

THE CAL POLY POMONA UNIVERSITY ROSE GARDEN

Erica Landmann-Johnsey

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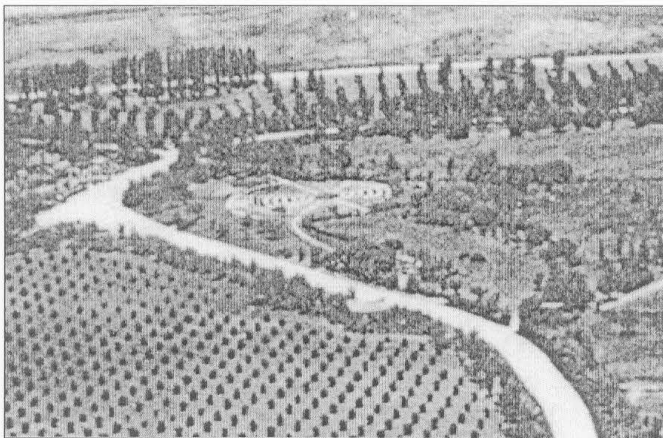
When Will Keith Kellogg (the cornflakes king) purchased some property in Pomona, California, he hired Myron Hunt as the head architect responsible for the design of Kellogg's Pomona home – the manor house and the original Arabian horse stables. Charles Gibbs Adams was employed as the landscape architect, and was responsible for the majority of the Kellogg Ranch landscape. The property had once been the western portion of Rancho San Jose and had been granted to Ricardo Vejar, Ygnacio Palomares, and Luis Arenas on 14 March 1840. In 1864, Louis Schlesinger and Hyman Tishler bought the property, and Cecil George acquired it in 1924. Kellogg purchased the land from George in 1925 for the development of the W. K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Ranch. The price he had paid for the 377 acres of property was \$250,000.

Before anyone owned this land, it had belonged to the Tongva peoples, called Gabrieleno (or Gabrielino) after the Mission San Gabriel, built in 1771. The Gabrieleno were a well-organized group of American Indians, who created laws to control the amount of intermarriage within their tribe, and would seek help from neutral tribes to solve tribal disputes. The Gabrieleno were involved in a barter

system, dealing mainly in salt, which stretched across the continent. One of the Gabrieleno beliefs focused on a myth that the earth had been placed on the shoulders of seven giants; if they moved, this would cause the earth to shake, thereby explaining earthquakes. In 1974 – during campus construction of Building 8 (Math) – a pair of *metates* that had once been used to grind acorns into a type of paste were found. Acorns were an important part of the Gabrieleno diet. The layout of a Gabrieleno village consisted of circular reed huts or wikiups that were built in “three lodges or rancherias” at Indian Hill, near San Dimas, and at Ganesha Park (Lothrop, pages 15-17).

One last note regarding the mission era: according to Gloria Lothrop, the Anza trail possibly went either very near to the present boundaries of or through the Cal Poly campus. While on his expedition Anza traveled to each California mission and in this area, the group's destination

would have been the San Gabriel mission. They would have followed a path that now passes under the Pomona Freeway (Hwy 60) and west on Holt Avenue which becomes Valley Blvd. This route would have led the expedition to pass extremely close to the campus. Throughout the years various sections were bought, sold and traded.



Aerial photo of Kellogg Rose Garden (Special Collections, Cal Poly-Pomona).

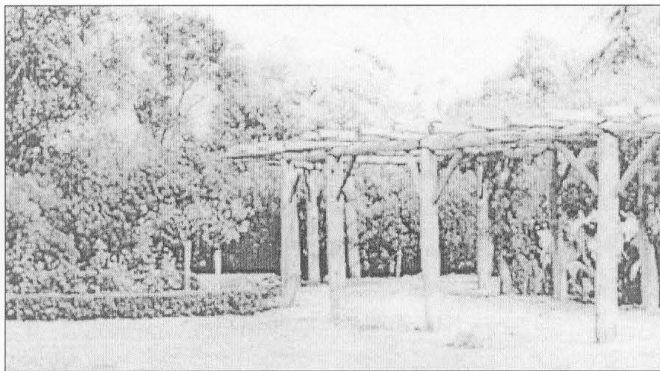
Charles Gibbs Adams began his work for Kellogg in 1926. Under his direction, the Rose Garden, Cactus Garden, and other sections were created. He was described by Kellogg's grandson, Norman Williamson, as a "short, cocky fellow" who loved to take photographs,

wore riding breeches, leather leggings, and carried a pistol – mainly to shoot "varmints." He often had problems with W. K. Kellogg, especially when he wrote to Kellogg to inform him of the Rose Garden's progress. In a letter dated 29 December 1926, Kellogg wrote to Adams: "What I tried to impress on you was the fact that I would like to have known in advance that we were going to have a rose garden and should have been glad to have an opportunity of O.K.ing the proposition."

Kellogg's personal opinion of the landscape designer was expressed in an entry dated 11 January 1927: "Adams is certainly a queer fellow." However, Kellogg did not remain annoyed for long because the rose garden became a tourist attraction and was praised often for its variety of roses and design.

The Rose Garden had been laid out in a circle with eight pie-shaped sections – and each contained a different variety of rose, according to Mary Jane Parkinson, author of *The Kellogg Arabian Ranch – the First Sixty Years*. There were eight rows in three sections and six in the other five sections. Presently, it appears the variety of roses vary by row within each section. The center of the garden is shifted slightly to the right – when looked upon with one's back facing the CLA building.

