Landcraft Gardens Then and Now

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The first time I went to Landcraft Gardens was back in 2019 Anne Cognato organized a day trip to the gardens. We were given a private tour by one of the founders, Bill Smith who told us they were working on creating a nonprofit and opening the gardens up to the public. Fast forward to today and the gardens are indeed open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays.

The Landcraft Garden Foundation was born and their mission: *is dedicated to inspiring, educating and promoting gardening, horticulture, design, the arts and the preservation of our natural environment. Our mission is to provide a horticulturally diverse garden that offers knowledge of the plant world and acts as a laboratory for experimenting with horticultural techniques, plant diversity, breeding and design. Ultimately our intention is to provide the experience of peace and stability that gardens bring to people throughout the world.*

Today Landcraft gardens is ever evolving and they are now raising funds to convert the production greenhouses into a public space to host workshops and other events. It will be wonderful to have a workshop in this space with their amazing collections of tropical plants. If you wish

to donate: https://www.landcraftgardenfoundation.org/conservatory-project/

I was so impressed with the beautiful vista leading up to the house with rivers of perennials and grasses. Highlighted with pops of tropical flare with cannas, castor beans and daturas.



A living roof of sedums hides a secret, perfect spot topside for contemplation and a beautiful dining area underneath with a handmade live-edge table and exotic looking high-back chairs crafted from branches woven together.







It is a photographer's paradise with beautiful combinations of colors and textures.





Best part? Maybe, I got to see a real life Monkey Puzzle tree! It has grown-up really well in the 7 years since. This garden started my fascination with these trees.



Monkey Puzzle tree 2019



Monkey Puzzle tree 2026

My return trip this summer 2026 has really shown how talented the designers are. The garden has matured into a beautiful example of perfect design; the tree layer, the shrub layer and the perennial layer are beautifully choreographed and blend together seamlessly now. While I was first impressed with individual plant combinations which they still have but it all has matured so beautifully together.



