

CALIFORNIA “ESSENCE OF NATURE” NATIVE GARDENS

Leslie Buck 2022

All my gardens are designed to evoke the feeling of a settings in nature, using Japanese garden design principles, as I wrote about in my Japanese-NATIVE garden memoir, *Cutting Back: My Apprenticeship In The Gardens Of Kyoto*. (Available where ever books are sold.)

B	Berries
BBB	Flowering plant that attracts and feeds birds/butterflies/bees/habitat
DT	Drought Tolerant (Summer dry, but needs Winter water, may grows faster with water first 3 years)
SH	Shade tolerant and/or shade loving
SF	SUPERFEEDER: provides exceptional amount of food for mother birds
W	Water-liking
X	Xeriscape-absolutely zero irrigation requirement after first year or so, may need in Winter if drought
*	Not native plant, so in italics and Latin name not given
“Queen of...”	Means it stands out amongst all other plants in some way I have mentioned

FRONT COASTAL NATIVE GARDEN

This “Coastal” garden proves that Natives can be drought-tolerant, and lush/flowering all year (notice X’s). New native garden makes friend with Grandma-over 100 year old palm.

TREES:

<i>Avocado-Stewart-A type*</i>	<i>(A=very tasty-oily variety, planted 2019, cold hardy to 20°)</i> W
<i>Avocado-Bacon-B type*</i>	<i>(B=mildly tasty-watery variety, but allows for A+B= super pollination!)</i> W
Buckwheat, Saint Catherine’s Lace	Eriogonum giganteum (Queen of Summer, massive white flowers, can prune) BBB X
Ceanothus, Buck brush?	Ceanothus cuneatus? (tiny, white flowers. No relation to homeowner) X
Ceanothus, Mountain Lilac	Ceanothus arboreus x griseus ‘Ray Hartman’ (Queen of Spring, massive blue scented blossoms) BBB SF X
<i>Canary Island Palm*</i>	<i>(bee nectar source, habitat for Berkeley’s official bird: the Barn Owl)</i>
<i>Lemon-Meyer*</i>	<i>(planted for community to pick near sidewalk-a hit during the pandemic!)</i>
<i>Lemon-Rangpur Lime*</i>	<i>(actually a lemon, tangy-sweet, with culinary leaves; use leaves like makrut lime)</i>

SHRUBS:

Coffeeberry in general:	(Queen of Bees, hums with them, never stung, great screen, obedient to pruning, if leaves yellow/burn—it needs acidic fertilizer, great screen: sun/shade water/DT) B BBB
California Coffeeberry	Frangula californica (tallest of my coffeeberries) B BBB
Golden Currant	Ribes aureum (massive flowers, fall color and berries) B DT-W SF
Lemonade Berry	Rhus integrifolia (prefers inland heat) BBB DT X
Mallow, Island or Malva Rosa	Malva assurgentiflora, formerly Lavatera (Queen of Flower-Power Winter-Summer, 13h X 10w! 2020) DT
Mallow, Santa Lucia Bush	Malacothamnus palmeri palmeri (shrub shorter and more narrow than “Rosa”) DT X
Sage-Munz’s	Salvia munzii (leaf narrows at base BEES LOVE) X
Sage-Alpine Cleveland	Salvia clevelandii (leaf bumps out at base BEES LOVE) BBB X
Sage-Pitcher’s ‘Baja’	Lepichina hastata (species bigger leaf/height-hummingbird friendly) BBB X
Sage-California White	Salvia apiana (metal-drum pot, harsh sun/drought lover) BBB DT X
Sagebrush-California Coastal	Artemisia californica ‘Canyon Grey’ (“short Cousin Itt” local, hairy, needs a little H2O) X

PERENNIALS:

