PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE 
7th ANNUAL MEETING of SGHS -- May 12-14, 1989, in Savannah, Georgia 

Our annual meeting this year will feature the influence of English gardening and gardeners on agricultural and horticultural efforts in the colony of Georgia. Events planned for the meeting on Friday and Saturday include lectures by recognized authorities, tours of Historic Savannah and of special gardens in the city, and visits to historic houses and their gardens.

As has been our custom, Sunday is planned as an optional day, priced separately, with tours in the area near Savannah. Planners hope that every member will take advantage of the rare opportunity to tour Historic Liberty County, with visits to Midway Church, Cemetery, and Museum; to LeConte-Woodmanston Plantation Site; and to Tea Grove Plantation, which still belongs to a descendent of the LeConte family. This day will include an authentic Low Country Dinner.

Attendance at this meeting is limited to members of Southern Garden History Society, except for the Saturday luncheon, which will be open to non-members. A final brochure will be mailed soon to all members. In the meantime you may address questions to Mrs. Joseph H. Howard, SGHS Meeting Chairman, 211 E. 53rd St., Savannah, Georgia 31405.

Since many people travel to Savannah in May, members are urged to make hotel reservations early at the DeSoto Hilton, Bull and Liberty Streets, Savannah, Georgia 31402 (tel. 912-232-9000). The rate will be $65 single or double, and $15 for additional occupants in a double room. Make your plans now to join us.
Planning for the 1989 conference on "Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes" at Old Salem is now in the final stages, and again the meeting promises to be excellent. "Gardening for Pleasure in the South -- a View from Three Centuries" is the theme; the dates of the meeting are October 5-7, 1989.

Suzanne Turner, of Louisiana State University, will open the program, and will be joined by such excellent and authoritative speakers as Rudy Favretti, Landscape Architect; Arthur Tucker of Delaware State College; Bradford Rauschenburg of the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts; and John Clauser, archaeologist with the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. As always the conference will offer the charm of Old Salem in autumn. Mark your calendars now.

The Davidson Horticultural Symposium, planned for March 21-22, 1989, will also be of interest to readers of Magnolia. This year's theme is "From Jungles to Freeways," and the program offers an inviting list of topics and speakers. For information write: Davidson Horticultural Symposium, P.O. Box 1145, Davidson, N.C. 28036. Or telephone 704-892-5266 (Mrs. Hubbard).

In this issue of Magnolia readers will find information on the Heritage Rose Foundation's symposium, in College Station, Texas, April 20-22.

I have recently had the opportunity to share some concerns with the president of the Foundation, Charles Walker of Raleigh, about the old rose garden at Chatwood, a fine old Hillsborough home familiar to many North Carolinians [see page 4 for further information -- SGHS members may be able to help]. Mrs. Helen Watkins, the owner of Chatwood, who serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Heritage Rose Foundation, recently described her "Early Garden at Chatwood" in the newsletter of the Foundation. It is reprinted here with permission:

THE EARLY GARDEN AT CHATWOOD

If there ever was a first garden here, it should be dated no earlier than 1806. This is the second coach-house on this property, and was built on higher ground, when the inn near the river burned. The first site, now a pile of stones in the field below, covered with a big multiflora rose, should be dated 1770. Both former taverns served the King's Highway, or The Great Road which, as The Ancient-Indian Trading Path, ran between Oxford and Salisbury and guided Cornwallis in 1781, on his way from Hillsborough to the Battle of Guilford Court House.

The restoration of Chatwood was begun by a former owner in 1937. My husband and I decided to continue the restoration twenty years later. We began the garden in 1958. There were only three old roses on the grounds, but they were bushes of some size and were apparently well-established.

Most impressive of our roses was a huge Setigera, which stood on the front lawn at the entrance to the wing. "Too big," we thought, and banished it to a damp spot, well below, where it responded by growing more--
ten feet broad by six feet high, climbing a tree, then heading across the meadow toward open ground! The flowers are bright pink, of medium size, with much white striping and swirling of petals, opening from perfectly scrolled buds. In favorable springs, I have seen this rose opening most of its buds at one time, holding them long enough to give a delightful effect of a tree covered with little candles. We have several reasonable-sized bushes now, and have passed along a number of slips; so perhaps this rose will be definitely named before long.

Two other large roses were also found and have proved to be identical to those being grown elsewhere as 'Pink Pet' and its climbing form. Everywhere were cascading the wild multifloras in bloom, the joy of our first spring here and of every following spring for the past thirty years.

Since I knew almost nothing about old roses, I had much to learn as chairman of the Horticulture Committee of the Hillsborough Historical Society. Our committee undertook the task of interviewing the owners of all the old gardens in town. In 1971 we published "Gardens of Old Hillsborough," which I had the joy of editing. We described thirty-two old gardens, in most of which we had discovered old roses. I could find very few descriptions to help me name them, but a copy of Gerard's Herbal helped me identify 'Old Double Musk' at the Burwell School.

