

## History

The Castroville area is a "Little Alsace," geographically, as well as culturally. Big Alsace, in France, is mostly a flat, fertile plain that is bordered on the east by the Rhine River and on the west by the Voges Mountains. Little Alsace, in Texas, is mostly a flat fertile plain, bordered on the east by the Medina River and on the west by a range of hills. The similarity was the basis of a generous gesture of friendship by the people of Alsace...a Garden of Roots.

The City of Castroville set aside an area in the Regional Park that contained both level and hilly areas. During a cold and rainy two weeks in the spring of 1997, a team of students and faculty from the Lycee Agricole (Agricultural College) of Rouffach, Alsace, arrived in Castroville and began work on their gift.

Under the direction of Professor Paul Dulin, they laid out the perimeter of the Garden in the shape of Alsace and planted shrubs along its "border." Next they planted trees for each village, using funds provided by the people of the village. They constructed a "river of rocks" on the east to replicate the Rhine River, and a "patio of flagstones" on the south to represent Switzerland. This "patio" is the official "entrance" to the Jardin de Racines.

In July 2002, a devastating flood destroyed most of the trees and shrubs in the Garden. It was replanted and restored by an AmeriCorps team in March 2003. A 2nd team repaired the Kiosk shown on the cover of this brochure and replaced the original news articles and photos with copies contributed by Christiane Wood.

## Also See These Brochures:

**Birds of the Regional Park**

**Butterflies of the Regional Park**

**Nature/Hiking Trails w/Map & Rules**

**Wildlife of the Park**

**Holiday Dates & Information**

**General Park Rules & Regs**

**Swimming Pool Information**

**NEW EASTER HOLIDAY RULES & RATES**

**Be sure to visit the Steinbach House while you are in Castroville. It was another gift to the City from Alsace, France. It is located on Hwy 90 across from Sammy's Restaurant .**



For more Information About Castroville  
write or call:

**Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce**

**100 Karm Street/P.O. Box 572**

**Castroville, Texas 78009**

**(830) 538-3142 or (800) 778-6775**

**www.castroville.com**

**chamber@castroville.com**

**City of Castroville Web Site:**

**www.castrovilletx.gov**

# Jardin de Racines (Garden of Roots)

## in the Castroville Regional Park



**A Living Gift from the  
Citizens of Alsace to the  
City of Castroville**

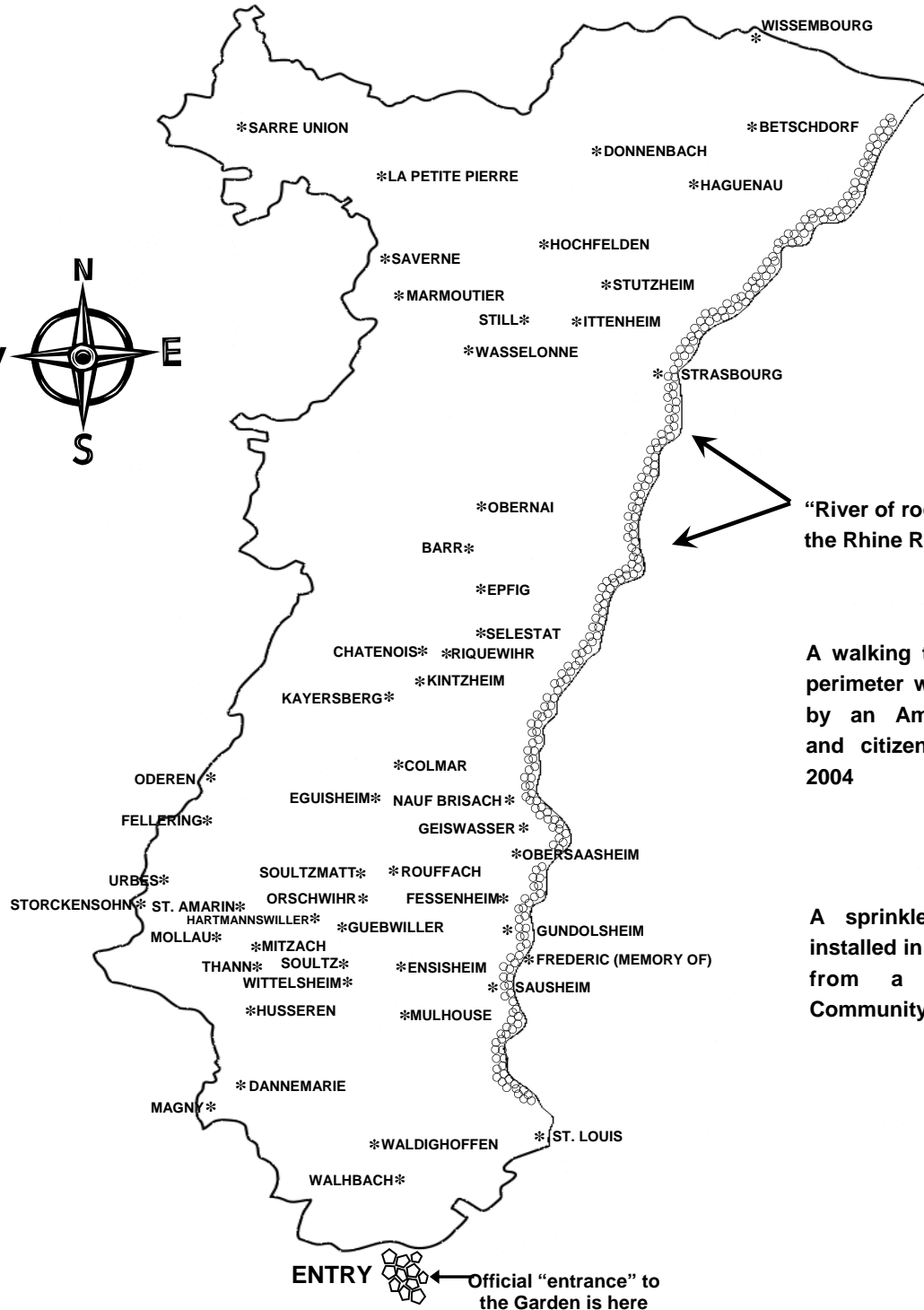
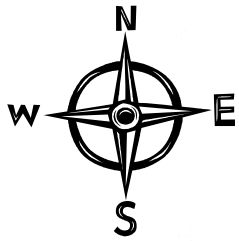
**Dedicated in 1997**