Adams' reasoning for the garden's design was found in a letter to Kellogg, written on 3 December 1926: "Rose Garden: Said Rose Garden has had the most careful thought, with a background of personal study of the best of the famous ones in England, France and America. By building it on the wheel plan, we have every Rose where it can be easily examined or picked from a path, and where work of care is at a minimum. No flower has lately been improved as the Rose has; and the very finest late ones have been selected for you, in the wonderful new shades of salmon, old gold, flame, orange, apricot col-



Kellogg Rose Garden Lattice (Special Collections, Cal Poly Pomona).

ors, etc., etc. The great circle outside is left in such a way that Chrysanthemums (best replanted every year) can occupy it; but if much wanted new Roses come into market in future, they can be added there in full keeping with the pattern." Adams mentioned a problem he had obtaining

some of the roses: "Also Roses are much cheaper if dug bare-rooted; and we are in just the same way waiting for the tender choice varieties to finish the inside of the Rose Garden."

The roses purchased for the garden and various other locations on the ranch came from a variety of California suppliers. These included Armstrong Nurseries, Ontario; Colby Nurseries, Pasadena; Flora Home, Pasadena; Hobbs-Gregg Nurseries, Inc., San Dimas; Howard & Smith, Los Angeles; Los Feliz Nurseries, Los Angeles; Nusbickel-Warren, San Dimas; Pioneer Nursery, Monrovia; Edward H. Rust Nursery, South Pasadena.

Unfortunately, a definite list of the roses originally planted in the garden could not be located. However, Adams did provide a selected list of recommended roses, and two existing receipts – from Armstrong Nurseries and Hobbs-Gregg Nurseries, Inc. – were labeled "for the Rose Garden." Oddly, neither record entirely supports Adams' recommendations as to color. Only a few of the roses are in the "wonderful new shades." Perhaps the owner or his wife had a fondness for the more old-fashioned colors of red, pink and white. The receipt from Armstrong Nurseries was for 46 'Hadley' roses at 40 cents each. This is a red Hybrid Tea, introduced in 1914, and considered to be "probably the best red rose to date" per Adams' letter of 27 December 1926. From the Hobbs-Gregson Nurseries, Inc., Adams ordered four each of the following roses:

'Souvenir de Claudius Pernet', a yellow Hybrid Tea (HT) introduced in France in 1920; 'Papa Gontier', a pink blend French Tea rose of 1883; 'Rose Marie', the rose pink HT of 1918; 'Padre', a coppery-red HT of 1920 bred by Cant of Colchester, England; 'Kaiserin Auguste Viktoria', a primrose white HT of 1891; 'General MacArthur', a bright red HT named in 1901 for the U. S. invader of the Philippines; 'Mme. Edouard Herriot', an orange-pink blend HT from 1913; and 'Lady Hillingdon', an "old gold" Tea rose of 1910. Prices ranged from \$1 each for the 'Pernet'

roses to 60 cents for the 'MacArthur', cost being determined by degree of newness and rarity.

Adams sent pictures to Kellogg of roses he had "particularly featured" in his design, and from this assemblage, the following list has been compiled:

'Climbing Mme. Caroline Testout', to be used on the wooden lattice or rustic arbor, which provided shade for such activities as afternoon picnics in the garden. This is a pink HT created in 1890 and named after an English *couturière*. At one time it was named the state flower of Oregon, and planted en masse on the streets of Portland. 'Columbia', a pink HT, won the American Rose Society's Gold Medal in 1919; 'Duchess of Wellington', a light yellow HT of 1909; 'Étoile de France', a dark red HT of 1904; 'Los Angeles', described by Adams as "the best all-round rose to date; winner of all highest prizes in England, France, & U. S." It is an orange-pink blend HT created by Fred Howard of Howard & Smith, Los Angeles in 1916. Though there is no record of prizes won in England or the U. S., 'Los Angeles' did take the prestigious Gold Medal at the Parisian Rose Test Garden, located at Bagatelle in the Bois de Boulogne. 'Mme. Butterfly', a light pink HT of 1918; 'Miss Lolita Armour', a coppery, coral red-yellow blend HT bred by Fred Howard in 1919 and named after the Montecito socialite. 'Mrs. William C. Egan' was another Howard introduction of 1922, a fragrant, soft pink HT. 'Paul Neyron', billed by Adams as the "largest rose to date," is a pink French Hybrid Perpetual rose created in 1869. Its blooms sometimes reach up to four inches in diameter, quite a big rose in those days, and very fragrant as well. 'Paul's Scarlet Climber', from the English rose breeder William Paul in 1916; 'Queen Mary', an Irish-bred HT, canary yellow shaded with red, introduced in 1913; 'Radiance', a rose-pink HT of 1908; and 'Red Radiance' a deep pink sport produced in 1916; 'Souvenir de Georges Pernet', an orange-pink blend HT introduced in 1921. The French rose breeder Joseph Pernet-Ducher named two roses in memory of his sons, Claudius and George, both of whom were killed in World War I. 'William F. Dreer', HT 1920, Howard & Smith, shell pink with a yellow base, named to commemorate the famous Philadelphia seedsman who also had a private home with extensive gardens in Santa Barbara and died in 1918.

The garden, once complete, became a regular stopping point on any tour of the ranch. These tours allowed the "Pomona Day guest" (Parkinson, p.280) to visit various points of interest on the Kellogg ranch such as the Cactus Garden, the Rose Garden, the Lily Pond, and the Arabian horses, among others. The Pasadena Garden Club (consisting of those who owned estates in the Pasadena area) was one of the groups that was interested in visiting the garden, but Adams did not want them to come until after April of 1927 "when things are in full bloom." Norman Williamson mentioned that he had worked in the garden when it had become overgrown and it resembled a jungle.

