon in a botanical library near you!

Bryn Homsy is taking a sabbatical to work on a new project — researching women in botany in the late 1800s and early 1900s, with a particular focus on plant-hunters from around the world. If you have any names or other tips to pass along to Bryn on this subject, contact her at 3711 Fortunato Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93105. Phone: 805.563.5085. Email: bryn@engineering.ucsb.edu. (And, yes, thanks, we already told her about that new Timber Press book.)

The new bulb catalogue from Old House Gardens is out. To receive your own hard copy, send \$2 to 536 Third Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Phone 734.995.1486. Or save a tree by visiting their website: www.oldhousegardens.com. New oldies offered in this catalogue include such items as 'Perle Brillante' hyacinth (1895), lost in 1999, now back in stock from their UK supplier.

Bill Grant sent us a copy of *The New York Times Magazine*, a special supplement issue on Architecture 2004, the theme being "UnNatural Beauty, The Making of the 21st Century Landscape" with a series of articles on various aspects of landscape gardening by many different authors. One of these was written by Michael Pollen, "An American Transplant, What happens when you move to California and leave your New England garden behind?" Pollen is the transplant, and his new home is in Berkeley. Exclusively at

their online interactive site was a discussion by landscape architects of their proposals for creating a park at ground zero, an audio slide show of Andy Goldsworthy's new exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum, and an opportunity to vote on your favorite ground zero park design. Unfortunately, the magazine doesn't have a separate masthead, so we can't tell you how to go about getting a back issue, nor the website address.

The February/March 2004 issue of *Garden Design* features an article by Sarah Kinbar, regarding a redesign done by Heather Lenkin of a Paul Thiene garden created for William G. Mather in Pasadena. The original house, built in 1900 by Myron Hunt-Elmer Grey, had been torn down and replaced, but the back garden hadn't changed much. A photo of the original garden is reprinted there from *California Gardens* by Winifred Starr Dobyns (Santa Barbara, Knoll, 1931). Lenkin was quoted as follows: "This project allowed me to integrate a historic landscape with midcentury architecture while meeting my clients' needs."

EDEN

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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.



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