

A PROPER VICTORIAN ROSE GARDEN

by Janness Abraham

In May of 1998, a rose garden was designed and planted for the historic Charles S. Dole mansion located in Crystal Lake, Illinois. Dole was a Chicago grain merchant [Armour, Dole & Co.] and charter member of the Chicago Board of Trade who purchased 450 acres in the early 1860's and built a grand Italianate estate which he maintained until 1901.

The rose garden is in a shape that was popular during the late 1880's, and the roses that were chosen are those

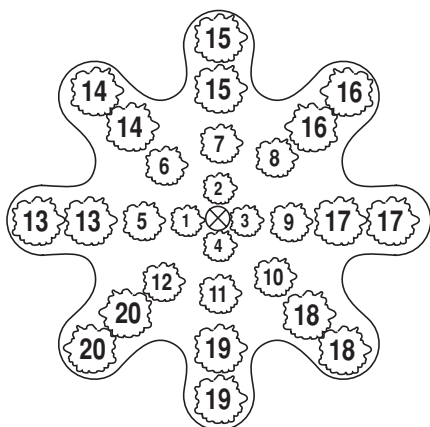
that would have been planted at that time. The garden is located on the north side of the mansion, directly under the bay window, exactly where it would have been placed during Victorian times. The garden is edged with *Nepeta x faassenii*, which is trimmed back after its first blooming to create a neat edging.

The entire garden was funded through donations, most in someone's memory, and the roses are plaqued accordingly. The rose garden

has been named "Wingate Memorial Rose Garden" after the late Bill & Ardath Wingate. Bill was a popular naturalist in McHenry County.



Janness Abraham is a garden designer and horticultural restorationist who owns *Forever Gardens* in Crystal Lake, IL. She can be reached at (815) 455-0408 or via forevergardens@gardener.com.



Wingate Memorial Rose Garden at the Dole Mansion

The Rose List

On the Pillar: Ghislaine de Feligonde, 1916. 15-20'. Light yellow climber.

- 1 **General Kleber**, 1856. 5'
A moss rose with blush pink, fading to white, flowers.
- 2 **William Lobb**, 1855. 8'
A moss rose whose dusky purple flowers can appear lavender grey.
- 3 **Fantin-Latour**, 1800's. 5'
A rosa centifolia, it is once-flowering. Shell pink.

- 4 **Gloire de Ducher**, 1865. 7'
A very fragrant Hybrid Perpetual, with large velvety crimson-purple flowers.
- 5 **Gloire des Mousseux**, 1852. 5'
The largest flowers of all Moss roses. Bright pink.
- 6 **Autumn Damask**, pre-1819. 5' aka *Quatre Saisons*. The oldest repeat flowering European rose. Rich clear pink with a wine fragrance. Grey-green foliage.
- 7 **Henri Martin**, 1863. 5-7'
Crimson moss roses in fragrant clusters. Great cut flower.
- 8 **Mme. Isaac Pereire**, 1881. 5'
A Bourbon rose, extremely fragrant, with deep carmine-pink flowers.
- 9 **Paul Neyron**, 1869. 5-6'
A Hybrid Perpetual with huge, rich pink flowers.
- 10 **Baroness Rothschild**, 1868. 4'
A Hybrid Perpetual with large flowers of rose pink. One of the first "exhibition" roses. A fine cut rose.
- 11 **Reine des Violettes**, 1860. 5'
A Hybrid Perpetual with grey-green foliage and purple fading to soft violet. Very good scent.

- 12 **Frau Karl Druschki**, 1901. 6'
A Hybrid Perpetual with large, globe-shaped white roses.
- 13 **Felicite Parmentier**, 1834. 4'
An Alba rose with very good scent. Pale pink reverse; deeper pink inside.
- 14 **Perle d'Or**, 1883. 4'
A dwarf Polyantha (Poly-pom) with delicious scent. Bud is orange opening to golden pink or salmon.
- 15 **Rose de Rescht**, ancient. 3'
Elegant fuschia-crimson, fragrant blooms. A Portland.
- 16 **Katharina Zeimet**, 1901. 2.5'
Small, scented white flowers in constant bloom.
- 17 **Marie Pavie**, 1888. 2.5'
Pale pink to white Polyantha clusters on a thornless spreading plant.
- 18 **Clotilde Soupert**, 1890. 3'
A Polyantha of creamy white with light pink centers.
- 19 **Mlle. Cecile Brunner**, 1881. 2'
"The Sweetheart Rose". Polyantha. Continual blooming.
- 20 **White Pet**, 1879. 2'
Small, pure white flowers on a compact, bushy plant.