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THE FIRST OSUNA GARDEN

By RUTH R. NELSON

Does anyone who loves to work with plants and flowers ever go into an old deserted garden without feeling the imagined presence of those who used to walk in and out amongst its borders? Does it not seem easy to visualize the mistress as she reaches up to pick her finest blooms; the master keeping watch over his slowly ripening fruit; and the young people of the family striding into its secluded corners for songs and moonlight?

Just such a place was the original Osuna garden—planted when Don Juan built his first house upon the strategic hilltop which overlooks the valley of the San Dieguito river, and past which the King's Highway formerly led towards the north.

There is interesting evidence that Don Juan's garden had its beginning in accordance with the true old Spanish gardening system of planting whatever one fancied and could procure. Nurseries and landscaping would doubtless have been scorned by the early Osunas who hated the gringos and their new ways. This old Spanish gardening system included a friendly exchange of

trees and plants. . . rare things offered as gifts and even trees brought from long distances.

Such was the old Sentinel Palm which still stands, though slowly dying, at the foot of the Osuna hill. This palm is said to have been brought to the San Dieguito Rancho from Capistrano where some land was owned by the husband of Don Juan's only daughter, Felipa. This husband, whose name was Juan Maria Marron, was a very rich man, owned a house in San Diego and two immense ranchos, one of which was a land grant in San Diego County of 13,311 acres. But he was an old man, as old as Felipa's father, and one cannot help wishing to know whether the precious palm trees may have been brought by Marron as a gift to Felipa's parents before her marriage, or whether she herself may have brought it to them after she was Senora Marron.

Near the Sentinel Palm there grows a gnarled old pear tree which still bears fruit every year. If this ancient tree which blossoms so faithfully each spring could but picture for us the

procession of lovers which has doubtless passed beneath its fragrant branches, to say nothing of the blustering leather-jacket soldiers who probably rested in its shade so close to the old well, or the tireless mission padres passing to and fro, the many herdsmen, the Indians, and all the other men, women and children who have been there and gone on forever, we would certainly find it interesting.

Beyond the palm tree are several great old century plants whose fallen blossom stalks explain the veritable colony of "baby centuries" which cluster about them. There is a group of wild walnut trees close by which may have been brought to the San Dieguito from the Los Angeles river valley where many such trees were growing when the mission fathers were writing their journals of the early California days. Along the brow of the hill are a number of immense nopal cactus plants, remnants of a hedge of this common variety, doubtless placed there as a partial protection from enemies as well as to keep the Osuna herds from wandering in too close.

On the hill near the house itself are some great old pepper trees which must have been growing there for at least eighty years. These trees however may have come no farther than from San Diego, where Don Juan Osuna was probably stationed during the military service which earned for him the San Dieguito Land Grant of nearly 9,000 acres.

Near the pepper trees stands an old acacia which is, without doubt the most curious and rare tree upon the entire Osuna homestead. This is probably acacia farnesiana, and must have been brought, either from the mountains of San Diego County where a very few ancient acacias like this have been found growing wild, or perhaps brought up from Northern Mexico where this variety is a native and very common. It is believed that acacia farnesiana was introduced into California by the padres, as specimens of these trees are still growing near some of the missions. It is not a tree which would be chosen for a modern garden, as it is too straggly and scrubby to be ornamental, and its long sharp thorns and horny seedpods are not at all appealing. Yet the "huisache" as the early Californians called it, was a great

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The delightful flavor of old Spain is suggested by the homes along Paseo Delicias. In the rear are spacious gardens surrounded by high walls.



The Valenciana Apartments provide quite a contrast to the box-like structures found so frequently on city streets. The eucalyptus trees already growing on the property have been very effectively employed.

