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Design
for
Planting

HENRY R. DIMOND

HICKS NURSERIES, INC.
JERICHO TURNPIKE, WESTBURY, L.I., N.Y.

Design for Planting



WE are presenting this booklet with the sincere hope that it will prove interesting and useful to the new home owner who wants a really satisfying Home Landscape.

We also hope that you will consider this a standing invitation to visit us many times during the course of the year. Every season has its outstanding beauties and we know that you will enjoy the ever-changing pageant of flowers. Whether you intend to buy or just browse around, you are equally welcome.

HICKS NURSERIES, Inc.

JERICHO TURNPIKE

WESTBURY, L. I., N. Y.

PHONE WESTBURY 68

2-10-1936





Westbury 68, please.

EARLY one afternoon in February, the office phone rang and Mrs. Simpson wanted to know if we would help her lay out the grounds around her newly completed house. Of course, we told her that that was exactly why we were in the nursery business and to come over with blueprints of the house and the lot map. She came right that afternoon fully realizing that the planting season would soon be in full sway and that there was none too much time left for drawing up planting plans, etc.



After carefully going over with Mrs. Simpson the entire subject of lawns, shade trees, gardens and other features needed to make a really livable home, we told her that one of our landscape designers would call and look over the grounds and house and draw up appropriate plans and specifications. This would be done without charge or obligation to buy.



Mrs. Simpson made it very clear that although she wanted a lovely place to enjoy with her family and friends, the bank account was a little the worse for wear after the thousand and one costs of building. Then and there, our man told her about the only really satisfactory way of developing the grounds bit by bit and that was by adopting a suitable plan and then sticking to it. When

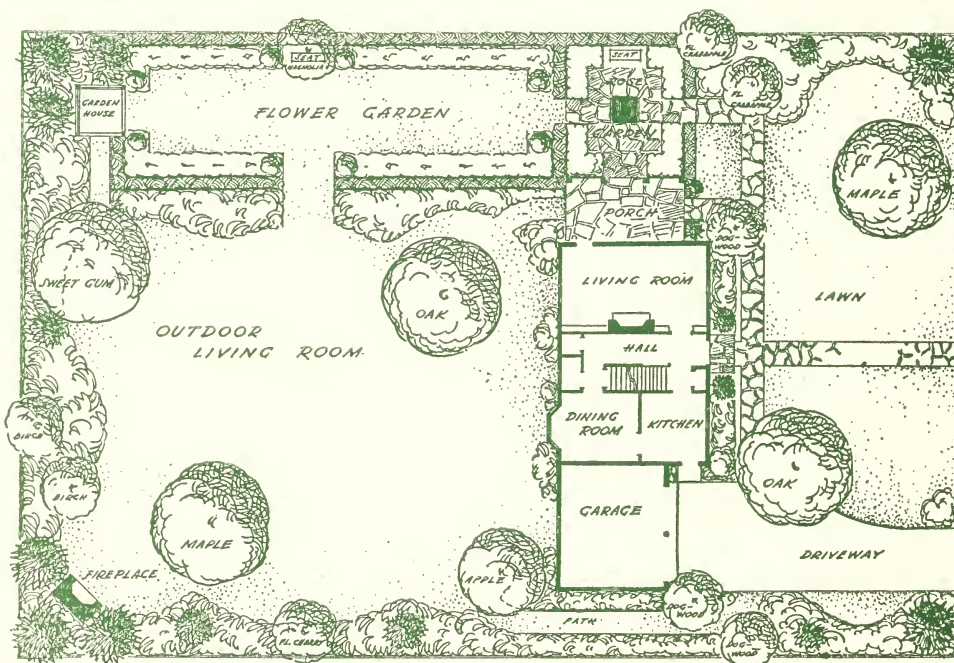
the planting is completed, all the various units will tie in together as they should and every plant bought will have been selected for a definite place and purpose.



