

Quintessential California: Modeling Eucalyptus Trees

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Daylight Express 2017
Bakersfield, CA**

STOP



Acknowledgements

- Alden Armstrong
- Peter Hall
- Robert Pencotich
- Dan Pickard
- John Signor
- Southern Pacific Railroad

Overview

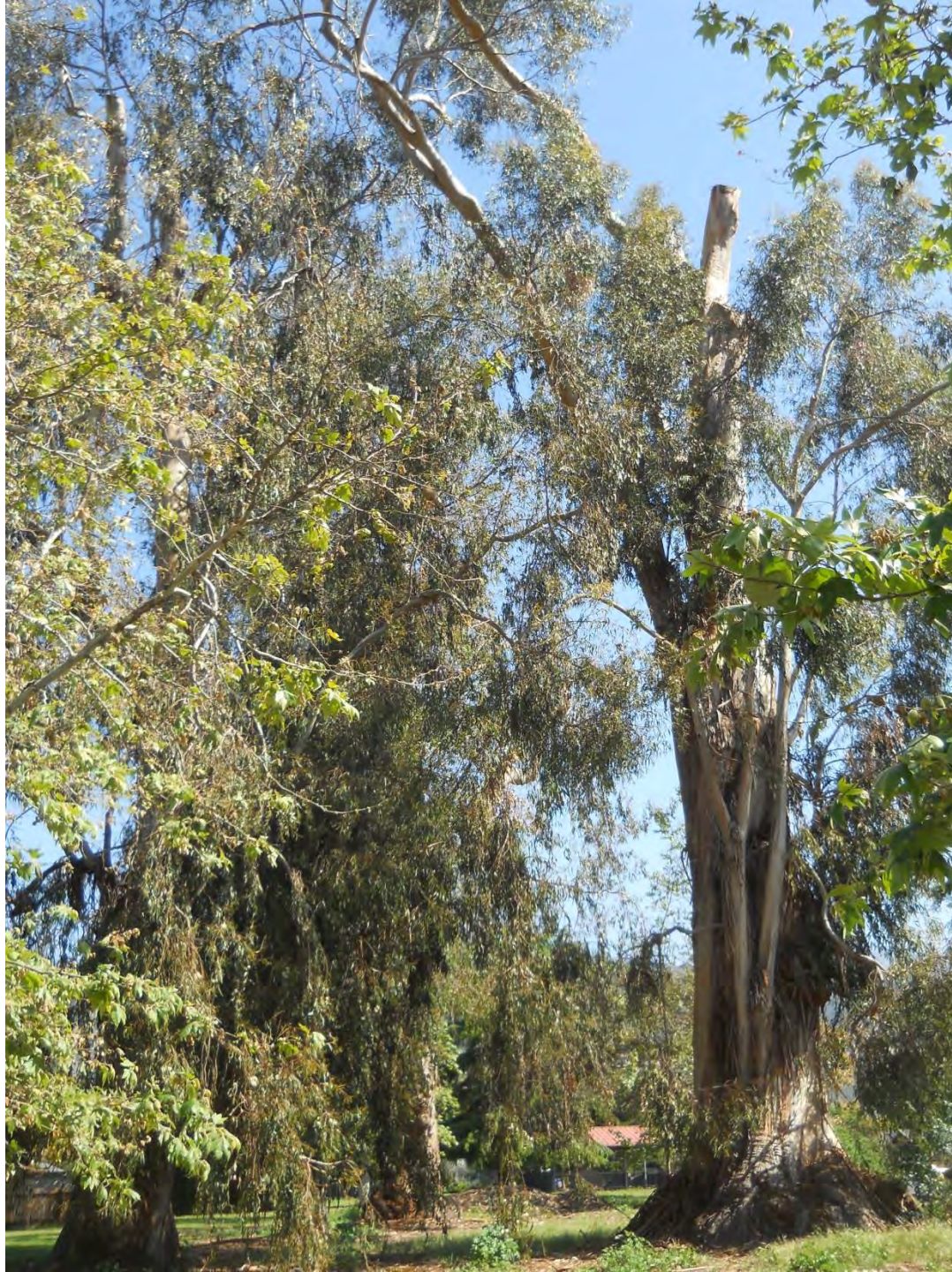
- Eucalyptus - botanically
- Introduction into California
- Association with the Railroads
- Association with Agriculture
- Models
 - JTT
 - AMSI
- Homemade