ROAD NAMES AND THEIR MEANINGS

El Camino del Norte	Road of the North	Via de Santa Fe	Way of the Holy Faith
Via de Fortuna	Way of Fortune	Via de la Valle	The Way of the Valley
La Crescenta	The Crescent	La Gracia	Road of Beauty
Avenida Alondra	Avenue of the Lark	La Flecha	The Arrow
El Mirlo	The Blackbird	El Tordo	The Thrush
La Bajada	The Descent	La Granada	The Pomegranate
Los Morros	The Cliffs	La Morada	The Home
La Entrada	The Entrance	Linea del Cielo	The Line of the Sky
La Noria	Winding	El Secreto	The Secret
El Puente	To the Bridge	La Glorieta	The Summer House
La Orilla	The Edge	El Acebo	Holly
San Elijo	Indian Name	Rambla de las Flores	Walk of the Flowers
La Valle Real	The Royal Valley	Calzada del Bosque	Road of the Wood
Via de la Cumbre	The Way of the Ridges	Via del Alba	Way of the Dawn
Lago Lindo	Beautiful Lake	El Arco Iris	The Rainbow
Avenida de Acacias	Acacia Avenue	Puerta del Sol	Gateway of the Sun
El Montevideo	View of the Mountains	Las Planideras	The Weepers
Paseo Delicias	Road of Delights	La Madre Selva	The Honeysuckle
El Escondido	Hidden Road	Camino Viejo	The Old Road
La Valle Plateada	The Silvered Valley	Paseo del Prado	The Road of the Meadow
El Mirador	The Observatory	El Nido	The Nest
Zumaque	The Sumach	El Apajo	The Crossing
El Vuelo	The Flight	Paseo Pintoresco	Picturesque Road
Las Colinas	The Hills	Los Arboles	The Trees
El Sicoromo	The Sycamore	Mimulus	A Native Flowering Shrub

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MOORE CONTINUES LANDSCAPING WORK

Continued activity along landscaping lines is reported by Glenn A. Moore, landscape architect.

The grounds of the Hamilton Carpenter home, which has just recently been completed, are being equipped with an overhead sprinkling system for the shrubbery which is being extensively planted, especially on the slope in the rear of the residence.

On the Bingham property a very fine cactus garden is being developed; trees have also been planted along the driveway and rustic entrance portals of native rock are being erected.

On the Robinson estate overlooking the golf course area the eucalyptus trees are being thinned out to improve the vistas.

Landscaping on the Larrick site is

progressing satisfactorily. Mr. Larrick contemplates putting in a bowling green, adding new diversion to the many outdoor recreations at Rancho Santa Fe.

On the Gilbert estate, in block 37, the heavy growth of eucalyptus trees is being thinned out to afford light, air and views of the mountains.

Mr. Moore has also done considerable work recently in improving his own property in the Civic Center adjoining the Administration Building. A large lath house has been built in the court in the rear of the Arcade and his delightful private collection of ferns and begonias is causing much favorable comment. This bit of greenery is a very refreshing addition to the charm of Rancho Santa Fe village.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Ward have taken the Harlan house for six months.

COMPANY OPENS LOS ANGELES OFFICE

An information bureau has been established in Los Angeles by the Santa Fe Land Improvement Company to give out facts and literature about Rancho Santa Fe to those who find it inconvenient to visit the property.

The office has been established at 546-547 Roosevelt Building at Seventh and Flower Streets. The office is in charge by Mr. P. C. Hosmer, who will be assisted by Mrs. Cecile Winchester.

Miss Louise Graham of Philadelphia was recently a house guest of Mrs. Frank Coffyn.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Pease recently made a week-end trip to Pasadena to visit friends.



The Hamilton Carpenter home which was recently completed and is now undergoing landscape treatment.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS WILL START SOON

Rancho Santa Fe's road building program is now well under way and unless unforeseen difficulties arise, actual paving of approximately 45 miles of roads within the Ranch will be started by December first.

Plans of the Board of County Supervisors call for three miles of paving between the limits of Rancho Santa Fe and a point on the Coast Highway just south of Solana Beach where an overhead crossing is to be placed above the Santa Fe Railway. This will provide a direct line over easy grades between Rancho Santa Fe and the State road.

Following various communications between Mr. Barton Millard, Chairman of the Road Committee and estate owners at Rancho Santa Fe, a petition signed by owners of some 5,000 acres out of the 7,500 acres in the road improvement district has been filed and accepted by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

The Board of Supervisors has approved the petition and appointed engineers for the district. After the engineers file their report they will set a date to hear any protests that residents may wish to make against the proposed improvement. In case insufficient protests are made, complete plans and specifications will be drawn up and the improvement will be open for competitive bids.

The entire program contemplates the



An interesting glimpse of the C. F. Pease residence showing how brilliantly the sun shines at Rancho Santa Fe.

issuance of bonds under the Mattoon Act for \$335,000 to \$400,000, depending on how many supplementary petitions are filed by owners.

Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt M. Richards are leaving early in September for a nine months' trip abroad. They will

go first to the northwest and then to New York whence they will sail on September 22 for France. They expect to spend the winter in Paris and Nice and return to New York in May. Their son, Morgan Richards, will in the meantime make a trip around the world and will join his parents in New York on their return from Europe.