Well, to make a long story short, Mrs. Simpson agreed that this seemed to be a logical approach to the matter, so we got busy and drew up the plan shown in this booklet. After learning just what features the family preferred and required, we figured that the plan as submitted would just about do the trick. To this, with but a few minor suggestions and changes, she also agreed. Then to the estimate of costs.



After several hours discussion, we all decided that the most important items on the planting list for the new house are the Foundation Planting, Shade Trees and Outdoor Living Room. These we will take up in more detail and retell to you just what we told Mrs. Simpson.



This is the plan we submitted to Mrs. Simpson. Your house and grounds may be given an equally delightful setting if carefully planned and planted.



The Foundation Planting

WHEN it came to the Foundation Planting, Mrs. Simpson told us definitely and finally that she did not want the usual mass (or mess) of young forest trees growing up to the second floor windows. In fact, because of the simple design of the house, she thought a few choice dwarf evergreens at the proper locations would be much more becoming and would look well for many years. We complimented her on her good taste and judgment.



Foundation plantings, although often overdone and composed of poorly chosen material are of great importance, especially to the newly completed house. If properly designed and a suitable type of plants is used, the foundation planting can tie the house in with the adjoining lawns and garden and give it an established appearance at once. A new house, even of the finest architectural workmanship, will not look homelike and acclimated until some plants have been set out to soften the severe angles and corners and blend the building into its surrounding landscape.



As Mrs. Simpson wisely suggested, the design of the foundation planting and sort of material it is composed of, is decided by the style of house, how it fits into the land and the various exposures to be planted, as well as the composition of the rest of the landscape. In other words, a simple little Cape Cod cottage looks best with a couple of dwarf Yews or Boxwood by the door and a few Lilacs or other old-fashioned shrubs at the corners. Perennials, such as

Lily of the Valley, Daylilies, Iris, etc. are appropriate, as well as some of the good old bush roses. Around a larger, more formal house, masses of evergreen shrubs and slow-growing evergreens will provide a splendid setting. Flowering trees, as Dogwood, Hawthorn and Crabapples, will soften corners and frame doorways beautifully and vines either trained on masonry walls or festooning lattices help join the house to the earth very nicely.



Following is a list of some of the better things to use in your foundation planting.



We shall be glad to show you these plants in the nursery and explain further why they are the ideal plants for the purpose.

LIST OF DESIRABLE PLANTS FOR FOUNDATION PLANTING

TALL-GROWING PLANTS

The following group of plants is especially useful in foundation plantings for softening the corners, blanking large bare wall spaces or overhanging the terrace or front door.

EVERGREENS

Arborvitae
Cedar, Red
Cryptomeria, Lobb
Cypress, Shell-plume
Firethorn (Pyracantha)
Hemlock, Canada and Carolina
Holly, (American)
Rhododendron, Catawba
Seedlings and Hybrids
Yew, Hicks and Japanese

DECIDUOUS

Birch, Gray
Cherry, Japanese Flowering
Crabapple, Flowering
Dogwood, Flowering and Japanese
Hawthorn
Redbud
Sorrel Tree
Many Shrubs, such as
Blueberry
Enkianthus, Lilacs,
Stewartia and Viburnums

MEDIUM-GROWING PLANTS

This list includes some of the most valuable material for the foundation planting. Most of these have attractive flowers or berries.

EVERGREEN

Abelia, Glossy
Andromeda, Japanese
Azaleas
Holly, Japanese
Inkberry
Juniper, Pfitzer's
Mountain Laurel
Rhododendron, Carolina
Yew, Spreading and Dwarf varieties

DECIDUOUS

Azaleas
Some of the lower-growing Shrubs as
Bayberry, Barberries, Cotoneasters,
Regel Privet, Rhodotypos, Snowberry,
Bush Roses, and Fragrant Viburnum.

LOW-GROWING and TRAILING PLANTS

Use these low, spreading things to tie the foundation planting together and for planting in front of low windows and to hide area-ways.