Blue Flax	Linum lewisii (part shade, survivor) SH
Buckwheat, Santa Cruz Island	Eriogonum, arborescens (because of wide pink flower, I like to call ‘Pink Sherbet’) X
California Fuchsia	Epilobium canum, formerly Zauschneria (Queen of Late Summer for massive red flowers) BBB X
California Fuchsia-Calistoga	Epilobium canum ‘Calistoga’ (more formal/fatter leaf than above C. fuschia/red flws) BBB X
California Sunflower	Helianthus californicus (likes sun, survives hot pots, in drum and huge ceramic pot)
Goldenrod	Solidago velutina californica (reseeds easily, late sum. gold flwr, superfeeder) BBB SH X
Monkeyflower ‘Bubble-gum’	Diplacis aurantiacus ‘Bubble-gum’ (butter yellow, note: cultivars are more fussy) DT SH

VINES

Hairy Honeysuckle	Lonicera hispidula (pretty in pink flowers, needs trellis or plant to grow up) DT SH
Roger’s California Grape	Vitis ‘Roger’s Red’ (Queen of Fall Red Splash--note: I knew Roger Raiche at UC Bot gar- where he developed the CA Collection--my first garden volunteer job!) SF W
den	
Western Morning Glory	Calystegia purpurata (gentle/sweet, not invasive like non-native M.G.) BBB W X

GRASSES, ANNUALS, BULBS, GROUND-COVER:

Blue-eyed Grass	Sisyrinchium bellum (Queen of Spring for Bloom, free birdseed, Larner's Seeds) BBB DT-W
California Poppy	Eschscholzia californica (easily reseeds-bright Spring beauty) BBB DT X
Candy Flower	Claytonia sibirica (Queen of Edible, miner's lettuce species-fatter leaf, Larner's Seeds) X
Seaside Daisy	Erigeron glaucus (hardy grower in Berkeley's part shade) BBB DT SH

BACK FOREST NATIVE GARDEN

This garden is meant to feel like you are walking into a forest with a meadow, pond, sound of trickling stream, and even private campfire. In the day birds sing, bees buzz, at night a native frog or cricket sings. The garden provides homes, food, water for beneficial wildlife, unlike most properties in Berkeley.

TREES:

<i>Black Acacia*</i>	(<i>From neighbor's garden, kept because tallest, oldest tree in garden, AirBnB for birds</i>)
Ceanothus, Blue Blossom	Ceanothus thrysifolius (possible 30' h, but prune to 4' h so fits in spot) BBB X
Dogwood, Pacific	Cornus nuttallii (reminds me of Yosemite, pampered with acidic fertilizer, low moisture once established) B W
Douglas-fir	Pseudotsuga menziesii (Queen of Conifer Charisma--pettable, will be kept at 8-10'H)
Manzanita-Contra Costa	Arctostaphylos manzanita laevigata (26' h potential-but never grew more than 1', SW corner of meadow, styling across meadow, be flexible and plant's beauty shines)
X	
Mountain Mahogany, Few Flowered	Cercocarpus betuloides macrourus (tiny leaf variety, great bird viewing tall shrub) X
Redbud	Cercis occidentalis (Queen of "Violet Flowers to Die For")
Toyon	Heteromeles arbutifolia (Queen of Winter Red Berries) B W
Vine Maple	Acer circinatum (California's Japanese Maple, reliable fall color if given some sun) W

SHRUBS:

Bush Anemone 'Elizabeth'	Carpenteria californica 'Elizabeth' (white flower pop) SH
Coffeeferry in general:	(Queen of Bees, hums with them, never stung, great screen, obedient to pruning, if leaves yellow/burn—it needs acidic fertilizer, great screen: sun/shade water/dt) B BBB
Ca Coffeeferry	Frangula californica (tallest)
Ca Coffeeferry "Eve Case"	Frangula californica 'Eve Case' (SW corner-tighter leaves, tons o' berries)
Ca Coffeeferry 'Leatherleaf'	Frangula californica 'Leatherleaf' (smaller blue-green, S. fence)
Ca Huckleberry	Vaccinium ovatum (no morning sun in Berkeley-thrips, too much-burns, I keep tryin') B
Ca. Huckleberry 'Blue Madonna'	Vaccinium ovatum 'Blue Madonna' (bluish/compact shrub, more shade tolerant?) B SH
Catalina Perfume	Ribes viburnifolium (Queen of Darkness, deep shade)
Dogwood, Creek	Cornus sericea (Queen of Red Fall Color, prune base to keep from becoming wide thicket)
Hollyleaf Cherry	Prunus licifolia (Queen of Superfeeder Screen, "Plain-Jane" look, but best small evergreen habitat tree [compared to oak], can prune any height, sun/shade, water/dry) B SF
Manzanita general:	(Queen of Winter for glossy green leaves/shiny white flws that glow when it rains) BBB X
Manzanita-Emerald Carpet	Arctostaphylos 'Emerald Carpet' (ground cover) BBB X
Manzanita-Howard McMinn	Arctostaphylos crustacea subcordata (ground cover W. of pond) BBB X
Nevin's Barberry	Mahonia berberis nevinii (sharp but worth it, massive yellow bloom, ruby berries) B X
Ocean Spray, aka Cream Bush	Holodiscus discolor (shade lover, stunning flowers, "Wall flower" last to leaf/to drop) BBB SH
Oregon Grape	Berberis aquifolium (SW corner of meadow, tallest Berberis) B
Oregon Grape-repens	Berberis aquifolium repens (in mw, med. height, sometimes prune to keep short) B
Pink Flowering Currant	Ribes sanguineum glutinosum (Queen of Early Spring flower that lasts Dec-March, sun/shade, water/DT, hummingbirds and bees fight over it, flower/berry/fall color)
BBB	
Rose-California Wild	Rosa californica (blooms all summer in shade, sigh--I love, but spreads crazy with drip)
Rose-Fragrant-Mountain	Rosa woodsii (shorter-also irrigation-invasive so I'm slowly pulling out)
Lupine-Summer	Lupinus formosus (Queen of Wild Nature Feeling, so many varieties!) DT
Silktassel-Wavyleaf	Garrya elliptica 'Evie' (8' Shade tolerant evergreen=perfect for fence screen, slow) DT SH
Spiraea-Mountain	Spiraea splendens (Queen of Soft Pink Pop, needs morn sun in Berkeley) SH
Twinberry	Lonicera involucrata (Queen of Hummingbird Plant, like having a year 'round feeder)
Western Azalea	Rhododendron occidentale (pink/yellow scented Rhodie, needs pt/full sun in Berkeley!) SH
Western Serviceberry	Amelanchier utahensis (under coffeeferry NW corner) DT

PERENNIALS:

Buckwheat, Redflower
California Thimbleberry

Clarkia "Elegant"
Clarkia "Punchbowl"
Fern-Adiantum aleuticum
Fern-Western Sword
Fern-Giant Chain
Fern-Gold Back
Fern-Leatherleaf Polypody
Fern-CA Maidenhair
Fern-Western Polypody
Fringe Cups
Goldenrod
Heuchera Alum Root
Heuchera, Roundleaf Alumroot
Monkey flower
Pearly Everlasting
Pearly Everlasting extra:

Eriogonum grande (photo of Sammy near firepit, SE corner of meadow) **X**
(Queen of "Plant-splaining"=spreads without being asked due to irrigation, I keep pulling, it keeps showing up. Underground during tour.)
Clarkia unguiculata (pink flower petal scattered) **DT-X SH**
Clarkia bottae (pink with white center, scattered, sun or shade) **SH**
Adiantum aleuticum (prefers fertile, moist soil) **SH**
Polystichum munitum (In Berk. needs morn. sun+1X/wk overhead spray or gets thrips)
Woodwardia fimbriata (Loves deep shade-wow) **SH W**
Pentagramma triangularis triangularis (looks little like Polypody)
Polypodium scolopendri (deep shade-will spread with H2O) **DT SH**
Adiantum jordanii (so soft, evergreen with wet shade) **DT SH**
Polypodium hesperium (thinner leaf than leatherleaf) **DT SH**
Tellima grandiflora (spreads beautifully in moist/irrigated shade, pink bell flowers) **SH**
Solidago velutina californica (reseeds easy, who cares?! Pull if need, habitat loves) **BBB, X**
Heuchera micrantha (purple leaf dry sun/shade, will perish with H2O) **DT SH**
Heuchera cylindrica (maybe? under SW corner CB? dry shade, will perish with H2O) **DT SH**
Diplacus aurantiacus (bright orange flower, sun or shade!) **DT**
Anaphalis margaritacea (white flower NW corner) **DT BBB**
"You can tell how much of a 'native nut' a person is by <hearing>, 'WOW, you've got a P. Everlasting, or God, why don't you pull out that weed?'. . . ."—brilliant **Las Pilitas**