Miss Mary Belle Claggett and her favorite mount, Tiddle-de-wink. On Tiddle-de-wink's halter and in Miss Claggett's hand are some of the many ribbons Miss Claggett has won in various horse shows.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brookins of Dayton, Ohio, were recently house guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coffyn. Mr. Brookins and Mr. Coffyn bear the distinction of being members of the original Wright Bros. flying group. Mr. Coffyn recently officiated at Minc's Field near Los Angeles as a judge of the Transport Flyers Contests.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Ladd have returned from their vacation, a part of which, in company with Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Cord, they spent in Catalina whence they returned to the mainland by airplane.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Campbell have had as their house guests Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Purrington of Oakland. Mr. Purrington is a division engineer of the Standard Oil Company.

Miss Harriett Parsons is now in charge of La Morada, the delightful Rancho Santa Fe hotel, taking the place of Mrs. Ruth Albright, who recently resigned to accept another position.

RANCHEROS NAME THEIR ESTATES

Names selected by residents of Rancho Santa Fe for their various estates, indicate a faithful adherence on the part of owners to the Spanish tradition of the community. Some very interesting side lights are revealed by a study of this subject.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Loomis have taken the name of the original grant, Rancho San Dieguito, for their delightful place overlooking the San Dieguito valley.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Campbell have chosen the name Casa de Reposo for their restful estate near the Civic Center.

The Christiancy estate bears the name of Los Altos, very suitable indeed for such a high vantage point.

Mr. Edward S. White has chosen the name Lago Vista, having in mind his very excellent view of the San Dieguito Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Carothers call their place Quinta Argentina, a name which has a double significance in the light of family history. Mrs. Carothers' Christian name is Argenta. Singularly enough Mr. Carothers was engaged for many years in silver mining and your Latin grammar will remind you that the root word for silver is argentum. The literal meaning of the word Quinta, Mr. Carothers explains, is a country place where one may retire and rest amid surroundings of simplicity.

One would naturally expect Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford to call their estate Rancho Zorro and that is exactly what they have done.

One might also expect a man with the name of Rana'd Macdonald to break away slightly from the Spanish influence and figuratively hie himself back to Scotland for inspiration. This is exactly what the above named rancho did and he brought back the name of Glengary for his estate.

Mr. Briggs C. Keck plans to use the name Manzanita in relation to his property in the northwest section of Rancho Santa Fe. This selection was made, of course, because of the prevalence of this attractive native shrub on the property.

Pauline Neff has selected the name Olvidar for her estate. Etymology tells us this means to forget. This high and sightly homesite is indeed a delightful place to forget the cares and worries of ordinary life.

Some other names selected by Rancho Santa Fe owners are: Mr. and Mrs. James C. Smillie, Bienvenido; Mr. and Mrs. Barton Millard, La Casita; Mr.

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The real charm of the architecture found at Rancho Santa Fe lies in details such as this. It is only by a close study of Rancho Santa Fe homes that one gets the true conception of their beauty.

Grading Finished for Golf Course

Work on the new 18-hole, all grass course continues to progress satisfactorily. The grading for all greens and tees has now been completed and practically all of the water system has been installed. This system has 1200 automatic snap valve outlets, eliminating the necessity for hundreds of dollars worth of rubber hose and much expensive manual labor.

Contracts have been awarded for the purchase of peat to provide a proper foundation for the greens. After the peat is laid in place, suitable top soil is spread over it and grass is then planted to provide the turf. Thus proper drainage is assured and the greens are made soft and pliable.

President Earton Millard and Architect Max Behr point to this method of constructing greens as a fair example of the thorough manner in which all phases of the Rancho Santa Fe Golf Course are being developed. Scientific construction such as this is too frequently considered unnecessary in the building of ordinary golf courses.

All necessary seed for the planting of fairways and greens has been purchased and is now in a Los Angeles warehouse. Mr. Behr is authority for the statement that the grass seed would now cost some \$3,500 more than the figure at which the club purchased it several months ago.

ROADS, UTILITIES BEING INSTALLED

Building of roads and the placing of utilities under ground in Block 18 surrounding the golf course, have been going forward rapidly within the last month.

Mimulus Road has been graded to a width of 24 feet for the entire length of one mile. The remainder of the 50-foot right-of-way is to be employed for landscaping, walks and bridle trails.

Four other shorter roads—La Granada, El Romero, La Fremontia and La Ville Plateada, have also been graded to a width of 18 feet and will be improved with parking and walks. These four roads which are being put in to serve particular parts of the property, total three-fourths of a mile in length.

In Block 26 about four miles of road are being built, the main road running along the skyline being about 1½ miles in length and four other subsidiary roads totaling about 2½ miles. The principal road is being graded to a width of 24 feet and the secondary roads will be graded to a width of 18 feet. All will be surfaced and the parkways along the roads will take advantage of the abundance of native shrubbery in the area.

