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California Japanese-Style Gardens: Tradition & Practice Proves A Success

Where to start in describing the success of this event convened by CGLHS member Judy Horton? At the beginning, with profound thanks to Judy and all those who helped with the work of organizing this conference and making it run as smoothly as humanly possible.

The idea for the conference began several years ago, when Phoebe Cutler first alerted the CGLHS board of an impending exhibition on Japanese American gardens and gardeners, to be held at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) in Los Angeles. In September 2006, three organizations agreed to collaborate with CGLHS on our 2007 conference. JANM, of course, provided the exhibit which was the focus of the conference. The Los Angeles Conservancy (LAC) would design a self drive tour for Sunday with input from JANM exhibit curator Sojin Kim and CGLHS board member Judy Horton, formerly a tour coordinator for The Garden Conservancy's Open Days tours in the Los Angeles and Pasadena areas. The Garden Conservancy's San Francisco representative, Betsy Flack, would assist Judy in

the overall organizing of the conference.

Judy worked with Professor Kendall Brown, JANM's Sojin Kim and the Garden Conservancy's Preservation Director, Bill Noble, to organize the Saturday program.

The conference had excellent publicity. The museum's exhibit brochure for *Landscaping America* had information on the conference and copies of *Eden* were made available to exhibit

visitors. Each of the four participating organizations included information about the conference in their membership newsletters and on their websites. Email notices of the event were also sent out to members. *Pacific Horticulture* published Judy's article on three of our Sunday tour gardens in their summer issue, and the *Los Angeles Times* came through with an article ("Every Garden Tells a Story," by Bettijane Levine) on 27 September

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CGLHS board members tour the HBG Japanese Garden (M. Graham, 10.07)

Conference summary (continued)

that brought in some last-minute attendees. They also listed us in their *Home* "Datebook." The combined exhibition, conference and tour, packaged under the title "Cultivating L.A.," received radio, television and press coverage.

Judy was aided by volunteer labor from several CGLHS members. Fifteen additional volunteers contributed many hours of their time both before and during the conference. Many of these were members of at least one of the sponsoring societies, while others were volunteers from the Garden Conservancy's Open Days program. Fifty-five volunteers, mostly members of LAC, staffed the Sunday garden tour.

Fall Board Meeting

The CGLHS board meets twice annually, once in the spring and again in the fall on the Friday prior to the conference. This fall year we met at the Huntington in Pasadena.

Because board members are required to attend these meetings, which alternate between the northern and southern sections of the state, special tours are usually provided at the conclusion of each meeting to give added incentive for such travel. The board would like to extend profuse thanks to David MacLaren, curator of the Huntington's Asian gardens for a guided tour of the Japanese garden, and a behind-the-scenes visit to the new Chinese garden which is still under construction. Special thanks are also due to James Folsom, Director of the Huntington Botanical Gardens, and the rest of his staff—in particular, Melanie Thorp—for hosting our meeting at their new facility.

Friday Garden Tour

Those not attending the board meeting had the opportunity to tour on their own at the Huntington and to participate in a docent-led tour of the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden on the UCLA campus before visiting JANM's exhibition. The Carter garden is a difficult venue for large tour groups due to insufficient parking facilities but it has an interesting history.

A.E. Hansen discussed the origins of the garden in the book *An Arcadian Landscape: The California Gardens of A.E. Hansen, 1920-1932* (1985). In 1923 Mr. Harry Callendar acquired 1.5 acres of land on a hillside "across the road from the number-four hole of the Bel Air Golf Course." According to Hansen, his client didn't want to build a house on the property; he wanted a place where he could "just sit around and forget about everything." Hansen suggested constructing a waterfall and a redwood bridge for crossing the stream. "You could sit on the

covered seat near the bridge, look across the golf course, and see the ocean in the distance." The waterfall went down to a pool stocked with goldfish and lilies, the water recycled by an electric pump.

In 1959, this Bel Air estate was owned by oil baron Gordon Guiberson. He commissioned landscape architect Nagao Sakurai and garden designer Kazuo Nakamura of Kyoto to create a Japanese-style garden on the estate in memory of his mother, Ethel L. Guiberson. Construction was completed in 1961. The following year, Grabhorn Press of San Francisco published a 19-page illustrated commemorative booklet titled *A Garden that Reminds One of Kyoto: The Japanese Garden of Mr. & Mrs. Gordon G. Guiberson*. Department store magnate and then-chair of the UCLA Board of Regents Edward W. Carter acquired the property in 1965 and donated it to the university that same year. The garden sustained considerable damage



The Huntington's new Chinese Garden. (M. Graham, 10.07)

Conference summary (continued)

from heavy rains in 1969, and UCLA Professor Koichi Kawana oversaw the reconstruction. Hansen commented that his rustic seat and bridge were still in good shape as late as 1977. In 1982 the garden was officially renamed for Carter's wife, Hannah.

For those who couldn't be there in person, we provide some conference highlights:

Friday Exhibit & Reception

On Friday evening, members had the chance to view the exhibition *Landscaping America: Beyond the Japanese Garden* and attend a reception held at the Japanese American National Museum.

Saturday Lectures & Reception

Lectures were held in the National Center for the Preservation of Democracy, just across the street from JANM. Our distinguished list of speakers made this an especially good conference. The surprise addition of two teachers of landscape architecture greatly expanded our learning opportunities. **Nori Hashibe** (UCLA Extension) spoke on "1000 Plus Years of Japanese Gardens." His comments on ways of experiencing gardens were particularly interesting. Rather than analyzing what is seen, the viewer only seeks to absorb the entire effect. "If you don't 'get' it, walk away." Ignore thoughts of the skill or art employed in making the garden; regard only the vision of inner beauty held by the maker. Focus on the spiritual resonance of the garden, not the visual achievement. **Makoto Suzuki** (Tokyo University of Agriculture) revealed a surprising degree of European influence in his talk on "Fountains & Dry Landscapes of Japanese Gardens, Modern Fashion in the Gardens of Japan." His gracious

participation turned this into a truly international event. Associate Professor of Asian Art History **Kendall H. Brown** (California State University, Long Beach) gave a talk in the morning, an overview of "California Japanese-Style Gardens: Tradition & Practice," and in the afternoon, he expanded on the story of "Kinzuchi Fujii and the Storrier-Stearns Japanese Garden." Fujii family descendants and CGLHS member James Haddad, present owner of the Storrier-Stearns garden, attended the lectures. JANM exhibit curator **Sojin Kim** ("Oral History and Video: Southern California Gardener's Federation") explained some of the difficulties encountered when taking oral histories (talking about oneself goes against ingrained Japanese traditions of self-effacement) and assembling the artifacts that made up the exhibition.

Those who could pull themselves away from the museum's excellent

cafe and bookstore/giftshop took a guided walking tour of Little Tokyo, including a visit to a wonderful garden tool shop.

The afternoon session began with landscape architect **Takeo Uesugi** ("From Japanese Garden to California Landscape"), designer of the James Irvine Japanese Garden at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC), among many others. Next, **Bill Noble** moderated a panel on "Traditions in Transformation." Each panel participant spoke about the history and problems that have occurred in the gardens they manage. **Chris Aihara** is the project administrator for the Irvine garden renovation. **Jim Folsom** is Director of all the Huntington Botanical Gardens, but the Asian gardens were his particular focus for this talk. **Greg Kitajima** is the Japanese Garden specialist for Gana Walska's Lotusland, and for the last eight years he worked

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Fujii family members pose in front of a newly restored teahouse at the Storrier-Stearns garden in Pasadena. (M. Graham, 10.07)

Conference summary (continued)

alongside Frank Fujii, descendent of Kinzuchi Fujii and one of the main people responsible for the design of that garden. The Los Angeles Conservancy's Director of Education, **Trudi Sandmeier**, gave an excellent talk covering the NPS guidelines for garden restoration/preservation.

We then adjourned only to meet again in the Hotel Otani's *Garden in the Sky*, modeled after a 16th century Japanese stroll garden, for another reception and buffet dinner. Before the excellent food was served, guests had plenty of time to exchange ideas with old and new friends. **George Abe** strolled through the garden, serenading us with Japanese bamboo flute music. In addition to his particular interest in the *shakuhachi* and *shinobue* flutes, Abe is a founding member of the Kinnara Taiko Group, one of the first such Japanese drumming groups to form here in the United States. He also learned how to make his own instruments, and lectures on these subjects. **Naomi Hirahara**, author of the Mas Arai gardener/detective series, was on hand to autograph her books, which are stocked in the JANM gift shop. During dinner, she read excerpts from all three Arai novels while Abe provided beautiful background music. The elegant flower arrangements seen at Friday night's reception and at the Saturday night buffet were provided by **Shinryoku Sanada**, Ikenobo senior professor of Ikebana, with the assistance of Jeanne Anderson.

Sunday Garden Tours

Sunday morning we began the garden tours with a visit to the James Irvine Garden at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center. Takeo Uesugi gave a

most interesting talk on the ideas behind construction of this garden, and explained what adjustments were being made (and why) during the garden's present renovation. He pointed out that some Japanese gardening practices such as pruning methods derive from considerations of the effects of nature; for example, thinning out trees not only reveals and emphasizes structure but also helps the tree to survive typhoon winds with less damage. Though the garden is closed to the public during renovation for reasons of safety, it is still possible to see it from the terrace above the garden. The garden will re-open in the spring of 2008.

Judy Horton wrote about the Huntington, Irvine, and Storrier-Stearns gardens in the summer issues of *Eden* and *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. The other private garden visited was the Miller garden in Sierra Madre, formerly a part of Thomasella Graham's *Italia Mia* estate. The garden was created by Tokutaro Kato in 1916. From 1927 through

1931, Miss Graham operated the Italia Mia Nursery on the estate. In 1948 the property was subdivided for sale and property lines were drawn in such a way as to keep the Japanese-style garden intact. Mr. and Mrs. Don F. Schindler bought the property and in 1949 built the existing residence. This *tsukiyama sansui* (hill and water) garden exemplifies classic features and motifs. Two curved stone bridges and one zigzag or "devil" bridge traverse four small interconnected ponds. Water circulates via a stream and two waterfalls. The largest pond features a six-pointed Turtle Island, a symbol of longevity. The tea shelter, or *azumaya*, was constructed in the 1920s by the garden's caretaker, Yukataro Aisawa. Ed and Karen Miller acquired the property in 1997. Karen is a Zen practitioner and was ordained as a Zen Buddhist priest in 2003. A small closing reception was held at this garden, which was the last to be viewed that day.



Restoration crew of the Irvine Garden. (JACCC newsletter, Fall 2007)

Japanese Gardens, American Gardeners in San Diego County, Part II

John Blocker

Up to 1940, most Japanese American landscape gardeners in California had been successful at adapting to their new California homeland, despite racial prejudice and economic setbacks such as the Great Depression. With the onset of World War II, the lives of these and other Japanese Americans took a decided turn for the worse. The surprise attack on Pearl Harbor raised fears of similar Japanese attacks on mainland cities along the West Coast. In February 1942, Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 which led to the three-year internment of nearly 120,000 Japanese Americans living in the coastal states of Washington, Oregon, and California, and southern Arizona, despite the fact that the majority of these people were American citizens by right of birth.

The Gardeners

In San Diego, Hachisaku Asakawa and his wife Osamu, operators of the Balboa Park Tea Pavilion, were interned along with all other Japanese Americans. They were initially sent to the holding area or "assembly center" at Santa Anita racetrack in Arcadia while internment camps were being built elsewhere. Their 27-year-old son Moto and his wife Florence were also confined there. Moto had earned the rank of Eagle Scout in San Diego in 1935 and graduated in 1938 from the University of California at Berkeley with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. At Santa Anita, Moto was involved with the political life of the camp, serving on

a committee attempting self-governance. Moto's one-year-old son, Bruce, won the baby parade, one of many social activities organized by the detained community in an attempt to hang on to some sense of normality in their disrupted lives. From Santa Anita, Moto and his family were sent on to the camp in Poston, Arizona, as were most Japanese Americans from San Diego County.

As the camps were being closed towards the end of the war, many Japanese Americans had fears about returning to the California communities that had shown such strong prejudice against them. Anti-Japanese feeling was still "alive and well" immediately following the war. Fifty-five percent of Japanese Americans from San Diego chose to settle elsewhere once released from the camps.

Moto Asakawa was one of those who bravely chose to return to San

Diego. On arrival there, he found that the State of California had confiscated his Mission Valley farmland. With his brother George, Moto successfully sued the state and regained his property. He opened a retail nursery called the Presidio Garden Center in 1950. The nursery was well known and Asakawa became one of the most respected nurserymen in the county. He served as president of the San Diego Japanese American Citizens League from 1952-1958 and was an active member of the California Association of Nurseries. He was elected president of that body in 1974-75. Asakawa retired in 1988 and the Presidio Nursery was closed.

