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SUGGESTIVE PLANTINGS

*A Collection of Pictures and Suggestions for Plantings
That Will Give the Home Owner an Idea of the Effect they can Achieve by
Proper Planting of Suitable Shrubs and Trees.—Prepared by*

Augustine & Company, Inc.

Nurserymen—Landscape Gardeners
NORMAL, ILLINOIS

Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Small Fruits,
Shrubs, Vines, Roses and Perennials

Suggestions on Planting Shrubbery

THE American people are appreciating as never before the necessity of planting shrubbery and flowers around their homes as the essence of good breeding and distinction. The taste and liberality with which shrubbery is planted is almost an index of the character and importance of the home owner.

We have gathered into this booklet a number of interesting illustrations which speak for themselves better than written words can describe the charm of nature's adornment, and in doing this we have selected modest homes in preference to the palaces of the rich, though they make even greater showing of improvement from their elaborate plantings than those chosen, but there are so few of such and so many of the common houses which need adornment that can be easily and cheaply planted that in this way we hope to make the booklet a practical every-day help rather than a collection of pretty pictures.

The principles of proper plantings are not hard to master. Varieties should be planted in groups, and in small grounds nothing more elaborate than a planting of a few varieties should be attempted, with enough massing to dominate the grounds when in bloom. Care should be taken in the selection of varieties that will content themselves within the space, shade, moisture and soil conditions which you have to offer them, rather than because you have admired the beauty of form, foliage or bloom of the plants in other locations.

The plants themselves should be grouped to harmonize as to color if their blooming period comes at the same time, and as to height and foliage as well. Rugged, quickly growing plants with rough foliage and brilliant but coarse flowers should be used at a distance for effect, reserving the finer and more delicate plants for the nearby nooks and borders.

When the shrubs get old and become unsightly they should be grubbed out and new plants of slender, willowy, growth planted in their place. There is no more reason to expect one planting to last forever than one automobile tire. The modern practice is to allow about three feet for each shrub, the crowding tending to keep the shrub smaller and denser and more pleasing, thus making the planting attractive and at its best for many more years.

The shrubs are necessary for the background but where there is space very pleasing effects are to be secured by planting perennials among them or in a border in front of the shrubbery to bloom season after season, adding color to the grounds and furnishing cut flowers for the table.

Naturally, pleasing, well-kept grounds require care and attention as every other desirable thing does, but the result is well worth while and fully justifiable, paying well in added health and pleasure for both time and labor expended, and you will find upon investigation that the initial investment will in no wise be as great as you might think.

There are many fruit trees that give as good a decorative effect in the garden as do purely ornamental trees, and we have a complete selection of all the leading varieties for the purpose from which plantings can be made.

BEFORE—Before planting a building may be a warm and comfortable house, and not look like it.—But there is more to life than three meals a day and some place to sleep, and well placed shrubs add to life's satisfaction and joys.

AFTER—Decorated with appropriate shrubbery the house above has become the home below. Distinctive and reflecting to the passerby the comfort within and carrying the message that people of taste and importance live here. An asset to the community and a satisfaction to the owners.

Making it a Community Affair

DURING our days of war co-operation "Block Communities" became quite popular in the cities. The idea is too good to let entirely die. At least the residences fronting together on a block could well afford to co-operate in beautifying their yards and almost any nursery would make some concession for a clubbing order so large and give some expert service in planning. You are almost as much interested in your neighbors planting plans as your own. When it comes to beautifying a street all must co-operate. Suppose each home on a block planted masses of shrubs to bloom in succession. What a gorgeous return it would give each individual in pleasure and friendship, not to mention the example it would be to others in your city, and the financial return from increased value of the properties. When you cast a pebble into the pond you never know how far the waves may travel.

FORSYTHIA (Illustrated above)—These splendid old shrubs, growing 8 to 10 feet, light up the garden with glinting masses of yellow before the leaves appear in spring, almost before the snow has left the ground, their golden bells vieing with the crocus as harbingers of spring. Splendid for planting on steep banks and especially above a retaining wall, as some of the branches grow upright while the remainder will hang down over the wall for several feet. It is especially valuable to those who plan to have something of interest in bloom in their grounds all the time.

Enjoying Your Own Planting

THE arrangement of the large shrubs used above is very good indeed. The idea of a quiet cove in the back part of the grounds which can be only glimpsed from the street is an especially attractive idea and does not need such large space as indicated here to make it effective. This cove can have lawn swings or seats, water pools, fountains or perennial borders where the owner can enjoy nature in solitude, although within the confines of a big city. If the grounds are not large a side porch with smaller shrubs around its foundation would give an entrance to the arena and enable the occupants of the house to enjoy its beauties. A good many plantings are not enjoyed as much by the owners as the passersby but by this arrangement both may enjoy it.