Both the road work and the installation of underground electric conduit, water lines, etc., is being done by the U. L. Voris organization under the direction of Kenneth Volk of the J. B. Lippincott Engineering Organization.

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favorite in the old days because of the entrancing perfume of its little orange colored ball-like blossoms. A perfume was made of these, and it is said that blossom stalks were used to lay amongst the family linen in much the same way as we use lavender.

Several of these acacias found a place in the second garden planted when Don Juan Osuna gave the adobe house on the hill to his son Leandro and built a larger homestead farther down the valley.

But the Sentinel Palm, the gnarled old pear tree, the peppers and the acacia bush, together with the grove of wild walnuts, can never be denied the distinction of belonging to the first garden, and being the first of the tree plantings which are now transforming this old land grant into Rancho Santa Fe.

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Mr. Rana'd Macdonald underwent an operation for appendicitis recently. He is now entirely recovered.

RANCHEROS NAME THEIR ESTATES

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and Mrs. D. M. Richards, Miraflores; Mr. and Mrs. Claude Terwilliger, La Floresta; Mr. and Mrs. John Cushman, Fin del Camino. The Christiancy apartments have been given the name Valenciana. And one should not forget that the full and official name of the Inn is La Morada del Rancho Santa Fe.

Prof. W. S. Brown, head of the Department of Horticulture of the Oregon Agriculture College, visited the Douglas Fairbanks estate recently as the guest of Mr. W. A. Smart, Manager of the Fairbanks Ranch. Professor Brown expressed himself as being very much delighted with the development both of the Fairbanks property and the other estates on Rancho Santa Fe.

Mrs. Bertha Lorimer of San Diego recently entertained at dinner at La Morada for Commander and Mrs. Earl of the U. S. Navy. Others in the party were Mrs. Lormier's two sons, Miss Earl and Mr. Fred Laurens. Later in the evening the group went to the Coffyn residence for bridge and dancing.

Mr. and Mrs. Wyntham Martyn of Leucadia and their son, Mr. Porter and Mrs. Porter were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coffyn.



Mr. and Mrs. C. Everett Smith have contrived a very practical way of working out their estate plans on the estate itself.



LUNDY MOORE



Gene Williams caught in a characteristic pose amongst his flowers.

SPEEDING

The recent collision, between the cars of Messrs. Pease and Mulcahy in which both automobiles were overturned and badly wrecked and from which both gentlemen escaped practically unhurt only by a miracle, emphasizes the imperative necessity for every resident of Rancho Santa Fe to appoint a committee of one to see that his own car is at all times driven carefully.

At a recent meeting of the heads of all organizations employing labor at Rancho Santa Fe, a resolution was passed to issue a bulletin of instructions to employees. A copy of this bulletin follows:

NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

Recent automobile accidents on Rancho Santa Fe have demonstrated the necessity for the exercise of greater care in driving over the winding roads of Rancho Santa Fe. The observance, by employees, of traffic regulations is hereafter a regulation which shall be a condition of employment. Employees who are reported as offenders will be dismissed if the charge is proven. This applies not only during working hours but also when driving to and from work, or at any time, within the boundaries of Rancho Santa Fe.

Attention is called to the fact that the Civic Center is within the 15-mile zone; also that a state law sets a 15-mile limit on curves.

While this is an order, it is also a safety measure that may prevent serious injuries, or even deaths, and we anticipate your cheerful compliance with this order.

SANTA FE LAND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY.

U. L. VORIS,

Development Contractor.

R. E. BADGER,

Development Contractor.

ELLIOTT & McKENNA,

Cement Pipe Contractors.

GLENN A. MOORE,

Landscape Architect.

HAROLD E. KETCHUM,

Building Contractor.

E. D. WILLIAMS,

Building Supplies.

SANTA FE IRRIGATION DISTRICT.



In one of the Patios in the Santa Clara Convent, Havana, Cuba.

Photograph taken by Lillian J. Rice.

In this old Patio the casual observer is first aware of the perfection of the planting and walks, of cool shadows and soft-tone walls—then follows the delightful discovery that the fine old trees are avocados and that the other trees and shrubs bear fruit.

With the growth of population, the traffic problem at Rancho Santa Fe increases. There have been numerous minor accidents and a few major ones. It is time that all take heed. This is particularly true because there are at Rancho Santa Fe a large number of women drivers and in nearly every

family there are children who are taken about from place to place in automobiles.

Life is informal and unrestricted at Rancho Santa Fe. We all want it to remain so. It, therefore, behooves every individual to shoulder his share of the responsibility in this matter.

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