



HERITAGE ROSE GARDEN: LARGEST PUBLIC COLLECTION OF ROSE VARIETIES IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

SECTION O Our oldest roses are found in this section, with some more than 500 years old! These ancient roses are what distinguish this garden from other public rose gardens. Native roses from Europe and the Middle East were cultivated and, from these, classes of roses developed. Classes represented in this section include Gallicas, Albas, Centifolias, Mosses, Sweet Briars, and Scots.

Most of these European old garden roses bloom only in the spring, have red, pink or white petals, and boast an especially fragrant bloom. Individual roses became extinct when they fell out of fashion throughout history; thus, old rose varieties are difficult to find, identify, cultivate and preserve.

SECTION P In the 1700s and 1800s, new trade routes brought perpetually blooming Asian roses to Europe. Gardeners crossed them with European roses, developing new classes including the Portlands, Bourbons, and Hybrid Perpetuals. This section also includes Hybrid Rugosas.

Many of these roses were imported to the eastern U.S. and then crossed the continent in covered wagons and were planted by settlers in cemeteries and gold rush towns. These roses are still being discovered today and are labeled “Found” until their provenance is determined.

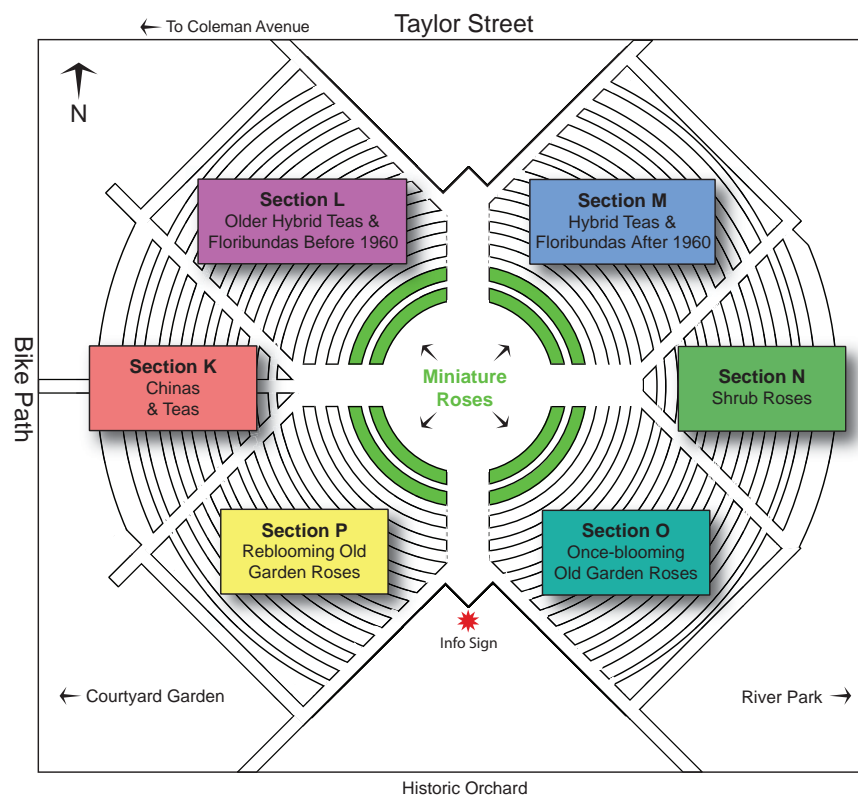
SECTION K Around 1811, South Carolina farmer John Champneys and local nurseryman Philippe Noisette developed the only rose class that originated in the United States – the Noisettes.

China and Tea roses were developed from Asian imports with influence from the Bourbon and Noisette classes. Breeding for new colors, larger flowers, and a sweeter fragrance produced many great reblooming beauties, but they depended on greenhouses to survive winters in Northern Europe. The Tea roses in this section love our mild winters and are among the first to bloom in the spring.

SECTION L In 1867, French rosarian Guillot created a landmark Hybrid Tea by crossing a Hybrid Perpetual with a Tea rose. Called *La France*, its creation marked the beginning of the modern rose era. There are now over 10,000

Take a self-guided tour through rose history starting with old garden roses in Section O and ending with modern roses in Section N.