He also mentioned that around or under the garden perhaps more than one Arabian horse had been buried. No records could be located to determine the accurate number of horses buried in the garden. According to Carol Woodbridge Mulder, "King John" – who appeared in Walt Disney's 1938 version of "Snow White" as Prince Charming's horse – is buried near the Rose Garden. However, one record has been found indicating that an Arabian horse named "Rossika" – a well known trick riding horse who performed at the Sunday horse shows – is buried near the stables.

The Rose Garden of yesterday is virtually the same today, continuing the circular pie-shaped design and containing similarly colored roses. The adjacent grounds unfortunately lack the original lattice that once featured two varieties of climbing roses – 'Paul's Scarlet Climber' and 'Climbing Mme. Caroline Testout'.

The garden remains a popular location to visit on campus and will continue to play a part in California Polytechnic University's colorful history. The Class of 1994 made a gift to the campus of a gazebo for the center of the Rose Garden. The gazebo serves as a lovely focal point for the garden and an interesting background for photographs.

Though the roses planted in the garden today are all modern varieties such as 'Mr. Lincoln' or 'Iceberg', all but three of the original roses listed here are still in commerce today, and could be obtained should a full historical restoration ever be considered by the University. Two are only available from a French rose specialist, the Pépinières Loubert in the Loire Valley but could be imported. Some others are only available by special order from the extensive collection of Vintage Gardens in Sebastopol. Several have remained so popular that many rose specialists stock them.

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CHARLES GIBBS ADAMS (1884-1953)

Little has been written about the career of Pasadena landscape designer Charles Gibbs Adams, though Victoria Padilla says that he was "a familiar figure of the 'thirties and 'forties" and "responsible for a number of notable gardens in West Los Angeles and Pasadena. Adams is also remembered for his many personal appearances as he was a popular public speaker. Having a deep admiration for old California, its stories, its plantings, and its romance, Adams did much to instill in his audiences an appreciation for the California landscape and the plants that graced it. His influence on the art of landscape design in the state has been marked." Other authors mention Adams only in connection with Hearst Castle at San Simeon, where he was supposedly an advisor to Julia Morgan. In fact, Adams did almost nothing there, according to Michele D. Hachigian, Hearst Castle staff librarian and docent trainer. Adams didn't get along with Hearst's head gardener Nigel Keep, and as Hearst had a close and fond relationship with Keep, Adams was soon removed from the scene.

Nancy Goslee Power (*The Gardens of California – Four Centuries of Design from Mission to Modern*, 1995) mentions Adams' connection to the Montecito estate, 'Val Verde.' The property was originally laid out in 1915 for Henry Dater, cousin to J. Waldron Gillespie who owned the neighboring estate, 'El Fureides.' Dater named his place 'Dias Felices,' and Adams designed the original planting. When C. H. Ludington bought the property from Dater in 1925, he renamed it and hired Lockwood de Forest to redesign the landscape.

The most complete source yet found for Adams is Jere Stuart French, author of *The California Garden and the Landscape Architects Who Shaped It*, (1993). He tells us that Adams was born on 4 January 1884 and studied landscape architecture at the University of California, Berkeley. He took the expected postgraduate tour of European gardens, then opened an office in Pasadena in 1917, where "he quickly established a reputation for carefully detailed residential design that effectively blended house and garden. Adams was perhaps the first of his generation to acknowledge

fully the function and importance of the patio as the crux of the garden...and to translate that concept into contemporary usage and form. He was also one of the first of his era to make substantial use of California's own native plants, often replacing earlier plantations of tropicals, eastern shrubs, and thirsty lawns...Adams' most notable gardens include many of the homes of the silent screen stars, as well as Cecil B. DeMille." French considers the Dater garden to have been one of Adams' best designs. 'Arcady,' the Montecito estate of George Owen Knapp, was another designed by Adams.

The photographic captions in Winifred Starr Dobyns' book *California Gardens* (1931) cite architect and landscape architect for each property where known. These tell us that Adams was also responsible for the landscape designs of such Pasadena estates as 'Il Paradiso,' the property of Mr. and Mrs. Francis F.

Prentiss; 'Haderway,' belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur G. Reynolds; the gardens of Mrs. Pliney Watson, the Charles H. Crane estate; also that of William Jarvis Earl in La Cañada; and of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick A. Harrison in San Marino.

In addition to giving lectures, Adams also wrote a few short articles on landscaping for the popular press. "Our Architectural Tragedy," in which Adams

warned against the dangers of gardening in a climate where anything and everything could and, all too frequently, was grown without discrimination or taste, was published in *California Southland* 10 (July 1928). "Gardens of the Stars," appeared in the *Saturday Evening Post* (2 March 1940, p.74). A short piece on "The Spanish Influence in California Gardening," was part of a collection published under the title, *Pioneer American Gardening*, compiled by Elvenia Slosson on behalf of the National Council of State Garden Clubs in 1951.

The 1930 US Census record shows that Adams' father was born in France and his mother in Michigan, while he was born in California. At the age of 46, Adams was still single and living in Pasadena with his widowed mother, Carolyn H. Adams and a sister, Rachel. He was listed as a landscape architect and was earning \$8,000 a year. He died in Los Angeles on 21 December 1953.



Adams on Twin Peaks in 1912 (French).

WHAT NEEDS SAVING NOW?

