

50 Years of Plants and People California Girboretum Foundation 1948-1998

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Tabebuia chrysostricha, 1964



Alyogyne huegelii, 1968



Chorisa speciosa, 1976



Senna multijuga, 1984

Bringing Color to Southern California

CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION The Arboretum of Los Angeles County 301 N. Baldwin Avenue · Arcadia, CA 91007 818-447-8207

Rancho Santa Anita

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COVER ARTISTS

Front Cover: "Queen Anne Cottage in the Winter Afternoon", 22"x28", oil on canvas, by Raymond Cuevas.

Back Outside Cover: "Santa Anita with Palms", 9.25"x12.25", oil on canvas, by Sarah Arnold.

Inside Back Cover: "Arboretum Adobe", 22"x28", oil on canvas. by Raymond Cuevas.

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50 YEARS OF PLANTS AND PEOPLE

ore than fifty years ago a group of visionary citizens was determined to start an arboretum for the quickly-growing metropolis known as Los Angeles. After all, any area wishing to be perceived as "civilized" and culturally rich needed to have an arboretum like other major cities across the nation.



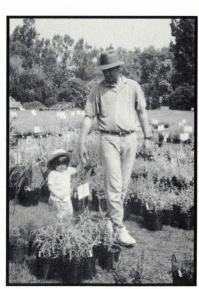
In 1948, the California Arboretum Foundation was incorporated as a non-profit in order to plan and manage this exciting endeavor.

Its original Board of Trustees included Dr. Samuel Ayres, Jr. and others dedicated to the mission of establishing an arboretum as a cultural institution emphasizing research, plant introductions, plant collection displays, education, and botanical pursuits.

A Huge Debt of Gratitude ...

Fifty years later, a huge debt of gratitude is due to the hard-working dreamers who composed the first Board of Trustees and set about the tremendous task of creating The Arboretum of Los Angeles County.

Dr. Ayres' wish for color was satisfied by the prodigious activity of the Arboretum plant introductions program which is responsible for many



of the flowering trees which today are commonplace in the Southern California landscape.

Anniversaries gives us a chance to reflect on what has gone before, to be grateful for what we currently have, and also to look ahead at future possibilities.

The future holds infinite possibilities at The Arboretum and the California Arboretum Foundation is eager to turn them into reality for new generations of visitors.



Several events and projects are planned to celebrate the **50 Years** of Plants and People who have been responsible for providing a special oasis and a precious resource in our urban surroundings for people and for plants.

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THE CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION

By Frederica Miller October 1996



Southern California in the spring is a veritable technicolor rhapsody of golden trumpet trees in Beverly Hills, lavender floss silk trees in Whittier, red bougainvillea in Burbank, golden carnaval trees in Long Beach and red, pink or white oleanders everywhere. You perhaps thought all of this flowering color was bestowed on us by Mother Nature, but you would be mistaken and it would be evident that you are not properly schooled in the mission of The California Arboretum Foundation (CAF) and THE ARBORETUM of Los Angeles County. It was the absence of such color on our landscape that inspired Dr. Samuel Ayres, Jr., a Los Angeles dermatologist and amateur horticulturist, to think about the possibility of an arboretum for his city.

It was in the mid-1930's when Dr. Ayres and his wife took a trip to Hawaii that he realized one of the shortcomings of Los Angeles' mostly green scenery was its lack of flowering shrubs and trees and, when he returned, he vowed to change the view.

He was a tenacious sort, and in post-war Los Angeles he nurtured his dream, which he took before the Southern California Horti-culture Institute, an organization of both amateur and professional people dedicated to their pastimes and professions. He was appointed chairman of a committee to explore the idea of an arbor-etum and, metaphorically speaking, a seed was planted.

Ayres and his committee began the quest for a site including the Will Rogers Ranch west of Brentwood which was offered to them at no cost by Mrs. Rogers. Alas, the soil was not appropriate for planting trees, nor much else, and they turned her generous offer down. They examined other sites in Los Angeles, Whittier and in San Marino to no avail. Almost as if fate intended it, Dr. Ayres and his wife were invited to a picnic at the lagoon on the Lucky Baldwin property in Arcadia and, although he had never heard of the man nor the place, he went and said later, "I knew exactly how Brigham Young must have felt when he first saw Salt Lake Valley."