Unlike many third-generation Japanese Americans, Asakawa's son Bruce chose to follow in his father's footsteps. He too became a respected San Diego nurseryman

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Hachisaku and Osamu Asakawa stand with friends in front of their Poston III residence, 1945. (Journal of San Diego History 42, Summer 1996)

Japanese Gardens, American Gardeners (continued)

and operated the Bonita Nursery until 1985. He also became a landscape architect. He and his wife Sharon are the authors of the gardening reference book titled *California's Garden Guide* (1990). Today they publish the *Garden Compass* magazine and host a syndicated radio call-in show, "West Coast Garden Live," heard weekly by 1.2 million people.

Eleven-year-old Ben Segawa was also incarcerated during World War II, along with his parents and nine brothers and sisters. His family had lived on a farm in the South Bay. They too were first sent to Santa Anita, and later moved to the Poston camp. Ben's recollections of being interned are found in the book, *Dear Miss Breed* (2006). When *Nisei* or second generation, American-born Japanese children were being shipped off to the camps, San Diego Public Library children's librarian Clara Breed went to the train station and gave each of them stamped, self-addressed postcards. "Write to me," she told them, "and I will send you books and other things you might need." Breed saved the postcards and letters she received and they are now in the collection of the Japanese American National History Museum at Los Angeles. Although she did not correspond with Ben Segawa, Miss Breed did get letters from his future wife, and these appear in the book, as do excerpts from camp diaries and recently collected oral histories of former camp residents.

Ben Segawa also returned to San Diego and graduated from high school there before enlisting in the United States Air Force. He was one of the first Japanese Americans to enlist in that service. He concluded his service with a two-

year tour with the United Nations peace-keeping forces in Okinawa. Segawa then farmed with his brother George in Mission Valley until about 1958. The Segawas were the last farmers to raise crops on the old San Diego Mission farmland. After retiring from farming, Ben Segawa sold fertilizer and pesticides for Grove Chemical Company, and retired in 1985 from his position as a vice president and part owner of the company. Even after retirement Ben continued to write articles for local agricultural trade magazines. He was known throughout the agricultural community as a leader in the industry.

On behalf of the United States government, President Reagan formally apologized in 1988 for the internment of the Japanese Americans. Beginning in 1990, President George Bush authorized the federal government to pay each surviving internee \$20,000 in redress. Ben Segawa said, "A lot of people just gave it away—gave it to churches... \$20,000 didn't even begin to compensate for the loss. But in my case I accepted it and then a few years later we used the money to take my children to Washington D.C. and let them see where the center of government is—our history. I took twelve of them over there and that's how we spent the money."

In 1992, Ben and his wife Katherine, at the encouragement of librarian Clara Breed and the late Dr. Donald Estes, whose brilliant writings document the Japanese American experience in San Diego during the last century, organized a Japanese American History Society in San Diego. Segawa served as its first president.

Today Segawa spends some of his retirement time helping maintain the

Japanese-style garden at Kiku Gardens Senior Housing Project in Chula Vista. His son, Randy, evaluates the risks and benefits of using pesticides such as methyl bromide for the California Department of Pesticide Regulation and is an invaluable member of their staff.

Old and New Japanese Gardens in San Diego

During World War II, the Red Cross used Balboa Park's Japanese teahouse as a lounge for personnel from the nearby Naval Hospital. In 1946, the Navy moved the lounge back to the main hospital grounds. After the war ended, the federal government repaid the City of San Diego for the use of Balboa Park, but there was not enough money to restore the teahouse. The building fell into disrepair and was vandalized, the walls sometimes defaced with anti-Japanese graffiti. The garden was untended. The teahouse and garden were dismantled in 1955, the rocks and other remnants cleared away for construction of the Children's Zoo. Only photographs remain to

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Balboa Park Teahouse (1916)

The Japanese Presence in San Diego: A Timeline - Part II

In 1922, the United States Supreme Court ruled in the case of *Takao Ozawa v. United States* that Japanese immigrants were not eligible to become citizens. Though their children automatically became citizens by reason of their birth in this country, *Issei* themselves were not granted the right of citizenship until 1952.

Congress passed the Immigration Act of 1924, outlawing further Japanese immigration. This cooled relations between the United States and Japan. Japanese immigration was not reinstated until 28 years later.

The anti-Japanese movement flared up in Chula Vista during the 1930s. Four farmers were arrested for violation of the 1913 Alien Land Law. The growers received suspended sentences, and antagonism continued. Chino Tsuneji negotiated an agreement that created the San Diego Celery Growers Association after an arduous struggle with Fred Stafford, one of the Japanese community's chief opponents. Stafford became the first president of the organization and Tsuneji the first vice president.

Restrictive housing covenants made it difficult for Japanese to buy property and the California Fish and Game Commission passed a regulation stating that commercial fishing licenses could not be issued to "aliens ineligible for citizenship." The State Court of Appeals ruled the Fish and Game regulation unconstitutional in 1935.

Following the December 7, 1941 surprise attack at Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 in February 1942, internment all Japanese Americans living in the western coastal states. Not all Japanese Americans went quietly. Fred Korematsu, a resident of Oakland, California, challenged this action in the courts. In 1944, the Supreme Court ruled, in *Korematsu v. United States* to uphold the government's right to exclude people of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast based on military necessity. At the same time, they ruled in the case of *Endo v. United States* that the internment camps had no right to confine any loyal Japanese American. The Federal District Courts overturned Korematsu's conviction in 1984 when it was discovered that the War Department and the Justice Department had altered blatantly racist reports and submitted false information to the Court about the potential danger posed by Japanese Americans.

One year later, in 1943, President Roosevelt announced that Japanese Americans would be allowed to serve in the armed forces. "Every loyal American should be given the opportunity to serve this country..." Thousands of *Nisei* volunteered, and thousands more registered for the draft. The 100th Infantry Battalion of the Hawaii National Guard and famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team served with great distinction in Italy and France. The combined units suffered a total of 9,486 casualties and won 18,143 individual decorations for valor in battle, including one Congressional Medal of Honor and nearly 10,000 Purple Hearts. *Nisei* women volunteered for the WACs, as army nurses, and for the Red Cross. They too served with great distinction and suffered casualties. More than 16,000 *Nisei* served in the Pacific and Asia, many of them in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS). General Woodbury Willoughby, chief of intelligence for General MacArthur, reported that the work of the *Nisei* in the MIS shortened the war in the Pacific by up to two years.

Late in 1944, the Exclusion Order was rescinded. On January 2, 1945, all internment centers were declared officially closed, but the Poston camp which held the majority of San Diegan Japanese Americans was not completely closed until October 1945. Only 934 San Diego citizens elected to return to that area, about 45% of the pre-war Japanese American population. Up to 158 other individuals who were not residing in the camps requested aid from the WRA in returning to San Diego. When California's Japanese Americans returned from the camps, at least 15 families had shots fired at their houses and vandals destroyed property of 50 others throughout the state. Anti-Japanese sentiment was "alive and well" in San Diego, particularly in agricultural circles. Discriminatory hiring practices made re-integration even more difficult. Many farmers turned to gardening as the easiest way to make a living with little capital investment. A truck and a lawnmower were the minimum that was needed to begin, and there was less fear of competition with Caucasians in this field.

On August 14, 1945, Japan surrendered.

In 1946, California voters defeated Proposition 13, an anti-Japanese discrimination measure that would have incorporated the Alien Land Act into the State Constitution. The existing land laws in San Diego were nullified by 1948 by decision of the Superior Court in *Oyama v. California* 332 U.S. 633.

Japanese immigrants sued and won a case against the State of California in a 1947 Los Angeles Superior Court case, charging segregated schools violated their 14th Amendment rights. An amendment to the California Political Code had previously established separate schools for Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Filipino, and Indian children.

In 1955, the restrictive covenants found in property deeds that would not allow Japanese and other minorities to own property were declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

President Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 that provided redress for Japanese Americans. Congress authorized reparation payments of \$20,000 to each of the 60,000 surviving internees. The following year, President George Bush issued a formal apology from the U.S. government. In 1990, the first reparation payments were sent out.

Japanese Gardens, American Gardeners (continued)

commemorate this garden, but in the following year, San Diego was the first U.S. city to establish a Sister City relationship—with the city of Yokohama, Japan—when that program was inaugurated by the government. Former Chula Vista celery and cucumber farmer Saburo Muraoka, a native of Yokohama, was instrumental in bringing about this connection.

In 1958, the City of Yokohama gave San Diego a 2.5-ton friendship bell which still hangs on Shelter Island in a Japanese-style structure landscaped with lawn, palm trees, and a few low-growing shrubs. Since 1960, the bell has been rung with a striker log each New Year's Eve. The ceremony draws a diverse crowd. Each participant is allowed an opportunity to ring the bell. In Japan, temple bells are rung 108 times at the beginning of the New Year to symbolize the 108 worldly desires of humanity.

The Murata Pearl Company built a small Japanese-style garden around a pearl-diving exhibit at San Diego's Sea World in 1964. Japanese women dived into a small lagoon and retrieved pearls that park visitors could then have set into jewelry at the gift shop. Guests could walk around the lagoon and through a dry garden area in the corner of the exhibit. This remained a popular attraction for more than twenty years, but was finally closed in 1989.

In the late 1960s, Deborah Szekely began to rebuild her Golden Door spa at Escondido. She wanted to create a sanctuary where guests could find health, fitness, and inner peace, and she chose a Japanese theme as the proper setting to promote these

qualities. Robert Mosher built Japanese-style buildings for the 10-acre complex and in 1975, Takendo Arai began creating a Japanese-style garden that was not completed until 1982. Arai had also worked on the Japanese-style garden at Sea World, but the Golden Door garden was his first major commission. He created a serene garden in keeping with the philosophy of the spa. The Golden Door is still in operation today, though the garden is accessible only to spa clients. Arai has since won many awards for his private garden designs.



Golden Door garden
(www.takendodesign.com)

Internationally famous garden designer and sculptor Isamu Noguchi built the first "corporate Japanese garden" at the Tokyo Reader's Digest Building in 1952. Many such corporate gardens were later built in the United States. The largest and best example of this type of garden was the one built in 1982 at the San Diego Tech Center in Sorrento Valley. The landscape architect for the project was Takeo Uesugi, who was born and trained in Japan, but also received his master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of California at Berkeley. He has practiced in the United States for the last 33 years. For this garden, Uesugi combined Japanese garden elements with natural features. He used the same trees found in other

San Diego gardens and parks—such as redwoods, cedars, and Torrey pines—to create an area where office workers could unwind in the middle of an impersonal business complex. The garden covers 5.5 acres and includes a fitness center, half-mile jogging track, swimming pool, tennis, and volleyball courts. These facilities may only be used by tenants of the Center—now owned by McGuire Properties—though Karl Strauss Brewery and Restaurant customers may view the garden. The property is surrounded by three steel-grey office buildings, but Uesugi's placement of trees, shrubs, and bamboo creates a screen that provides the essential sense of enclosure and separation from the business world.

Balboa Park's Japanese Friendship Garden took thirty years to become a reality and still has not achieved completion due to various economic setbacks. The San Diego-Yokohama Sister City Society first raised the idea for the garden in the 1960s. Eleven and one-half acres of land were initially designated for this purpose in a portion of Gold Gulch canyon, adjacent to the Organ Pavilion.

The City Council approved a master plan in 1979, and the Japanese Friendship Garden Board, a nonprofit corporation, was created in 1980 to administer the project. A 50-year lease was granted for the site in 1984, and in 1985, the Japanese Garden Society of San Diego commissioned Takeshi "Ken" Nakajima to prepare plans for the garden. Nakajima was the head of a Tokyo landscape firm that had designed gardens for the Alaska and Seattle Expositions.

His plan was patterned after the *kai-yushike* style, incorporating a

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circuitous path meant for strolling and viewing the mountain, pastoral, and water scenes that the garden would offer. It was to be called *San-kei-en* or "three scenery garden" after a similar garden he had designed in Yokohama. However, a 1987 bond measure, which was to include a \$3 million allocation for the Japanese garden, was defeated by a narrow margin at the polls. The *San Diego Union* reported that the allocation had been contingent on the garden board raising a matching amount from donations. By 1987, the Friendship Garden Board had received \$750,000 in pledges. The *San Diego Tribune* stated that donations from private sources included \$500,000 from the Kyocera Corporation, and an additional \$100,000 from its chairman, Kazuo Inamori.

In March of 1990, the San Diego County edition of the *Los Angeles Times* reported that "The first phase of the long-awaited Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park will open this summer..." It was envisioned that the garden would be built in five phases, as the estimated \$11.4 million construction funds gradually became available. At the present time, only two acres of the garden designed by Nakajima have been developed along the top of a ravine. These include a teahouse, winding walkways, and a koi pond. Six areas within the garden are available to rent for special events.

