

Garden of Hope

#9

High on a hill-top beyond the end of
Edgecliff Drive, Covington,
Kentucky, lies one of the most
beautiful, picturesque and
spectacular spots in
America.

HOW IT STARTED

In 1938, on his first visit to the Holy Land, the Builder of the Garden of Hope, Morris Coers, conceived the idea of bringing to America for the benefit of the thousands unable to make the trip to the Holy Land as he had, a bit of the fragrance of that holy spot. It was at an Easter Sunrise Service in 1956 at the Dixie Garden Theater in Covington, Ky. that Mr. Coers first announced the development of the Garden of Hope, and in 1958 his dream became a reality and high above the great metropolitan area, overlooking Covington and Newport, Kentucky and Cincinnati, Ohio, there temples the skies a magnificent Garden—THE GARDEN OF HOPE.

The Garden is located at the end of Edgecliff Drive in Covington, Kentucky. The road leading to the Garden of Hope, known as Cherry Blossom Lane, is lined with cherry trees, presented by Mr. Hulbert Taft, Jr., Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Garden was designed by H. O. Armbruster, leading artist, and developed by Natorp Landscape Organization. It contains thousands of trees and plants, many with biblical reference. Flowers have been imported from twenty-four nations of the world. Look for the Thorn Tree, the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley, the Fig Tree, the Cedars of Lebanon. Here in the Garden you will find the fragrance given to the earth by the Creator.

Through the Garden runs the Glory Trail. Along this pathway is found a huge stone from the wall of Solomon's Temple. In no other place in the world can so precious a stone be found. There is a stone from the Jordan River, brick from the walls of Jericho, and many reminders of the Holy Land so far away.

Samuel Mattar, son of the Warden of the Jerusalem Tomb, spent full time in managing and completing the Garden. A brilliant 20 year old Christian Arab, "Sammy," with his own hands, helped to build the Garden.

THE GARDEN OF HOPE

The

Garden

of

Hope

LIFE IS EVER LORD OF DEATH,

AND LOVE CAN NEVER LOSE ITS OWN.



CHAPEL OF DREAMS

In the midst of the Garden is a small Chapel known as the CHAPEL OF DREAMS. This structure is patterned after a Spanish Mission Church, built in 1620. The Chapel is one-fifth the size of the original mission church. It is used for small weddings, meditation and prayer.

The large window facing the east is from the old Christ Church in Cincinnati, and was found in the wreckage of the old church when it was razed. It portrays Christ in a rose garden at about the age of twelve years. The windows on the south and north walk of the Chapel were designed by William J. Farrell. The

front window of the wall is symbolic of the ram's horn which was used for calling of the congregation of Israel, while the second window shows the lips of fire symbolic of the persecution of the Jewish people.

The pink stone at the altar is from the Horns of Hatton in the Holy Land, and comes from the mountain where Christ preached the Sermon on the Mount. On this stone couples will stand when marriage ceremonies are performed. The interior of the chapel is dedicated in memory of HENRIETTA E. BREMENKAMP and FRED W. BREMENKAMP, JR.



The altar wood and the priedieu are of solid walnut. The beams are cypress and are scorched.

The three bells in the Chapel tower are from the last steam engines of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad.

The Chapel was constructed by Riley and Sons, Cincinnati, Ohio, and was named after the television program of Rev. Coers. It is dedicated in eternal memory of MR. and MRS. HARRY McFARREN of Bluffton, Indiana, who contributed in many ways to the ministry of the Garden's builder.

THE CARPENTER'S SHOP

In building the Carpenter's Shop it was the intention to give the effect of a building as it would have been constructed two thousand years ago. Research on the architecture of the ancient buildings was performed by Abner Foster, Architect, and with modifications by the Garden Board, the building is now one of the focal points of interest in the Garden.

The structure is of Kentucky stone. The heavy doors are handmade, scorched and oil treated. The beams are hand hewn.

The tools in the Carpenter's Shop are from Nazareth and are many hundreds of years old. The mural on the wall was painted by Leroy Coates, and portrays a Carpenter of Nazareth.

Many of the gifts which are sold in the Shop are made by orphans in Jerusalem. The minimum profit is used to maintain the Garden; also to help support the Jerusalem orphanage.

The apartment above the Shop is occupied by the Manager of the Garden.

The Carpenter's Shop is dedicated to the eternal memory of MR. and MRS. SAMUEL SCHRAEDER, who contributed much to the life of the Garden's builder.



HE IS NOT HERE, FOR HE HAS RISEN

In the Garden is a replica of the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem. This Tomb is believed by many to be the Tomb built by Joseph of Arimathea and given by him for the body of Christ.

