



# MAGNOLIA

Newsletter of the  
Southern Garden  
History Society

*"The Laurel Tree of Carol'na"*  
from Mark Catesby 1731

(MAGNOLIA)

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SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY  
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## Editor's Note

Officially the issue for Spring, 1985, this newsletter will probably not reach you until July, although the Board decided this spring to send the newsletter by first-class mail rather than by the less dependable bulk-mail method. During the short month since our wonderful meeting at Annapolis, your editor has arranged for a new dwelling in Little Rock, planned and begun to execute move, spent two weeks on the road in Arkansas researching landscape history, and continued her regular job. It is her plan to have the summer issue in your hands before summer's end.

To send news items after August 15, use the following address::  
Harriet Jansma, 924 Commerce, #16, Little Rock, AR 72202.

Before that date, continue to use the Fayetteville address listed above. Please collect your thoughts early in the summer and let us know what will be happening in your area in the fall and winter. This is your newsletter; please use it.

## In Print

In addition to the lovely graphic design for our newsletter, Richard Evans of Atlanta also designed for us a letterhead, envelopes, and an oversized postcard. We are pleased to be able to represent the Society in so attractive a manner, and urge members to request copies of the equally attractive membership brochure to give to others who are interested in becoming members of SGHS.

## A Glorious Time

Seminar for Spring, our third annual meeting, held at Annapolis, Maryland, April 26 through 28 this year, was a fine learning experience and a lovely holiday weekend. After settling into our rooms at the Governor Calvert House, then meeting there for cocktails and a dinner of Maryland specialties, we were enlightened by a series of talks on the amazing restoration of the William Paca Garden, presented by St. Clair Wright., Chairman of the Garden; Mark Leone, of the University of Maryland Department of Anthropology; and Barbara Paca Steele, consultant on landscape design and research for the Garden. As at every SGHS meeting, the evening's program whetted our appetites for the next day's tours.

Saturday blessed us with sunshine as we toured the Paca House, home of William Paca, Revolutionary War Governor of Maryland and a signer of the Declaration of Independence; the Brice House, a magnificent Georgian mansion; the Hammond-Harwood House, ca. 1774; and several small town gardens. We completed the morning tours at the Paca Garden, where we enjoyed box lunches on the terrace.

The afternoon walking tour started in the garden, with a demonstration lecture by Richard Moxley entitled "Maintaining the 18th-Century Garden: Tools and Practices" and a walk round the grounds with Lucy Dos Passos Coggin, the garden's horticulturist. Then we walked via the waterfront to other houses and gardens: the John Ridout House, followed by three Ridout row houses, and cocktails at the Upton Scott House.

By day's end we were ready for a cool rest and dinner at the Maryland Inn, followed by Dr. George Tatum, Professor Architectural History Emeritus, University of Delaware, who took us back to basics with his lecture on "European Sources for American Garden Design: 1650-1850."

After enjoying evening or early morning walks through the town and along the waterfront, we shared one last time together as we held the annual membership meeting (see minutes immediately following). Groups of members then ventured out to area gardens and places of interest: the London Town Publik House and Gardens, administered by Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks, a very lovely and well-maintained garden; the United States Naval Academy grounds; and the National Arboretum. Those of us who attended wished that we could share the delights of this meeting with all our members; it was a superb experience.

Although the meeting time has passed, included here is the announcement of the annual meeting of a group that Flora Ann Bynum recommends highly; she says the bulletin alone of the organization is worth the \$8 annual membership fee:

The Association for Living Historical Farms and Agricultural Museums held its annual meeting June 16-20 in Williamsburg, Virginia. This 15-year-old organization covers the entire country and Canada, with a membership made up of both professionals and non-professionals who are interested in the field of historical agriculture and its interpretation. This year's meeting considered such topics as American minor breeds, old tools, historical seeds of agriculture, rural kitchens, and both interaction and first-person interpretation practices and methods.

The Association also holds regional meetings; the next in the Southeast Region will be held in February, 1986, at Rocky Mount Museum, in Piney Falls, Tennessee.

The excellent bulletin contains news about historical museums in the field of agriculture, book reviews, lists of publications, and many other items of interest to garden history.

Dues are \$8/year for individual persons, \$20 for institutions, and \$5 for students. The Association address is:

Living Historical Farms and Agricultural Museums  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D.C. 20560

The Southeast Regional chairman is Ron Westphal, The Homeplace-1850, TVA-LBL, Golden Pond, Kentucky 42231.

## **Postscript**

Dear member,

Please favor us with news of your garden and landscape history activities and knowledge. Send news! Do not delay!

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