After Nakajima's plan to develop the remaining acres was deemed too expensive to complete, the Board hired Takeo Uesugi in 1994 to build an observation deck and eating establishment in the garden.

Moto Asakawa served on the Board of Directors for the Japanese Friendship Garden beginning in 1987 and was a chairman of the Finance Committee. Asakawa was also chairman, from 1976-1979, of the organizational committee for Kiku Gardens Senior Housing Project in Chula Vista, a non-profit organization providing low-cost housing to seniors. Kiku Gardens opened in 1983 and Asakawa served as president from 1979-1985. The courtyard of this complex is landscaped as a small Japanese-style garden complete with a stone lantern and a dry streambed. Ben Segawa also served a term as president of the housing project.

Japanese Americans have played a significant part in San Diego County from the late 1880s to the present day. Third and fourth generation Japanese Americans are no longer constrained by racial prejudice to careers as farmers, landscape gardeners, and nurserymen, though some have chosen to continue in these professions because of their love of growing plants and the land.

Japanese-style gardens have played an important role in the landscaping of San Diego, and there is no reason to think that this garden style will lose its country-wide popularity any time in the future. However it may be adapted to fit Western sensibilities, the Japanese-style garden will continue to attract admirers of its beauty, simplicity, and air of spiritual tranquility.

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Jewel Box Garden

Joearle Thompson

Reprinted with permission of the author and The Pearl Chase Society (The Capital, May 2007).

From 1926 through the 1960s, Pearl Chase organized garden tours of private Montecito and Santa Barbara gardens. The Dennison house garden was one she showcased. This jewel box garden was featured on the May 2007 Historic Homes Tour. It was a rare opportunity to see a garden that has not been open to the public for many years.

The design and planting of the garden are credited to John Hartfield, a local nurseryman and landscape designer whose work in Santa Barbara began in the 1920s. Contained within a small space, the garden today features mature specimen trees, shrubs, flowers, succulents, an herb garden, a shade garden, and a wide array of plantings typical of that period.

In an era of notable garden designers, names like Ralph Stevens, Lockwood de Forest Jr., and Francis Underhill are associated with the great gardens of Montecito and Santa Barbara; but it is perhaps the horticulturists who

most changed the look of our city with the introduction of magnificent plantings brought from around the world. At the turn of the twentieth century, horticultural pioneers such as Francesco Franceschi, A. Boyd Doremus, Ralph Kenton Stevens, and O.E. Orpet introduced and experimented with hundreds of plant varieties, and found Santa Barbara's climate and soil hospitable to many of them.

In 1902, the city established the Park Department as the principal instrument in the beautification of Santa Barbara. When O.E. Orpet resigned as Park Superintendent in 1930, Parks Commissioner Dwight Murphy hired young John Hartfield away from Montecito's Casa del Herrero, where he was head gardener, to replace Orpet, a position Hartfield held for five years. During his tenure, the team of Murphy and Hartfield took advantage of depression-era labor to create the Andree Clark Bird Refuge and initiate many other beautification projects.

Leaving the city job, Hartfield started his own nursery and landscape design business, specializing in the provision of specimen trees and shrubs to his clients. When the Dennison house sold to Dwight Murphy's daughter and her husband, Dr. David Reeves in 1943, Murphy called upon his friend to do some additional planting and landscape designs.

From 1956 until his death in 1965, John Hartfield continued to develop the gardens for new owner, Dr. Paul Ashton, one of the founders of Goleta Valley Hospital and the Santa Barbara Blood Bank. The Ashton family still maintains the property with a watchful eye to the historical significance of this unique garden.

The Pearl Chase Society's annual Historic Homes Tour offers the opportunity to see homes and gardens not otherwise available to the general public. Eden will post details about this year's tour when they become available, hopefully in time to be included in the spring issue. You may also call for details at 805.961.3938.



The Staff of the City Park Department, 1933. (Courtesy City of Santa Barbara and the estate of Anthony O. Days. From 100 Years of Santa Barbara City Parks, 1902-2002, Catalogue of the City Parks Centennial Exhibition, Channing Peake Gallery.



What Needs Saving Now?

Grass Valley

CGLHS member Marilyn Chrisman sends a call for help:

"The Empire Mines State Historic Park has thirteen landscaped acres designed for William Bourn, Jr. by Willis Polk in 1897-1905 (possibly landscaped under Oscar Prager - see *Eden* 9, no. 1 [Spring 2006]). There is a lovely cascade of water steps fed by a cougar fountain and leading to a large reflecting pool. In 2005 the State of California Department of Parks & Recreation, in repairing the structure, coated the carved sandstone steps and pool edgings with a white epoxy. (Using black and white photos of the era, they decided that light reflections in the photo meant a white lining.) The result was dreadful and inconsistent with historical preservation. A black non-toxic dye at least allows the pool to reflect, but the lining of the edges is most unattractive and not historically accurate. The Park will not bring in a state or outside historian (our district historian technician does agree that the color needs to change) nor do they want to apply for grant funds to remedy the problem. They are willing to repaint the lining with an earthtone color if a source can be found. Does anyone have any recommendations for epoxy paint that comes in a range of subtle earthtone colors or some other substance that would be appropriate? Any suggestions would be helpful." Please contact Marilyn Chrisman, volunteer Coordinator of Grounds and Gardens Tours/EMSHP, 13028 Jones Bar Road, Nevada City, CA 95959. Telephone: 530.274.8200. Email: mkclucky@neteze.com.

Montecito

The Warren R. Austin & Heath Horton Austin Val Verde Foundation has come up with a somewhat risky but attractive way to raise funds in support of the Val Verde estate. The 2007 "First Annual Santa Barbara Million Dollar Giveaway," was a raffle that offered a first prize of \$1,000,000 and five lesser prizes of \$5,000 each. Raffle tickets cost \$150 apiece, and only 18,000 tickets were to be sold. If every ticket was sold, the total sales would amount to \$2,700,000, leaving a profit of \$1,675,000 after the prizes were paid. On the other hand, they *had to* sell a minimum of 6832+ tickets to fulfill their prize obligations and cover overhead expenses such as advertising. Whatever they sold beyond that would benefit the Austin Val Verde Foundation, a 501(C)3 non-profit organization, quite a gamble

The grand prize drawing was to be held on 12 January 2008. If this venture was a success, presumably we'll soon be hearing about the Second Annual Santa Barbara Million Dollar Giveaway. To learn more about the success or failure of this novel form of fund-raising, try calling the raffle office at 805.741.4399, or visit the website: www.sbmillion.com. The Val Verde raffle registration number is R-6193. To learn more about the rules pertaining to charity raffles, you may visit this website: <http://caag.state.ca.us/charities/raffles.htm>.

Santa Barbara

Kellam de Forest's report from the Pearl Chase Society's *The Capital* (December 2007) on the situation at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden tells us that on November 15th, at a special meeting of the County Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee (CHLAC), the Garden presented a modified plan for their proposed alteration to the historic design of the meadow. This revised plan retains the terraces and the walls but changes the terrace surface from pavers to grass or decomposed granite. Removable trees in containers are to be introduced. Although the Garden maintains that the mountain views will be retained, the present management of the Garden does not take into account the historic importance of the oval meadow design currently in a natural setting where the views from each location on the entire perimeter are important. Retaining walls and planters would spoil the view. The Garden has postponed its appeal of CHLAC's rejection of their previous plan to the Board of Supervisors until January, pending the outcome of another hearing before the CHLAC set for December 10th. For that hearing plans and elevations of the "Meadow Terrace" showing it in context will be presented. If the CHLAC rejects the revised plan, the issue will go to the Board of Supervisors.

At the behest of the CGLHS Board, President Tom Brown sent a letter to the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, pointing out the historic value and

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What Needs Saving Now? (continued)

Santa Barbara (continued)

significance of the landscape at the Botanic Garden, and asking that it be restored as originally designed by Beatrix Farrand and Lockwood and Elizabeth de Forest.

Visit the website:

www.sbcountyplanning.org to see the Botanic Garden's plans for the remodel of the historic meadow. Once you reach this website, click on the link for Historic Landmarks Advisory Committee and Agenda for Upcoming Meetings (December 10th). Scroll down to Project Description, b/w photos and drawings.

Plans for the renovation of historic De la Guerra Plaza, which fronts Santa Barbara's City Hall, are also being disputed. The current design is an oval of grass dotted by palms, surrounded by street paving. The plans call for banning vehicle traffic and turning the space into a pedestrian mall. A public hearing on this matter was to be held before the Planning Commission in early December. The plaza hosts several of Santa Barbara's major annual events, including Fiesta, Cinco de Mayo, and the Santa Barbara Hemp Festival. A booklet (\$24.55 plus shipping and handling) documenting the history of the Plaza is available from the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, telephone 805.965.0093. We're still waiting for our copy to arrive before commenting further on this situation.

Richmond/El Cerrito

Another article on the preservation of the Japanese greenhouses at Richmond/El Cerrito appeared in the 24 November 2007 *San Francisco Chronicle*. CGLHS member David Newcomer, author of *Public Japanese Gardens in the USA* (2007), kindly sent us a copy of the article ("Greenhouses To New Homes," by Tyche Hendricks).

"Historic preservationists and housing officials are hashing out a plan to repair and maintain a few of the original structures...The greenhouses are rooted in a century-old wave of immigration from recession-plagued Japan to the West Coast. In the 1890s, brothers Kotoro Sakai and Seizo Oishi arrived in the Bay Area. They bought land in Richmond in 1906...On it they built their first greenhouses and began growing roses, carnations and snapdragons for the emerging cut-flower market in San Francisco. "Japanese immigrants came from agrarian stock, so they brought in their agricultural techniques and some relatively new techniques for horticulture," said Rosalyn Tonai, director of the National Japanese American Historical Society in San Francisco. "There was a lot of backbreaking work, but they had a love of the soil and cultivating plants." "Along with the Sakais and Oishis, Japanese immigrant families who started nurseries in the area included the Adachis, Sugiharas, Mayedas and Hondas. Other families started flower businesses in Alameda and San Mateo counties. A few of those families, including the Shibatas and Okus, are still in business, though not on their pre-WW II properties." The Adachis still have one floral depot

left in Richmond, and the Shibata family's Mt. Eden Floral Co., started by Shibata circa 1921, is still active on the S.F. Peninsula. "Historians who assessed the significance of the [Richmond] property for the nonprofit housing developers found that several structures appear to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Craftsman-era bungalows, refrigerated packing sheds, and rows of greenhouses with louvered windows operated by elaborate pulleys and gears are not grand architecture, but they reflect the history of hardworking immigrant families building lives under difficult circumstances, said one of the report's authors, Donna Graves, who also directs a project documenting the history of California's Japantowns. 'If you wipe away all traces of the past, you lose a way of connecting to all the steps that have brought us here, and also the connections we can make to each other,' said Graves. 'To be able to touch the place, move through the place, is very powerful. It's hard to get the same emotional resonance from a book or a plaque.' The city and the housing developers have agreed to some form of historic preservation. They have arranged for archival-quality photographs of the nurseries, and they plan to create an interpretive exhibit about the site's history, either within the development or in a more public location, such as along the greenway or as part of the National Park Service museum about Richmond's history on the home front in World War II. Although most of the buildings will be demolished to make room for the housing development, [Patrick Lynch, housing director for the Richmond Redevelopment Agency] and others say they will try to preserve three structures – the

What Needs Saving Now? (continued)

Richmond/El Cerrito (continued)

1921 Sakai residence, a water tower, and the first and smallest of the [three dozen remaining] greenhouses – if feasible, though they may want to move them out of the way of the new homes.” The greenhouse is a particular sticking point because the project developers foresee a problem with maintaining it. Katie Lamont, a senior project developer with Eden Housing remarked that, “We want to be sure that someone is the steward of it. I’d be most comfortable if some community garden group would come forward and say, ‘This is how you can do it and we can help.’” “The history is important,” said Tonai, of the Japanese American Historical Society. “I sit on a non-profit affordable housing board, so I know the need for family housing, but I think there’s an opportunity there...It doesn’t need to be an either/or issue.”