In 1948, Dr. Ayres, and others, incorporated the California Arboretum Foundation as a non-profit organization to operate The Arboretum and to raise funds for its operation and maintenance. The County was designated to furnish capital improvements. The Foundation in 1953 relinquished direct management of The Arboretum to the newly-created County Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens with the understanding that it would be operated under the original guidelines established by the Foundation: to become Southern California's premier horticultural center; to enhance the beauty of the area's landscape; to be a center for testing and improving plants adaptable to the area; to be a gardening school for both amateurs and professionals; to be a center of research and scientific study; to be an information center and a library relating to horticulture; to be a preservation center for early California buildings and to be a bird sanctuary.

In the 1990's, the Arboreta and Botanic Gardens Department was incorporated into the Department of Parks and Recreation which administers The Arboretum for the County, with the Foundation continuing its role as a partner in funding the facility and in attracting the public to its cultural and environmental milieu.

The Foundation also supports Los Voluntarios, the volunteer organization, which serves many aspects of The Arboretum, and its trustees implement many programs and other special events, all with the resolve to maintain one of Los Angeles County's most important cultural institutions.

EARLY CALIFORNIA HISTORY AT THE ARBORETUM

Gabrielino Wickiups

Attracted by the Freshwater springs that form the Baldwin Lake, native Gabrielino Indians were the earliest known inhabitants of the land now occupied by The Arboretum of Los Angeles County.



The Gabrielino slept in wickiups or "kiys," brush shelters constructed of staked willow poles thatched with layers of dried tule reeds. Rabbit skin mats provided bedding and small fires kept the occupants warm.

Hunters and gatherers who lived directly off the land, the Gabrielino Indians did not practice agriculture, nor did they need more than Stone Age skills and tools. Weapons were of stone and wood and cooking vessels of soapstone and basketry. Acorns from the plentiful California oaks were the staple of their diet, supplemented by small game and native nuts, seeds and berries. Numbering more than 5,000 in 1770, only a small number of Gabrielino survived through the nineteenth century.

Re-create for visitors, the wickiups at The Arboretum are constructed near Baldwin Lake, just as they were in earlier times.

Hugo Reid Adobe

The Hugo Reid Adobe was constructed in 1840 with the help of the local Gabrielino Indian laborers and was representative of a building style then common in Southern California.



Don Perfecto Hugo Reid (1810 - 1852), a Scot adventurer and naturalized Mexican citizen, was the first private owner of the 13,319-acre Rancho Santa Anita. Reid applied for provisional title to the land in 1839, promising that he and his Gabrielino wife Victoria would plant crops, run cattle and construct a house on the property, all of which were requirements for ownership.

Today's Hugo Reid Adobe has been reconstructed using original methods and materials whenever possible. From primitive homemade furniture, and exotic articles such as the Chinese trunks and the tapa cloth wall hanging which were brought home by Reid from his South Pacific trading adventures, the interior has been refurbished with a mixture of styles.

Open braziers provide heat for each of the rooms, and lighting sources were provided by candles and whale oil lamps. Food was stored, dried and prepared in the kitchen with most of the cooking done in the outdoor courtyard at the adobe stove and oven.

Designated as a California Historical Landmark, the Hugo Reid Adobe is not open to the public. However, visitors can enjoy the home through viewing windows.

Queen Anne Cottage

The Queen Anne Cottage is one of the most notable features of The Arboretum with its architectural features and place in the colorful history of early Southern California.