Hope Ranch - Santa Barbara County

In 1887-88, the Pacific Improvement Company, a subsidiary holding corporation created by the railroad barons of the Central and later Southern Pacific Railroads, acquired about half of the Hope Ranch property in Santa Barbara County. Their intention was to develop the property along the same lines as they had done at Monterey, but the time was not right for such a development, primarily due to the inconvenient distance from town. The PIC turned to farming the land, raising lemons, walnuts, hay, grain, and lima beans. Nearly twenty years later, they tried again. On 11 November 1904, the *Monterey New Era* reported that Thomas Lee, "Hotel Del Monte's superintendent of grounds, leaves tonight for Santa Barbara where the Pacific Improvement Company is laying out a 2,500 acre tract into villa lots with race track, golf links, etc. He expects to be back Thursday." A similar item in a Santa Barbara newspaper added the information that master tree planter John McLaren of Golden Gate Park accompanied Lee on this trip, and that the two were in consultation over plans for the park. Born in Kent, England, Lee (1856-1934) emigrated to the U. S. with his bride in 1884 and began work at the Hotel del Monte under Rudolph Ulrich in 1886. Trained in England, Lee was an expert landscape artist and from 1895 onward, he was head gardener for Del Monte Properties Company, in charge of the landscaping of the company's entire holdings. He retired from this position in 1927.

Roads were laid out, including a scenic cliff drive, and along Las Palmas Drive, 360 trees were planted. A large water reservoir was dug and pipe laid from the nearby mountains, to guarantee a never-failing supply for each household. This also fed an ornamental lake named Laguna Blanca. A 1906 PIC prospectus, or "souvenir book" contains a photo of the allée of palms, already of goodly size, perhaps as high as six feet. In 1908 further development was begun on the golf course, a clubhouse near the lake, and a polo field, all to be made available to the guests of the Potter Hotel, which was four miles away. Advertisements appearing in the PIC's publication, the *Del Monte Weekly* of 1911, proclaimed Hope Ranch Park to be "A great natural park covered with magnificent oaks—superbly situated between the mountains and the Pacific. Subdivided into beautiful home and villa sites of from two to fifty acres which are now on sale at very moderate prices. There is a railroad station on the Coast line of the Southern Pacific, almost directly in front of the entrance of the ranch, at which passenger trains stop on signal...Anticipating the time when the demand for homes in this splendid situation would be imperative, the Pacific Improvement Company has been diligently making [what else?] improvements...In order to conserve the beauty of this property and insure a desirable neighborhood, suitable building restrictions will be imposed. While not excessive, these are the guarantee of such buildings as will best promote the interests of the property as a whole."

Now the 100-year-old historic allée of stately palm trees planted along Las Palmas Drive and Marina Drive may be threatened by possible "improvements" of a different nature, a plan to expand the Laguna Blanca School, built on land donated by Hope Ranch in the 1930s for the convenience of local property owners and their children. Part of the master plan of proposed changes is the installation of a large student parking lot that would let out onto Las Palmas. "Something like a cloverleaf" has been proposed as one way to deal with the increased traffic that would result at this intersection, and the allée could be adversely affected. CGLHS member and Hope Ranch resident Kathryn Lyon invites any helpful contributions towards further documentation of the historical significance of these trees. If you can assist, please call or write using the information listed for her in your Membership Directory.

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.

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BOOK REVIEWS & NEWS

A Miscellany of Garden Writing

Margaretta J. Darnall

Friends are an important source of garden books and writing. This review is to thank the many friends without whom I would miss out on a wealth of obscure pictures, stories, and pleasures. Even when, as is usually the case, the books or articles have little or nothing to do with my current research topics, they seem to enrich the thought process.

Last fall, Phoebe Cutler announced that her husband had presented her with a new book on the Alhambra, just off the press in London, and told me that I must review it for *Eden*. A few weeks later, while perusing the counters in the basement at William K. Stout Architectural Books in San Francisco, I found the American edition, just out from Harvard University Press. Well, Phoebe was right. Robert Irwin's *The Alhambra* is a book California garden history buffs should be familiar with since many of the state's gardens have been inspired by the Alhambra's courts and fountains. Irwin's book is essentially a review of the literature of the Alhambra and has just enough information to be useful to the traveler planning a trip to Granada. He concludes that while the Alhambra has had enormous influence on literature, ornamental design, and gardens since the fifteenth century, very little is actually known about its history, and most of what has been written is fanciful at best. This is a small book, 5" x 7.5" in hardback, lightly illustrated, and convenient to read.

On another occasion, I found myself trapped in what I thought was the dulllest of used bookstores while a dear friend perused every novel in the shop. Finally, I decided I might as well check the garden section, just in case...The surprise was *The Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1905-1949, Personal Recollections of William Hertrich*. This charming book was unknown to me. It now has a special place among my California garden books. I later discovered that Stout's in San Francisco has several copies of the 1988 paperback reprint. I recommend it for the early history of the gardens and also for its style and insight into the personality of Hertrich, Henry P. Huntington's estate Superintendent and Curator of the Botanical Garden. The moral of this story is that some of the best garden books turn up in unlikely places.

One dreary February day I found a package from Amazon.com at my front door. I thought this was very odd as I had never ordered from the Amazons. An old friend, now living in Indianapolis, had sent *The Lost Garden*, a novel by Helen Humphreys, a Canadian writer. Mary Ellen's note said, "Let's confer about the plant list." The novel is set in a nearly abandoned house and garden in Devon during World War II where the Women's Land Army are setting out to grow vegetables for the troops. The discovery of hidden gardens and the attempt to discover their history and meaning are central to the story and will delight historians. Mary Ellen, however, is both historian and horticulturist and pointed out that the plant combinations are unlikely and probably impossible because of the radically different cultural requirements of the plants the author has juxtaposed in each of the gardens. I would be interested in other thoughts on this subject.