Eucalyptus -Botanically

- Native to Australia
- 700+ different species
- Myrtle Family
- Range in size from 10 feet to 200 feet
 - Tallest Eucalyptus is a *Eucalyptus regnans* in Tasmania at 327.5 feet
- Frost intolerant

Eucalyptus -Botanically

- Most common
 - *Eucalyptus globulus* – Blue Gum
 - *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* – Red Gum
 - *Eucalyptus citriodora* – Lemon-scented Gum























Introduction to California

- In 1856, William Walker of San Francisco planted a few Eucalyptus seeds he had imported from Australia on his estate
- In 1860, Oakland nurseryman Stephen Nolan imported seeds for 150 different Eucalyptus species after being impressed by the rapid growth of the specimens at William Walker's estate

Introduction to California

- In 1875, Goleta horticulturalist Ellwood Cooper planted 50,000 seedlings on his property. He later wrote a book *Forest Culture and Eucalyptus Trees* and touted their virtues.
- Popularity of the Eucalyptus rose to the “craze” level with people planting the trees by the thousands in get-rich-quick schemes

Association with the Railroad

- In 1876, 300 trees planted at the Southern Pacific (SP) Sacramento shops to provide shade and “fight Malaria”
- An additional 2700 trees were later planted
- Seeds arrived earlier in shipments of forge coal from Australia for the blacksmith shop
- 1883 SP encouraged the planting of Eucalyptus along it’s tracks as an extra source of hardwood for ties, construction material, and fuel.

Association with the Railroad

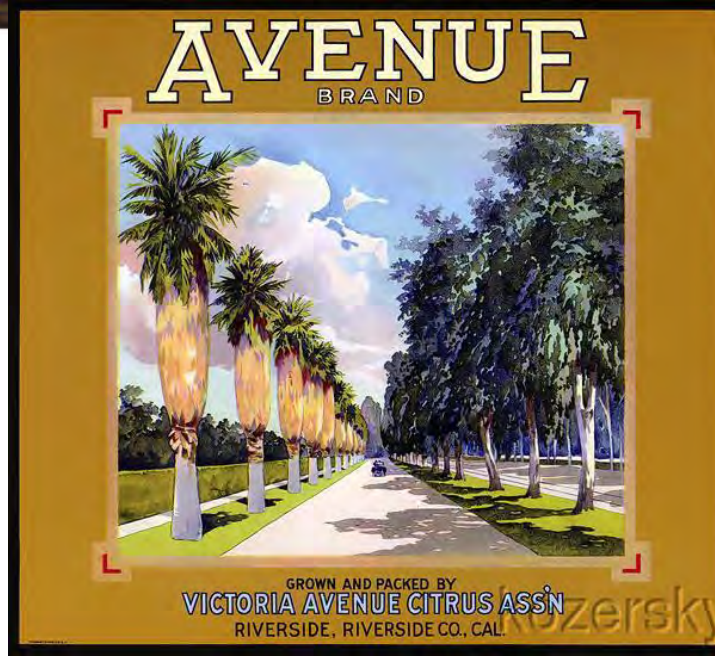
- Experiment showed that the wood could not be dried and milled, fuel use was not great, it harbored pests, and it was a fire hazard
- 1898 fire that destroyed the Sacramento Car Shops caused rethinking of the use of Eucalyptus near buildings
- 1907 extensive [seven years] testing of Eucalyptus ties in the Nevada desert. A report of the testing was published by the state of California
- Santa Fe Railroad conducted similar tests with the same results



Association with Agriculture

- Primary use as a wind break for citrus groves
- Included in some citrus labels
- Some secondary use as firewood

Citrus Labels







Models

JTT Pro Elite
Gum Tree

2", 4" and 8"



<https://www.jttmicroscale.com>

Models

AMSI

[Architectural
Model Supply Inc.]

4"



Size and Shape

Height

Species	Prototype	N-scale	HO-scale	O-Scale
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> Blue Gum	150	11.25	20.5	37.5
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> Red Gum	80	6	11	20
<i>Eucalyptus citriodora</i> Lemon-scented Gum	75	5.5	10.3	18.75

Shape

Tall, relatively straight trunks, spreading umbrella top story with leaves hanging but bunched at the ends of branches

Size and Shape



Homemade Trees

- Natural structure sources
 - Nandina domestica – Heavenly Bamboo
 - Eriogonum gigantea – St Catherine's Lace
 - Sedum spectabile – Autumn Joy
- Dowel
- Spray Paint
- Modeling clay/modeling paste
- Spray adhesive
- Ground foam
- Acrylic or oil paint
- Raffia









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