

THE OVERLOOK SUCCULENT GARDEN

(Prepared for Tour Guides by Marilyn Nelson)

Background

This garden has been in existence for many years, but unnamed and often untended. Although I had often worked in the Herb Garden, I discovered this one only when Mary Friestedt took me on my final required tour of the gardens as part of my docent training in 2009. That's when I decided to start working there by weeding it and uncovering many of the succulent gems that had been hidden. Sally Sandler asked me to take over the garden that fall, and with a few helpers and Saturday work parties, we began. I had a contest for the name, and the one chosen was a reflection of its location. Sally, and Bill Teague, contributed funds from their reserved accounts at SDBG to make the sign a reality.

The events that stimulated the reorganization of this garden were (1) a windstorm in 2010 that toppled a magnificent Torrey Pine and (2) the subsequent felling of a neighboring one. That fall destroyed the back half of the garden, requiring substantial re-planting and re-mapping for about one year, in order to recover. The garden plan that you see today dates from that time. However, re-planting of each section is customarily necessary in order to keep up-to-date with newly developed species and replacement of tired succulents.

The outline that follows lists the major plants in each section. It is intended to assist you in responding to questions from tour participants.

The Wall

Five baskets of succulents dress the wooden wall. They also contain Spanish moss, a bromeliad. The moss looks dead, but it's alive, and it continues to grow.

Garden A (on the left beside the Wall)

Crassula capitella
Euphorbia milii
Kalanchoe hybrid (Pink Butterfly plant)
Echeveria agavoides
Aeonium hyb. "Cyclops"
Othonna capensis (flowers year-round)
Oscularia deltoidea (flowers in May/June)
Graptopetalum paraguayense (Ghost Plant)
Senecio articulatus
Aeonium tabuliforma (some with pink borders)
Aeonium gomerense
Crassula ovata hybrid (Golden jade; Hummel's Sunset)
Aeonium Zwartkop
Crassula tetragona (miniature pine tree)
Sedum nussbaumanum (and Sedum adolphii)
Aeonium tabuliforma (some with pink borders)
Crassula perforata
Aeonium "Kiwi" & Senecio jacobsenii (potted)
Gasteria sp.
Senecio mandraliscae (blue)
Aeonium "Kiwi" and Senecio jacobsenii (potted)
Crassula streyi (2)
Euphorbia Caput-Medusa
Hybrid of Echeveria + Cotyledon (???)
Graptoveria "Fred Ives" (3)

Plants Bordering the Wall

Crassula multicava (Fairy Crassula—Everywhere!!)
Kalanchoe fedtschenkoi
Aloe cilianis (Climbing aloe—cannot climb by itself)
Eriogonum arborescens (Santa Cruz Island
Buckwheat)
Crassula arborescens (Silver Dollar plant)
Epiphyllum
Gasteria sp.
Tylecodon schaeferianus
Sedum brevifolium (2)
Crassula "Springtime"
Senecio mandraliscae
Cotyledon orbiculata
Crassula hybrid "Little Missy" (removed)
Senecio kleinia
Euphorbia tirucalli (Firesticks)
Portulacaria afra (Elephant Bush)

Back Garden

Crassula perforata
Dudleya brittonii
Dudleya pulverulenta
Dudleya edulis
Dudleya hybrid (self-hybridizing genus)
Crassula hybrids "Hobbitt" and "Golum"

Garden A, continued

Anacampseros Colony:

- A. rufescens (Sunshine)
- A. telephiastrum variegata
- A. hyb. telephiastrum X telepheastrum

Garden B (in Center, right of Wall)

Oscularia deltoides (front and border)
Graptopetalum sp. (lavender succulent)
Echeveria hyb. “Afterglow”
Echeveria subrigida
“Crested” succulent (Aeonium?)
Kalanchoe pumila
Echeveria hyb. “Raindrops”
Aloe camaronii (Red aloe)
Aloe brevifolia (Shortleaf aloe—blue)
Crassula involuta
Crassula rupestris subsp. marnieriana (Pagoda plant)

Garden D (Bordering path to Overlook)

Aeonium hyb. “Sunburst”
Euphorbia tirucalli
Othonna capensis
Aeonium hyb. “Voodoo”
Cotyledons
Crassula radicans pubescens.
Crassula ovata “Variegata” (Variegated jade)
Graptoveria “Fred Ives”

Back Garden, continued

Schlumbergera buckleyi (Christmas Cactus, in pot)
Blue agave
Senecio barbertonicus
Cistanthe Grandiflora (Calandrinia)
Senecio vitalis (green)

Note the Tillandsias on the upturned roots of the fallen Torrey Pine. The roots are now rotting and falling, so the Tillandsias are not so visible.

Garden C (behind Garden B)

Watch-chain crassula
Crassula argentea (potted: Donation from Bill T.)
Sedum adolphii
Crassula falcata (Propeller plant)
Echeveria hyb. “Blue Curls”
Kalanchoe luciae (Flapjacks)
Graptoveria hyb. “Blue Sky”
Echeveria hyb. “Lime & Chili”
Sedum morganianum (“Burro’s Tails”)
Echeveria imbricata (“Blue Rose”)
Haworthias—several
Echeveria “Black Prince”
Echeveria agavoides hyb. “Lipstick”
Aeonium lindleyi (sap reputed to counteract irritation from Euphorbia)
Crassula radicans
Euphorbia “Medusa”
Echeveria harmsii and Echeveria pulvinata
Senecio scaposus
Sedum praealtum

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