Our Historic State Parks

Those of you who keep up with current events will already know that the state budget is so far out of balance that Governor Schwarzenegger is proposing to close 48 of our less lucrative state parks to cut costs. Most unfortunately, those include several of the state’s historic parks. These are of vital interest to tourists and historians, but do not bring in much revenue. The parks would not close until the governor and legislature agree on a spending plan sometime later this year, but would then be off-limits until the state’s financial situation improves. Money will be spent on security patrols to keep people out of the closed parks. Among those threatened with closure are:

- The Governor’s Mansion at 16th and H Streets in Sacramento - The gardens here were only recently restored in a compromise that

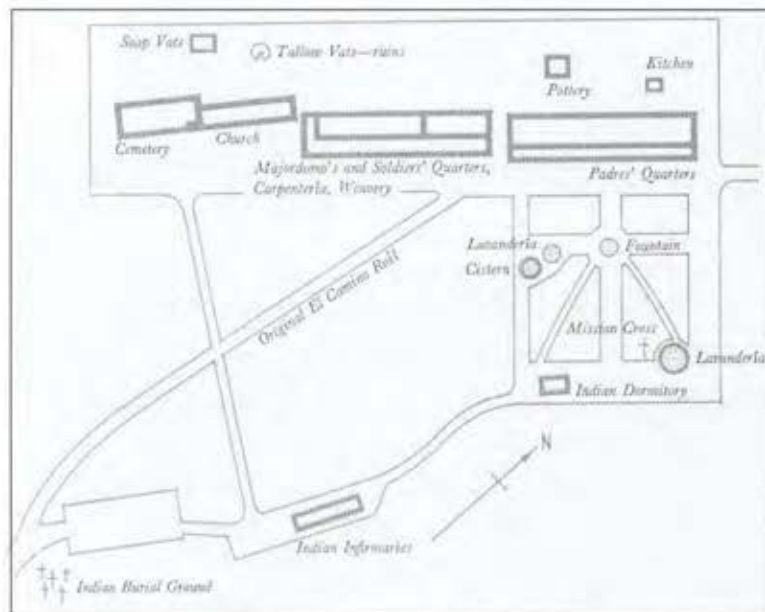
would bow to its history while also providing accommodations for entertainments held in the house and on the grounds. CGLHS President Tom Brown consulted with PGAdesign on this work. Cathy Garrett, a principal in PGAdesign is also a member of CGLHS.

- Sutter’s Fort - Every fourth-grader in the Sacramento region has probably visited this historic park as a part of their California history studies. Also threatened is the State Indian Heritage Museum next door to Sutter’s Fort.

- Petaluma-Adobe State Historic Park - In the 1800s this park was the main residence of Rancho Petaluma, run by General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo.

- Benicia Capitol State Historic Park - This town in Solano County was the third capitol of our state from 1853-54. The park surrounds the capitol building, the only pre-Sacramento capitol still standing.

- La Purisima Mission State Historic Park - La Purisima Concepción was rescued from oblivion in the 1930s by the National Park Service and the C.C.C. “When restoration began in 1934, only fragments of the walls and a few lonely pillars were still standing. The National Park Service assigned a staff of historians, archeologists, engineers, and architects to dig out the facts about the mission’s original structure, and after nearly a year of study, they developed the plans from which the C.C.C. Company No. 1951 rebuilt the entire mission, using original tools and methods wherever **Our**



The linear layout of this mission is unique; all the missions except La Purisima were built in quadrangular form. Some think that perhaps the padres were no longer concerned about defense when it was built in 1787.

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What Needs Saving Now? (continued)

Historic State Parks (cont'd)

possible. When completed, the mission was turned over to the state to administer as a Historic Park. The most completely reconstructed of the missions, it was considered one of the finest historic restorations of its day." (*The California Missions, A Pictorial History* [1997 edition]). It is the only mission that shows what a working mission really looked like in its time. It offers unparalleled opportunities to see how the Indians practiced mission crafts: processing cattle hides, making olive oil, pottery, candles, and soap. Parts of the old water system were restored, including the old storage reservoir, rock-lined ditches, and the *lavanderias* or laundries. Though there is a courtyard garden, attempts have been made to keep plantings to historic herbs and flowers that the padres would have used for seasoning food and medicinal purposes. Unfortunately, it is located far inland, five miles east of Lompoc, not a place that anyone visits by accident, and far from the usual coastal tourist trail. Perhaps the NPS would consider taking the park back from the state.

• Los Encinos State Historic Park - This park land was acquired in 1949 to save the last remaining parcel of land on the Rancho Los Encinos from developers. Originally the site of an Indian village or *rancheria*, it was annexed as part of Mission San Fernando lands. When the Mexican government dissolved the missions in 1834, the rancho land was then held by a series of Indian and California owners until 1878; then a Basque rancher acquired it and it remained in possession of his descendent's families until 1916, when it was sold and subdivided to become the

city of Encino. Luckily, a volunteer group called the Los Encino Docents have done a marvelous job of creating a website that has made historical photographs, documents and other artifacts available to the public. Visit <http://los-encinos.org/history.html> and the "Archives" link will take you to other items of interest.

• Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park - This land was burned over in the wildfires of fall 2005, ironically revealing significant cultural resources, primarily the remnants of the Old Santa Susana Stage Road, a feature listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The land was acquired by the park department to protect these cultural resources. Given that the Preliminary General Plan and Final Environmental Impact Report were only completed last year, it is probable that nothing much will be done with this property any time soon.

• Will Rogers State Historic Park - Ironically, the state has just finished spending \$5 million on a restoration of this property. Former CGLHS member Karen Adams has been involved with the restoration project from the beginning. At the rededication ceremonies held in March 2006, Gov. Schwarzenegger told

the audience that the park held special memories for him as it was there he learned to ride horses for his "Conan" movies. He had also played with his children there when his family lived next door to the park.

The deed that turned this property over to the state stipulated that if the state fails to operate the site as a park, the land would revert to the family. "If it does happen," said Rogers' great-granddaughter Jennifer Rogers-Etcheverry, "the family would gladly take it back." Whether the state would get their \$5 million-worth of improvements refunded was not mentioned.

She also said that the family was attempting to build a private foundation that could operate the park, and this may be the answer to continuing to operate the other historic parks. One parks spokesman stated that members of the legislature were expected to protest closing of parks in their districts, and that drastic measures proposed in the January budget are often watered down or vanish by spring. But when our budget is so far out of balance, some real attempts at cutting back our expenses must be made. If every special interest group immediately howls that cuts must be made, but not those affecting "our interests," then we'll never get out of debt. It may be time to call in The Garden Conservancy or take other measures to solve the problem of preserving our state historic parks.



The De La Ossa Adobe at Los Encinos State Historic Park c. 1960s.



Book Reviews & News

Children's Garden Fiction

The dormant season in most gardens begins in December. While dreaming and planning for the coming year, there is time to reflect on the wider role of gardens in our lives. Children's fiction is a rich source of imaginative gardens. Three vintage favorites with unparalleled gardens include Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden*, Noel Langley's *The Land of Green Ginger*, and T.H. White's *Mistress Masham's Repose*. These books may interest adults more than children. In all three, good triumphs over evil, and the gardens are central characters, the secret places children yearn to escape to.

The Secret Garden (1911) is the most renowned children's garden classic and has inspired numerous others. Burnett (1849-1924) was born in England and moved to Tennessee as a teenager. *The Secret Garden* evokes nostalgia for the childhood left behind. It is the story of the orphaned Mary who returns to England from India to live with an uncle at Misselthwaite Manor in Yorkshire. She and her invalid cousin Colin find the key to the deserted garden. Their secret garden becomes a healing agent in their lives. Among this year's new editions is one with Mary Engelbreit's clever illustrations. Many other wonderful editions have been published over the years.

The Land of Green Ginger (1937) should be a cult classic. Fortunately, it has been reissued with the original Edward Ardizzone illustrations. The author, Noel Langley (1911-1980), is little known today. His most enduring work has been the film script for *The Wizard of Oz*. *The Land of Green Ginger* is a fairy tale, a screwball comedy, and a melodrama. The outcome is inevitable from the beginning. However, the precocious Prince Abdul's adventures while he finds the lost gardens of the Land of Green Ginger, wins the heart and hand of Silver Bud, and carries her back to Peking, create a wickedly entertaining farce. The gardens, complete with a magic dragon, are surely fiction's best. Further descriptions would spoil the story.

Mistress Masham's Repose (1946) is set in the nearly empty and neglected Malplaquet estate in North Hamptonshire, where the orphaned ten-year-old Maria is under the guardianship of an evil vicar and governess. T.H. White (1906-1964) was an Arthurian scholar whose *Once and Future King* (1958) has brought those legends to life for three generations. In *Mistress Masham's Repose*, Maria discovers a colony of Lilliputians, descendants of those who escaped from Gulliver 250 years earlier, on an overgrown island in the lake in her gardens. Malplaquet and its gardens are loosely based on those at the vast Stowe estate in Buckinghamshire. Maria, with the

aid of the Professor, an aged classical scholar, befriends and protects the Lilliputians, and they in turn rescue her from the greedy vicar and governess. The historic follies of Stowe, designed as political satire, come into play in ingenious ways at Malplaquet.

These tales are ideal winter reading for garden lovers, focusing on the magic which gardens are all about. Ultimately, fiction can be a more inspiring source than the glossy picture books.

—Margaretta J. Darnall

The editor apologizes for getting this issue out too late to allow for Christmas shopping, but hopes that will not prevent readers from gifting young friends or relatives with one or more of these delightful books

Houses of Los Angeles, 1885-1935, by Sam Watters (New York: Acanthus Press, Fall 2007). Hardcover, two volumes, 384 and 392 pages, over 800 archival photographs in duotone and color, floor and landscape plans, plus eight city panoramas in double gatefold, \$85 and \$89 respectively.

Many books have been published in recent years about southern California gardens and architecture, especially about the period following World War I. *Houses of Los Angeles, 1885-1935* consists of two impressive volumes covering the years when the world was learning a lot about this region through the movies and tourist advertising. The two books are divided into the periods 1885-1919 and 1920-1935.

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Book Reviews & News (continued)

Although the focus here is mainly on architecture, there is a great deal of information about the gardens. I read every page in search of material and was rewarded with an insight to the introduction of Mediterranean plants that came to dominate garden design over the past fifty years. It is not always easy to identify the plants because the photos are black and white, but the scale of the landscapes is enormous. I could identify the trees, especially in gardens that I have visited over the years.

Rich visitors from the Midwest and East decided to build houses and create gardens for their enjoyment during the winter months especially. The best landscape designers in the U.S. were hired to create gardens that set off the impressive houses, some built on the scale of European chateaus. There was plenty of money and water so that newcomers, for the most part, could order things on a grand scale.

It was imperative that plants would flourish in the winter months so those were imported from countries where plants bloom in November-February: Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand. Palms were used a great deal. I recall a street in Beverly Hills lined with *Washingtonia robusta* and *W. filifera*. I was shocked when I saw fully grown trees transplanted to these gardens at great cost, as the owners could not wait for their natural growth. Florence Yoch worked on many of the private gardens as well as on Hollywood movie sets.

This was the period when I was growing up, and I had a mother who was an avid gardener and a

grandmother fascinated with movie stars and their homes. How my grandmother was able to get in I do not know, but she took me and a woman friend to Greenacres, the home of retired movie star Harold Lloyd, where I was impressed with his cascading waterfall. Forty years later in a visit to the private gardens of Italy, I saw Villa Lante, one inspiration for Lloyd's cascade.

We always went to Pasadena in winter to see the Rose Parade, and I remember smelling the orange blossoms and seeing the snow-covered Sierra Madre Mountains. Oleanders were introduced to landscape the highways; exotic specimen plants, banana trees, poplars, acacias, Italian cypress, and cactus collections were routinely used in these gardens.

A full day trip from Los Angeles to Santa Barbara was the highlight of my summers. We always arrived early in my father's DeSoto, went to mass at the Mission and then, directed by my mother, viewed many of the homes from the car—especially those in Montecito. We were able to park at the polo grounds to watch members of the English colony showing off. I visit Santa Barbara several times a year, and always remember what it was like there before the freeways and smog changed the scene.

Watters has done a superb job in collecting the photographs, not only of the houses themselves but the floor plans. Interior shots of the living and dining areas brought back the memory of how dark some of these rooms were then, not only in these homes but in the houses where I lived, presumably to keep out the sun and heat.

There is a section on one of the places our Society has visited; La

Casa de Rancho Los Cerritos in Long Beach has eight pages of pictures devoted to its creation and restoration. A section at the back of the book is titled "Client and House," and lists the original architect and owners, the years each house was built, and the landscape architects and decorators, with short biographies. An extensive bibliography includes not only the books consulted but journal articles, a rich archive for writers and researchers today. Victoria Padilla's *Southern California Gardens* would make a perfect companion book, providing more information about the landscapes and plant introductions of the area.

—Bill Grant

Ed. note: The editors at Acanthus Press advise that publication of Watters' next book on the Gardens of California has now been put forward to 2009.



The water cascade at Harold Lloyd's estate, Greenacres. (Harold Lloyd Foundation, Bill Muster photograph.)

Book Reviews & News (continued)

Descanso: An Urban Oasis

Revealed, photographs by Warren Marr (Los Angeles: Balcony Press, 2007), landscape format, 98 pages, full color panoramic photographs. Hardcover \$42.95; softcover \$24.95.