DECIDUOUS

Cotoneasters, Rock and Creeping
Ferns, Deciduous
Huckleberry, Low

EVERGREEN

Andromeda, Mountain
Daphne, Rose

Ferns, Evergreen
Juniper, Sargent
Ivy, English
Leucothoe, Drooping
Pachysandra, Japanese
Periwinkle (Myrtle)
Yew, Spreading English



While considering the subject of Foundation Plantings, it might be timely to mention the desirability of tying in this planting with other features of the landscape such as the boundary planting or a small, intimate garden off the porch or terrace as we did for Mrs. Simpson. This treatment helps to unify the plantings and does not leave the house floundering as it were in the midst of a large open lawn.



The intimate garden may be devoted to a certain class of flowers or plants such as Roses, Azaleas or Annuals, or it may be a combination of several kinds. As this garden is close to the house where it may be looked into frequently, it is an ideal spot for a small pool, gay with lilies and gold fish. If flagged, as shown on the plan, pockets may be left here and there between the stones for little plants like Sedums and Thyme.



A small garden of this type appears better if surrounded by a hedge, wall or fence, depending on the pocketbook and type of house. A bench or two in the shade of an overhanging crabapple or dogwood invites quiet contemplation and better enjoyment of the flowers.



The beds should be outlined with edgings of plants or bricks. Probably the choicest plant for this purpose is the old-fashioned Dwarf Boxwood, but there are a number of other satisfactory substitutes. Germander or Teucrium is very good with the added attraction of flowers. The Dwarf Japanese Yew may be started small and kept in scale for many years by shearing. We shall be glad to tell you of others if you are interested.

HOW HICKS NURSERIES CAN HELP YOU

WE have had years of experience in the growing of plants of all types best suited for the climate and soil conditions of this part of the country. Practically every plant with possibilities for this latitude have been tested and those found to be difficult of growth and tender have been discarded. Therefore, when we recommend plants for your Home Landscape, you may be sure that with ordinary care and attention, they will do well.



Most of our men, both salesmen and workers in the nursery, have been with us many years and their knowledge about plants and planting is founded on ample experience. They will not advise buying this or that just to make a sale. We realize that our reputation depends on satisfied customers.



Our Garden Department under the capable supervision of William Hicks was primarily created to aid our friends in comparing and selecting plants without having to travel over many acres of nursery. Freshly dug plants in a large variety are kept in the Garden Department plunged in beds of damp peat moss. In this way, they are always in best condition for planting in your own garden. It is our endeavor to keep a comprehensive assortment of plants blooming at various seasons grouped in the Garden Department so that visitors may find new specimens to brighten their own gardens throughout the spring, summer and fall.



The men at the Garden Department are well qualified to discuss your planting problems and recommend plants, fertilizers, sprays, etc.



Our Landscape Department has had wide experience in advising new home owners how to attain an attractive and satisfying Home Landscape. This service is at your disposal and we will be glad to have one of our representatives call and consult with you without charge. He will be glad to cooperate in every way to help you.





Shade Trees

MRS. SIMPSON was most anxious to have her house nestle comfortably in the shade of stately trees, but unfortunately there was not a single tree on the plot. We told her how trees of almost any size can be safely moved; the limit being decided by the pocketbook. It was too bad that she did not set out the trees before the house was started, but on the other hand, she was wise in not planting trees before giving careful consideration as to where they were to go and the choice of what kinds to plant.



We used up considerable time persuading Mrs. Simpson not to plant very rapid-growing trees such as Silver Maples and Poplar. We explained to her that most long-lived trees as the Oaks, Red and Norway Maples, Lindens and Elms and others, grow almost as fast as the short-lived and brittle Silver Maple and Poplar and would continue to add beauty and dignity and comfort to the place for several generations. Moreover, as her new house was on a plot of ground not blessed with too much good soil, the proper type of tree would require less attention and produce much greater satisfaction.