Website

Primrose, Hooker's Evening
Sticky Cinquefoil
Western Azalea
Western Columbine
Western Bleeding Heart
Yarrow-White
Yarrow-Violet

Oenothera elata hookeri (yellow, between step 'n tub, attracts White-lined Sphinx!)
Drymocallis glandulosa (tall, strawberry look-alike but taller) **DT-W SH**
Rhododendron occidentale (pink, scented Rhododendron, needs full sun in Berkeley) **SH**
Aquilegia formosa (Queen of Fairy Flower, needs only coveted morning sun) **SH W**
Dicentra formosa (shade/drought tolerant, pink flowers appear like memories of lost loves)
Achillea millefolium (bird seed, attracts cool insects like Wavy-lined Emerald moth) **BBB DT**
Achillea millefolium (under porch eave, later bloom than white yarrow-nice) **SH**

VINES:

Dutchman's Pipe

Aristolochia californica (Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly home) **SH**

GRASSES ANNUALS BULBS GROUND-COVER:

Blue-eyed Grass

Sisyrinchium bellum (Queen of Spring for purple Super Bloom, let go to seed for free bird seed, some irrigation extends bloom-reseeds itself, Larner's Seeds) **BBB DT-W**

Death Camas

Toxicoscordion fremontii (meadow-white, 6% of body weight amount of any part of plant fatal, so I'd have to eat 8 lbs/small animal 2lbs, no worries, stunning elegance)

DT

Douglas Iris
Fernald's Iris
Redwood Sorrel
Rudy Ithuriel's Spear
Woodland Strawberry

Iris douglasiana **DT SH**
Iris fernaldii (white with purple stripes-seeds 2019) **DT SH**
Oxalis oregona (deliciously spreads with drip, also dt in full shade, pretty pink flw) **SH**
Triteleia laxa 'Rudy' (sweet purple/white striped, cup shaped star bulb in meadow) **DT-X**
Fragaria vesca (Queen of Short Superfeeder, super low/super habitat, flexible groundcover, spreads with or without H2O sun, part shade to shade) **DT-W SH**

SF

Yerba Buena

Clinopodium douglassii (SF originally named for this plant, minty smell) **DT-W SH**

NORTHERN SHADE-'SHROOM GARDEN

This is an experimental shade garden, with a "Muir Woods" atmosphere that adds habitat for frogs/newts/mushrooms/more, and provides a view from inside the house from an enlarged upstairs window. Look up, for I look down every day from a warm room.

TREES:

Vine Maple
Elderberry
Toyon 'Davis Gold'

Acer circinatum ("California's Japanese Maple", reliable fall color if sunlight)**W**
Sambucus mexicana (birds/humans love, sprouts to 40', prune 2X/yr to keep 15') **BBB**
Heteromeles arbutifolia 'Davis Gold' (sun OR light shade, intense yellow berries)

SHRUBS:

California Huckleberry
Carpenteria/Bush Anemone
Dogwood, Golden Twig
Hollyleaf Cherry
Hollyleaf Redberry

