

The Garden of Ingrid and Phillip Bray

by Anita Moran

The Bray Garden is a cross between an English cottage garden and the comfort of a backyard garden where you sit on a bench and enjoy the moments in sun or shade. Garden beds appear all around the house starting with the side of the driveway. Walking toward the front gardens you are met with the first of many seats where you can sit and enjoy the front garden. In this garden, you can enjoy not only historic and modern tall

the plants were various mushrooms and some adorable stone frogs dressed in very colorful tiles.

The side of the house path led to the backyard which looked



Iris Tectorum in Bray Garden



like

a small English cottage garden with a central stone pad surrounding a grassy area with a lion-faced fountain making a lovely sound to mix with the birds to break away any outside noise that might try to enter the area. From the center were several stone paths to take you to other parts of the backyard to expose some hidden beds. 'Mixed Berry Tart' (R. Van Liere 2011), 'Belle Fille' (M. Smith 2015), and 'Countess Markiewicz' (J.G. Crump 2016) were blooming in various areas of the garden as did the Siberian iris 'Richard's Joyous Love' (K. Steele 2009).

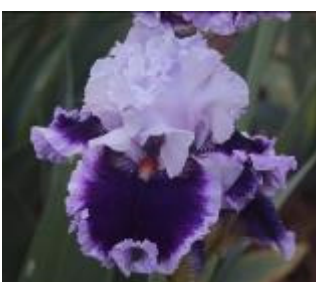


'Csardas Princess'
(J.G. Crump)2013



'Black Gamecock'
(F. Chowning 1980)

bearded irises such as 'Csardas Princess' (J.D. Crump 2013) and 'Domino Noir' (R. Cayeux 2012) growing well in the shade, and 'Daring Deception' (T. Johnson 2012). Not only were bearded irises present but beardless as well. Louisiana irises such as 'Black Gamecock' (F. Chowning 1980), and 'Hush Money' (M. Dunn 1998) were also giving a



'Daring Deception'
(T. Johnson 2012).

wonderful display of contrasting colors.

Along the opposite side of the house was a path through a shaded garden that included both purple and white *Iris tectorum*, an unnamed species cross, and some spurias that were unfortunately past bloom. Among



'Hush Money'
(M. Dunn 1998)



Fountain in Bray rear garden



'Belle Fille'
(M. Smith 2015),



'Countess Markiewicz'
(J.G. Crump 2016)

The Bray Garden, even with the presence of others enjoying it with me, was a wonderful place for a peaceful interlude. Returning to the front garden area, I sat on the porch to give judges training and enjoy the sights in front of me. This garden was a perfect place to train new judges.