

Luther Burbank Home Property

The historic Burbank home property was given to the City of Santa Rosa by Burbank's widow, Elizabeth, upon her death in 1977. Under an arrangement with the City, the site and its programs are managed by the nonprofit Luther Burbank Home & Gardens Association and staffed primarily by volunteers.

Burbank Home. This modified Greek Revival house is where Luther Burbank lived from 1884 to 1906. He had another home built across Tupper Street in 1906, but it was removed in the late 1960s for other development. After Burbank's death in 1926, Elizabeth moved into this charming old cottage where she lived until her death in 1977. She kept original Burbank furnishings and memorabilia, while making several additions and improvements to the structure that reflect her warmth and good taste.

Carriage House. Originally a place to store carriages and horse tack, the Carriage House was renovated in 1986 as a museum. The building accommodates exhibits relating to Burbank's life and work, the Gift Shop, and tour registration. The original cupola atop the building was replicated in 1989.

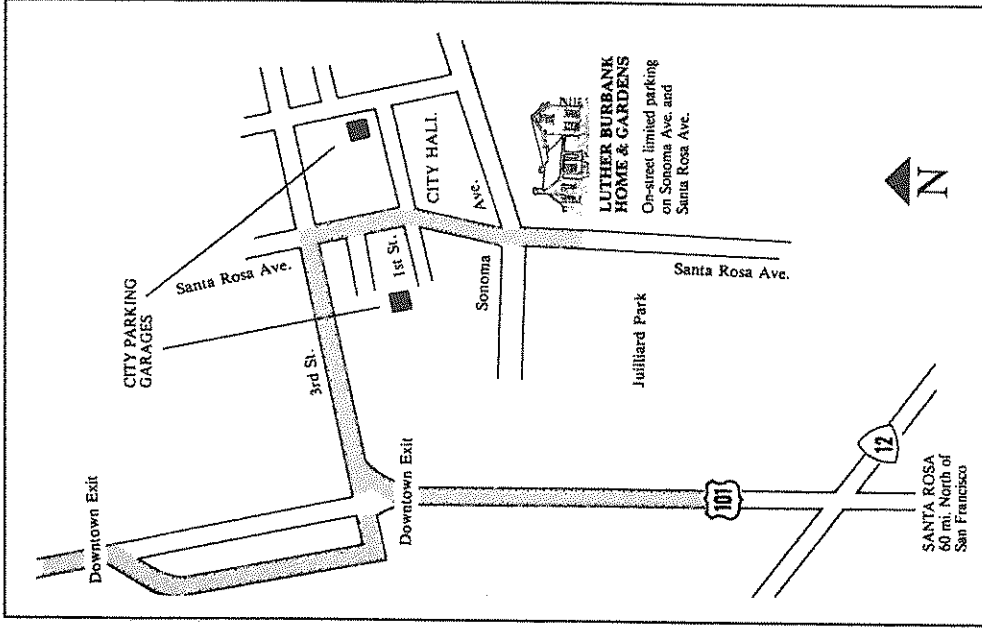
Greenhouse. Designed and built by Luther Burbank in 1889, this working greenhouse includes a replica of his office which displays many of his tools. Preservation of the mullions was completed in 2005.

Public Programs

Visitors may enjoy the Carriage House Museum and Gift Shop, free of charge, during the season from April through October, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Docent-led tours are available for a modest fee. The tour includes information about Luther Burbank's life, an overview of his best-known plant developments, a look inside his Greenhouse, and a walk through the Burbank Home. Self-guided tours of the Gardens are available year-round.

Luther Burbank Home & Gardens hosts an annual Holiday Open House and gift sale the first weekend in December. Visit our website and click on "Events" for more scheduled activities.

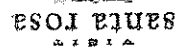
Group tours, children's tours, site rentals and community outreach programs are available by reservation only. For more information call (707) 524-5445, or email butbankhome@lutherburbank.org.



Luther Burbank Home & Gardens is located in downtown Santa Rosa at the corner of Santa Rosa and Sonoma Avenues.

The site is readily accessible to persons with disabilities. Restrooms, picnic tables and bike racks are located on the site.

The Luther Burbank Home & Gardens Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity, manages the site and its programs. We welcome contributions to keep this historic property open to the public. Nonprofit Tax ID 26-3008405



Luther Burbank Home & Gardens
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707-524-5445

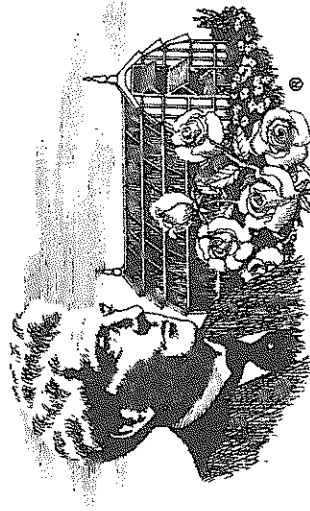
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www.lutherburbank.org

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Luther Burbank Home & Gardens

Santa Rosa, California

- Registered National, State and City Historic Landmark
- ASHS Horticultural Landmark



"I firmly believe, from what I have seen, that this is the chosen spot of all this earth as far as Nature is concerned."