The book is a photographic essay of this public garden by Warren Marr, some of whose work is in the permanent collection of the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Text is confined to a Preface by *L.A. Times* Garden Editor emeritus Robert Smaus, a Foreword by Anne M. Lyden, Associate Curator of Photographs at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles—who speaks to the history of garden photography—an Introduction by David R. Brown, Executive Director of the Descanso Gardens Guild, and a section titled “Descanso Revealed,” Marr’s explanation of the why and how of his work at Descanso. His “Acknowledgements” appear at the back of the book.

Marr has photographed Descanso through the seasons and, in some instances, photos taken of the same area in spring and fall are placed side by side. At times one photograph runs across both facing pages. There are no captions accompanying these images, no doubt an aesthetic decision made to avoid distracting the viewer from the photographic impressions of the garden, but making more work for those who wish to know what they are looking at. One must consult a back section titled “The Photographs by Area.” One thumbnail image carries beneath it the area’s title, for example “Japanese Garden,” and a listing by page

number with further short explanations of what one is seeing. The Japanese Garden area lists five photos of the Moon Bridge, the Japanese Garden as seen from the Teahouse, and so forth. Each of these photos is dated.

As every gardener who has ever tried to photograph his own particular piece of Eden knows, there is an art to capturing the evocative beauties of any given garden scene. Possibly because Marr’s previous experience was chiefly with the grander scale of the West’s natural landscapes, his success at showing us Descanso is mixed. In some instances he has captured the important play of light on the plants, but in other scenes the images have a flat, uninteresting appearance, perhaps taken on overcast days. A two-page panorama of a mixed border taken in the fall’s early morning light does an excellent job of highlighting some plants while completely washing out the color of others, and though the plants on the right side have wonderful architectural presence, those on the left merely look messy and would have been better if cropped out of the image. One might argue that this is in part a failure of the gardener’s art rather than the photographer’s, but we all know that some sections of the garden have their messy periods. There seems little benefit to recording them for posterity.

Of particular interest to garden historians is David R. Brown’s short essay on the history of Descanso, which is augmented by a four-page illustrated timeline placed at the back of the book.

In brief, the Descanso estate property was purchased in 1937 by E. Manchester Boddy, owner of the *Los Angeles Illustrated Daily News*. He kept the property until 1953, when his waning fortune and ill health led to a decision to sell to the county.

Boddy’s interaction with the Japanese community has a special relevance for us just now. Brown explains that Boddy was an admirer of the Japanese. He had written a book about the Japanese experience in America, published in 1921 and, upon acquiring the Descanso property, he had begun collecting camellias. In early 1942, when two Japanese-owned nurseries in the Los Angeles area were suddenly forced to sell their businesses, Boddy came to the rescue.

[He] purchased the entire inventory of a Japanese-owned camellia grower, F.M. Uyematsu, whose Star Nursery was one of the largest and most successful in California. Boddy also bought the entire inventory of another Japanese grower, F.W. Yoshimura. Uyematsu and Yoshimura, as with Japanese and Japanese Americans all over the western United States, had been disenfranchised and exiled to internment camps by Executive Order 9066 following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. In a stroke combining opportunism and compassion Boddy provided Uyematsu and Yoshimura with reasonable compensation for their life’s work and acquired either 60,000 or 100,000 camellia plants, the record varies.

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Book Reviews & News (continued)

F.M. Uyematsu is known to have been in the Los Angeles nursery business as early as 1909-10, when the city directory listed him in partnership with Itsuke Zaima at the Figueroa Street Nursery on 1203 South Figueroa. It was both a florist and a nursery, offering a general stock of plants ranging from palms to roses, but maintaining a specialty in "Japanese plants for Tea Gardens." By 1918-19, Uyematsu had struck out on his own as proprietor of Star Nursery on Oak Street in Montebello.

"Fred" Waichi Yoshimura opened his Mission Nursery in 1923. The 1924-25 edition of the *Directory of Nurserymen and Seedsmen*, lists Fred Yoshimura as the proprietor of the Mission Nursery, at 735 South San Gabriel Boulevard, San Gabriel, Los Angeles County. In the 1927-28 *Directory*, his business was categorized as a florist, jobber, and nursery offering ornamental plants. By 1930-31, the Mission Nursery had opened a branch store at the Pasadena Sewer Farm.*

A footnote in the *Descanso* book taken, in part, from an account written by Yoshimura's granddaughter, Mary Ishihara Swanton (CGLHS member and proprietor, with Saburo Ishihara, of the present-day San Gabriel Nursery) adds this information:

Mr. Boddy also took over the lease of the property and continued to operate the business while the Yoshimuras were interned at a relocation camp. Mr. Boddy paid for the business in installments and, as a result, the Yoshimuras received checks from him while they were in camp. Unlike many of

the Japanese who basically lost everything when they were interned, these payments provided the Yoshimuras with some capital to start over once the war ended.

Descanso Gardens opened to the public in 1950. A Japanese "stroll" garden, "designed by Eijiro Nunokawa, created by Frank Kuwahara, and built with all-volunteer labor and funding provided by the Japanese American community," opened in 1966. The Teahouse Pavilion was designed by San Marino architect Whitney Smith. A typical Japanese country-style farmhouse (in Japanese, a *minka*) was added in 1969 by Bob and Mary Matsumoto.

**The Pasadena Sewer Farm was established in 1887. Initially three hundred acres were acquired for the purpose of spreading processed sewage on the surface where it could be left to dry and then plowed back into the earth. An additional 150 acres were acquired at a later date. In 1913, the acreage was divided up, with 65 acres planted to oranges and 150 acres to English walnuts. Another 110 acres was used to grow alfalfa and the remainder was planted with other forms of grain and hay. Charles Zueblin wrote of the farm's history in the 1920 revised edition of his book, American Municipal Progress. The assumption follows that, at some point between 1928 and 1930, Yoshimura probably rented some of the Sewer Farm's land for growing flower crops and opened a branch outlet there as well.*

Desert Plants, A Curator's Introduction to the Huntington Desert Garden, Gary Lyons (San Marino, CA: Huntington Library Press, 2007), softcover, 128 pages, b&w and full color photographs, \$25.

CGLHS member and Huntington Desert Garden curator Gary Lyons wrote a book titled *Desert Gardens* in 2000, providing a survey of several California gardens that contain collections of desert plants, including the Huntington's. The year 2007 was the 100th anniversary of the Huntington's Desert Garden, and Lyons has produced a new book to celebrate that anniversary.

Desert Plants, A Curator's Introduction to the Huntington Desert Garden begins with a chapter on the history of the southern California estate purchased by railroad and real estate developer Henry Huntington in 1903. After his death in 1927, the private property was transformed into a public institution that consisted of a library, an art collection, and several botanical collections, including the Desert Garden. Brazilian landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx considered the Huntington's Desert Garden to be the most extraordinary garden in the world, and Lyons has written about both the garden's history and the spectacular plants that dwell within it.

The garden currently sits on twelve acres and embraces five thousand different cacti and succulents. Not intended to provide a comprehensive listing of all the species, this book organizes the plants into two geographical groups, Old World and

Book Reviews & News (continued)

New World, highlighting fifteen different families. The author pays tribute to landscape gardener William Hertrich, who persuaded a reluctant Huntington to begin the first Desert Garden in 1908. Lyons also acknowledges the original plants that survived weather extremes of heat and cold, and long years of neglect during the Great Depression and World War II. He then salutes the newer plants that have made their way into the garden from around the world over the past few decades.

The first section of the book covers the history of the Desert Garden and is accompanied by black and white photographs of the grounds and various specimens. There is one marvelous shot of a touring car decked out in cacti for Pasadena's Tournament of Roses Parade. The second and third sections delineate the Old World and New World plants. Each chapter contains cultural information about the plants. Lyons also includes a judicious mixture of color photographs that display single specimens as well as illustrating the many different plantscapes imitating natural groupings. The striking photographs do full justice to the exotic nature of this garden, where shape, form, movement, color, and texture provide a dramatic tableau. The final section describes how the garden is maintained and discusses the scientific or botanical aspects of succulents. A bibliography is provided for those readers interested in learning more about either the Huntington estate or desert plants in general.

Desert Plants, A Curator's Introduction to the Huntington Desert Garden provides a fine souvenir for garden visitors and armchair travelers. Lyons manages to capture the scope of the vast plant collections that make up the Desert Garden and condenses it into a readable format. *Aficionados* of desert plants will appreciate this slim volume, as will those less familiar with the "wonderful beauty and diversity" of cacti and succulents. A good companion volume to this one would be *The Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1905-1949: Personal Recollections of William Hertrich, Curator Emeritus* (1949).

—Julie Cain

In 1998 CGLHS member Julie Cain was given the task of restoring Stanford University's Arizona Garden, a collection of desert and other plants laid out in a formal design by German landscape designer Rudolph Ulrich circa 1883. Christy Smith took over the job of coordinating garden volunteer activities in the following year and continues that work today. Julie still works there as a volunteer, and has since written several articles on the history of that garden and the one at Monterey's Hotel del Monte. Julie and Christy have given slide lectures on the Stanford garden, and taught a class on designing with cactus and succulents at Foothill College.



The Wunderlich sisters pose in front of a portion of the Huntington's Desert Garden, c. 1920s. (Collection of M. Graham)

Performance and Appropriation: Profane Rituals in Gardens and Landscapes, edited by Michel Conan (Dumbarton Oaks: Harvard University Press, 2007), softcover, 227 pages, b&w photographs, \$40.

The title may frighten non-academic types away, but this collection of essays contains two articles that bear some relationship to last year's conference theme, and should certainly be read by anyone interested in the history of Japanese gardens in general, and California Japanese-style gardens in particular. The essays derive from the 27th Dumbarton Oaks Colloquium series on the "History of Landscape," the title of which was the same as the title of the book, held at Dumbarton Oaks in May 2003. Each essay deals with symbolic and psychological aspects of gardens. Forty dollars may seem like too much to pay for only two significant articles on this topic—while the other essays may be equally entertaining and informative, they admittedly have no obvious relevance to California garden history. However, it is highly likely that academic facilities such as U.C. Berkeley's Environmental Design Library will stock this book on their shelves. Thus you may be able to visit and read it there or at

Cal Poly/Pomona in the near future.

Sylvie Brosseau's "Tokyo's Modern Parks: Spaces and Practices," provides the reader with excellent background history on how privately held properties in Japan evolved into public

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Book Reviews & News (continued)

parks, and reveals the political agendas behind allowing public access to what were originally private estate parks. It also makes clear the long ritualized Japanese tradition of making special trips out to the country to see certain significant sights, including special plants and trees in bloom or fall color. Wood-block printed "tourist guide books" date back to the 1600s. Certain temples planted trees such as Japanese maples with the specific intent of attracting larger numbers of tourists who would, presumably, make monetary offerings during the course of their visits. Brosseau became interested in studying the public parks of Tokyo while she was a fellow at the Tokyo Institute of Technology.

Professor Kendall H. Brown's essay on "Performing Hybridity: Wedding Rituals at Japanese-Style Gardens in Southern California" offers a different view of the role played by these gardens in modern times. The article is, unfortunately, much more difficult to read, being heavily laden with academic jargon. Those willing to wade through it will be rewarded with some interesting facts and conclusions. "Paradoxically, the perception of Japanese gardens as spaces of serenity, beauty, and order encourages people to seek them out for ceremonies that both build upon those ideas and ultimately subvert them." As such usage increases, there are beginning to be objections from "purists" about employing such gardens for social functions, though Brown points out that this view is based on a misconception, as historically, "gardens in Japan were deployed for a range of social activities."

Though he incorporates data from other sources, the primary focus of

Brown's study was the Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden on the campus of California State University at Long Beach where he teaches. His stated goal for this study was to elucidate "how wedding rituals shape Japanese-style gardens and are shaped by them," but he touches only lightly on the physical changes made to accommodate events, "...paths widened, shrubs removed, branches trimmed...Lights were added to the Miller Garden in 1999 to allow for nocturnal receptions." The Miller Garden is not a historic property. That it was created in 1981 and by a landscape architect lacking any previous experience with Japanese gardens may lessen Brown's (and our) concerns about modifying the garden to better host events.

The danger here is that bottom-line economics could make any public official or garden administrator less discriminating about whether revamping a historical landscape to better accommodate social functions destroys that history in the process, as the present situation at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden demonstrates. Public gardens are always in need of funds and today the Miller Garden charges from \$1,895-\$4,200 to host a wedding and/or reception. A part of that fee pays for a one-year membership to the garden, a clever marketing device meant to broaden the garden's support base. Those on a more restricted budget may be married in the garden and follow that with dinner for two for a mere \$600.

