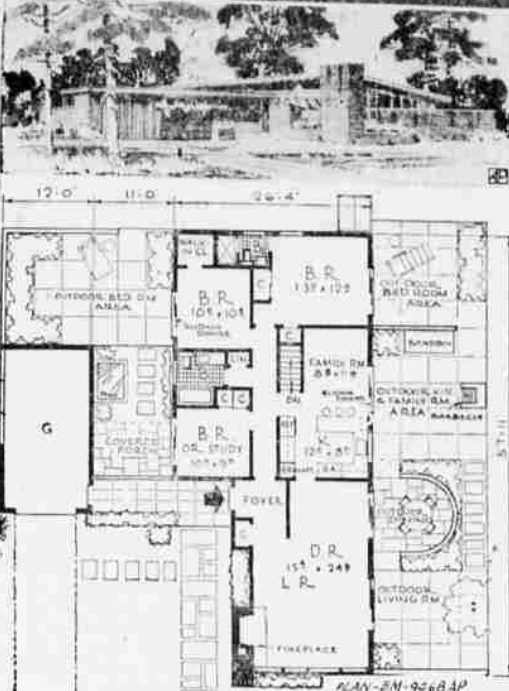


Capital Journal

HOME PAGE

Edited by MARK TAYLOR

HOMES FOR AMERICANS



Every room has an outdoor "room" in this unusual plan exploiting the advantage of indoor-outdoor living even on a small plot. Sliding glass doors, comprising single picture window panels of plate glass in aluminum frames, merge each room with its outdoor area. An outside cellar entrance simplifies the storage of backyard tools. This is plan BM-9468AP by Rudolph A. Matern, architect, 90-04 161st St., Jamaica 33, N.Y. The house covers 1,326 square feet without garage and porch, still could be built on a lot of little more than 60 feet in width. (AP Newsfeatures)

When Is a Ghost Not a Ghost?

"Ghost marks" on walls and ceilings do not mean your house is haunted. "Ghost marks" occur when dirt is deposited in wide shadowy lines—a telltale sign that the house needs mineral wool insulation. Without insulation, the spaces between joists become darkened because the warm,

dust-laden air tends to move to and through these colder surfaces. Use of mineral wool makes surface temperatures uniform and nearly equal to room temperature, thereby reducing painting and re-decorating costs.

Although nonshatterable plastic lenses are used for some eyeglasses they scratch easily and are too bulky for practical use in high power glasses.

Fall Season Best For Most Planting

Evergreens First On Gardeners List

Perennials, Bulbs, Shrubs, Trees, Do Better

By Mark M. Taylor

The fall months are busy ones in the gardener's work schedule for, it seems, that most of our desirable plants, perennials, bulbs, shrubs and trees do best if planted in the fall months.

The fall planting season starts with the evergreens, almost before summer is over. Top growth has finished by this time but the roots are still active, enabling the plant to get well established before winter. The planting of deciduous shrubs and trees follows later, when their leaves have fallen and they have reached a state of dormancy.

Primary Caution

In any event, the primary caution is to keep the roots from drying out between the time the shrub was taken from the nursery until it has been planted in its new home. In case the roots do become dry they should be soaked for several hours before proceeding with the planting. By so doing, considerable disappointment can be prevented.

When planting deciduous trees or shrubs it is advisable to consider some remedial pruning that is, remove any broken or bruised roots or twigs with a clean sharp cut. Often it is necessary to remove a portion of the top growth to offset the loss due to transpiration. Usually this consists of cutting the top back up to one-third, but, removing weak inside branches that may not be productive later. Most lateral shoots may be shortened somewhat, keeping the natural shape of the plant in mind.

Shrubs Favored Plant

The flowering shrubs of the deciduous type, are our most favored garden subjects for, as we have often urged, plant material that produces a colorful display with a minimum of care is the way to achieve beauty in the home grounds with a minimum of self exertion.

The kinds of deciduous shrubs to be found in our nurseries, to

day, are such that nearly any color scheme can be carried out. Too, the shrubs vary in growth habits so that you can find spreading sorts or those that approach the stature of small trees, even to the extent of making it difficult to make a distinction between a shrub or tree.

Let us, then, look at the favored deciduous shrubs for this area that may well be planted this fall to complete the shrubby border, or for specimen planting:

Abelia Grandiflora—Excellent foliage, glossy, turning bronze in the fall; pink flowers intermittently all summer; well suited for informal hedges to five feet tall.

Acanthopanax Sieboldiana—Valued for its foliage that remains on late in the fall; does well in the shady spots. Grows to nine feet.

Acer circinatum (vine maple)—Flowers in April in white and purple in drooping clusters. A native shrub of our forests it is adaptable to shady locations. Fall foliage is splendid, turning to reds and orange. May reach 25 feet under ideal conditions.