For additional information, including podcasts, rose database, FAQs,



**A UNIQUE COLLECTION OF 3,600
ANTIQUE AND MODERN ROSES
CONTAINING 2,600 VARIETIES**

varieties of Hybrid Teas, many of which can be found in this garden.

Breeding the yellow Rose foetida species to the Hybrid Tea produced a group of Hybrid Teas called Pernetianas. For the first time, bright yellow, non-fading garden roses became available.

Polyantha roses were created from dwarf plants of a rambling species called *R. multiflora*, which produces flowers in clusters. Floribundas are the result of crossing Polyanthas and Hybrid Teas. They inherited the same clustering and ability to produce flowers in a wide range of colors. Notice the variety of bloom colors, including many shades of orange, salmon and multi-colored blends.

SECTION M Hybrid Teas and Floribundas are our most modern roses. Roses in this section were created after 1960, and many are commercially available. Cultivated for large flowers with straight and strong stems, beautiful color variations, and their ability to repeat flower, these roses were not bred for disease resistance because this was the era of chemicals, and gardeners were expected to spray regularly. Fragrance was secondary so most roses here have a weaker perfume than old garden roses. We do not spray our roses for pests or diseases or use any commercial fertilizers, so healthy roses here should grow well in your home garden.

SECTION N The Shrub roses in this section grow in rounded shapes, bloom continuously, and do not fit any other class. They are the only class defined by habit rather than breeding. Classes include Hybrid Musk, Lambertiana, and Austin roses. Englishman David Austin crossed modern Hybrid Teas and Floribundas with old garden roses, such as Gallicas, in the 1980s to produce healthy, fragrant shrubs. Austin’s Shrub roses are favorites among beginning gardeners because they are easy to grow.

MINATURES AND POLYANTHAS The inner two rows of each section contain Miniature roses that descended from a few dwarf China roses. Miniature can refer to the bloom, leaf, or plant size. The Miniatures produce a beautiful, ever blooming array of colors. Polyanthas are in the second ring of beds in Sections O and P.

GARDEN HISTORY

The Heritage Rose Garden is located in Guadalupe Gardens, the site of a neighborhood that was cleared due to airport expansion. Inspired by the vision for the Heritage Rose Garden, gardens from all over the world donated rose varieties for inclusion in this special collection.

Nurseryman Tom Liggett, with significant help from the South Bay Heritage Rose Group, cultivated the understock, supervised bud grafting, and grew and harvested over 4,000 roses. More than 750 volunteers labored to plant the garden over three weekends in March 1995.



SUPPORT THE GARDEN

ADOPT-A-ROSE

You can sponsor a rose plant with a \$50 donation (\$45 to renew annually), which includes a plaque with a personal inscription placed in front of the rose. Adoptions can happen at anytime, though there are special promotions for Valentine's Day and Mother's Day.

MEL HULSE FUND

This fund was established in memory of Mel Hulse who volunteered many years as the director of the garden. Your donation will be used to enhance the collection of heritage roses.



Mel Hulse

VOLUNTEER

While the City of San Jose supplies materials, the garden is maintained by volunteers – both individuals and corporate work groups - who are recruited by Guadalupe River Park Conservancy and trained by South Bay Heritage Rose Group volunteers. Join us for workdays on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9am to 12pm (8am to 11am, June – September).

All contributions are tax deductible. Please see www.guadalupeconservancy.org for more information.

Guadalupe River Park Conservancy



SAN JOSE HERITAGE ROSE GARDEN

The Heritage Rose Garden is a unique botanical collection of antique and modern roses. With over 3,600 roses and 2,600 varieties, it is the largest public collection of roses in the Western Hemisphere. The garden is a showcase for rare and genetically significant roses and is organized and labeled by class, date, and origin. Touring the garden provides an education into the evolution of modern roses. Maintained by volunteers using integrated pest management practices and irrigated with recycled water, this is one of the most environmentally sustainable rose gardens in the world.

GARDEN MANAGEMENT

- Surface-level drip irrigation to avoid wetting leaves
- Heavy mulching to keep roots at even temperature and suppress weeds
- Compost to improve soil conditions
- High pruning that opens up plant centers for maximum air circulation and growth
- No fungicides or pesticides

THE CONSERVANCY

Guadalupe River Park Conservancy provides community leadership for the development and active use of Guadalupe River Park & Gardens through education, advocacy, and stewardship.



GUADALUPE RIVER PARK CONSERVANCY

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