Brown sees the recent decision by the Huntington Gardens in San Marino to allow wedding photographs as an indication of the strength of the trend for garden events. Their debate over the

suitability of hosting weddings is particularly germane, "given their construction of a lavish 'classical Chinese garden' designed in part to host social events." Historians and preservationists will need to keep a sharp eye out to ensure that the desire for easy money does not override the importance of landscape history in some public gardens.

Pam Waterman has informed us that publication of her new book—co-authored with Isabelle Greene and to be titled *Five Greene Gardens*—has been delayed until the fall of 2008.

Likewise, a new photographic history of Val Verde titled *Impressions of Val Verde* has just been published, and we're still hearing that another book exploring the estate's history, gardens and architecture is due out next year from the Val Verde Foundation. Telephone: 805.969.9852. Website: www.austinvalverdefoundation.com.



Bride posing at the Miller Garden in a photo shown to prospective wedding clients (photo reproduced from Brown's article; courtesy of Sanderson Studios)

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Other Items of Interest

Norah Lindsay: The Life and Art of a Garden Designer, by Allyson Hayward (London: Frances Lincoln Limited, 2007), hardcover, 288 pages, 300+ color and b&w photographs and illustrations, \$65. Website: www.norahlindsay.com

The association of Norah Lindsay's name with a garden guarantees something spectacular. Allyson Hayward, formerly chair of the now-defunct New England Garden History Society, has resurrected the career and life of this free-spirited artist whose gardening spanned two world wars and five countries. *Norah Lindsay: The Life and Art of a Garden Designer* is not so much an analysis of Lindsay's gardens, as it is a social history.

In common with many of her class, the high-born Norah Bourke Lindsay (1873-1948) suffered the economic depredations of end-of-the Empire Britain. Separated in her 40s from her equally aristocratic (and equally penurious) husband, Norah became by necessity a professional garden designer. Her ensuing career was half house party and half 15-foot-wide, double-dug perennial borders with *enfilades* of hat-shaped yews. Her gardens—including Cliveden, Port Lympne, and Blickling—and her client list are mind-boggling: Philip Sassoon, the Prince of Wales (Edward VIII), Ronald Tree and his first wife, Nancy (later Lancaster), Waldorf and Nancy (Langhorne) Astor, Prince Paul of Yugoslavia, and the Dowager Duchess of Norfolk. Her gardening friends—Lawrence ("Johnny") Johnston, Charles de Noailles, and Edith Wharton—are even more impressive.

Norah Lindsay is ravishing. It is chock full of beautiful photos, both contemporary and archival—of Norah, her entourage, her gardens, and the houses that accompanied them. It has a glossary of some 300 of Norah's "circle of friends," from Annie Denton, her cook and the mother of her devoted personal maid Daisy, to Thomas Evelyn Scott-Ellis, eighth Baron Howard de Walden, writer, sportsman, arts patron, and lessee of Chirk Castle, one of the many locations where Norah worked. Whether or not you know the difference between *Dierama*, *Bocconia*, and *Ceratostigma willmottianum*, you will be able very quickly to identify Daisy Fellowes as a "society beauty and writer" and the progeny of a Singer sewing machine heiress and the third Duc Decazes.

Altogether this has to be one of the best guides ever to Edwardian England. And for those who prefer their social history with stars and stripes, there is satisfaction in discovering that a majority of the benefactors who contributed to keeping Norah in "Venice navy blue" pyjamas and off buses were Americans, whether it be Consuelo Vanderbilt Balsan, Emerald Cunard (née Maud Burke of San Francisco), Ronald Tree (first cousin-of Marshall Field), or Nancy Astor. One of the many subsidiary satisfactions of this book is the insight it gives into the character of Lawrence Johnston of Hidcote fame, son of a Baltimore banker, and one of Norah's indispensable friends.

Allyson Hayward, a Massachusetts-based graduate of the Radcliffe Seminars (and now with

the Landscape Institute of the Arnold Arboretum) wrote this book much as Norah designed her gardens. She stayed at critical sites as both guest and researcher. That *modus operandi* contributed to both the strength and the weakness of this book. The author's access to and use of family and friends' archives gives this work its sense of immediacy and its detail. This closeness to family members may also have acted as a constraint. At the end one is not quite sure whether Norah was "stupid-clever," as one observer commented, or "brilliant, fanciful, and altogether amazing," as suggested by another. The answer is probably "somewhere in between."

Needling questions remain. Why *did* Norah's marriage to the debonair Harry Lindsay fail? Why was she the nexus for so many gay men? What caused the strain between her and her daughter Nancy (who, incidentally, inherited Johnston's house on the Riviera)? Lingering curiosity is proof that Hayward has managed to draw us into Norah Lindsay and her world. —Phoebe Cutler



Ed. Note: See Coming Events (page 25 in this issue) for information about two talks Allyson Hayward will be giving in California this April.

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Book Reviews & News (continued)

The Management and Maintenance of Historic Parks, Gardens and Landscapes: The English Heritage Landscape, edited by John Watkins and Tom Wright (Frances Lincoln, 2007). Hardcover, 352 pages, \$44.

Though this book deals with the issues of preserving historic landscapes in Britain, it has relevance for historical properties everywhere. Watkins is Head of English Heritage's Garden and Landscape Team, and Wright was for 25 years Senior Lecturer in Landscape Management at Wye College in Britain. Here they have offered their combined knowledge and experience in the field. They describe how to create a Conservation Management Plan based on careful research, a current plan, or a vision for the future, a necessity for any preservation project undertaken. There is a section on maintenance and management dealing with basics such as pruning and other necessary skills. The book also provides ample case studies which shows how the principles of garden management and restoration are put into effect. Writing for *The Spectator* (20 October 2007), reviewer Emma Tennant commented that many English gardens declined over the last 100 years "as the cost of maintaining their forebears' creations overwhelmed many owners. High taxation, two world wars, and the shortage and cost of skilled labour are the obvious reasons for this decline and fall." She goes on to describe how this dismal state of affairs has been reversed by the intervention of the National Trust, English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund. In summary, "John Watkins and Tom Wright have written a most useful reference book which includes masses of interesting material about the future of our historic landscapes."

The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted. Volume 7: Parks, Politics, and Patronage, 1874-1882. Edited by Charles E. Beveridge, Carolyn F. Hoffman, and Kenneth Hawkins, with Tina Hummel, assistant (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007). Hardcover, 784 pages, 70 half-tone illustrations, 17 line drawings, \$85.

The description provided by the publishers reads as follows:

This seventh volume includes reports on the design of Riverside and Morningside parks and Tompkins Square in Manhattan, as well as Olmsted's comprehensive plan for the street system and rapid transit routes of the Bronx. It records his continuing work on Central Park and presents his final retrospective statement, "The Spoils of the Park." In addition, volume seven contains an annotated version of the journal in which Olmsted recorded instances of political maneuvering and patronage politics in the years before his dismissal from the New York parks department in 1878. Later documents chronicle the states of his planning of the Boston park system—the Back Bay Fens, Arnold Arboretum and Riverway. Other major commissions, each with its own political complications, were the grounds of the U.S. Capitol, the completion of the new state capitol in Albany, New York, the designing of the park on Mount Royal in Montreal, and construction of the park system of Buffalo, New York. It also presents Olmsted's commentary on issues of the times, including Federal reconstruction policy and civil service reform.

A Genius for Place: American Landscapes of the Country Place Era, by Robin Karson (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2007). Hardcover, 456 pages, \$65.

The Library of American Landscape History celebrated its 15th anniversary with the publication of *A Genius for Place: American Landscapes of the Country Place Era*. For several years now, a photographic exhibition of the same name has been touring the country. Featured in this exhibition is one country place of particular interest to Californians: Montecito's Val Verde. Though lavishly illustrated with historic photographs and plans, as well as the modern photographs of Carol Betsch, this six-pound tome is no mere coffee table book. We expect to have a full review of this book in our spring issue.

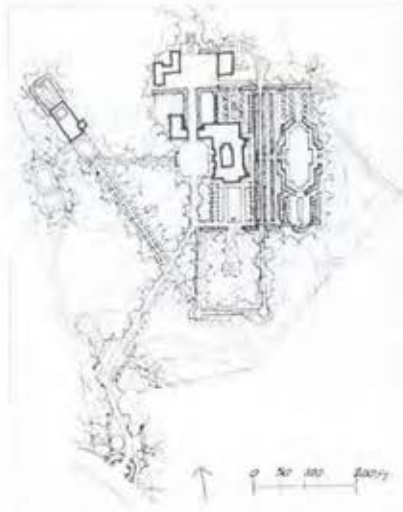
Your donations are welcomed by the Library of American Landscape History, PO Box 1323, Amherst, MA 01004-1323. Tel: 413.549.4860. Website: www.lalh.org. The organization was founded in 1992 to produce books and exhibitions about American landscapes and the people who shaped them. Its mission is to educate and thereby encourage thoughtful stewardship of the land. Their newsletter *VIEWS* is published annually.

Founder and Executive Director Robin Karson writes, "By the close of 2007, LALH will have nineteen titles in print, and we will be directing a share of the proceeds from this year's annual appeal to increasing marketing efforts for them. These books have received high praise for the quality of the research, writing, design, and production and we want

Book Reviews & News (continued)

them to find the largest possible readership. Written by leading landscape historians, LALH's clear and engaging texts appeal to general readers as well as scholars. The beautiful images of LALH touring exhibitions illuminate landscape history for large, diverse audiences across the nation. These initiatives not only educate, they encourage landscape preservation at a time when development threatens to obliterate America's unique legacy of parks, parkways, planned suburbs, urban centers, riverfronts, and rural cemeteries.

As the preservation profiles in *VIEW* demonstrate, the strategy is working. While LALH maintains a strong commitment to quality, we are also committed to keeping our books and exhibitions affordable. To achieve this goal, LALH projects are underwritten by foundations, institutions, and individuals—people like you, investing in the future of North American landscapes and the exciting multidisciplinary approach to landscape history that LALH has pioneered. We hope that you will consider making a special gift in 2007 to help us continue this important work.”



Plan of Val Verde estate. The area to the left shows the guest house and water tower, now belonging to an adjacent property. Reproduced from A Genius For Place; image courtesy of William Frederick Peters.



Guesthouse courtyard with classical statue. Reproduced from A Genius For Place; image courtesy of Kellam de Forest.

Now available is the long-promised DVD **“Three Women and a Chateau,”** a documentary film about the three women who were central to the creation and survival of the Carolands estate in Hillsborough on the San Francisco Peninsula: Harriet Pullman Carolan, the railroad car heiress who had it built between 1912-1916, Countess Alessandro Dandini, who saved it from the wrecker's ball in 1950, and Ann Johnson the current owner responsible for its extensive restoration. (See “Book Reviews” in *Eden* 9, no. 3 [Fall 2006]). The film, produced by Berkeley-based Luna Productions in conjunction with Inyo Productions and the San Mateo County Historical Association, won the prize for Best Documentary at the 2006 Rhode Island International Film Festival and had showings at the Mill Valley Film Festival in October 2006. You may purchase a copy for \$18 plus tax if you visit the San Mateo County History Museum at 2200 Broadway in Redwood City, 94063. If you wish to have a copy mailed to you, shipping and handling increase the cost to \$28.44. (While this outraged us initially, when we considered the \$4 bridge toll and the current cost of fuel, it isn't such a bad bargain after all.) Telephone: 650.299.0104. Fax: 650.299.0141. Website: www.historysmc.org.



Coming Events

Now through 17 February: The Palace of the Legion of Honor is currently hosting an exhibition on *Marie-Antoinette and the Petit Trianon at Versailles*. Peggy Darnall advises that this exhibit provides some interesting insights to the surrounding landscape. Lincoln Park, 34th Avenue & Clement Street, San Francisco. Admission \$15. Tel: 415.750.3600.



Elizabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun's portrait of Marie-Antoinette "à la rose," 1783, (Chateau de Versailles, Inv. MV3893).

22 January: The Barn Studio Lecture Series sponsored by Nancy Goslee Power & Associates picks up again in January with a talk given by landscape designer Jill Nokes on the ways people shape and organize the space around their homes. Other lectures in the series include Mary Padua on Chinese gardens (11 March) and Power on *The Ancient Gardens of India* (8 April). Of particular interest to California garden historians is a talk on the origins of the modern sculpture garden – see 13 May.

12 February: Meeting of the Historic American Landscape Survey NorCal Chapter at 4 P.M., Flora Grubb Gardens, San Francisco. RSVP Marlea Graham at 925.335.9182 or graham9668@att.net.