Still another friend has been passing on his copies of the British weekly, *The Spectator*, for the last several years. (*The Spectator*, of course, played a central role in the development of the English garden in the eighteenth century.) After enjoying these castoffs for nearly a year, I realized that one of the things I looked forward to most was Ursula Buchan's gardening column, which seems to appear about once a month. Her topics are wide-ranging and designed for her British readership. Whether she is commenting on obscure gardens in the Scottish highlands, reviewing garden related exhibitions in London and its environs, or lamenting the death of earthworms in her own garden, she is always a pleasure to read. It is probably not worth a subscription to *The Spectator* just for Ms. Buchan's column, but it is definitely worth reading should you have the opportunity. Some of her writings have been collected and are available in the United States.

Finally, a recent trip to St. Louis to visit friends and complete some research on the superb Tower Grove park yielded three more garden gems, which may interest *Eden* readers. *The Illustrated Garden: Books from the Missouri Botanical Garden, 1485-1855* is the catalog of an exhibit held at the St. Louis Art Museum in 2004. The design and illustrations are wonderful and the text by museum curator, Francesca Herndon-Consagra, is informative. Among the jewels are the abstractions of Nehemiah Grew (1641-1712) from *The Anatomy of Plants* (London, 1682) and some lesser known works of Pierre Joseph Redoute. *Women's Work: Portraits of 12 Scientific Illustrators* is the catalog of a 2005 exhibit in Kansas City of drawings and paintings from the collections of the Linda Hall Library (Kansas City) and the Missouri Botanical Garden Library (St. Louis). My favorite illustration here is a collection of bird eggs, painted and identified by Sarah Price (1849-1903) of Kentucky. I am sorry to have missed both exhibitions, but delighted that Doug Holland, the knowledgeable and dedicated librarian at the Missouri Botanical Garden, made

their catalogs available. The third interesting item from St. Louis is John Henderson's *Hortus: The Roman Book of Gardening*, (London and New York: Routledge, 2004). Henderson is a classicist at the University of Cambridge, and the book is essentially new translations of passages on practical gardening from Virgil, Columella, Pliny the Elder, and Palladius. The book is illustrated and annotated, and the plants are all suitable for California gardens.

These miscellaneous garden writings are far flung. Each of them, however, is inspiring and in some way gives a better perspective on local research.

Notes:

William K. Stout Architectural Books, 804 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA. 415.391.6757. www.stoutbooks.com.

Missouri Botanical Gardens, PO Box 299, St. Louis, MO (www.MOBOT.org).

Linda Hall Library, www.lindahall.org, 800.662.1545. Catalog is \$10.00.



Redouté's *Ixia* (Dausien).

Clean used copies of the hardcover edition are priced about the same.

The Lost Garden, by Helen Humphreys, (W. W. Norton & Co., 2003), paperback, 192 pages, \$13.95, ISBN: 0393324915. The hardcover American edition is priced at \$23.95.

Good in a Bed: Garden Writings from The Spectator, by Ursula Buchan, (John Murray, 2002), hardcover, 277 pages, \$19.79, ISBN: 0719560268.

Hortus: The Roman Book of Gardening, by John Henderson, (Routledge New Ed, 2004), paperback, 176 pages, \$33.95, ISBN: 0415324505. Hardcover edition \$99.95.

The Alhambra, by Robert Irwin, Wonders of the World series, (Harvard University Press, 2004), hardcover, 224 pages, \$19.95, ISBN: 06740156871.

The Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1905-1949, Personal Recollections of William Hertrich, (UC Press, 1998), paperback, 180 pages, \$21.95, ISBN: 0873280962.

While Arcadia Publishing continues to turn out book after book of historical photographs showing various aspects of California towns, we've recently come across two books illustrated with vintage postcards and photographs that fall outside that mold. One is an older book found in the open stacks of the California State Library at Sacramento, *Greetings from Southern California – A Look At The Past Through Postcards* by Monica Highland (Portland: Graphic Arts Center Publishing Co., circa 1988). It is a hardcover book, wider than it is tall, measuring 12" x 9.5" with 111 pages. Used copies are priced from \$2.50 and up. The cards are reproduced in full color, and this selection not only documents the past in pictures, but evokes the sense of innocence and boosterism that was rampant in the South around the turn of the century. A little girl stands next to a giant orange on a flatbed railroad car. A group of seemingly care-free people in old-time bathing costumes enjoys the surf at Santa Monica beach. Our only complaint is that a wonderful enlarged version of a rose parade float was made with the cheaper dot-print process, and seen in large, it detracts from our delight in such pleasurable silliness. Highland is the author of a historic novel titled *Lotus Land* (Coward McCann, 1983; McGraw-Hill Book Co. reprint 1985) but it seems to have nothing to do with the Santa Barbara estate of that name.

