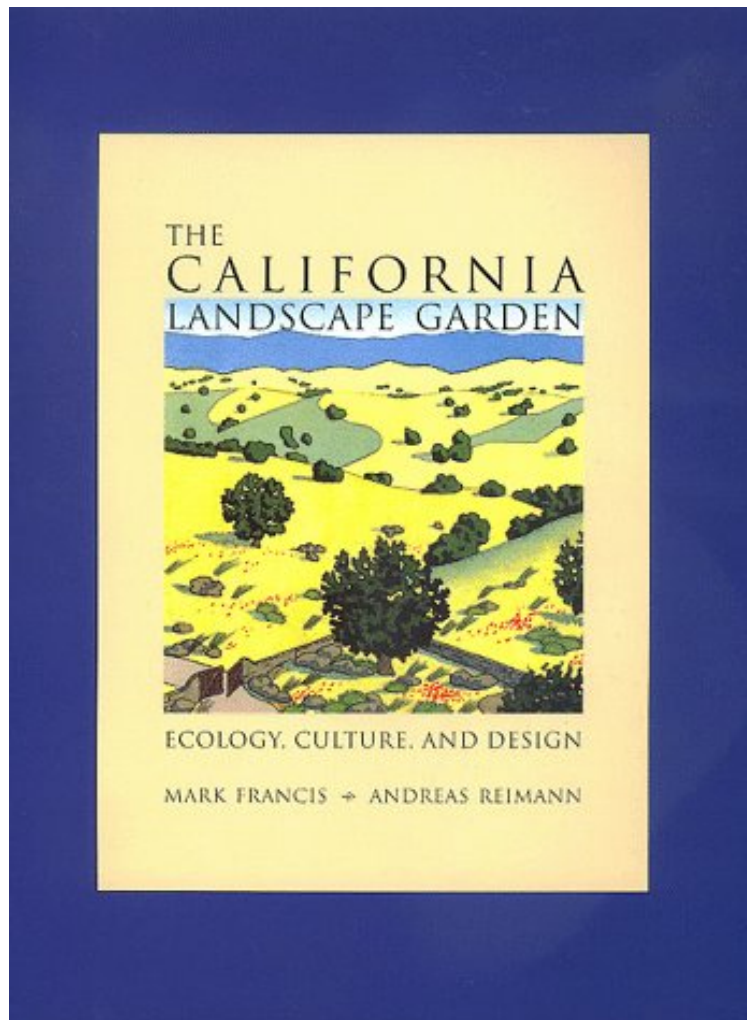


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The California Landscape Garden: Ecology, Culture, and Design

Mark Francis, Andreas Reimann

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Mark Francis, Andreas Reimann : The California Landscape Garden: Ecology, Culture, and Design before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The California Landscape Garden: Ecology, Culture, and Design:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A Beautiful and Holistic Treatment of Native Landscaping By Bugs Francis and Reimann have covered all bases of native landscaping in this fine statement of integral composition. A sensitive awareness of local and regional native flora/fauna should govern choices of construction materials to plant selection for a harmonic flow and consistency between the untouched native environs to the project site for a "...sense of connection with the larger harmonies of the biosphere..." (Page 36, quoted from William Carney). The book includes lists of regional native flora and fauna- birds, animals, insects, amphibians, etc. and many resources for

further information- books, native landscape architects, plant nurseries, and many illustrations including demonstration gardens. This book is a must for all those interested in incorporating native plants into their landscape, especially architects, builders and landscape designers who want to learn about beautiful and environmentally beneficial native plants. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful book By riotbrd This book manages to be both inspirational and incredibly informative at the same time. The book integrates principles of native landscaping, sustainable design, habitat restoration, and traditional garden design. It also provides rich details about many of California's plant communities and wildlife species. While the authors strongly advocate for sustainable practices, I found the book refreshingly non-dogmatic. For example, they say it's fine to incorporate non-native species into your garden; they even recognize the value of lawns. I only wish the book had more and larger photos. As I read about all the amazing plants and landscapes the authors discussed, it would have been nice to see what they were writing about. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. California landscape gardening. By Student Useful information.

The beauty, resources, and natural processes of the California landscape are brought to the home garden in Mark Francis and Andreas Reimann's fine testament to ecological gardening. The authors connect history, culture, region, and design to help us understand how California and its human population have evolved historically and how individuals today can make a difference in the state's future in their own backyards. The authors' goal is to bring the history of the California garden up to date with the ecological and cultural concerns of our time. Francis and Reimann use California's natural beauty and habitat as a starting point for inspiring Californians to see their gardens as extensions of the surrounding landscape. They provide essential information on native plants and wildlife, ecology and bioregionalism, landscape history and design concepts, as well as numerous examples showing how to integrate environmental principles in one's garden. Landscape meaning and regional thinking are an important part of an ecosystem approach to home gardening, say the authors. By observing nearby native or naturalized environments, including vacant lots and abandoned property, one learns a good deal about local plants, wildlife, and other elements that can be incorporated into an ecologically sensitive garden. Yan Nascimbene's exquisite color illustrations perfectly capture the authors' sensual vision of an environment different from gardens commonly featured in gardening books and magazines. Photographs illustrate the designs of many of the best landscape architects working in the tradition of the California landscape garden, including Ron Lutsko, Topher Delaney, Owen Dell, Ann Christoph, and Rick Fisher. This is a book for anyone seeking a garden philosophy that is environmentally sensitive, and even experienced home gardeners, landscape professionals, and horticulturists will find new and useful material here.

From Booklist This book is about how expressions of nature and culture can be best brought together in the garden. The first of six chapters explores California's nature, explaining its geophysical past and present. The second explores the concepts of the California landscape garden. Chapter 3 examines the biological diversity to be found in a garden. Chapter 4 explains how to go about designing an ecologically sustainable garden that is functional and beautiful, serves multiple purposes, and is personally satisfying. Chapter 5 examines California's native plants, their cultural and ecological significance, selection, propagation, and horticultural requirements. Chapter 6, an overview of sustainable garden resources, demonstrates how to apply ecological principles, processes, and materials in the home garden. It discusses water conservation and explains how to use planting patterns to manage solar energy. Yan Nascimbene's 30 elegant watercolors complement the informative text. There are also 87 black-and-white illustrations. George Cohen About the Author Mark Francis is Professor and former Chair of Landscape Architecture at the University of California, Davis, and coeditor of *The Meaning of Gardens* (1990). Andreas Reimann teaches landscape architecture and conducts open space research at the University of Dresden. Yan Nascimbene is a prize-winning illustrator whose work has appeared in *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Scientific American*, and over a dozen books.