12 & 13 February: Two workshops offered by the California Preservation Foundation at Davis in Yolo County. On the **12th**, *Historic Resource Surveys: A to Z*. Last year's wildfires taught us all the importance of completing such surveys for mitigation—before the historic property and contents burn to the ground! Though we lost everything at the Henry Coe State Park last summer, most luckily Carol Roland and Cathy Garrett (of PGAdesign) had already finished their cultural survey of this significant 87,000-acre cattle ranching landscape. Historic resource surveys are the foundation of all good preservation planning. They provide a comprehensive picture of historic properties, are a fundamental tool of project review and permitting, and are an important component of an efficient and streamlined CEQA process. Even those who already know how to do a survey may benefit because this is an area where theory and practice are changing rapidly, with a stronger emphasis on contexts, use of electronic information systems, and cost saving approaches.

On the **13th**, CPF offers *The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Historic Resources Workshop*. CEQA is one of this state's most important environmental laws for protecting historic resources. This workshop addresses practical issues involved with California's historic preservation requirements under CEQA.

Both classes will be held at the Odd Fellows Hall, 415 Second Street, Davis.

Both start with registration at 8:30 A.M. and the workshops run from 9-5 P.M. Fees for non-members are \$150 for each workshop or \$235 for both. (The latter fee includes complimentary CPF membership.) We attended a workshop last August on *The Identification, Evaluation, Planning and Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*, and were very impressed with the high quality of the speakers and content. Website: www.californiapreservation.org. Tel: 415.495.0349.

26 February: At 6:30 P.M., Home Box Office offers the premier of *The Gates*, a documentary about artist Christo's idea for an art project in New York's Central Park: 7,503 bright-colored fabric panel "gates" forming a sinuous pathway through the park. The idea was first proposed in 1979, but controversy and lack of funding delayed completion until 2005. This documentary chronicles the years in between conception and execution.

29 February: Spring Board Meeting for CGLHS, at The Garden Conservancy's offices, The Presidio, San Francisco. If you'd like to attend, please RSVP any board member. Seating is limited.

29 February-2 March: San Diego's 23rd Annual Spring Home/Garden Show, featuring 21 indoor display gardens by some of the finest garden designers in San Diego. The 28th's Preview Garden Party starts off the show. Tel: 858-350-3738. Web: www.sandiegohomegardenshows.com.

12-16 March 2008: *Live Beautifully, Live Outdoors* is the theme of this year's San Francisco Flower & Garden Show at the Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Avenue, Daly City, CA 94014. Preview party on 11 March at 6 P.M. Lectures

Coming Events (continued)

feature California speakers such as Nan Sterman, Flora Grubb, Murray Rosen, Bob Hornback and Saxon Holt. From farther afield come famous writers such as C. Colston Burrell, Dan Hinkley, David Stevens, and Jeff Lowenfels. Tel: 800.569.2832. Web: www.gardenshow.com.

1 April: Allyson Hayward, landscape historian and author of *Norah Lindsay: The Life and Art of a Garden Designer* will be one of this year's Royal Oak Foundation speakers. This event is being co-sponsored by Beverly Hills Women's Club and Friends of Robinson Gardens. Hayward's talk will be held at the Club's headquarters, 1700 Chevy Chase Drive, Beverly Hills at 10:30 A.M. Lecture and luncheon. Advance registration is required. Web: www.royal-oak.org. Toll-free Tel: 800.913.6565. From New York, call 212.480.2889 x201.

3 April: The Royal Oak Foundation and Filoli will sponsor another talk by Hayward at Filoli, 86 Cañada Road, Woodside at 2:00 P.M. Lecture, reception, and book signing. See above entry for contact information.

3-4 April: The Garden Conservancy presents the 6th design seminar and study tour in their series: *Gardens To Match Your Architecture*, co-sponsored by *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. The theme is "Gardens that Re-make Themselves: a discourse on regeneration, sustainability, and preservation." In the world of fashion, clarity of design and great fabric bring lasting style. Applying that same clarity to the process of garden design should also create a long-lived garden that subscribes to the principles of sustainable and ecologic design and is beautiful. Thursday seminar at the Golden Gate Club, The Presidio, San Francisco. Friday garden tours begin with the new "green" roof on the California Academy of Sciences. For

full details or to register: Telephone: 415.561.7895. Fax: 415.561.3999. Web: www.gardenconservancy.org. Email: wcprog@gardenconservancy.org.

4-5 April: The Northern California Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians (NCCSAH) is hosting a talk by Gamble House curator and Greene & Greene scholar Ted Bosley at 7:30 P.M. on the 4th, at the Swedenborgian Church, Washington & Lyon Streets, San Francisco. On the following day, they will host a tour of the Woodside estate, 'Green Gables,' (both house and garden) beginning at 10 A.M. Space on the tour is limited and preference will be given to existing SAH members. Registration information will be available in February. NCCSAH dues \$20 to Treasurer Lissa McKee, 307 Sterling Rd., Mill Valley 94941. Web: www.sah.org.

17-18 April: Annual Conference of the Heritage Rose Foundation at Hearst Castle. Web: www.heritagerosefoundation.com.

23-26 April: The 33rd Annual California Preservation Foundation Conference will be held at Napa. The theme is *Balance and Complexity: The Vineyard and Beyond*. Offers 40 educational sessions and workshops grouped into five tracks, also tours and mobile workshops, including historic and modern gardens, Native American cultural landscapes, historic resorts of the Napa Valley. Those who couldn't make it to our Napa conference in 2006 will have another shot at it here. Web: www.californiapreservation.org. Tel: 415.495.0349.

7-10 May: The Vernacular Architecture Forum's annual conference will be held at Fresno. The theme is "In the Garden of the Sun: California's San Joaquin Valley." NCCSAH is a co-sponsor. Web: <http://vernaculararchitectureforum.org>.

13 May: *The Museum Sculpture Garden: Whose Idea Was That?* John Walsh, Director Emeritus of the J. Paul Getty Museum, addresses the post World War II explosion of sculpture gardens and parks. Barn Studio Lecture Series, 6:30 P.M., 1660 Stanford Street, Santa Monica. Refreshments included. Fee: \$40 (\$25 for master gardeners; \$15 for full-time students). For reservations or information: Tel: 310.264.0266 x27. Email: carolyn@nancypower.com.

30 May-1 June: *A Weekend in Santa Barbara* is a Pacific Horticulture Study Tour co-sponsored by the Western Horticultural Society. U.C. Berkeley Professor Chip Sullivan (author of *Garden & Climate*, 2002) and landscape architect Leslie Dean will be your guides. For detailed itinerary, contact Giselle's Travel, 800.782.5545.

19 June-30 June: *Waterscapes in Spain: Gardens, Culture & Cuisine*, a Pacific Horticulture tour led by CGLHS member Katherine Greenberg. For detailed itinerary, contact Landmark Travel, 925.253.2600.

18 October 2008 - 5 January 2009
"The Architecture & Decorative Arts of Charles and Henry Greene," at the Huntington. Web: www.huntington.org.

6-7 September: NCCSAH sponsors a *Modernist Santa Cruz Weekend* with a Saturday tour of Pasatiempo, the early Thomas Church/William Wurster development of the 1930s. Includes lunch at the Clarence Tantau-designed Pasatiempo Country Club. The following day, the group will hear a lecture on the innovative plan for UCSC campus (1962, Church and John Carl Warnecke), tour following. Much about buildings, but some landscape too. Details to follow.

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SAVE THE DATE: October 26-28, 2008 CGLHS Annual Conference

Spirit of Landscape: California's Lower Owens Valley

Our 2008 annual conference will provide the opportunity to learn about some aspects of cultural landscape at Inyo County. The Owens Valley was first occupied by the Paiutes, then explored and settled by the Spanish (Manzanar means "apple orchard") and later by others of European descent. In 1919, the government bought up all the farm land and diverted the water to the Los Angeles Aquaduct project. The Owens Valley soon degenerated into a man-made desert.

The Manzanar National Historic Site was the first of ten Japanese relocation centers set up following the issuance of Executive Order No. 9066 on 19 February 1942. In all, the camps eventually housed some 120,000 Japanese American men, women, and children. To restore some sense of normalcy to their prison existence and to supplement their diets at Manzanar, camp residents pruned some of the surviving orchard trees and restored them to fruitfulness. They planted vegetable gardens for utility, but also pleasure gardens for sanity. The gardens built by camp residents were recorded in the photographs of Ansel Adams, Dorothea Lange and others. The center was first designated as a California Registered Historic Landmark in 1972, and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. Since 1985 it has been under the management of the National Park Service, first as a National Historic Landmark and then a National Historic Site. Little funding was available until President Bush signed Public Law 109-441 in 2006, providing up to \$38 million for the preservation and interpretation



The Alabama Hills are a cultural landscape familiar to anyone who has ever watched a Hollywood western. Lone Pine Peak and Mt. Whitney are in the background at left. (M. Graham, Columbia Wholesale Supply postcard)

of national confinement sites. You may learn more about Manzanar by visiting their website, www.nps.gov/manzanar/. Books of interest on this subject include *Manzanar* by John Armor and Peter Wright (1988), and *Confinement and Ethnicity: An Overview of World War II Japanese American Relocation Sites* by Jeffery F. Burton, Mary M. Farrell, Florence B. Lord, and Richard W. Lord (1999). *Farewell to Manzanar* (1973) is the autobiography of Jeanne Wakatsuki, who was seven years old when she and her family were uprooted from their home and sent to live at Manzanar with 10,000 other Japanese Americans.

Even if you've never been to Inyo County, the Alabama Hills will be instantly familiar to anyone who ever watched a Hollywood western. Beginning in 1920, this historic landscape has provided the background for more than 250 movies, television episodes, and commer-

cials, starring childhood heroes such as Hopalong Cassidy, Roy Rogers, and the Lone Ranger. 'High Sierra' (Humphrey Bogart) and 'Gunga Din' (Cary Grant) were both filmed here, and now the town of Lone Pine hosts an annual film festival celebrating this local claim to fame.

The landscape of the Owens Valley is also celebrated in literature, featured in the early writings of Mary Hunter Austin (1868-1934). She wrote short stories and poems for publications such as the *Atlantic Monthly*. Her 1903 book the *Land of Little Rain* was written from her Inyo County home (California Historical Marker No. 229). Austin later became a part of the Bohemian set at Carmel, associating with George Sterling and Jack London, among others.

Do join us. We always learn something new and have fun doing it. Website: www.cglhs.org



Members in the News

Judith M. Taylor, M.D., is already hard at work on her fourth book, which focusses on *A Race Apart: Plant Breeders and Their Obsessions*. (Her third work, *Global Migrations*, touches on the dissemination of plant material around the world, and is still in progress. Judith reports that "I am working on the text with the copy editor and I hope it will come out soon.") For a sample of the coming attraction, see her article on "Sweet Peas in California: A Fragrant but Fading Memory," published in the Oct./Nov./Dec. issue of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. Taylor, who likes to describe herself as "a retired Oxford-trained neurologist, now practicing history without a license in San Francisco," is the author of *The Olive in California: History of an Immigrant Tree* (2000) and co-author, with the late Harry M. Butterfield, of *Tangible Memories:*

Californians and Their Gardens: 1800-1950 (2003). The article on sweet-peas is the first of four pieces on this theme. "I had no idea the one flower would absorb me for almost a year. There is almost nothing out there about these amazing people who devoted 40 or 50 years of their lives to a single plant." Two more articles will be published in the English National Sweet Pea Society Annual for 2008. "In both cases I resurrected a now shadowy figure who was very important 100 years ago, one English and one American. The results were astonishing, while the detective work involved was exciting and challenging." The fourth piece is a short history of the Ferry Morse Seed Company which began in San Francisco. It will appear in the San Francisco Historical Society's journal, *The Argonaut* some time this year.

Visit Judith's new website address, www.horthistoria.com. Each month she reviews a book from the San Francisco Garden Club's "fascinating time warp library" for the club's newsletter, *The Gazette*, and most of her writings are listed on her website.

Judith Tankard was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Beatrix Farrand Society (www.BeatrixFarrand.org), based at Garland Farm in Maine. She also edits their quarterly newsletter. The BFS's current project is to reassemble Farrand's original working library for their educational center. Queries about editorial submissions or book donations can be addressed to judith@tankard.net or editor@BeatrixFarrand.org.

Garland Farm was the family home of Farrand's estate manager, Lewis Garland. When Farrand was forced to give up her dream of turning Reef Point into a public park during the 1950s, she instead settled at Garland's and built her last garden there, using favorite plants, garden fencing and ornaments she had salvaged from Reef Point. It was purchased by the newly formed BFS in 2004 and is now on the National Register of Historic Places as a significant landscape, one of the few surviving of some fifty gardens Farrand designed on Mt. Desert Island. It is not yet officially open to the public. Tax deductible contributions may be made to the Beatrix Farrand Society, PO Box 111, Mt. Desert, ME 04660.