Strawberry Trees
Arbutus unedo (strawberry tree)—White flowers followed by strawberry like fruit. This tree is nearly evergreen. Height from 10 to 30 feet.

Aucuba Japonica (Japanese aucuba)—Conspicuous for its brilliant, red berries in winter. Foliage is evergreen and glossy. Requires two plants to insure setting of fruit. A variegated form is popularly known as the "gold dust tree". Eventual height is 15 feet.

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Berberis Thunbergii (Japanese barberry)—Widely used as a hedge shrub. Foliage turns red in winter and it bears bright red berries all winter. Eventual height is seven feet but may be confined by pruning.

Buddleia davidii (butterfly bush)—Six to eight feet tall this shrub produces pyramidal spikes of flowers in late summer. Varieties enable one to choose from flowers in pink, dark red, purple, lavender or white. Eventual height is 15 feet.

Rexus Microphylla (Littleleaf box)—Every 7 m. to four feet. Commonly used for low hedges.

Heathers Small

Calluna vulgaris (heather)—No discussion of shrubs would be complete without the heathers with evergreen leaves and flowers in white, yellow, pink and purple.

The true heathers, as contrasted to the heaths (*Erica*) are small, evergreen shrubs to 18 inches, with flowers in small spikes in summer. Varieties available have white, crimson, pink or purple flowers, some varieties blooming in late fall or winter. Often used for ground covers, these choice shrubs serve admirably for low foundation plantings.

Chaenomeles japonica (Japanese quince) has nasturtium red flowers in early May, this species limited to a height of three feet, whereas the flowering quince (*Chaenomeles lagenaria*) reaches six feet or more.

has been hybridized so that flower colors are available in scarlet, pink or white and in double or semi-double forms.

Chionanthus virginicus (fringe tree) a close relative of the lilac but blooms later with white panicles. Flowers are borne profusely and it may reach a height of 30 feet under ideal conditions.

Corylopsis glabrescens (fragrant winter hazel) A relative of the witch hazels, this shrub has pale yellow flowers in racemes in April before the leaves appear. May reach 18 feet in height.

Cotoneasters are valued for their bright berries, some evergreen, some deciduous. Some species are prostrate in form, others may reach 15 feet in height. Their value lies in their form and evergreen foliage as the flowers are inconspicuous.

Most Colorful

Cytisus (brooms) are most colorful shrubs with pea-like blooms in white, yellow, purple or pink according to the species. Its varying height, according to species ranges from one to 18 feet. Our native Scotch broom is in this group but other species and some of the fine hybrids available take preference for use in the home garden.

Daphne The species *genkwa* (rose daphne) is a beautiful low shrub with fragrant clusters of small, rose-pink flowers. In May *Daphne odora* is the most fragrant of the daphnes and requires

little pruning, fertilizing or cultivation.

Dracopis are dense growing shrubs ranging in height from three to eight feet with white or pinkish flowers in spring. They are comparatively free from disease or insect pests.

The *cononymus* are of value for their fruit and autumn color, some species being much used for hedge plants to 18 feet.

Forsythia are among our most used garden shrubs for their early spring blossoms which may be easily forced ahead of season. Their great virtue lies in ability to grow in practically any situation with no diseases or insect pest troubles. They should be given plenty of room as they have a habit of spreading with a height to 9 feet.

Striking Flower

Fraxinus Another shrub related to the witch hazels is not found in most Northwest gardens yet they are striking in flower and brilliant with autumn color. Different species allows a selection of heights from three to nine feet for specimen use.

Gaultheria shallon (Salal) is our native Salal so often overlooked for garden use. It has white to pink flowers in June followed by

purple fruit, dark, evergreen foliage. Excellent for use with other evergreens or with a native plant collection, or in association with rhododendrons and azaleas.

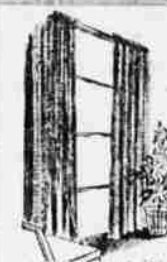
Holdsia discolor (ocean spray) A splendid native shrub to 12 feet with creamy, pyramidal flower clusters from which it gets its common name. An excellent subject for use as a background for the perennial border.

Hydrangea macrophylla A most popular shrub with large, rounded heads of pink or blue (depending upon the alkalinity of the soil).

Ilex (holly)—The species of holly found today are too numerous to describe here, but their evergreen leaves and brilliant berries makes them a "must" for many gardens.

Of course, the foregoing is far from being a complete list of shrubs one might consider using in one's home planting. Of deciduous sorts, one should also consider *Kolkwitzia* (beauty bush), *Keria*, honeysuckle, *maionia* (Oregon grape), *philadelphus* (mock-orange), tree peony, *andromeda*, *firethorn* and, of course, *roses*.

Among evergreens do not overlook *Kalmia* (mountain laurel), *Phytolitia*, *Rhododendron*, *azaleas*, *camellias* and *skimmia*.



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