Vaccinium ovatum (where are my berries? Needs sun, breezy space in Berk or thrips) **BBB**
Carpenteria californica (white flower pop in deep shade) **SH**
Cornus sericea 'Flaviramea' (bright yellow twigs in winter, 4', hybrid)
Prunus licifolia (Plain-Jane look, yet #1 habitat small tree, see above) **B SF SH**
Rhamnus crucea ilicifolia (dry shade evergreen that looks like oak with red berries) **B SH X**

Island Snapdragon-“Ceci’s”
Ninebark, Pacific
Western Azalea
Pink Flowering Currant

Galvezia gambelia speciosa (Red flwr evergreen, I named after friend who planted) **SH X**
Physocarpus capitatas (delicate white flower, soft leaf, frog habitat perhaps one day) **SH**
Rhododendron occidentale (good air circ, cool roots, as much sun as poss, H20 in sum)
Ribes sanguineum glutinosum (just fine in shade, see above description) **BBB B DT SH**

PERENNIALS:

Bee Plant
Cardinal Catchfly
Fern-Giant Chain
Hedgenettle, CA
Heuchera ‘Rosada’
Iris, Douglas
Iris, Pacific Coast Hybrid ‘Gold Special’
Iris, Fernald’s
Lomatium, CA (Celery weed)
Milkweed, Narrow-leaf

Monkeyflower, Bush (orange)
Monkeyflower, pink
Monkeyflower, cherry
Monkeyflower, white
Monkeyflower, Fiesta marigold
Telegraph Weed
Western Sky Pilot

Scrophularia californica (hoping Variable Checkerspot butterfly will find) **SH**
Silene laciniata laciniata (look up:flwbox outside 2nd floor bath-tiny “carnation” sun)
Woodwardia fimbriata (loves deep shade-wow) **SH W**
Stachys bullata (under Acer circinatum)
Heuchera ‘Rosada’ (shade and drought tolerant, mounds)
Iris douglasii (Ca native iris LIKES shade and summer drought, and so many colors!) **SH X**
Iris ‘Pacific Coast Hybrid’ ‘Gold Special’ (yellow flowers) **SH X**
Iris fernaldii (white with purple stripes-seeds 2019) **SH X**
Lomatium californicum (Anise and Indra Swallowtail butterflies host) **DT SH**
Asclepias fascicularis (monarch butterfly host, let’s rename “Butterfly-Milk Plant!”), planted in honor of my mother who died of Covid, Love you mom!) **BBB DT**
Diplacus aurantiacus (bright orange flower, sun or shade, persistent) **DT**
Diplacus aurantiacus ‘Jelly Bean,’ dark pink
Diplacus aurantiacus ‘Cherry’ (stunning scarlet, sun-shade, dry!)
‘Mimulus bifidus’ (white with yellow center, dry)
Dipiacus ‘Fiesta Marigold’ (look up: flwbox outside 2nd floor bath, full-pt shade)
Heterotheca grandiflora (yellow daisy around dry pond Checkerspot butterfly host) **BBB DT**
Polemonium occidentale (purple June flowers, needs moisture) **SH**

VINES:

Clematis, Chaparral

Clematis lasiantha (needs to climb something) **DT SH X**

GRASSES, ANNUALS, BULBS, GROUND-COVER:

Blue Grama grass
Ceanothus, Hearst Ranch Buckbrush
Goldfield, yellow ray
“Ohlone Lettuce”/aka Miner’s Lettuce
Tufted Hairgrass
Wild Ginger
Woodland Strawberry

Bouteloua gracilis (seed: looks like false eyelash, bunch grass, hardy) **SH X**
Ceanothus hearstiorum (shade tolerant ceanothus, go figure, ground cover) **BBB**
Lasthenia glabrata (Larner’s Seeds) 2022
Claytonia perfoliata (edible, open dirt, found behind Oakland home) **X SH**
Deschampsia caespitosa ssp. c. (wet meadow, reseeds) **W**
Asarum caudatum (deep shade, edible root) **SH W**
Fragaria vesca (Queen of Short Superfeeder, see above description) **DT-W SH SF**