Expect the Unexpected:
The Greener Side of Texas

Too vast to have a single identity, Texas is a state of distinct cultural and geographic regions. We invite you to Houston, on the Texas Gulf Coast — a city of contradictions and juxtapositions that make it a stimulating urban city ready for the 21st century. In the shadows of its famed skyline see the descendants of the 'Pine, Ash, Cedar and Oak in inexhaustible quantities' and 'the tall and beautiful Magnolia' that the Allen brothers described in their newspaper announcements of the city’s founding in 1836.

The 1999 Annual Meeting will open with dinner on the terraces at Bayou Bend, the former home of Ima Hogg which now houses the American decorative arts collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Bayou Bend is one of the most noteworthy of the suburban house and garden combinations built in the Gulf Coast Region during the first half of the twentieth century. Ima Hogg and her architect, John Staub, created an architectural style that responded to the specific climate and location of Buffalo Bayou, while referring at the same time to regional Southern traditions. The gracious fourteen acre gardens feature a lush Southern plant palette in the formal areas, surrounded by the native bayou woodland.

Join us March 26–28, 1999, for interesting programs and a healthy dose of Texas hospitality. Garden tours will feature a variety of splendid landscapes designed by Ellen Shipman, C.C. "Pat" Fleming and other prominent designers of the 1920's and 30's. An optional Sunday program features a newly designated project of the Garden Conservancy, Peckerwood Garden, which contains a notable collection of plants native to Mexico. This will be followed by a picnic lunch at a garden antiques shop in Brenham and a visit to the Antique Rose Emporium, known nationally for its selection of roses, perennials, and herbs.

About the
SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY
Contact: Southern Garden History Society
Old Salem, Inc.
Drawer F, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108

Conference Registration
and Hotel Information

Your registration fee includes all programs, meals, tours and transportation on Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27, and continental breakfast on Sunday morning, March 28. The Sunday optional tour is extra ($40). Registration is limited.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Warwick Park Plaza International Hotel, 5701 Main Street, Houston, TX 77005, 1-800-670-7275. Please indicate that you are with the Southern Garden History Society. The group room rate is $95 and reservations must be made before MARCH 5, 1999. Check-in time is 3:00 PM and check-out is 12:00 NOON. Late arrivals must be guaranteed with check or credit card.

The Warwick Park Plaza International Hotel and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, where the conference will be held, are ideally located across the street from each other. The hotel has recently undergone a major renovation designed to return it to earlier splendor. It is situated within walking/driving distance of many points of interest in the area: the Houston Museum of Natural Science which includes the Planetarium, Butterfly House and IMAX Theater; the Museum of Health and Medical Science; Children’s Museum; Hermann Park which includes the Zoo, a Japanese Garden, and the Houston Garden Center with its lovely rose garden, Rice University; the Medical Center; Contemporary Arts Museum; and of course the collection at the Museum of Fine Arts. Those arriving early or staying late are sure to find much to occupy their time and mind.

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SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY
Seventeenth Annual Meeting

March 26–28, 1999
Houston, Texas
Thursday, March 25, 1999
3:00 PM–8:00 PM
Early Registration
Warwick Park Plaza Hotel, Imperial Room

Friday, March 26, 1999
8:00 AM–12:00 NOON
Registration
Warwick Park Plaza Hotel, Imperial Room

12:30 PM–3:30 PM
Opening Session
Museum of Fine Arts, Brown Auditorium
  • Welcome, Nancy Haywood, Meeting Chair
  • Houston: Looking Backward at a Forward Looking City
    Barry Moore, Director, Center for Historic Architecture, Gerald D. Hines College of
    Architecture, University of Houston
  • A Love Affair with Nature: Miss Ima Hogg and Her Gardens at Bayou Bend, 1929–1939
    David B. Warren, Director, Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens, Museum of Fine
    Arts, Houston
  • Creating a Plan for the Preservation, Management & Interpretation of Bayou
    Bend Gardens
    Jon Emerson, Jon Emerson & Associates, Inc., Baton Rouge, Louisiana and
    Suzanne Turner, Landscape Historian & Preservationist, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

3:30 PM — Return to hotel.

4:30 PM — Buses depart hotel for an evening at the Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens
  • Cocktails in the gardens
  • Buffet dinner on the terraces
  • Open House — Bayou Bend Collection

8:00 PM — Buses return to hotel.

Saturday, March 27, 1999
7:00 AM–8:00 AM — Continental Breakfast
Warwick Plaza Hotel, Imperial Room

8:30 AM–12:00 NOON — Saturday Session
Museum of Fine Arts, Brown Auditorium
  • A New Look at Our French Gardening Roots
    Nouveau jardinier de la Louisian (1838) emerges as The New Louisiana Gardener, the
    most recent publication project for the Southern Garden History Society
    • Sally Kittredge Reeves, Archivist of the New Orleans Notarial Archive
  • Early Texas Gardens
    Dr. William C. Welch, Extension Landscape Horticulturist, Texas A&M University
  • An Overview of the Mission of the Survey of Historic Texas Landscape
    Joanne Scale Lawson, Director of the Survey of Historic Texas Landscape
  • Lynn Lourey, Plantsman
    Mary Ann Pickens, past president of the Native Plant Society of Texas
  • Space, Place, and Power: Houston’s Main Boulevard Civic Arena
    Stephen Fox, Fellow of the Anchorage
    Foundation of Texas

12:00 NOON — Return to hotel.

1:00 PM — Buses depart from hotel for picnic lunch at the Menil Collection
  • Welcome, Paul Winker,
    Director, Menil Collection
  • History of the Menil Collection
  • Neighborhood, Stephen Fox
  • Menil Collection open for a brief visit

2:30 PM — Buses depart from Menil Collection for garden tours
  • 1405 South Boulevard
    Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Smith garden
    1946, C.C. Fleming, landscape architect

10:00 AM — Buses depart for hotel

Sunday, March 28, 1999
8:00 AM–6:00 PM — Optional tour to Washington County ($40.00 fee required)
  • Peckerwood Garden, Hempstead, Texas
    A Garden Conservancy property, a collection of native rarities from Texas and
    Mexico, described as “an artist’s garden set in natural landscape
  • Lunch in Brenham, Texas at home (circa 1910) of Margaret Shanks. Her shop of gar-
    den antiques and ornaments will be open for browsing.
  • Antique Rose Emporium, Independence, Texas. A magnificent collection of roses and
    an outstanding collection of heritage perennials, hardy native plants and useful herbs.

4:00 PM — Bus departs for Houston, arriving at the hotel by 6:00 PM.