

BEAUTIFUL YOUR LAWN GARDEN

Design Garden As You Would Your Home, Is the Advice of Landscape Architect

By Emerson C. Brown

The secret of good design in the garden is very much like that of good design at the home. It depends on appropriateness and good taste. It must be practical as well as esthetic. It must perform its duty gracefully. The esthetic and practical should always appear together.

Appropriateness, first of all, is adaptable to function. Does it per-

form its duty? What are the things we cannot get along without? A laundry yard, a passage way to the front door, the service door, and to the garage are the minimum requirements of practically every home. Beyond that the necessities will differ according to individual needs and taste.

Before buying the land, the wise person will have in mind a complete list of the outdoor as well as the indoor requirements. There is little sense in getting a piece of property too small for gardens—assuming, of course, that gardens are wanted—as in the case of a house with too few bedrooms for the family.

If the land is purchased but the house will be built later, the location of the house and the garden should be planned and worked out carefully as areas which should exist between dining-room and kitchen, for good design depends on the fitting relation of all parts one to the other. Take the relationship between street and house, to begin with. The front yard may be treated as part of a parking strip and maintained for the pleasure of the public. In that case your own ideas should be worked in with those of your neighbors, so that all may together in, peace to achieve a harmonious result. In the old Colonial days such an idea was never dreamed of. Each man's castle began at the lot line, which was marked with a wall or fence or hedge for privacy and comfort within. Going farther, the garden should be obviously related to the house. The laundry yard must be convenient to the laundry, yet not unsightly from any living room, and so on. When the location of each area has been determined and its size and shape fixed, then its treatment must be considered. For instance, what type of material should be used in building the driveway? What type of screen should be used for enclosing the laundry yard? What tree is used, be it in its harmonious and blends well with the scheme as a whole.

When the whole problem has been studied, each compartment will adjoin its most convenient neighbor, with which it will be connected by paths or gates and from which it will be separated by a fence, wall or planting. The cut-flower garden should not be situated into the lawn any more than should the vegetable garden. Definitely enclosed areas, each performing its own function and charming in itself, will be joined together to form the complete plan.

The garden or outdoor living room should appear to be a part of the house and consequently must be closely related to it. Where house rooms and garden rooms are studied together from the beginning the result is interesting. However, often a house and garden are purchased and then the garden proposed. Frequently then structural changes are desirable in the house as proper introductions to good garden design. For instance, a window must be changed into a door, or a terrace should be added between house and garden, to become part of each.

Now let us consider the type of garden to be proposed here. It is to be a picturesque lawn bordered by shrubs, trees and flowers or a symmetrically bedded flower pattern. Is it primarily to live in or to look at from the house or elsewhere? Is it for you to live in or for flowers to live in to their best advantage? One purpose as worthy as another; the point is to be remembered that they rarely call for the same treatment. Flowers need full sun. People, more often require full shade. On a large estate it is easy to arrange an ideal site for both, but on a small place it is necessary to decide from the first which shall be the most important consideration and then, for ever afterward to play up to it, sacrificing other desirable possibilities as may be necessary to obtain the best results.



IT'S PLANTING TIME IN BIRMINGHAM

The enclosing wall or hedge, just as there is an window and door in the walls of a room. Such openings may be made the chief points of interest, as in the case of a garden gate or the infirmament of a distant view. The interest of these openings will be in direct ratio to the impersonalness of the inclusive elsewhere.

Let us here consider a natural size measure of trees and shrubs because of its more interesting makeup.

The border should answer the purpose for which it is intended, that is, it should fill the role of usefulness first. If it is to act as a screen, it must be sufficiently high and thick to accomplish this purpose, and the material should be only such trees and shrubs as will form a dense mass. If it is to be merely ornamental, the planting must be chosen for a succession of bloom and fruit. The choice of material should always be compatible with the purpose regarding in plant forms, color and texture, the feeling and purpose of the whole.