Built in 1885, Elias Jackson "Lucky" Baldwin constructed the queen Anne Cottage as a honeymoon gift for his fourth wife, sixteen-year old Lillie Bennett. Lillie's father, architect Albert A. Bennett, designed the cottage, but the honeymooners apparently never enjoyed its beauty. The two separated in 1885 and the fanciful house was converted by its owners into a memorial to the third Mrs. Baldwin, Lillie's predecessor, Jennie Dexter, who had died in 1881. A stained glass portrait of Jennie stood to welcome guests at the front door and an almost life-sized oil painting of her was hung in the Cottage parlor. Both items remain in the Cottage today.

The Baldwin Cottage (the designation "Queen Anne" was added in later years in reference to its architectural style) became the Santa Anita Ranch guest house. Cooking and dining facilities and Baldwin's personal quarters were located in a modernized old adobe house found on the property at the time of purchase.

Friends, relatives and business associates of Baldwin, including stars from the Baldwin Theater in San Francisco, enjoyed the ranch hospitality until Baldwin's death in 1909.

With the settlement of the Baldwin Estate, Lucky's daughter Anita closed the Cottage and disposed of all the furnishings. Fortunately, the detachable components such as the stained glass windows, black walnut doors, marble fireplace mantels, the hearth tiles and the tile mosaic entry floor were removed and stored in the nearby Coach Barn. All of these items plus the original bathroom fixtures and the exterior marble walkway were returned to the Queen Anne Cottage during its restoration in 1951-53. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places the Queen Anne Cottage is open to the public twice a year for tours.

The Coach Barn

Designed by architect Albert A. Bennett, as was the Queen Anne Cottage, the Baldwin Barn is an equally ornate example of Victorian architectural extravagance.



Elias "Lucky" Baldwin housed his private carriages plus those of his guests in the Coach Barn (a report of 1891 indicted 14 different vehicles in residence). Generous stall space was provided for carriage horses, and convenient hay and grain chutes were fed directly from the loft above. The Coachman's quarters, originally provided in the upper tower room above the hay loft, have been re-created in the downstairs tack room.

Baldwin's stylish "Tally Ho" carriage, purchased at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876, is today on display in the enlarged west room. The original wash rack, once used for washing down the carriages, still stands with the original pipes which were used to recycle water for irrigation purposes. Farm and blacksmith tools used in the late 1880's by Baldwin and his ranch hands are also on display in the south stall. A Victorian dog house built for Baldwin's guard dogs is also on display just outside the Coach Barn doors.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Coach Barn is open to the public daily.

Santa Anita Depot

A typical half-passenger, half-freight depot with living quarters upstairs for the agent and family, the Santa Anita Depot was an active local station stop for both Baldwin Ranch and nearby Sierra Madre residents.



At its peak, five passenger and numerous freight trains stopped daily at Santa Anita, and local residents picked up their mail in the waiting room post office.

The Santa Anita Depot opened for business on November 23, 1890, with Mr. M.C. Taylor as agent and first resident. A trail of depot agents and their families followed, including Miss Nora Higginson whose drop-leaf writing desk highlights the restored parlor of today's Santa Anita Depot. The last agent, D. Fred Bowe, was agent when the Depot and Post Office officially closed to the public on May 10, 1940.

After closure, the Santa Fe removed its rail equipment and boarded the windows and doors of the abandoned station. After 22 years of neglect, vandalism and exposure to the elements, the State Department of Highways in 1962 tentatively routed the new Foothill Freeway through Arcadia on a path that augured actual demolition of the old station. Condemnation proceedings followed in 1967.

The Arcadia Historical Society took up the challenge to "save the depot" and this effort was soon joined by the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce. Their persistence was regarded when a new home was secured for the Depot on Arboretum grounds. Although the Depot could not be moved intact, all the original bricks from the station, as well as the doors, trimming, beams and balcony, were removed and transported to the new site.

Reconstruction was completed in 1970, and fifty yards of Santa Fe standard gauge track was laid in front of the Depot by members of the Monrovia Model Railroad Club. The Santa Anita Depot of today displays turn-of-the-century housewares and period railroad equipment to recreate the ambiance of the station stop it once was. Guided tours are available of the Santa Anita Depot each Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

INTRODUCING PLANTS TO PEOPLE

There comes a time of reckoning when all human beings, young and old, have a feeling that rushes over them of being too attached to the trivial things of the world. They long to have an

awareness of nature as a whole.