Shade trees are needed for the setting they provide for the house almost as much as for the agreeable shade they cast. Therefore, they should be located with this fact in mind. Trees planted in front of the house should not be set out directly off the front door but rather more or less off the ends of the house

so as to frame the view of the house from the sidewalk. In the rear yard, the need of shade at certain times of day for the porch or terrace should be taken into consideration, and the absence of large trees from the immediate vicinity of flower, rose or vegetable gardens is vital. The shade as well as root robbery are not conducive to best success with flowers.



Although of secondary importance, the fall coloring of various shade trees should be taken into consideration. Many of our finest varieties have the added attraction of brilliantly colored autumn foliage. This is especially true of the Oaks, Red or Swamp Maple, Sweet Gum and Pepperidge. On a gloomy day in late September or October, a tree overhanging the house, at the height of its glory, will fairly glow with light and transmit color and cheer through the windows.



Although the Flowering Trees as a rule do not grow large enough to be considered real shade trees, they will cast more or less shadow and are of prime value, especially on the smaller place where there is not room for more than one or two larger trees. Flowering Trees not only provide their bit of shade but give twice the money's worth with gorgeous displays of vari-colored blossoms at different seasons. Then again, some varieties have bright colored fall and winter berries which attract birds as well as the eye. Flowering Trees have a number of valuable uses. We are glad to suggest a few of these here:



Probably the best location for Flowering Trees is spotted singly or in groups on the lawn. Crabapples, Dogwoods, and Cherries to mention a few make never-to-be-forgotten pictures when in full bloom. Another splendid use for Flowering Trees is in the garden or border. Here they may be used to overhang seats or pools or add height and interest to the sky line. Another interesting feature in the landscape can be a walk or vista bordered on either side with Flowering Trees. Beneath these may be planted masses of Laurel, Azaleas, Inkberry, etc., or even formal beds of perennials. As a final desirable use of the Flowering Trees we would repeat the recommendations given under the Foundation Planting. Near the house, Dogwoods, Hawthorns, and other similar plants may be grouped at corners or in front of large bare wall spaces. Because of their more open, delicate foliage, they are more practical for this purpose than the more dense and drab evergreens commonly used.



SHADE TREES

The following is a list of shade trees which we recommended to Mrs. Simpson.

- BEECH, AMERICAN—Striking specimen tree for the large lawn. Silver grey bark.
- BEECH, EUROPEAN—Large tree, usually branched almost to ground. Darker bark and foliage than American Beech.
- BEECH, PURPLE—Similar to above but with handsome purple to bronze foliage.
- ELM, AMERICAN—One of our best loved trees. Ideal form for overhanging the house or roadway.
- GINKGO—An odd, but interesting tree with leaves like the Maidenhair Fern. Good for the city.
- LINDEN, LITTLELEAF EUROPEAN—The best Linden for Long Island and nearby territory. Withstands drought.
- MAPLE, NORWAY—The most commonly planted street tree. Very rugged and disease proof.
- MAPLE, RED or SWAMP—Very good, especially for bright autumn color. Does best on fairly deep loam.
- MAPLE, SUGAR—Another very desirable tree for brilliant autumn color. Does not like poor, acid soils.
- OAK, PIN—One of the most popular shade trees. Does well under most every condition.
- OAK, RED—A large growing Oak with plenty of character. Rapid grower in moderately good soils.
- OAK, SCARLET—Gorgeous fall coloring makes this long-lived tree a favorite, especially for poorer soil conditions.
- PEPPERIDGE or TUPELO—A medium sized tree for rather moist soils. One of the first to turn in the fall. Very picturesque growth.
- PLANE, ORIENTAL—The most successful tree for city conditions as it withstands unfavorable soil and atmosphere.
- SWEET GUM—Highly ornamental tree for good soils. Star-shaped leaves with splendid fall coloring.