Ansel Adams' photograph of Manzanar's "Pool in Pleasure Park" was taken about 18 months after the camp was first established and occupied. It was originally published in his book *Born Free and Equal* (1944), copies of which were publicly burned in protest demonstrations. Adams gave his negatives and prints to the Library of Congress and they were reproduced in the book *Manzanar* by John Armor and Peter Wright (1988).

(Continued on page 28.)

Members in the News (continued)

Virginia Gardner has been officially declared an Honorary Life Member of CGLHS for her outstanding contributions in support of our annual conferences. Virginia was a Founding Member of CGLHS and has been a Sustaining Member since that category was instituted in December 1999. She has also made contributions on four separate occasions to subsidize our conferences, beginning with the November 1996 San Diego conference, where she hosted the Saturday night dinner at the Officers Club of the Marine Corp Recruit Depot. In September 1997 she helped us pay an unexpected speaker's fee for the Huntington conference. At San Juan Capistrano in 2002, she again picked up the tab for dinner at Carole McElwee's lovely Capistrano Beach residence. In 2007, it was Virginia's generous contribution that allowed us to bring in a very special guest speaker from Japan.

Long known in the horticultural world for her ownership of VLT Gardner Horticultural and Botanical Books, she used to travel to many of the state's southern garden shows, selling an amazing range of botany, gardening, and landscape books out of her customized truck. Although she no longer travels to these shows, she does still sell out of her home via the Internet.

Virginia trained as a librarian and has long been active on the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, where she worked to establish a travel fund to help librarians attend annual meetings. She co-hosted the group's annual meeting at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden in 1994. The theme was *Preserving and Accessing Garden History and Landscape*

Architecture, Particularly in California, from Missions to Mid-20th Century. She played an important role in the reprinting of Victoria Padilla's landmark book, *Southern California Gardens*, and most recently, Winifred Starr Dobyns' *California Gardens*.

She has often underwritten lecture programs for various organizations, particularly on landscape architecture, such as the week-long lecture series put on by The Cultural Landscape Foundation at Santa Barbara in 2002. Local botanic gardens, including South Coast Botanic Garden, Lotusland, and Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, have benefited from her support and personal involvement. She has served on the board of the SBBG. In 2005, her contributions to SBBG placed her in the Grand Patron category (between \$25,000 and \$49,999). This money underwrote an assortment of projects, from the publication of the 4th revised edition of *Trees of Santa Barbara* to the removal of 19 eucalyptus trees bordering Mission Canyon Road that posed a threat to the fire safety of canyon residents. She also subsidized a Japanese-style summer solstice celebration to benefit the new Japanese teahouse, *Shin Kan An*.

Virginia is a life member of the Southern California Horticultural Society, and in 2003 she was chosen as their Southern California Horticulturist of the Year. She has served on the board of that organization and was a Society representative to the board of the Pacific Horticultural Foundation. She has been a major supporter to the financial well-being of *Pacific Horticulture* over the years.

Thank you, Virginia, for all your good works.

Directory Changes

New members:

- John Carpenter
256 S. Van Ness Ave., LA 90004
- Genevieve Cheu
70 Dunfries Ter., San Rafael 94901
- Jeanette Dutton
1330-31st St., San Diego 92102
- Jackie Flink
4436 Bancroft, San Diego 92116
- Sara Horner
11812 S. Vicente Blvd., LA 90049
- Saburo Ishihara & Mary I. Swanton
San Gabriel Nursery
632 S. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel 91776
- Terrance Knaus
21601 Forester Ln, Ft. Bragg 95437
- Anthony Osio
721-31st St., Manhattan Bch 90266
- Paula Panich
5914 Whitworth Dr., LA 90019
- Libby Simon
1733 North Dillon St., Los Angeles, 90026.
- Michael Wagner
817 Lancaster Dr., Claremont 91711

Change of Address:

- David Blackburn, 930 Skyline Dr., #20, Dracut, MA 01826.
- Janet Gracyk, 145 Keller St., Petaluma 94952.



Virginia Gardner (standing) at Shin Kan An (SBBG annual report 2005).



Archival Records/Websites to Visit

Smithsonian Institute Library
www.sil.si.edu/digitalcollections/seednurserycatalogscollection/cfm.

As we've mentioned in the past, new material is constantly being added to the Internet and it is a good policy to recheck some sites from time to time in order to keep up with the additions. The Smithsonian holds some 10,000 seed and nursery catalogues ranging from 1830 to the present day. These are held in the Trade Literature Collection at the Smithsonian's National Library of American History. (The library is closed for renovations until summer 2008.) Approximately 500 of these catalogue covers have now been digitized for viewing on-line, including three from California: E.J. Bowen (1898); Cox Seeds & Plants (1896); and Theodosia Burr Shepherd (1895). We can't help but wonder what other California treasures this collection may hold, but unfortunately, the entire collection is not listed on the website. We will try contacting the Smithsonian's librarian to see if it is possible to obtain a list.

Google Books
<http://books.google.com>

This is yet another innovation in the on-going project of library digitization, and another reason to periodically repeat any search you've previously done on a significant person or subject in landscape history. Google has jumped on the bandwagon to digitize every book and journal in the world. Starting in 2004, they obtained a contract from Oxford University in Britain, and in

the U.S., they have contracted with the University of Michigan, Harvard, the New York Public Library, Stanford, and the University of California, to digitize books, journals, and magazines in those collections. They also contributed \$3 million to the Library of Congress to help build a World Digital Library.

Where a book is still under copyright, Google will only provide enough information for someone to decide whether they want to read the book (title page, table of contents, index), but where the copyright is expired, they are scanning the entire book or document. Thus we were able to find out what the Pasadena Sewer Farm was (see page 24 of this issue) and a new clue on Rudolph Ulrich's career. Just for the fun of it, we also looked at the 1898 Annual Report of the Columbus Ohio Horticultural Society and early 1900s issues of *Horticulture*, *House & Garden*, and *Gardening* magazines. Mind you, they haven't done whole runs yet on the magazines, just a few copies of each.

Best of all, these items are searchable. We just went through the usual search process at *Google.com* and the *books.google* items turned up in the pile with everything else, but you can also go directly to the site, choose a subject like landscape architecture, and browse through everything they've done on that subject to date. In this way, we learned about a (new to us) book titled *Central Park: An American Masterpiece* by Sara Cedar Miller (2003).

There are some problems:

The bad news is that, as some libraries get their books digitized, they're literally throwing them into the nearest dumpster. Many universities are running out of storage space. Stanford intends to shut down its Engineering Library altogether within just a few years. Everything will be available online instead of in hard copy. Those books that have some monetary value are being recycled via businesses like Powell's Books in Portland. To date, this service is free, unlike that of JSTOR, which shows you the first page, but charges a fee if you want to see the whole article and can't get it at the nearest library.

If you don't have DSL service, the process of downloading the .pdf files is really, really slow. There is a .html link in the lower right section of any page you download. Click on that and it will greatly speed up the process.

Photographs seen in the 1905 issues of *House & Garden* seemed to have an odd blue-purple tinge to them, and if there is a way to photocopy material, we haven't figured out how yet. Possibly they wish to prevent photocopying? We recently read a suggestion that digital images could be converted to slides by displaying them on your screen and setting up an old-style camera on a tripod to take pictures of the images; same goes for a digital camera, and then you can download and print the images at will. Seems a bit cumbersome.



Odds & Ends

Historic American Landscape Survey

The quarterly meeting of the Northern California chapter of the HALS committee met at the Rosie the Riveter site on the Richmond waterfront. Lucy Lawliss, the lead for the National Park Service's Cultural Landscape Program in California, provided a tour of the site and explained plans for the museum to be housed in the Louis Kahn-designed industrial building on the waterfront. It is anticipated that the museum will open in 2008.

Olompoli Status Report

Christopher Lloyd of Sonoma State College will undertake an investigation and attempt to find physical evidence of the exact location of garden features, based on the existing conditions plans that have been prepared.

Piedmont Way Status Report

Frederica Drotos reported that Brian Grogan, NPS, completed the photography documentation for the Piedmont Way HALS report. Two additional grants of \$75,000 each have been secured to complete the contract documents and start the replanting per the approved treatment plan. A planting day is scheduled for fall 2008. Friends of Piedmont Way still need to complete the historic research and start the written portion of the HALS documentation.

Kaiser Roof

Garden

Status

Report

Chris is working on a plan to solicit funding from the Kaiser Foundation to support our work. Brian Grogan intends to photograph the site for the HALS

report. Grogan's services have been offered to us by Paul Dolinsky, head of HALS for NPS. While in California to document our sites, Brian also photographed what remains of the historic Japanese wholesale nursery grounds at Richmond. Lucy Lawless suggested that this might be considered as one of our future candidates for HALS documentation.

On the national level, Chris reported that HALS Liaisons and Historic Preservation Profession Practice Network (HP PPN - ASLA) are being asked to focus on preparing HALS fact sheets in lieu of full reports. A minimum of one sheet featuring one or more

How to Join CGLHS

To become a member of the California Garden & Landscape History Society, send a check or money order to Judy Horton, Membership Secretary, 136 1/2 North Larchmont Blvd., #B, Los Angeles CA 90004. See our website: www.cglhs.org for an application form.



California
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History Society
www.cglhs.org

Membership rates:
Individual \$30
Household \$40
Institution \$50
Sustaining \$60
and up.

historic sites is needed for each state for the federal lobbying effort that will happen in February 2008. California completed several fact sheets on various properties last year. Chris feels it is important that we complete these simple three-page forms and encouraged our membership to fill them out for sites being worked on now. If you have the information available, it should take only a few minutes to fill out the form online. Anyone doing a form should let Chris know so she can keep track of who is doing what to avoid duplication of effort. Once our HALS website is up, we will post such information there.

Call for Content

Eden solicits your submissions of scholarly papers, shorter articles, book reviews, information about coming events, news about members' activities and honors, interesting archives or websites you have discovered. In short, send us anything pertaining to California's landscape history that may be of interest to our members. Please contact the editor:



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Marlea Graham, 100 Bear Oaks Drive, Briones, CA 94553-9754.
Telephone: 925.335.9182. Email: maggie94553@earthlink.net.

Deadlines for submissions are the first day of March, June, September and December.

Odds & Ends (continued)

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Our heartfelt thanks to those members who have helped to put us on solid financial ground by becoming Sustaining Members at \$60 and up.

Bayard & Nancy Allmond, Jr.	Saburo Ishihara & Helena Babb
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Laurie Hannah	Richard Turner
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Judy M. Horton	Sam Watters
	Jacquoline Williams
	Lisa Zoufonoun

Virginia Gardner - Honorary Life Member

Ideally, HALS head Paul Dolinsky would keep track of these reports on the national level.

Two new projects were proposed at this meeting. The first is the Park Merced subdivision in San Francisco. This area was designed by Leonard Schultz & Associates, FAIA, Architect, and Thomas Church did the landscape design. It is one of the very few Church designs that is accessible to the public; most of his work was done on private gardens. The complex provides over 3000 rental units and has been well maintained. Both the architecture and the landscape architecture retain their original integrity, with minor though worrisome exceptions. Currently, several proposed developments pose a threat to Park Merced, including new high density housing, new retail buildings in the central open space, a large-scale

and tour for our HALS group.

Those who have purchased copies of David Newcomer's *Public Japanese Gardens in the USA: Present and Past, Book I: Northern California* (2007) may wish to note that the garden of Zenjiro Shibata, founder of the Mt. Eden Nursery Company in Hayward, is not open to the general public as

bioswale, and plant species changes. Residents are monitoring these proposals.

The second project concerns the town of El Granada in San Mateo County. The town was designed to reflect the City Beautiful principles of beaux arts design with radial components and landscaped boulevards. It is currently threatened by proposed development. The Midcoast Parklands board is interested in pursuing National Historic Landmark status. It was suggested that we schedule a site visit

Newcomer had originally thought. The garden has been preserved as a part of the Mt. Eden Business Park and employees at the park may gain entry on their lunch hour, but outsiders must obtain permission from the Shibata family.

Applications are now being accepted for a CCPH Min-Grant. Please visit their website: www.csus.edu/org/ccph/Mini-grants/ to apply. If you don't have web access, contact Marlea at 925.335.9182 or 100 Bear Oaks Drive, Briones, CA 94553-9754 and she'll send you a copy of the information. Grants are open to California nonprofit organizations or agencies of state, county or local government and range from \$250 to \$750. Direct questions to Chairperson Meta Bunse, JRP Historical Consulting, LLC, 1490 Drew Avenue, Suite 110, Davis, CA 95618. Tel: 530.757.2521. Fax: 530.757.2566.

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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Japanese-style garden on the G.W. Wattles estate, Hollywood. Photo: Frederick Martin collection, California State Library, Sacramento.

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