At this time of reckoning, The Arboretum beckons. The Arboretum is an outdoor classroom with such a variety of opportunities, it is difficult to choose the catalyst for change that fits. Sometimes a simple introduction to a plant will do!

Someone who believed in this approach was Frans Verdoon, hired as the first director of The Arboretum on August 11, 1948. Just about the first item of business

ess sage that he intended to contribs and that "he and staff should

for Verdoon was to pass the message that he intended to contribute to the knowledge of his peers and that "he and staff should have as much academic freedom as customary in the better scientific institutions."



To support this position, with which Board members heartily agreed, a publication committee was appointed to determine publication policies for The Arboretum. Verdoon's many contacts also led to the donation of the first publications that were donated to the then fledg-

ling Arboretum Library. The library was used primarily by Arboretum staff in those days, but it was definitely always a part of outreach to the community.

Now, Plant Science Librarian Joan DeFato heads up one of the best botanical libraries in the nation. And outside, on The Arboretum grounds, programs, tours and classes provide enough variety for literally anyone who makes the move to walk through the gates. Real and exciting opportunities to bask in new discoveries.

Students on field trips learn about the relationships between plants and people, and enjoy the wide expanse of grass and sky. The Tropical Forest waits for explorers. Creep through and find a

mask in a tree or special games to play. Children enrolled in the Roots and Shoots Program garden and harvest their vegetables with pride. Beginning and advanced students study nature photog-



raphy and botanical illustration. Garden tasks and secrets for all seasons are taught year-round, and the Victorian Rose Garden is a site for work and for learning. Flower arranging techniques are shared by top floral designers, Ikebana flower design is ever popular, and garden tree care is addressed through intensive workshops. Learn about camellias and edible landscaping, join a tour group for a wildflower bus tour.

Baldwin Bonanza in the spring and the Garden Show in the fall. Learn about herbs. Look into Tour and Taste Thursdays and Six Summer Saturdays. It's all here at The Arboretum, now and forever.

A GIFT FROM THE ARBORETUM IS A GIFT TO THE ARBORETUM



"The Best Kept Shopping Secret in Town"

earn how to turn an apartment balcony or patio into a botanical paradise, create an interesting new focal point for your garden, how to garden in the shade or create wonderful boxes from the extensive book collection at the Gift Shop. Written by botanical experts, this collection provides readers with wonderful information about the horticultural world as well as provides tips on how to create and care for a garden.

From gardening tools and accessories for every garden to botanical paintings and books, the Gift Shop is a perfect place to find unique gifts for all.

Keep up with the four seasons of gardening with the Gift Shop selection of seeds and bulbs. Enjoy developing children gardens, vegetable or herb gardens. Plant and nurture perennials and annuals. However, before you begin, don't forget your garden

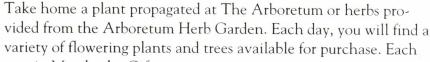
tools, hat and gloves. The Gift Shop offers an assortment perfect for every garden. When you have finished your garden, accent

with stepping stones, wind chimes, bird feeders and more.

Children will enjoy remembering their Arboretum experience by collecting and learning about nature. From Leaf and Flower Press Kits. Nature Houses and horticultural puzzles and games,

the Gift Shop has great educational items

for every child.



year in March, the Gift Shop presents an Orchid Sale and demonstrations on how to care for your Cymbidium Orchids.

Next time you come to The Arboretum, exit through the Gift Shop and take home a

memento of your visit. Remember ... a Gift from the Arboretum is a Gift to the Arboretum.



The Gift Shop at The Arboretum of Los Angeles County is the best kept secret in town. The Gift Shop is open seven days a week from 10:00am to 5:00pm. (818) 447-8751.



LOS ANGELES GARDEN SHOW

ccording to a recent statement made by Michael D. Antonovich, Supervisor of the Fifth District of the County of Los Angeles, The Arboretum remains as a shining example of the dedication of those who support one of the missions of the California Arboretum Foundation (CAF), to bring beauty and harmony to the lives of all who visit. This statement just about says it all.

