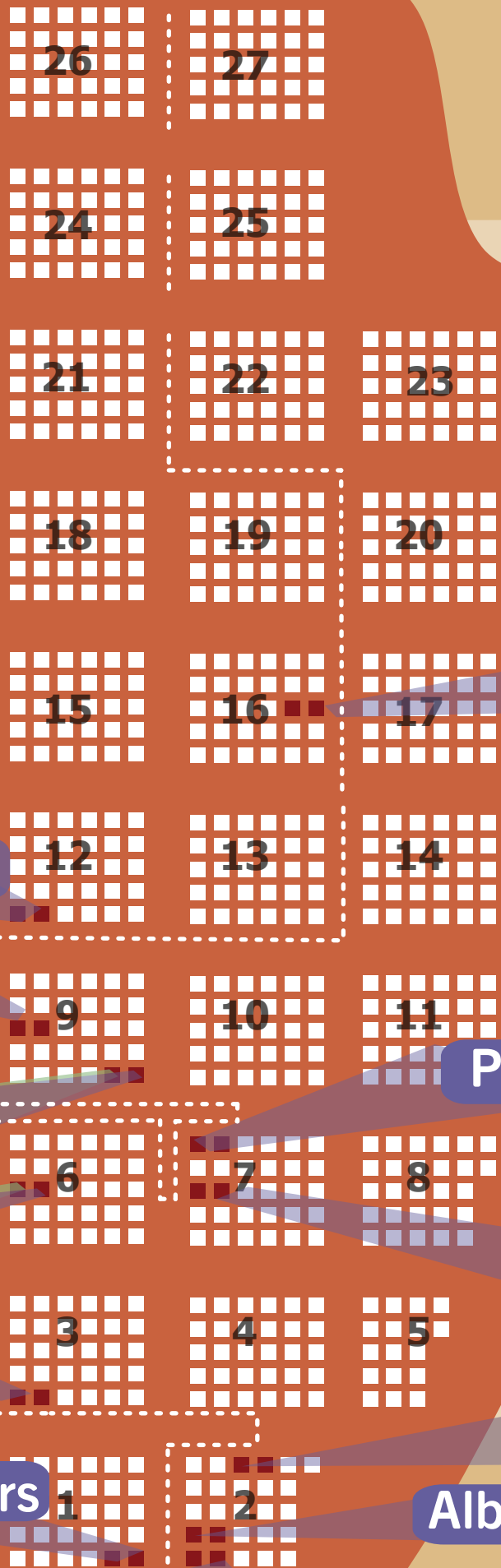


# Dr. William E. Upjohn's Favorite Peonies



Dr. W. E. Upjohn (UM Class of 1875) was the founder of the Upjohn Pharmaceutical Company, a nationally noted philanthropist, and a passionate peony collector. Dr. W. E. Upjohn and Nichols Arboretum Director Aubrey Tealdi shared a vision for a peony garden. His subsequent gift of peonies launched this garden in 1922. Relatives recall he enjoyed acres of peonies at his Brook Lodge Gardens in Augusta, Michigan - the best were cut for bouquets. Follow along on the back to enjoy Dr. W. E. Upjohn's favorite peonies, guided by extracts from his evaluation booklet.



Rosy Dawn

Pasteur

James William Kelway

Le Cygne

Octavie Demay

Duchesse de Nemours

Karl Rosenfield

Primevere

Frances Willard

Festiva Maxima

Albiflora, The Bride

Therese

# Dr. William E. Upjohn's Favorite Peonies

The charming cultivar descriptions below are taken directly from Dr. Upjohn's evaluation booklet. The full 24 page booklet, Brook Lodge Gardens - Peonies, is available on our website at [mbgna.umich.edu/peony/history](http://mbgna.umich.edu/peony/history).



## Albiflora, The Bride

A large, almost single, white flower. Good foliage and stiff stems. A flower not to be neglected.

## Le Cygne

The ranking of this flower shows the place it holds in the hearts of peony lovers... When the stock permits an attractive price everyone will want it. A milk-white globe of immense size and great beauty.



## Duchesse de Nemours

While its appearance is pleasing its fragrance is said to be "most intoxicating". This should make it the popular peony in dry America. ["dry America" refers to anywhere alcoholic beverages were illegal, which was all of the United States at the time.]



## Octavie Demay

A peony with a life experience of more than fifty years and still ... worth while. It is a very large full flower of rose-pink color coming early and surely. It will appreciate being brought into the house before the bud opens.



## Pasteur

Large attractive flowers. Shell pink in center fading to white. Stock scarce. A fine variety.



## Festiva Maxima

Like old furniture old flowers are kept in fashion because they are good, not because they are old. Festiva Maxima has its virtues beyond the most and should be used largely because of its price.



## Frances Willard

It takes a good flower to fully deserve to be named after so fine a character as Frances Willard ... This tall strong growing plant producing large yet delicate white flowers, is a fitting perennial memorial to this woman, who always stood for purity. [Historical note: Frances Willard was instrumental in getting the Constitution amended to allow for women's right to vote.]



## Primevere

Like the search after the Holy Grail the search for the yellow peony has not been completely successful. ... One of the sweetest of odors and a good keeper as a cut flower.



## Rosy Dawn

All who admire (as they should) Albiflora, The Bride will want to continue this beauty to the end. Rosy Dawn and White Queen or White Lady if you want to pay the price, will keep a sequence.



## James William Kelway

The most satisfactory early white ... is born pink and if protected from the direct rays of the sun maintains its color to the end, also remains a cup-shaped flower with petals incurved until it spreads its wings for its eternal flight.



## Therese

It is impossible to say anything against Therese and equally impossible to say anything which has not been said in her praise. Altogether a good flower. Reminds one of a loose butterfly.



## Karl Rosenfield

Rosenfield is a brilliant dark crimson of extremely good substance and form. A thrifty grower and a good divider.



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AND NICHOLS ARBORETUM  
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