The second book is *The Monterey Peninsula: A Postcard Journey*, by Burl Willes, the man who brought us *Picturing Berkeley, A Postcard History*, which won an Award of Excellence in 2003. This new hardcover book (Gibbs Smith Publishers, 2005) measures 8.87" x 11.3," just a little smaller than the one on Berkeley. It has 200 pages and the 300 illustrations are in full color of excellent quality, many of them reputedly never published before. It's priced at \$29.95, but you're getting a lot more for your money. Though we haven't seen the text in this one yet, we expect that the Monterey book shares a similar format, which means there should be scholarly articles on various aspects of Monterey history written by local historians. In the previous book, Willes tapped UCB Architectural Professor Emeritus Kenneth H. Cardwell, as well as Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association members Susan Dinkelspiel Cerny, Susan Wikander and Anthony Bruce to provide essays. Willes and Ed Herny both were associated with the Berkeley Historical Society, and Herny is also the President of the SF Bay Area Postcard Club, and was well qualified to provide some helpful background on that subject.

COMING EVENTS

Through June 26: The Pasadena Museum of History hosts an exhibit on "An Enchanted Park: Celebrating the Centennial of Busch Gardens." The Gardens were created at the behest of Adolphus Busch, the flamboyant co-founder of Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company. Pasadena was Busch's winter home, and the 30-acre garden was open to the public from 1905 to 1937. A series of special activities including lectures and a walking tour of the former Busch Gardens area are scheduled to occur at various times throughout the exhibit's run. The exhibit is co-curated by Michael Logan and Gary Cowles, independent researchers who for the past two years have been piecing together the history of the gardens. Because of their investigations and personal contacts, this exhibition will be an opportunity for visitors to explore the little-known history of Busch Gardens and its importance as an early family entertainment park. See the website, www.pasadenahistory.org/, for full details about special events, or call 626.577.1660 x10. The museum is at 470 West Walnut Street, at the corner of Walnut and Orange Grove Blvd. There is limited off-street parking at the West Walnut Street entrance. Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 12-5 pm. Admission is \$5.

Through August 14: "Glasshouses: The Architecture of Light and Air," an exhibition of more than three centuries of evolving architecture, social class and style, horticulture and plant collecting, curator Therese O'Malley, at the New York Botanical Garden, LuEsther T. Mertz Library, William D. Rondina and Giovanni Foroni LoFaro Gallery, open Tuesday - Sunday, 10 - 5 pm. Catalog.

June 7th, 9th, 16th or 23rd: "Living with Fire in Chaparral Ecosystems - Providing Tools for Decision Makers." Many Southern Californians suffered devastating losses in the wildland fires of a few years ago. This

year the San Diego Natural History Museum is co-sponsoring four one-day workshops addressing landscaping fire safety issues. These workshops are aimed not just at home owners, but also professionals in the landscaping industry. Subjects to be covered include House & Home-site, Natural Habitat & Watersheds, and Policies & Planning. Each workshop runs from 8:30 to 2:45 pm. Attendance is free, but space is limited so advance registration is recommended. Call 619.255.0289 or www.sdnhm.org/chapparral. Classes offered: June 7th at the Natural History Museum in San Diego; June 9th at the San Bernardino Public Library; June 16th at the Reagan Library in Simi Valley; June 23rd at the Anaheim School of Continuing Education.

"Thomas Church: Landscape Architect and California Modernist"

A lecture and garden tour led by UC Berkeley Professor of Architecture and author Marc Treib will be held in San Francisco on **25 June 2005**. The talk will be at the Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park, and the garden tour is at the 1948 Church-designed Dewey Donnell garden in Sonoma. The fee of \$150 includes lunch and round-trip transport by bus to the garden. Hours: 10 am - 6:30 pm. For more information or to register, call the San Francisco Botanical Garden Society at 415.661.1316 x354 or visit the SFBGS website at www.sfbotanicalgarden.org. Enrollment is limited and pre-registration is required. Professor Treib's newest monograph, *The Donnell and Eckbo Gardens: Modern Californian Masterworks*, is soon to be released. Both books by Treib will be available for sale and signing at this lecture.

JUNE 11-12: It's not too late to register for the CGLHS Annual Conference, "Beyond Vineyards: Landscapes of the Napa Valley." Sandra Price is serving as 2006 Conference Coordinator. Details may be found on our website. **To register, call Sandra at 707.963.9504**, or www.cglhs.org.

June 9-11: "Hidden Treasures of Indianapolis, Historic Landscapes and Gardens and the People Who Created Them." The conference features nationally recognized experts on the landscape designs of George Kessler, Jens Jensen and the Olmsted firm, as well as guided tours of the Jensen landscape at Oldfields and the Kessler Park and Boulevard system. www.hiddentreasuresindy.org.

(continued on page 10)

HOW TO JOIN CGLHS

To become a member of the California Garden & Landscape History Society, send a check or money order to the

Membership Secretary, 3223 E. First St., Long Beach CA 90803. See our website: www.cglhs.org for an application form.

Membership rates:

Individual \$30

Household \$40

Institution \$50

Sustaining \$60 and up.



THE OAK KNOLL ESTATE, NAPA VALLEY

The Oak Knoll estate was considered one of the show places of Napa County from the 1850s on. About 1853, Joseph Warren Osborn purchased land in Napa County with a view to taking up the extensive cultivation of fruit trees. He believed that the “industry was destined to become a very large and important one to California, the soil and climate being in every way favorable to its best development.” Richard Tyther, who was later the proprietor of Dry Creek Orchard in Napa County, “worked at the Oak Knoll ranch for three years from 1855, and during that time he planted most of the trees and vines which covered that magnificent tract.” Mr. Osborn also had an appreciation for the beauty of ornamental trees, shrubs, and flowers, and he made sure that the land around his home was landscaped accordingly. Unfortunately, an altercation over an employee’s paycheck led to Mr. Osborn being killed on 18 April 1863.