— Luther Burbank, on his arrival in Santa Rosa in 1875

Luther Burbank 1849 - 1926

Luther Burbank was born in Lancaster, Massachusetts, on March 7, 1849. In California his birthday is celebrated as Arbor Day and trees are planted in his memory.

The famed horticulturist made his home in Santa Rosa for more than fifty years. On this garden site and in nearby Sebastopol, Burbank conducted the plant-breeding experiments that brought him world renown. His objective was to improve the quality of plants and thereby increase the world's food supply. In his working career Burbank introduced more than 800 new varieties of plants – including over 200 varieties of fruits, many vegetables, nuts and grains, and hundreds of ornamental flowers.

Burbank died in 1926 at the age of 77. In accordance with his wishes, his grave is unmarked. He was buried under a Cedar of Lebanon tree which he planted in front of his Santa Rosa cottage in 1893. The Cedar stood as a beloved landmark until its removal due to root disease in 1989. Portions of the tree were used for sculptures, benches and mementos.

Luther Burbank Gardens

During Burbank's career his 4-acre garden in Santa Rosa was an outdoor laboratory where he carried out his horticultural experiments. In the decades following his death, Mrs. Burbank sold some of the land and reduced the property to the 1.6 acres which remain.

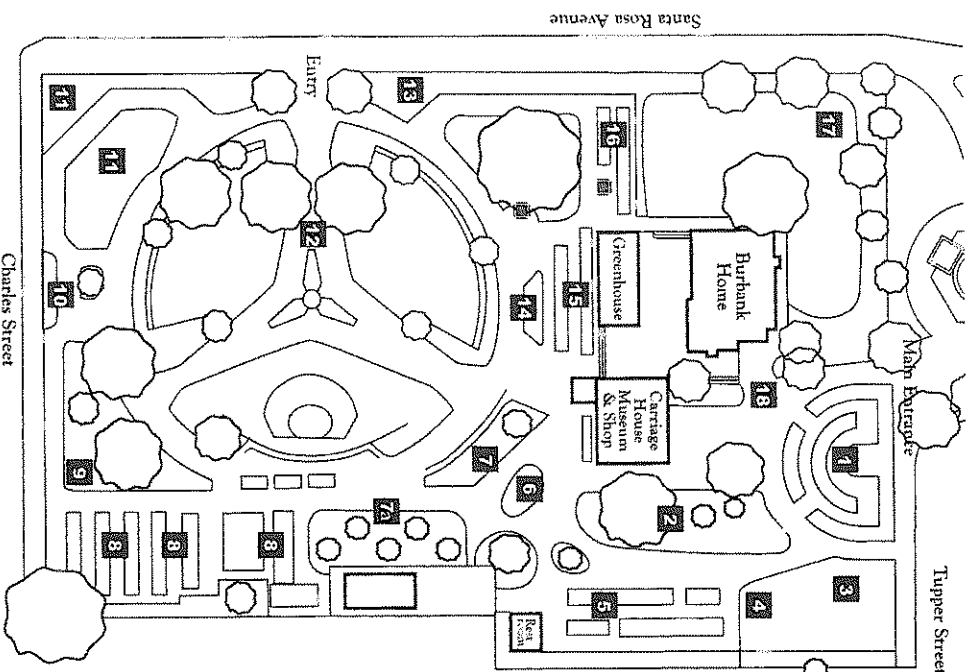
At his widow's request, the central garden was redesigned and dedicated in 1960 as a memorial to Luther Burbank. This tranquil area, with its stone fountain surrounded by screened wood fencing, fulfilled Elizabeth Burbank's wish for a design using plants, wood, stone and water. That theme remains unchanged today.

A revitalization project of the Gardens, completed in 1992, addressed the need to feature more Burbank-related plant material. Explanatory signs help educate visitors about his horticultural methods.

A permanent pictorial exhibit describing Luther Burbank's life and work is located in the central garden. This 50-foot outdoor display also includes information on the history of the property.

Visitors are welcome in the Gardens, free of charge, every day of the year from 8 a.m. to dusk.

Site Map



Luther Burbank Home & Gardens

- 1 Rose Garden
- 2 Paradox Walnut
- 3 Cutting Garden
- 4 Medicinal Herbs
- 5 North Demo Beds
- 6 Spineless Cactus
- 7 Edible Landscape
- 7a Orchard Plot
- 8 South Demo Beds
- 9 Wildlife Habitat
- 10 Butterfly Gardens
- 11 Ornamental Grasses
- 12 Memorial Garden
- 13 Drought-tolerant Area
- 14 Sensory Bed
- 15 Canna Bed
- 16 Calla and Crinum Bed
- 17 Victorian Garden
- 18 Tupper Entry

Also Visit Luther Burbank's
Experiment Farm in Sebastopol
www.wschsgtrf.org