Bringing the Los Angeles Garden Show back to The Arboretum in 1995, after a five year lapse, is one example of the kind of effort the CAF puts forth to carry out the mission referenced by the Supervisor.

To tour the more than nine-acre Show is to become immersed in a world that provides imaginative solutions to living side-by-side with technology.



Designer Style Gardens showcase

ideas that fully enhance the quality of life, for all who dare to open their minds to endless opportunities, are conceived and implemented by some of the most talented landscape designers and architects in the nation.

To serious shoppers the appeal of the PlantMarket and Market-Place is such that it is not unusual to spend more than one day in this part of the Show. A second day on-site often leads the visitor to experiment by attending a few of the seemingly endless lectures and demonstrations. There just isn't time for both activities in one

day! Especially when serious eaters are involved! The opportunities for enjoying a variety of food seem to appear on every corner. What could be better than a snack lunch at an umbrella table overlooking the Arboretum Fountains and the garden displays?

It is not just by chance that the Los Angeles Garden Show happens in the fall of the year. Serious gardeners know that in Southern California, fall is the best time to plant almost anything. Los Angeles



Times Garden Editor, Robert Smaus calls fall the "second spring" because of the gardening opportunities that abound. In one of his well-read columns in the *Times*, he notes that the best place to get



excited about this special season is at the 1996 Los Angeles Garden Show. There is no doubt that this will be true of all future Shows too, for there is a lot to live up to!

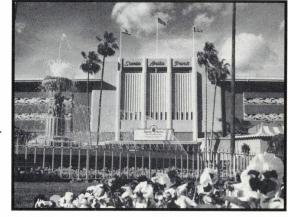
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For information about the Los Angeles Garden Show, please call (818) 447-8207. During this our Biennium celebration of the organization of the CAF, 1997 will showcase *Gardens of Our World: The Oceanic and Asian Approach*, from October 22 - 26.

SANTA ANITA PARK

S anta Anita Park has offered the thrills and excitement of the finest quality Thoroughbred horse racing since it opened on December 25, 1934, quickly earning a reputation as one of the world's leading race tracks. The current season is the track's 60th.

Horse racing is presented from the day after Christmas until late April, and again during October and Novem-ber every year. During the remainder of the year, fans can watch and wager on racing taking place



elsewhere when Santa Anita is a simulcast facility as horse activity shifts to other locales in Southern California.

Santa Anita and the Arboretum both occupy land which once was part of E.J. "Lucky" Baldwin's famed Rancho Santa Anita. This legendary California pioneer was an avid Thoroughbred owner who constructed his own race track - the first Santa Anita Park - where the Arcadia county park now stands.



After Baldwin died in 1909, racing ceased until the 1930s, when a group headed by Dr. Charles H. Strub of San Francisco organized Los Angeles Turf Club and built the new Santa Anita.

Santa Anita and its 300-plus acres truly form a park, in

the midst of which rises the distinctive blue-green grandstand, an impressive, award-winning architectural landmark. The grounds are beautifully landscaped, with a variety of trees, flowering plants and antique and modern works of art.



An afternoon at the races

can include strolls through the grounds, picnics in the infield, dining on terraces overlooking the races, and watching the action from various seating areas. There also are a children's playground and a gift shop.

In addition to Thoroughbred racing, Santa Anita is home to a variety of activities, from the 1984 Olympic Equestrian events and two Breeders' Cup Championships to numerous community fundraisers for worthy charities, the annual Greek Festival and Boy Scout Expo.

You are invited to experience Santa Anita Park, "The Great Race Place."