In the meantime, Robert Blum Woodward, born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1874, had established himself in the mercantile business. He married Mary Church Bucklin on 2 June 1847, and three children were born to them in Providence. Woodward decided to go to California and make his fortune in the Gold Rush, his family to remain in Rhode Island for the time being. He arrived in San Francisco on 19 November 1849 and set up in business there with a small grocery store, hotel, and restaurant. He built a new hotel in 1852, the What Cheer House at the corner of Sacramento and Leidesdorff Streets. This enterprise too was a success, and in 1857 Woodward’s wife and family arrived in San Francisco. “The Woodwards moved into a residence in the fashionable Rincon Hill neighborhood, but the area became far too crowded for their taste, and in 1861, Woodward purchased the former home of General Frémont in the Mission district, and moved his family there.” His growing wealth led to the construction of a new and larger home, as well as the beautification of the grounds of the estate. This was eventually opened to the public in 1865 as the celebrated Woodward’s Gardens amusement park.

Woodward purchased the Oak Knoll estate from Osborn’s heirs and moved his family to Napa County while continuing to run his San Francisco hotel and resort enterprises. He had a prefabricated house shipped around the Cape to Oak Knoll, but it burned down almost as soon as it was assembled. Woodward then put up another house with better results, (the one seen in this illustration still stands today) and built a barn to match it, that later burned down. Woodward made many improvements to the property. Members of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society who came to visit California in 1870 wrote of their trip to Oak Knoll in *Tilton’s Journal of Horticulture and Floral Magazine*. After seeing many dry and dusty landscapes on their summer travels, they were particularly impressed with the “broad and beautiful lawn planted with many fine trees – a splendid *Grevillea robusta*, *Magnolia grandiflora*,

Araucaria excelsa, *Salisburia*, gigantic *Cacti*, *Sequoia gigantea*, *Cupressus Lawsoniana*, acacias, and a fine collection of roses and other plants in bloom.” Six years later, the engraving shown here appeared on the cover of a New York publication, *The Ladies’ Floral Cabinet*, and the accompanying text stated that, “This residence is surrounded with an abundant display of flowers and fruit orchards, and live-oak trees scattered over the lawn give to this retreat a park-like beauty. The estate covers over 1,600 acres, and the fruit orchard alone over 140 acres. The grounds are so extensive that you can drive over twenty miles without retracing your steps.” Many years later, Woodward’s granddaughter, Ethel Malone Brown, wrote an unpublished memoir titled “Dead and Alive” about life at Oak Knoll. “In the tower, looking west from the roof, it was all ours, as far as you could see, fields, orchards, and hills to the very tip top,” from the child’s point of view a wonderful playground, “3,000 acres of pure delight.” Woodward died on 22nd August 1879 at Napa, leaving behind his wife and four children.

For some years afterward the family carried on as usual. “We spent summers at Oak Knoll...and winters at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco...” When April arrived, it was time to depart once again for Oak Knoll. Getting there took two ferry rides and two train changes. The County Fair was the event of the summer. Then Brown’s father and an elder brother both died. These emotional losses had a severe financial impact as well. “The city properties were sold and the ranch became a working ranch again. The gardener was let go and I took over the garden. It was huge, but I struggled grimly.” Brown describes little of the gardens directly, speaking only in passing of spring flowers (lilac and bridal wreath spirea) and autumn flowers (red and gold chrysanthemums) brought into the house. She mentions enjoying the night scents of stock and heliotrope, the sound of the splashing fountain on the front lawn, the marble statues of Bacchus, Ceres and Terpsichore that decorated the gardens. Unreliable weather and changes in the commodities market led to more financial losses. Next an attempt was made to run the place as a dude ranch, but the reservoir ran dry when the house was full of guests. At last the family accepted that they could not make a go of the place, and everything was auctioned off and carted away, even the marble fountain. Today the house survives, but the grounds have been redone many times over, and little remains of the original landscaping. [Sources: As cited in text above, plus *Memorial and Biographical History of Northern California* (1891); *Tangible Memories, Californians and Their Gardens, 1800-1950* (2003); www.shistoryencyclopedia.com; www.ancestry.com; Brown papers held at Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley; an unpublished report, “The Oak Knoll Ranch” by Maggie Turner, held at the Napa Public Library.]



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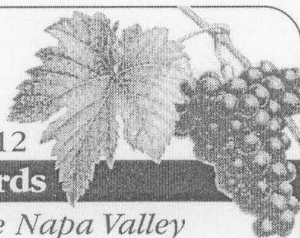
June 11-12

Beyond Vineyards

Landscapes of the Napa Valley

A Conference in St. Helena with
Garden Tours throughout the Napa Valley.

visit www.cglhs.org or contact Sandra Price (707) 963-9504



June 16-18: "The Pursuit of Public Happiness: Gardens and Parks in Europe and North America." The German Historical Institute of Washington DC and the Bavarian American Academy of Munich are co-hosts of this conference, to be held in English at the Academy. For details see www.ghidc.org/conferences.

June 26-29: "Landscape Leading the Way," the 42nd IFLA World Congress, Edinburgh, Scotland. www.ifla.net/.

July 10: Second in a series of garden lectures at the Pasadena History Museum, "A Contemporary California Classic Garden," by landscape architect Mark Bartos (Montalvo Design Group) will explore a design approach that harkens back to the great estate tradition of early 20th century California with a 21st century Mediterranean slant. **Details are the same for all scheduled classes/garden tours:** Lecture at 1 pm at the Avery Dennison Auditorium. The speaker will then guide you on a tour of a local private garden which has been chosen to illustrate aspects of the lecture. Post-tour receptions will follow. Reservations must be made in advance. Ticket prices are \$45 for the general public, and \$35 for Museum members. Call 626.577.1660 x10 or see the website: www.pasadenahistory.org for further information and photos of the gardens to be visited.