Good planting calls for a preponderance of one or two groups of shrubs to give unity to the whole, with others added for variety and interest. The border should be composed of one group of plants followed by another in quick succession. For then it loses all continuity. On the other hand, it should not be made up of the same group repeated at definite intervals. There should be an interesting intermingling of plants, using one or two groups for the backbone in sufficient quantities to carry the main line of planting. Let the same plant occur again in the border, giving it a different position and time of use in it groups, now small, now large and at times alone. Along with the main groups there must be other plants to add variety and interest. Variety may be introduced in many ways. There is variety to be had by contrast, as seen in different colors, heights, textures, shapes, sizes, seasons of bloom and so on.

In visualizing a border, its silhouette against the sky must be kept in constant view. Height will be found desirable in one corner to strengthen the design, and at any point to be avoided. Trees are therefore planted or grouped at those important points. The habit of a connecting outer line, whether a long curve or a curve interrupted with waves, will be an interesting and useful material to be chosen for a filler. The trees should be planted first. The next to be planted are the taller shrubs which go to the rear of the border, with medium sized shrubs and plants in the middle ground. The whole should be faced down with low or drooping shrubs along the edge. To prevent the definite tiers from being too evident in the planting, groups of varying heights should be interwoven, some tall and medium sized shrubs being brought forward out of the row and again and time to time planted in the foreground.

While we are on the subject of border planting it might be well to mention some of the rules for making groups.

1. Do not use too many species.
2. Law of Simplicity.
3. One species should dominate the Group (Law of Dominance).

harsh color contrasts should be avoided, a dash of color here and there among the green can be nicely blended and will add interest. The various characteristic forms of growth, such as horizontal branches against the erect or vertical, make pleasant breaks and give character as well.

CHARACTER: This quality consists largely of being individual or different from other places similar in size and outline. It is not easy to define, as character of a planting is generally the unconscious touch of the maker. Just as the stiffness or restfulness of a room is decided mainly by the appearance and placement of furniture, so character of the garden is dependent on selection and arrangement of material. Each tree or plant should be carefully selected to harmonize, and so played that it will merge into the general planting scheme.

FINISH: A beautiful garden lawn cannot retain a permanent finish effect unless it has the touch of one who is really a lover of plants; one who lives with them, watches their development and knows their names as well as their appearance.

— Trees —
Trimming — Spraying
Surgery

— Landscape —
Designing — Planting
Construction

EMERSON BROWN CO.
COMPLETE SERVICE
IN
Landscape Gardening and Tree Surgery

12 Levinson Bldg. Phone
121 S. Woodward Ave. 808W Birmingham

SPRING IS HERE! • PHONE 711
Complete Lawn and Garden Service
Preparation, conditioning, planting, and maintenance.
Lawn cutting. Pruning. Garden soil. Hauling, etc.

"BOB" MASON 1711 W. Maple Road

"Grass Fertilized with MILORGANITE Chokes Out Weeds!"
— Says Gardener Green

Apply MILORGANITE to the soil early, to make grass so healthy and luxuriant that dandelion and other weed growth is smothered before it can grow. MILORGANITE is easily applied, long lasting, safe and inexpensive. Apply it this week.

MILWAUKEE MILORGANITE
LAWNSIDE FERTILIZER

McCLELLAN FEED & SALT CO.
Distributor
155 S. Woodward

1905 2 ACRES 1938 200 ACRES

A Complete Selection Of Strong, State Inspected Nursery Stock

At Our HEADQUARTERS IN BIRMINGHAM

Special Plants

For a Particular Landscape Trade
SHADE TREES, EVERGREENS, FLOWERING SHRUBS, ROSES, PERENNIALS, ROCK PLANTS, FRUIT TREES AND HEDGE PLANTS.

Special Attention!

We Handle Oregon Grown Roses

Because they are bigger and withstand this climate better.

20 VARIETIES
65c and 75c ea. or \$6 and \$7 per doz.

Coryell Nursery

1375 WEST MAPLE AVENUE
Birmingham, Michigan
Ph. Birmingham 2700 Open Sundays

"WE GROW OUR OWN"

HEATH Quality NURSERY STOCK

THE HEATH NURSERIES
Southfield Road, south of Thirteen Mile Rd.

LANDSCAPING — CONSTRUCTION — TREE MOVING & SURGERY — SPRAYING

AGRICO

THE SUPER PLANT FOOD

Give your lawns, trees and shrubs a balanced ration. They will repay you many fold in growth and beauty. Our AGRICO will give your lawn and plants the desired results.