FLOWERING TREES

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Dogwood, Flowering—white and red | Magnolia |
| Dogwood, Japanese | Mountain Ash |
| Cherry, Japanese Flowering | Redbud, American and Chinese |
| Crabapple, Flowering | Silverbell |
| Goldenrain-Tree | Sorrel Tree |
| Gordonia | Styrax |
| Hawthorn | White Fringe |

HEDGES

HEDGES provide the ideal means of separating and screening one area from another in the smaller home grounds. As they may be kept confined to a rather narrow space, they do not take up valuable room, and they do not have the high initial cost of walls or the expensive upkeep of fences and trellises.



Hedges may be made of a wide variety of plants, both evergreen and deciduous. The former are rich in effect and provide cheerful color for winter. Deciduous hedges are less expensive as a rule and occasionally provide some bloom or berries. Hedges can be trimmed severely and give a very formal line, or they may be only sheared enough to keep them in bounds and make a less rigid screen.



For the hedges around Mrs. Simpson's rose and flower gardens, we recommended the Hicks yew. This variety has the ideal habit of growth for the purpose and is of a rich, dark green color to better show off the varied colors of the flowers. As a less expensive substitute, one of the deciduous hedge plants could be used. An uncommon, but strikingly beautiful hedge plant is the Red-vein Enkianthus. This shrub grows in a narrow, upright fashion and the foliage turns brilliant shades of orange and scarlet in the fall.



When starting a new hedge it is absolutely necessary to keep it trimmed from the very beginning. In other words, if the plants are set out small, they should not be allowed to grow to the height desired and then kept sheared. A good full-bodied hedge will never be the result from this treatment. Allow the hedge to grow only a few inches a year.



The following list of evergreens and deciduous hedge plants are especially chosen for the small or medium sized home landscape:

EVERGREEN

Abelia
Boxwood
Hemlock, Canada
Hemlock, Carolina
Holly, American
Holly, Japanese
Inkberry
Yew, Dwarf Japanese
Yew, Hicks

DECIDUOUS

Arrowwood
Barberry, Japanese
Buckthorn
Cotoneaster, Spreading
Enkianthus
Euonymus, Winged
Privet, California
Quince, Japanese
Rhodotypos



The Outdoor Living Room

ALTHOUGH Mrs. Simpson was not familiar with the term, "outdoor living-room," she evidently preferred to have the rear yard developed with an eye to beauty and privacy. As she so aptly put it, her family did not want to live in a "fish bowl garden" where their every move would be wide open to the eyes of passers-by. We added the fact that lawns and gardens also require a background to show up to best advantage and for that reason along with the privacy idea, two birds may be killed with one stone. Moreover, we reminded Mrs. Simpson that the home would be more comfortable for humans and plants in the winter, with a wall of trees and shrubs to break the force of the blustery winds.



In the outdoor living-room, there is a place for every type of plant from large shade trees on the lawn, to delicate ferns and creepers along the woody path. For this reason, we are not suggesting a definite list of plants. However, on most small to medium sized home grounds, the area for lawns and gardens is rather restricted and care must be exercised in selecting plants which will not grow too large and overpowering. Also, too many plants should not be crowded together necessitating the early use of the axe and transplanting spade.



Outside of a large tree or two for shade, the Flowering Trees such as Dogwoods, Magnolias and Flowering Crabs along with the less rank growing

Evergreen trees as Hemlock, Cedar, Junipers and Yews are best suited as background plants. Planted among and to the front of these, the Flowering and Evergreen Shrubs and Azaleas show off their charms to best advantage. And if desired, further color can be added by massing groups of hardy perennials here and there in front of the shrubs.



The Outdoor Living-room should be colorful in winter, too, so that plenty of Evergreen Shrubs and other plants with brilliant berries and barks would help considerably to cheer up the dull days. A few Hollies scattered in the taller planting with masses of Rhododendron, Laurel, Andromeda and Leucothoe will make an appealing sight from the house and, also, provide shelter for birds. Among the showiest berry-bearing shrubs are Barberries, Coton-easters, Christmas-berry, Chokeberry, Hawthorns, Viburnums and Winter-berry. For a more complete list see page 16.



