

** OLD ROSES

Grootendorst Supreme
Ferdinand Pichard
Georg Arends
Old Bush
Duchese de Brabant
Austrian Copper
Agnes
Nastarana
Moss Rose

MINIATURE ROSES

Beauty Secret
Starina
Judy Fisher
Janna
Buckaroo
Yellow Poll
Mary Marshall
Chipper
Kathy



an Jose's Municipal Rose Garden encompasses 51/2 acres devoted exclusively to plants and shrubs of the "Rose Family." This one time prune orchard has become one of San Jose's show places displaying acres of rose plants. It features the newest and best hybridizations including several sections devoted to special rose groups. The garden contains approximately 7,500 plants with 171 varieties of roses represented. It is one of the most attractive Municipal Rose Gardens in the world. Each year, thousands of visitors from across the United States and foreign lands visit this colorful and majestic spectacle. Throughout the seasons this garden is enjoyable, for there is hardly a day during the year that some species is not in full bloom. A favorite time for visitors is early May when the acres of fragrant and colorful roses are at their most beautiful. Individuals, groups and nurseries continue their interest and the Rose Garden's continuous growth by donating newer species of roses every year.

he Santa Clara County Rose Society provided the inspiration for the Rose Garden. On November 20, 1927, the city council of San Jose, at the suggestion of Mrs. Charles C. Derby and Mrs. Fremont Older, voted unanimously to set aside 5½ acres for a Municipal Rose Garden. This was a portion from a previously purchased 11 acre tract of land at Naglee and Dana Avenues. The idea for such an outstanding attraction came from the beloved and energetic Mrs. Derby, the first president of the society. The Santa Clara County Rose Society obligated itself to provide the roses for the garden.

n April 7, 1931, ground was broken during appropriate exercises by Dr. J. Horace McFarland, president of the American Rose Society and John McLaren, creator of Golden Gate Park.

These two men, along with Michael H. Antonacci, San Jose Planning Director, drew the plans for the local Rose Garden which were accepted by the city council on June 1, 1931. Saturday, May 15, 1937, marked the official dedication of the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden which honored Mr. John McLaren as guest speaker. The placing of a plaque, donated by Mrs. Andrew Christeson, at the entrance of the garden christened the occasion. The Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce cooperated in making the ceremony a memorable one.

umerous private individuals and nurseries donated the hundreds of roses which were planted. Members of the Rose Society supplied a diagram which was used to plant the roses in their proper positions. Many individuals and organizations still have a very personal interest in the garden, and it has definitely aided in the continued beautification and growth of the garden. Many prominent citizens donated time and money for the growth of this exquisite garden of roses. The reflection pool in the center of the structural entrance was presented to the Rose Garden by Mrs. Andrew Christeson in memory of her husband. Mrs. Charles C. Derby donated an attractive sun dial. The concrete benches and the blue garden vases were gifts from Mrs. Ella Reed and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Borchers, respectively. Funds for the two-tiered water fountain were donated in February, 1967, by a civic-minded individual concerned with the beauty of the garden. This citizen requested to remain anonymous regarding his generous donation. Miniature rose beds were installed and planted in April 1973, donated by the Santa Clara County Rose Society. The installation of a new irrigation system was completed in May of 1974 and the garden was reopened on Mother's Day after having been closed for six months during construction.

San Jose Municipal ROSE GARDEN



City of San Jose
Department of Recreation, Parks and
Community Services

ROSE GARDEN HOURS
8:00 AM to ⁹/₂ hour before sunset