Almost any of the larger shrubs or small trees will be available for such a design, Philadelphus, Japanese Snowball, Forsythia, Golden Elder, Spirea Van Houttei, Pride of Rochester Deutzia, Siberian Dogwoods, Candida Weigelia and if there is room some Cut-leaf Weeping Birch, Pin Oak, Judas Tree, etc., singly or in groups according to the size of the grounds.

For smaller spaces, say where the frontage is a single sixty to seventy-foot lot, the same effect can be secured in miniature by using Double Althea, Rose of Sharon, Calycanthus, Deutzia, Lemoinei, Snowberry, Buddleia, Flowering Currants, Eva Rathke or variegated Weigelias, Hydrangeas and Spireas, making selections easy.

Evergreens

EVERGREENS used as home decorations are in a class by themselves and while they are slow to propagate, do not spread and grow slowly after planting, yet when fully established they give a most beautiful effect. A planter of Evergreens has a large range of varieties for selection and can form almost any combination of colors, ranging from light gray to deepest green in intriguing contrasts and combinations. In size they can be found to fit the most pretentious grounds, or scrubby little dwarf pines and Siberian Arborvitae will cuddle into the most inconspicuous corners. The first cost for Evergreens is greater than for trees and shrubs but they require less attention after establishment and always hold an attraction for their friends, especially as they carry on the

work of beautifying the world when the deciduous shrubs and trees are resting.

The group above is a good illustration of a corner grouping of Evergreens that makes a perfect appearance soon after planting, but so slow growing that they do not push or crowd for many years. Below is a section of a foundation planting showing how favorably they contrast with any deciduous shrubbery even at its best. They afford a charming background for perennials. The Blue Spruces used thus with Purple and Blue Iris and Delphinium make a picture not soon forgotten. There are so many varieties of the evergreens that the specialist can have all the pleasure in their collection that the South American naturalist has in hunting the elusive orchids, and with substantial "money back" results for his labors.

Hedges and Screens

BECAUSE the Osage Orange was once extensively planted in this country to protect farm crops from the depredations of roving cattle, to the popular mind a "Hedge" must still perform the functions of a bulldog, and brings up visions of the briery barberry or the interlocking Privet. While these are quite useful and valuable their protective characteristic is not necessary in town or city

The great masses of Spirea shown in bloom above are the screen between the lawn and vegetable garden of a common sixty-foot village residence lot. Owing to the extensive branching of the Van Houtteii but a few plants were needed to make this gorgeous showing. The pride of the owner in such a beauty show is unsurpassed by anything less human than that for a new baby.

The picture is given as a suggestion of the effect of mass planting of free blooming plants. The Spirea Van Houtteii are good as we see them here but if friend neighbor has Spireas you can beat him to it by a plentiful planting of Cydonia, the Japanese Quince, with masses of scarlet flowers in early May. A border of Deutzia Lemoinei of more upright and trim habit than the Spirea will make a gallant show of equally profuse bloom. The Philadelphus family is also available. The Golden and Lemoinei are smaller and better adapted for such use than the Grandiflora. The flower owner with a small place who would attract attention must sacrifice the mixed planting with something ever new, strut upon the stage in gala attire for a few days and then retire to solid green foliage until another year rolls round.

Planting Trees

THE first ornamentals planted in America were the Trees. "Underbrush" did not appeal to the pioneer who despised the shrubs and dwarfs that whipped into his eyes and prevented easy progress in his search for game but the majestic trees he could understand, admire and moved to his home when he began to build towns.

Street trees are so well established that the individual town residence owner seldom has to plant them. They almost go along with the surveyors' chains when new additions and plots are put upon the market, but the policy of grouping them at the back of a lot is one that is not followed as much as it might be in either town or country.

Looking down the length of a city lot into the cool recesses of the little group shown below would surely tempt one to stray from the straight and narrow path of a cement sidewalk and seek the cool embrace of their friendly shade. The combination of these as specimen trees, the Bungei Catalpa, stepping up from the shrub border, the Willow beyond and the Soft Maple with its towering background, bring

out the Cut-leaf Weeping Birch on the left and Beech on the right to the best possible advantage.

The beauty of this planting is that its owner can enjoy it most, the house has no foundation shrubs. They are planted in pleasing curves around the border, culminating in the grove at the rear. There are some good suggestions for the home owner in this sketch.

