

1913 -

Romano Gabriel

Carpenter
Lumber yard worker
gardener.

1888 b. Mura Italy

Worked w/ father as furniture maker in Italy

1913 to US.

WWI served in American army

Moved to Eureka.

c 1940-1970 built garden.

Reason for building: Climate in northern California = poor for growing flowers so he planted a wooden garden.

1966 Gabriel finished work (acc to KFAT news, 1/1983).

Wife wanted a front yard like everyone else

2 of death - bio prepared by Ted Wimmer says 1977.

1974 July/Aug Volkswagen magazine article on Eureka w/gardens.

1974. re Eureka newspaper (exact source?)

Oct 9 "Redwood Country: Eureka Ornamentation" by Andrew Genzoli (in spaces E.U.)

No this is
from
Womplib book
"My idea was just to make these hys. I just wanted to
make someth different. I just made my pictures out of wood.
I don't buy materials, I take all the boxes and lumber
down in the shore, they are all end's or fruit boxes."

"I make one piece at a time but I have not made hys now
for 4 or 5 yrs. No more room, no more boxes. Now all the boxes, they
come in paper, no wood."

"I used to be a gardener here in Eureka. Eureka is a bad place
for flowers, the salty air and no sun. So I just make this garden."

- 1977 March 19 - Romano Gabriel died.
- 1977 March 19 Garden received 1st official recognition from
California Arts Council
- 1977 re June 14 letter from Stan Dixon (Public Guardian - Public Conservator
stating Romano died March 3 1977.
- 1978 Garden offered to the City of Eureka with the stipulation
that it be placed in "Old Town"
- 1978 June 2 - Aug 14 exhibit Eureka Cultural Center.
- 1978 1st SK spoke at Humboldt Cultural Center (Eureka Heritage Soc.)
- 1982 March 19 - 5th anniv of Romano's death - press release for April
= dedication.
- 1982 April 3rd Sculpture Garden dedicated noon at 315 2d St
in "Old Town"
= culmination of 5 year community effort.
- Structure = designed by Eureka architectural firm of
Trimp and Sauble.
- Site provided by Eureka Redevelopment Agency.

caricatures of the pope.

Some figs = commentaries on contemp people or events,
political or relig or even caricatures.

Some pieces = animated by motors.

Executor of estate = Louis Rolandelli 2828 Fairfield
Eureka CA

Louis Rolandelli appointed Mr Banducci as
Attorney for + Estate PO Box 16
Eureka CA 95501

astronauts Lovell, Swigert & Haise.

dancing girls

funeral

carnivals

Xmas trees.

built 6 - 9 houses (sources vary).

Rolandelli = friend of Gabriels for over 40 yrs.

Eureka Heritage Soc raised \$80,000 for permanent home for garage.
Site at 315

Travelled to Italy & Switz.

Site

Satlu

Pine street.

Sculpture garden "grew" for over 30 yrs.

purchased by Polones & Ray Vellutini restored by heir son Vincent.

Garden = photos in entirety then dismantled.
All pieces = repainted in orig colors.

1978 Garden = offered to City of Eureka in stipulation that it
be placed in "Old Town"

for descrip see Cult Center newsrelease

1982

orig site = approx 30 x 60'

some figs =

hand saw used 1st - then small electric saw.

signage incs. "Italiani Facisti porci like Assassini;

SN - Vellutini - owned a couple of grocery stores.

bought garden for \$500

some been sold

some still in warehouse

sources of info

Humboldt Cultural Center

422 1st Street Eureka Calif 95501 (707) 442 2611

Sally Arnott.

Eureka Heritage Society.

James Irvine Center S.F. gave grant
Humboldt Area Foundation

Humboldt County Convention and Visitors Bureau

123 F. Street Eureka CA 95501 707 443 5097

Ted Wimmer P.O Box 617, Arcata CA 95521

Indian American Museum 678 Green St SF

415 398 2660. 6

Dinsmore Muriel

"1978 offers Winnie Rose Society Show"

In Humboldt County's Times-Standard 7 June 78

- mentions SR giving talk at Eureka Heritage Soc.