Special Events on the Santa Anita 1997 Calendar

Saturday, April 5	\$750,000 Santa Anita Derby			
Monday, April 21	Closing Day for Santa Anita's 60th			
	Racing Season			
Wednesday, October 1	Oak Tree Begins its 29th Season			
	at Santa Anita			
Saturday, October 25	Cal Cup - Showcasing California-			
	Bred Race Horses			
Monday, November 2	Oak Tree Closing Day			
Friday, December 26	Opening Day for Santa Anita's			
	61st Season			

FEATURED ARTISTS

hen I paint, I am guided by an inner response to capture on canvas the emotion that certain shapes, colors. and movements have aroused in me. I try to paint the essence of a particular place. The Arboretum's Queen Anne Cottage and environs have an almost mystical aura. I often felt that I was in a painter's fantasy land with multiple, yet subtle, variations of color and the ever changing light.



Laymond Culvas

To fulfill an artist void, Raymond Cuevas began painting seriously in 1985, concen-

trating on the unique landscape of the Los Angeles area. After many regional art club exhibitions, in 1994 Cuevas began exhibiting with the California Art Club and the Oil Painters of America. He has participated in the 1994, 1995, and 1996 California Art Club exhibitions at the Los Angeles County Arboretum. His work is featured at Tirage Gallery in La Cañada, 804 Foothill Boulevard, (818) 952-1028.

arah Arnold started painting buildings in 1989 and has become known as an architectural preservationist. She is attracted to well-made, well-designed old buildings as "there is something very human about them." Arnold's paintings are an evocative mix of realism and impressionism. It is the interplay of light and shadow on architectural elements that fascinates the young artist. In truth, it was not an intrinsic feeling for structures that motivated Arnold to begin her painting



Sarah arnold

activism for architectural preservation. It was the people and their stories, the likes of which she hears everyday when she paints - always on site. Not all of her subjects are ready for the wrecking ball, recently, she completed a series of paintings documenting Los Angeles County General Hospital and the Art Deco buildings of Long Beach. However, she has been painting St. Vibiana's Cathedral, while its fate is being determined. Arnold's work is featured at Tirage Gallery in La Cañada, 804 Foothill Boulevard, (818) 952-1028.



Art Consultants

& Gallery

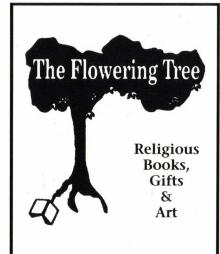
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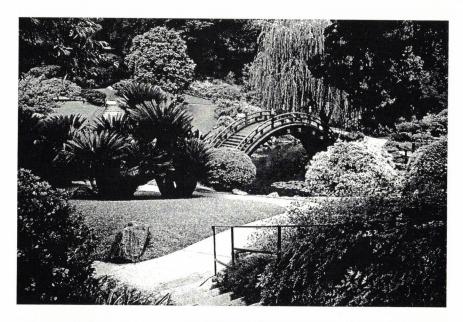
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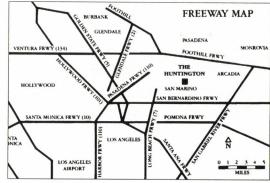
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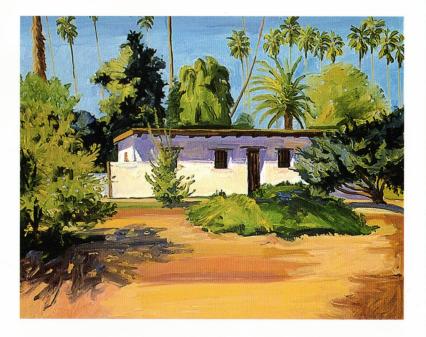
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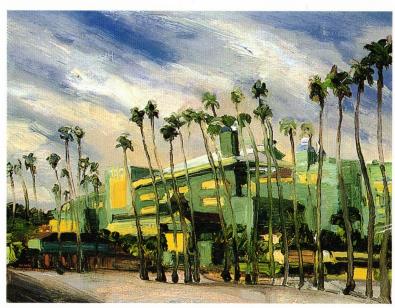
Gutenberg Bible, first editions of Shakespeare's plays, Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales, and the works of California architects Greene & Greene. The 150-acre gardens include the Japanese, Rose, Desert, and Jungle Gardens.





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"Santa Anita with Palms"