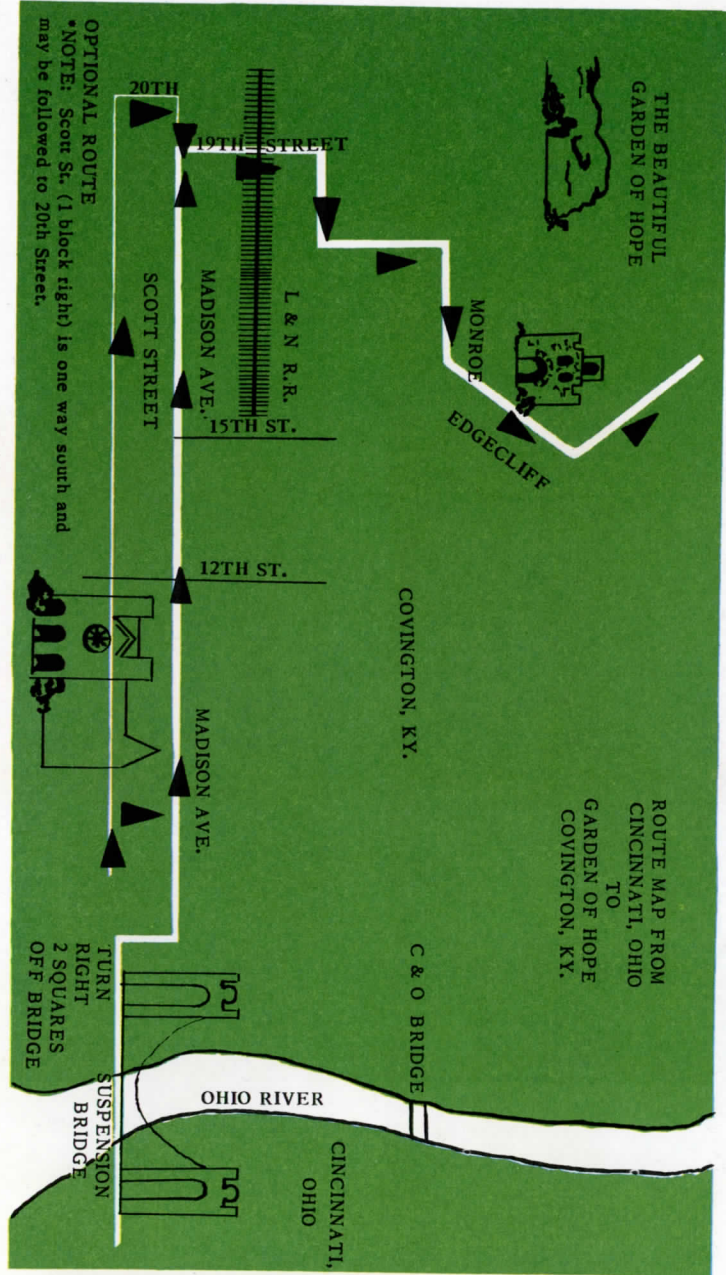
Conferences were held with Dr. Solomon Mattar, Warden of the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem, with the thought of keeping the replica as true to the ancient Tomb as possible. You enter the narrow door cut in stone to find places for burial of three persons. On the space traditionally believed to have been the place where Christ lay is engraved "He is not here, for He has risen," and on the wall just above the slab is the quotation from John XIX 38:42: "Joseph of Arimathea took the body of Jesus. Now in the place where He was crucified there was a Garden and in the Garden a new sepulcher wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus."

Over a million pounds of steel and stone were used in the construction of the tomb and it is one of the largest in the world. The stone on top of the tomb is Kentucky stone, and geologists estimate the age of the stone at four hundred million years. The great wall behind the tomb is constructed of Indiana limestone. Geologists say that this stone is younger than Kentucky rock, and it is estimated to be three hundred and twenty-five million years old.

The markings on the outside of the Tomb are as those on the Jerusalem Tomb. The marking to the right of the entrance on the northern wall of the Tomb is a Greek expression meaning "Jesus Christ, Alpha and Omega" – the Beginning and the End.

A Reader's Digest article written by Clarence W. Hall in April 1957, describing the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem, was entitled, "You Can't Hold Back the Dawn." The Garden Tomb in Jerusalem is one of two traditional places of Christ's burial. The writer Hall said, "If I were to paint a picture that would symbolize this faith, I would make a picture of the dawn and of an empty tomb." He did not know when writing the article that that very Tomb was being built in Covington facing an eastern sun.

The Tomb was built at a cost of approximately \$40,000.00, and it was erected by the H. W. Miller Construction Company. It was two years in the building.



The building of the Garden was in a large way made possible by the sacrificial spirit and cooperation of the Immanuel Baptist Church, Covington, Ky., pastored by the Rev. Morris Coers.

The Church, which stands at the S.E. corner of 20th and Greenup St., is one of the largest churches in the Cincinnati area.

THE BUILDER'S CREED

We believe in the eventual goodness of mankind, and that beauty and fragrance will dominate and possess the earth; that life is eternal, and that the empty tomb is symbolic of everlasting life. The Garden of Hope is built as a sanctuary and point of inspiration, and it is our hope that it will be the crossroads for humanity. Let this be a place where the songs of the birds and the panorama of the cities

will inspire people of every creed to a greater way of life. Here let walk those with vision, the sightless, the handicapped, with men who fail and with those who succeed. LET THE GARDEN FEED THE HUNGRY, GIVE MATERIAL SUBSTANCE TO THE NEEDY, AND GRANT HOPE AND FAITH TO ALL WHO TROD UPON ITS SOIL. May God be glorified and may we walk in the shadow of His Being.

THE GARDEN BOARD

The Garden Board acts as a sacrificial team to manage and administer the responsibilities of the Garden of Hope. The Board is composed of Vernice Coers, Kreko Graves, James G. Lang, Glenn Meyers, Elbert Reams, Roger B. Rogers*, Jennie Truitt. Advisor, Dr. Arthur E. Cowley.

*Deceased

HOW YOU MAY HAVE A PART IN THE GARDEN

MAINTENANCE OF THIS GARDEN IS LARGELY THROUGH SACRIFICIAL GIFTS AND OFFERINGS. ENDOWMENT GIFTS AND INCLUSION IN YOUR WILL MAKES POSSIBLE ITS PERPETUAL CARE.

A PERMANENT RECORD OF MEMORIAL GIFTS IS KEPT IN THE GARDEN.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GARDEN OF HOPE ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.