The Value of It

POSSIBLY the hardest thing for the person whose time and interest are taken up by business or household duties to understand is the value to him of decorative planting. And yet beauty is always valuable and always salable. While Old Master paintings would not mean much to the fellow who insists on painting his picket fence red, white and blue, yet they sell at fabulous sums, because, like good shrubbery and trees, they cannot be produced in a day. Although a planting may be young it has the selling value of the lovely dress or attractive furniture.

The illustrations on this page show the common value of ornamental planting to either the magnificent or the simple type of architecture from a pile of stones to a house. In the lower view there is an exceptionally good illustration of what trees and shrubbery do for the house around which they are properly grouped. This is a simple house of which there are literally hundreds of thousands in the country which unplanted look bare and hopeless but can be made into a lovely picture, as this has been, by a small investment in trees and shrubs. There can be no argument about its addition to the sale value of the property in dollars and cents, and a planting of trees, shrubs, vines and flowers should be considered a profitable investment, not an expense.

and Maple if the soil is suitable. Cut-leaf Birch, Pin Oak, Willow and Tulip trees add color and variety to the foliage while for privacy and charm of their flowers the Dogwood, Flowering Cherries and Crabs, Tamarix and Fringe Trees either white or purple at the outer edge will serve well. For the choice of shrubs for your foundation planting, if you wish to make your own selections you can secure a copy of the "Home Beautifying Suggestions" which gives the size and soil requirements of all the generally grown varieties, which will serve well for a guide to both choice and conditions for which they are suitable.

Among the showy shrubs there are few that excel the Hydrangea P. G., illustrated above, because of their large and persistent bloom, lasting from late summer until frost, turning from white to bronze and green as time passes. The Hydrangea Arborescens is equally showy, more erect, earlier but not so lasting.

Your Own Forest

FORTUNATE indeed was the owner of this home who secured a site already filled with magnificent trees. Few can hope to have a modern home and age old trees of his own construction and planting, but one who loves the woods can secure quite a measure of success in planting trees by choosing quick growing kinds such as Ash, Soft Maple, Alders, Catalpas, Elms, Lindens, Sycamores, Poplars, etc., with which may be combined

Beech

Ornamentation With Roses

A ROSE lover who saw a neighbor planting shrubbery asked: "Why don't you plant roses in place of that brush " and when roses are in bloom all must admit that the more sedate shrubs are no match for them in beauty but unfortunately their bloom does not last as long as good foliage; they are straggly, hard to train symmetrically and do not harmonize with every house.

The beautiful view above discounts all objections. If your house will harmonize with the vines as this one does, nothing else in ornamentation can equal or excel it. The rose is especially desirable in connection with stained shingles, grays and browns and old houses that are not pretentious in themselves but can be glorified by festoons of beautiful ramblers and climbing roses, growing over trellises properly fastened to the walls for their support. We might add that the rose of all plants responds to love and care. If you want to make your planting and then forget it, the rose is not for you.

In the corner is shown a beautiful rose hedge.

The profusely blooming climbers need a trellis for support but when bush plants are chosen the hedge can be as small and sedate as desired using dwarf or tall varieties and unconfined in its glory when sturdy growing kinds are selected. The soil should be good, rich loam and the fertility must be kept up with applications of good manure or fertilizer.

Self Clinging Ornamental Vines

THE clinging vines of the ivy family are gaining more and more favor for covering blank walls of stucco and brick houses. Its color and over-lapping leaves are of great beauty and it is safe to say that whenever there are walls that do not need repainting that some of the clinging vines should form a part of the planting. Outside chimneys and porch pillars are especially desirable supports for the permanent vines and their plain surfaces are made more attractive by the planting.

Of the permanently clinging vines Boston Ivy is the old standard. The Englemanni Ivy has a smaller leaf and tends to lay closer to the wall, but the general effect is the same. English Ivy is not a thrifty enough grower in the north part of this country for use in covering large spaces but is used more for ornamenting window boxes and for inside decoration. The Bittersweet, an evergreen, with its striking orange colored fruit in the fall is a beautiful plant. Its propagators recommend it for all positions but some horticulturists prefer not to plant it in south exposures for fear of the winter sunburn so fatal to the English Ivy. Virginia Creeper whose leaves in autumn turn a rich crimson is good for covering fences, trellises, tree stumps or similar objects.

The planting of the Ivys on factory buildings adds very much to the cheerfulness of the plant and will pay a bigger dividend than any thing else. Men like to work in attractive shops as well as live in attractive homes.

Wistaria

Trellised Ornamental Vines

THESE are a large number of interesting and ornamental hardy vines that bear flowers but do not have the self-clinging habits of the Ivys and must be provided with supports or a chance to get over a wall on which to rest their weight.