AGRICO FOR TRUCK—will give your vegetable garden the best results.

We have a complete line of fertilizers—A mixture for each need

Keep Insect Pest away from Trees, Shrubs and Plants by using our SPRAY MATERIALS. A full line in stock.

Parks Coal Co.

PHONE 2020 283 BROWNELL

1. They must be suitably placed (Law of Harmony)
2. They must be suitably placed (Law of Biology)
3. They must all be adapted to the local conditions of soil, drainage, light, etc. (Law of Adaptation)

All landscape gardens, regardless of size or location, to be a success as an ARTISTIC creation must have four dominant qualities, namely, Unity, Variety, Character and Finish.

UNITY: Prof. L. B. Bailey very fittingly defines unity as applied to the landscapes as follows: "Every garden should be a picture, and is the area should be set off from every other area, and it should have such character that the observer catches its entire effect and purpose without stopping to analyze its parts. The garden should be one thing, one area with every feature contributing its part to one strong and homogeneous effect. No one item should be individually conspicuous, but all should help in creating the single harmonious whole."

VARIETY: When used in this sense we do not mean there should be many kinds of plant material, but there can and should be variety in sky line or contour, in texture of foliage, color, lawn surface, without impairing the unity of the place. For instance, while all

"It's the Arrangement That Counts"

EDWARD H. LAIRD
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Wabeek Bldg. Phone 3000

J. L. Hayes D. F. Meinzing
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Local Representative — Pontiac Nursery

100 Acres of Trees, Evergreens, Shrubs, Roses and Perennials to choose from. Landscape plans prepared for your consideration free of charge.

Phone—Birmingham 1151 and 1990-M
Visit our Birmingham Sales Lot... located at 65 S. Woodward Ave.

Read simple directions Broadcast Vigoro evenly Wet down thoroughly

These 3 Simple Steps Lead to a Beautiful Green Lawn!

It really is easy to have a beautiful green lawn. Just follow a few simple cultural practices, and be sure your lawn gets the proper nourishment.

Vigoro, the complete plant food, supplies 11 vital food elements that science has proved all living plants require for normal, healthy growth.

You will particularly enjoy using Vigoro because it is odorless, sanitary, and so easy to apply.

Vigoro is ideal for all growing things: lawns, flowers, shrubs, trees, and vegetables. Get your supply of Vigoro today.

Come in and discuss your gardening problems with us.

VIGORO
Complete plant food
A PRODUCT OF SWIFT

For Sale At
HUSTON HARDWARE McBRIDE HARDWARE BIRMINGHAM HARDWARE McClellan Feed & Salt Co.
Distributor

Pontiac Nurseries

Four bargain markets, stocked with fresh dug—home grown plants

TREES — SHRUBS — EVERGREENS ROSES — PERENNIALS and SMALL FRUITS

Now Open for Your Convenience.

Drive out and select your plants and garden materials

Special WEEK END bargains as follows: EVERGREENS

Biota Aurea Nana	15 18"	\$.98 each
—Golden Biota	18 24"	1.48 each
Juniper Stricta	15 18"	.98 each
—Greek Juniper	18 24"	1.45 each
Juniper Sebina	15 18"	1.75 each
—Savin Spr. Juniper	18 24"	2.25 each
Mugho Pine	12 16"	1.25 each
—Dwarf Spr. Pine	21 24"	3.00 each
Arborvitae Globosa		
—Globe shaped Arborvitae	15 18"	1.00 each

We can serve you at the following locations

Detroit Headquarters 7327 McNichols Rd. West Phone Un. 1-1012

Birmingham 655 So. Woodward Ave. Phone 1151

Pontiac South Blvd. 1 mile West of Adams Rd. Phone Pontiac 741-74

General Headquarters South Main St. Phone Romeo 350

Garden Flower Grass SEEDS OF HIGHEST QUALITY

Package and Bulk

ALSO

Sprayers Spreaders and Garden Tools

Distributor for Milorgapite and Vigoro

McClellan FEED AND SALT CO.
155 S. Woodward