**Restored in 2003**

# Alsace Map 2003

# GARDEN OF ROOTS - CITIES AND TREES

As of April 5, 2003



|                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| DANNEMARIE         | Juniper               |
| ST. LOUIS          | Desert Willow         |
| MULHOUSE           | Vitex                 |
| SAUSHEIM           | Crape Myrtle          |
| MAGNY              | Crape Myrtle          |
| WALHBACH           | *Big Tooth Maple      |
| WALDIGHOFFEN       | Live Oak              |
| SOULTZMATT         | Crape Myrtle          |
| WITTELSHEIM        | Live Oak              |
| GUEBWILLER         | Crape Myrtle          |
| SOULTZ             | Cedar Elm             |
| MOLLAU             | Cedar Elm             |
| URBES              | Cedar Elm             |
| HUSSEREN           | Cedar Elm             |
| MITZACH            | Cedar Elm             |
| FELLERING          | Cedar Elm             |
| ST. AMARIN         | Cedar Elm             |
| ODERAN             | **Bradford Pear       |
| THANN              | Live Oak              |
| STORCKENSOHN       | Oak                   |
| HARTMANNSWILLER    | **Bradford Pear       |
| ROUFFACH           | Cedar Elm             |
| KAYSERBERG         | *Mexican Buckeye      |
| MEMORY OF FREDERIC | Texas Mountain Laurel |
| GUNDOLSHEIM        | **Bradford Pear       |
| ENSISHEIM          | Live Oak              |
| NEUF BRISACH       | Crape Myrtle          |
| GEISWASSER         | Texas Mountain Laurel |
| OBERSAASHEIM       | Texas Mountain Laurel |
| FESSENHEIM         | Crape Myrtle          |
| RIQUEWIHR          | Red Bud               |
| ORSCHWIHR          | Juniper               |
| EGUISHEIM          | Crape Myrtle          |
| COLMAR             | Oak                   |
| BARR               | Vitex                 |
| CHATENOIS          | *Red Mulberry         |
| KINTZHEIM          | Crape Myrtle          |
| SELESTAT           | Oak                   |
| EPFIG              | *Red Oak              |
| OBERNAI            | Crape Myrtle          |
| WASSELONNE         | *Desert Willow        |
| MARMOUTIER         | Crape Myrtle          |
| STILL              | Cedar Elm             |
| STUTZHEIM          | Chinquapin Oak        |
| STRASBOURG         | Red Bud               |
| HAGUENAU           | Chinquapin Oak        |
| BETSCHDORF         | *Chinese Pistache     |
| WISSEMBOURG        | *Mexican Plum         |
| DONNENBACH         | Crape Myrtle          |
| SAVERNE            | *Osage Organge        |
| HOCHFELDEN         | Burr Oak              |
| LA PETITE PIERRE   | Texas Mountain Laurel |
| SARRE UNION        | *Mexican Plum         |
|                    | Crape Myrtle          |

\* Planted by the AmeriCorp \*NCAA in March, 2003  
 \*\* Donated by Mr. Ludwig, Planted by AmeriCorp in March, 2003  
 53 "CITY TREES" plus 1 "Memorial Tree" = 54 trees