The Wistaria shown in the engraving at the left was part of a gorgeous showing that covered the entire front of the building when in bloom. The flowers last well and the vines are quite thrifty and make excellent screens as well as wall coverings.

Of this class of vines the Aristolocia or Dutchman's Pipe with large over-lapping leaves is popular for its dense shade. The Bigonias have a lobed leaf and tubular flowers of bright colors that make a beautiful showing, followed by orange fruit that persist all winter. The Clematis is also a large family with many varieties having various colored and ornamental flowers. For porch and screen planting, because of its thrifty habits of growth, the Poniculata is mostly planted, the bloom coming as fine stars in great profusion. The Honeysuckle is another desirable climbing family for trellises. The

foliage is dark and lustrous with an abundance of flowers coming in succession, the named kinds varying in habits but Hall's seems to be the most popular. The Kudzu Vine is very distinctive as are the Moonseed and Silk Vine. A difference in these varieties when vines are used will add greatly to the community attractiveness and it should be worth while as long as the list is so large to choose something different from your neighbor, if possible.

The Bulb Family

THE bulb plants are of two varieties, those planted in the spring and blooming in the late summer and those planted in the fall and blooming in the early spring, both of which are very important items in the growing of a complete garden.

Of the spring planted probably Gladiolus has the most lovers, its gorgeous and persistent bloom making the most delightful cut flowers. The tubers, Cannas and Dahlias, add more to the decoration of the grounds with their tall and vigorous growth. The Dahlias come very late and bloom until frost, fitting companions to the Chrysanthemums as the last roses of summer, and in order to lengthen their season they are often started indoors in pots and transplanted.

It would seem as if everyone would plant the spring flowering bulbs, Narcissus, Jonquils, Hyacinths and Tulips, if it were not so hard to realize in the summer and

fall when we have plenty of flowers the beauty they will bring in the spring and the delight of their blossoms before general vegetation starts. There seems to be hardly a limit to the varieties of these that can be had and they can be chosen for succession of bloom and combination of colors to meet any taste. As with Peonies, Iris and Gladiolus there are many rare and high-priced types which the average person cannot appreciate and it is better to buy freely of well known standard varieties and colors than venture into the land of the connoisseur. A parting suggestion is to bunch the bulbs close enough to let them give the effect possible by the masses of their brilliant color, which is lost when they are too scattered, and to have the succession come in little tufts rather than scatter out over the whole border. Narcissus, Crocus and Tulip do well naturalized or growing semi-wild under the shrubs and trees but Hyacinths need care and repay every attention.

Perennials in Planting

PERENNIALS should not be neglected in any plan for home beautifying. They can be used for borders, masses and color everywhere and are almost as self-sustaining as shrubs with which they co-ordinate so well. The choice of varieties is exceedingly large and from them one can gratify any special taste for a color or combination of colors that he may have or if one should prefer fragrant perfume from their bouquets this is as easily provided.

A part of any satisfactory home is an ample supply of cut flowers, at least during the summer season, and it should be a purpose of the planting plan to provide these in profusion. If the grounds are spacious a flower garden for cutting purposes would be delightful but most of us will be obliged to cut from the bloom planted for outdoor ornamentation. For most kinds the flowering season is prolonged if the flowers are not allowed to seed.

A border of low growing perennials add greatly to the foliage background of shrubs. Especially desirable for this is the Blue (or Hare) Bell, Lily of the Valley, Garden Pinks, Candytuft, Oriental Poppies, Coreopsis, Shasta Daisies, Sweet Williams, Blanket Flower and these are well adapted for this use. The shrubs must be rather large to make the use of those splendid bloomers which ought to be included somewhere, the Phlox, Peonies and Irises. The two latter are of such great variety that they require large catalogues for their description alone, but every nurseryman has the standard varieties in the colors you wish that will answer all purposes unless you wish to specialize on them as an expert. To mention all of the desirable kinds and types would be impossible, but they are not expensive to begin with, can be nicely transplanted if not located satisfactorily and will be your delight for many years.

For the fibrous, bulbous and tuberous rooted plants the choice is very large as to color, habits and blooming season. The Tulips, Narcissus, Hyacinth and Crocus adding glory to the spring season and the stately Lilies vie with all others in their brilliancy and grace during the early summer months, each adding greatly to the attraction of the home during its season.

Suggestive Plantings

*Illustrated With Examples of Easily
Attainable Results.*

Before and After

As a closing argument to those who have not yet done so, we present the picture of this home before and after planting. It is not an argument that needs words, the pictures speak for themselves.

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