

ARTSTRUCT ENTRYWAY Mendocino Coast Botanical Garden, Fort Bragg, CA May 2009 www.ArtStruct.com

This **ArtStruct** door is designed to reflect the Mendocino Coast Botanical Garden visitor experience: the land, plant life, clean air and water, sun, and art of the Garden. The entryway is comprised of various media, including a sampling of some very special pieces of wood.

The Frame of the door is built with old growth redwood excavated from the bottom of Big River in Mendocino. This is very special wood as it was too dense and heavy to float and instead sunk down into the brackish tidal zone, only in 1989 to be brought to the mill. The projected age of the material is around 1500 years old and was felled circa 1910. The mottled nature of the wood comes from the fact that it was cured over time in saltwater.

The door panel is composed of many different trees but primarily redwood. The yellow blocks are western yellow cedar from the Pacific Northwest. The redwood blocks are from many sources: some are young with growth rings that are far apart, some are sinker redwood, and others blocks are redwood stump material. All material is salvage wood. The life story of each tree is apparent in its annual growth rings, which are visible in the panel of the door.

The curved panel at top is composed of two different varieties of black walnut. This California central valley walnut tree was first pieced together as a "whip," a young sapling with a root stock bred for durability, and the top half bred for quality fruit production. After many fruitful years, the tree was felled and milled and now we are able to enjoy seeing the graft line apparent in the panel.

The light toned wood on the side of the door is tulip poplar. This tree was located in front of the California State Capitol building in Sacramento and reached the end of its natural lifetime at seven feet in diameter and 110 years old.

MENDOCINO COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS - FRONT ENTRYWAY MAP

