About the Speakers

Jim Barfield is a retired history teacher and past President of the Middle Georgia Historical Society, Macon Heritage Foundation and Historic Macon Foundation. He is the author of three books including Historic Macon and a regular contributor to Macon Magazine with articles on antiques and architectural history.

James Cobb is the Spalding Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Georgia where he teaches courses in history and culture. He has written widely on the interaction between economy, society and culture in the American South and published a number of books including Away Down South: A History of Southern Identity.

Jim Cothran is Vice President of Robert and Company and Adjunct Professor at Georgia State University and the University of Georgia where he teaches graduate courses in historic landscapes and plants. A past president of the Southern Garden History Society, his books include Gardens and Historic Plants of the Antebellum South.

Rick Crown and Richard Simpson are co-owners of Madison Gardens in Madison, Georgia, and have been involved in the planting design, renovation and preservation of numerous historic gardens in the greater Madison area. Their own garden surrounding an 1890's clapboard house in Madison has been featured on HGTV.

Jeff Lewis is Director of The State Botanical Garden of Georgia and Professor of Horticulture at the University of Georgia. He has written and lectured widely on historic, heritage and heirloom plants and related subjects. He is Vice President of the Southern Garden History Society and regional coordinator for the American Public Gardens Association.

John Waters heads the historic preservation program in the School of Environmental Design at the University of Georgia. He is co-author of Georgia’s Historic Preservation Act and was instrumental in founding the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation. He is the author of Maintaining a Sense of Place: A Citizen’s Guide to Historic Preservation.

Carleton Wood is Executive Director of Hills & Dales Estate, the historic Fuller E. Callaway family home and garden in LaGrange, Georgia. Prior to accepting that position, he was Executive Director of the Elizabethan Gardens in Manteo, NC, and Head of Horticulture at Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens in New Bern, NC.
Friday, April 11

1:06- Registration
1:30-1:45 Welcome and announcements (Master’s Auditorium)
1:45-2:30 *Was Cotton Really King? Wealth and Power in Nineteenth Century Georgia* - James Cobb
2:30-3:00 Athens/UGA Tour Highlights and Comments - John Waters
3:00-3:15 Break
3:15 - Buses depart for local area tour
5:15 - The State Botanical Garden of Georgia and Garden Club of Georgia tours
6:15 - Cocktails and dinner ( Visitor Center & Conservatory)
Madison Tour Highlights and Comments - Rick Crown & Richard Simpson
8:00 - Buses depart for Georgia Center

Saturday, April 12

8:00- Breakfast on your own
8:00- Registration
8:30-9:15 *Greek Revival Architecture in Middle Georgia* - Jim Barfield
9:15-10:00 *Antebellum Gardens of Middle Georgia* - Jim Cothran
10:00-10:30 Break
10:30-11:00 *P. J. Berckmans and Fruitland Nurseries* - Jeff Lewis
11:00-11:30 *Cotton Farming, Mill Villages and Fancy Parterres: The Woven Landscapes of LaGrange, Georgia* - Carleton Wood
11:30-12:00 SGHS Business Meeting and Invitation to 2009 Annual Meeting
12:15-1:15 Lunch (Banquet Area)
1:30 - Buses depart for Madison house & garden tour
2:00-6:00 Madison house & garden tour
6:00 - Reception and dinner (Madison-Morgan Cultural Center)
7:30 - Buses depart for Athens

Sunday, April 13 (Optional post-conference tour)

8:00 - Breakfast on your own
8:00 - Buses depart for Milledgeville garden tour
10:00 - Milledgeville house & garden tour
12:00 - Lunch, tour and lecture at Old Governor’s Mansion
1:30 - Milledgeville house & garden tour continues
3:30 - Buses depart for Athens
5:00 - Return to Athens
Dinner on your own