Mrs. Simpson was especially desirous of having an Outdoor Fireplace where the family could picnic and entertain friends pleasant summer days. As you will notice on the plan, we tucked this in a sheltered corner backed up by a group of Evergreens and with trees overhanging to create a wood-like atmosphere. If desired, a flagged terrace could be built near the fireplace for a table and benches.



You may be still wondering what main and important difference there is between an outdoor living room and the usual rear yard. The difference is the matter of privacy or in other words the fact that the lawn is enclosed on three sides with a wall of green, shutting out unsightly objects near and far, and making a desirable setting for lawn and garden. In days gone by, it was not considered friendly or neighborly to screen one yard from the next, but in these rapid-moving times, a spot for rest and relaxation is a necessity and all the members of the family want a place where they may play and enjoy a siesta without being constantly watched by curious eyes.



We shall be glad to help you develop your rear lawn into an attractive Outdoor Living-Room as we did for Mrs. Simpson. A representative will be delighted to call at your convenience and talk things over.



A Few Suggestions

AS Mrs. Simpson was especially interested in having her plantings full of color and interest throughout the entire year, we gave her lists of plants which would help to accomplish this. We are glad to reprint these lists for you below. It is a simple matter to have a garden full of beauty during the spring and early summer, but quite a different question when it comes to mid-summer, fall and winter. For the latter two seasons, we have to depend almost entirely on bright foliage effects, colorful barks and various hued berries. As many of our familiar birds depend on berries, more or less, for their existence, a planting containing a generous assortment of berry-bearing shrubs and trees, will attract these cheerful and beneficial little creatures.



An intimate little garden located off the dining room, living room or terrace can be a picture of rare beauty throughout the year by choosing a well-rounded list of evergreens, evergreen shrubs and berry-bearing plants.



It is small details like these that will lift your garden from the commonplace to one that you will be delighted to show your friends and enjoy yourself. A really satisfying planting is not necessarily a much more expensive one to develop. A little more thought as to the layout and choice of plants is the deciding factor. We shall be glad to have you visit us for consultation and suggestions. In the meanwhile see if some of the plants listed here will not add zest to your garden at a time when it needs a bit of color.

SHRUBS FOR MID-SUMMER COLOR

Abelia	Hypericum
Buckeye, Bottle-Brush	Itea
Buddleia	Stewartia
Caryopteris	Vitex
Rose of Sharon	Gordonia
Hydrangea, Smooth and Pegee	

TREES, SHRUBS and VINES WITH BRIGHT AUTUMN FOLIAGE

TREES

Maple, Red or Swamp	Tupelo (Pepperidge)
Maple, Sugar	Sorrel Tree
Dogwood, Flowering and Japanese	Oak, Pin, Red and Scarlet
Hawthorn, Washington	Gordonia
Sweet Gum	

SHRUBS

Maple, Amur
Chokeberry
Cotoneaster, in variety
Enkianthus
Christmas-berry
Blueberry
Viburnums, in variety
Barberry
Euonymus, Winged

VINES

Porcelain Vine
Virginia Creeper
Japanese Creeper
Fox Grape

COLORFUL-BARKED PLANTS

Dogwood, Red and Golden Twiggled
Blueberry
Birch, Grey
Magnolia, Sweetbay
Euonymus, Winged

TREES, SHRUBS and VINES WITH ATTRACTIVE FRUITS

TREES

Dogwood, Flowering
Hawthorn (especially Washington)
Crabapple
Mountain Ash
Holly

SHRUBS

Barberry
Bayberry
Blueberry
Cherry, Nanking
Chokeberry
Christmas Berry
Coral Berry
Cotoneaster

Dogwood
Eleagnus
Euonymus
Honeysuckle, Bush
Privet
Pyracantha
Rose Species
Snowberry
Sweetleaf
Viburnum
Winterberry

VINES

Bittersweet
Creeper, Japanese and Virginia
Porcelain Vine

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