Sept. 21-24: "A Time for Place," annual conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Athens, Georgia. www.uga.edu/cela2005/cela2005.htm.

Sept. 29 - Oct. 1: 15th Conference of the Southern Garden History Society on Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes. Write to SGHS, Old Salem, Inc., Drawer F, Salem Station, Winston-Salem, NC. Contact Kay Bergey, bergeymk@wfu.edu. www.southern.gardenhistory.org.

September 30: Garden Conservancy symposium, following on from the June lecture is "Gardens to Match Your Architecture, Part II" covering the Art Deco, International Style, and California Modernist Periods of the 1950s and '60s. Zahid Sardar, architecture and design editor of the *SF Chronicle Magazine* and Scott Medbury, director of the SF Botanical Gardens are two of the invited speakers.

October/November: The Garden Conservancy's followup garden visits for the workshops.

October 2: Pasadena Museum of History's 3rd in the 2005 garden lecture series, "Architecture *Française Normand à Pasadena*," with landscape architect Sydney Baumgartner, architect David Serrurier and interior designer Ann Fletcher. This is a demonstration of a collaboration between building, interior and garden, a study of a new/ancient home created for special clients with taste. See registration details above under July 10.

October 7-10: ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. www.asla.org/meetings/am2005/.

October 16: The last of the Pasadena Museum of History's 2005 garden lectures, "Big Places, Small Spaces: Aspects of Japanese Garden Design," by Bruce Coats, Scripps College Professor of Art History and the Humanities. He will examine design schemes with particular attention to the landscape traditions of the imperial capitol of Kyoto and the samurai outpost of Chiran, Kyushu. The garden tour will be of a Japanese garden that is on the National Register of Historic Places.

March 2006: 5th Nat'l Forum on "Historic Preservation Practice: A Critical Look at Authenticity & Historic Preservation," Goucher College, Baltimore, MD.

DIRECTORY CHANGES & ADDITIONS

Please welcome the following new members:

Peggy Beedle, 27330 S. Stanford St, Hemet 92544.
Molly McClain, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego 92110.
Nancy E. Mead, 211 Myrtle St, Santa Cruz 95060.
Stephen Morgan, 3628 SW Canby St, Portland OR 97219.
John F. Saladino, 200 Lexington Ave, New York NY 10016.

Correction:

From our last issue: New member John K. Ziegler is not the representative of the Brooklyn Botanical Garden, the actual subscriber of record.

SIN OF OMISSION

The editor apologizes for the accidental oversight of failing to include Judith M. Taylor, M. D., author (in conjunction with the late Harry M. Butterfield) of *Tangible Memories: Californians and Their Gardens, 1800-1950*, in the list of sources drawn upon to assemble "Early Nurseries of Napa County," printed in our last issue. It was Taylor's book that provided the essential clue about the transfer of Magnolia Farm to James David "who bought the property in about 1880." Without the help of this name and date, we could not have tracked down the newspaper citation documenting the transaction in November 1881.

To your 2005 Membership Directory: The Garden Conservancy advises that their email address should be changed to info@gardenconservancy.org. Karen Bartholomew's email address is now kbegonia@earthlink.net. And Lorreen Robinson's new email address is Lorreen@cox.net.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

David K. Blackburn is our new Vice President, but he wears many other hats as well. In addition to taking on this roll for CGLHS, David is Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services (also curator) at the John Muir and Eugene O'Neill National Historic Sites, both in Contra Costa County. In the position since 1993, David has worked at various units of the National Park Service for the last 17 years. These include the homes of Harry S. Truman and Edgar Allan Poe, Independence Hall, and the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde. In 2004 David completed his MA in Cultural Resource Management, specializing in cultural landscapes. He is a native Californian (a *rara avis* indeed) and lives in Richmond. David has a passion for the preservation and interpretation of the many vernacular, planned and natural landscapes of California and looks forward to serving on the Board of CGLHS.

GOOD NEWS

In our last issue we addressed the matter of the proposed federal budget cuts affecting the funding the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). On the 26th of April, US Archivist Allen Weinstein appeared before the House Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development to deliver testimony on behalf of the National

Archives and Records Administration in support of the Bush Administration's budget request. Appropriations Chair Ralph Regula (R-OH) spoke strongly in favor of providing funding for the NHPRC – funding that was zeroed out of the President's budget proposal for NARA. Without exception, all the other committee members also expressed strong support for the restoration of funding for the NHPRC. The opinion of the reporting members from the National Coalition for History is that Regula's support of funding NHPRC nearly guarantees that the House will include some money for the NHPRC in the budget. What exactly that level of support will be has yet to be determined. If you have not yet taken the time to express your concerns to Senator Feinstein as we asked in our last issue, we urge you to do so now. Address letters to Senator Diane Feinstein, US Senate, 331 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510. Those from other states check the website: www.archivists.org/news/nhprc-FY2006.asp for information on whom to contact. Faxing letters is best for quickest delivery. Please do make the effort.

EDEN

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Deadline for copy for the next *Eden* is: Sept. 01, 2005

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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FIRST CLASS MAIL



Kellogg Ranch Cactus Garden (Dobyns, 1931).

Address Correction and Forward Requested