This old rose was very probably brought down from Virginia by the Reverend and Mrs. Robert Burwell in 1837, when they established their well-known Female School in Hillsborough. In 1850, when the Burwells moved to Charlotte, a slip or plant was taken with them for the family plot in Elmwood Cemetery, and this bush was discovered there recently by Ruth Knopf and Carl Cato. I slipped the 'Old Double Musk' at the Burwell School in 1964. A few years later, the grounds were cleaned up by a workman with a machete, and our rose and its supporting tree were both cut down. The Hillsborough Garden Club later had an arbor built to support the School's rose, and I received a good piece of root, which settled down happily in my rose garden.

Mrs. Patty Warren of Chapel Hill, one of the Spurgeon sisters who grew up in the Burwell School, and a member of our committee, remembered that the centers of the flowers of 'Old Double Musk' mature early in the sun. Ruth Knopf also suggests planting it in semi-shade. It is a real treasure, even when not in bloom. Its long slender branches and new matte-finished leaflets of pale green, which "fan at the tips," as Graham Stuart Thomas notes, are characteristic of musk roses, and of many roses with musk in their ancestry. A few years ago, a plant was discovered by Charles A. Walker, Jr., John and Marie Butler, and Judy Holley in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond. There may also have been plants in the large garden of Mrs. Burwell's "Aunt Bott" in Petersburg, where she spent much of her childhood. It would be an interesting project to look for the rose there.

In 1964, we began a sanctuary garden for our old roses at Chatwood to hold the many plants I had slipped in Hillsborough, but it was soon necessary to enlarge it. We put in the brick-walled gardens between 1970 and 1974, and then began to plant along the west side of the garden in the informal section, with the help of Douglas Ruhren. Roses have also found a place in the wild flower shrubbery below the house, planted in 1982 by Doug, with work still continuing.
North Carolina Report, continued
by Ken McFarland, State Editor

Now, unfortunately, the work at Chatwood may be in some jeopardy; a proposed reservoir threatens to inundate much of its land. Hearings on the proposal are underway in Hillsborough; an alternate site is under consideration. Members and others who wish to express concerns for the Chatwood house and gardens should write immediately to Mr. Moses Carey, Jr., Chairman, Orange County Board of Commissioners, P.O. Box 8181, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278.

Finally, Chip Callaway, who has devoted immense energy to another Hillsborough gem, Ayr Mount, has won the Minette C. Duffy Landscape Award of the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina for 1988. Many members will remember Chip's talk on Ayr Mount at the Old Salem Landscape Conference in 1987, and the discussion of the Ayr Mount landscape restoration in Magnolia, vol. 3, nos. 3-4. As a major force for historic preservation in his home town of Greensboro, Chip has worked on many other landscape restoration projects as well. He recently prepared a plan for restoration of the historic landscape at Stagville Plantation; work on this project, under his guidance, has begun. Every North Carolinian interested in garden history and restoration is proud to have Chip Callaway in our midst.

SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD

The garden recreation at 58 South Battery, Charleston, South Carolina, by Hugh and Mary Palmer Kelley Dargan of Hugh Dargan Associates, 123 Meeting Street, Charleston, has received an Award of Merit for Historic Preservation from the American Society of Landscape Architects in South Carolina.

The only private residential garden to receive a nomination, this garden appears in Garden Style by Penelope Hobhouse. Although it is seldom open to the public, it is on tour during Historic Charleston's Tour of Homes in the spring and the Preservation Society of Charleston tour in the fall.

Hugh and Mary Palmer (both active members of SGHS; he serves on the Board of Directors) were praised by the judges for transforming a "non-environment" to a classical Charleston garden, for designing creatively in a small space within the context of a tight period style (in keeping with the restoration date of 1797 for the house), and for careful plant selection to define handsome spaces and patterns. Another member of SGHS, Jane Symmes of Cedar Lane Farm in Madison, Georgia (a nursery concentrating in plants of early gardens of the region), consulted with the design team in plant selection; and large crepe myrtles and camellias were obtained from Shady Grove Nursery in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Spanish moss helped to give the garden an air of permanence, and an organic mixture applied to the front wall encouraged moss to "age" it very soon after the installation of the garden.

Congratulations to the Dargans and to Chip Callaway for their awards, and for the attention they bring to the importance of garden history.
CALENDAR

March 21-22, 1989 (Tuesday-Wednesday)
DAVIDSON HORTICULTURAL SYMPOSIUM, "From Jungles to Freeways"
For information: Davidson Horticultural Symposium, P.O. Box 1145
Davidson, N. C. 28036. (tel. 704-892-5266)

April 20-22, 1989 (Thursday evening through Saturday evening)
HERITAGE ROSE FOUNDATION SYMPOSIUM, at College Station,
Texas. This meeting will include a display of old roses
and a garden tour. For information, or to register, write to
The Heritage Rose Foundation, c/o Charles A. Walker, Jr.,
1512 Gorman St., Raleigh, N.C. 27606.

May 12-14, 1989 (Friday afternoon through Sunday evening)
SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY 7th annual meeting in
Savannah, Georgia. See page 1 for information.

May 25, 1989 (Thursday)
CELEBRATION OF ROSES at WILLIAM PACA GARDEN, Annapolis,
Maryland. An all-day meeting planned to coincide with the
blooming of heritage roses at the Paca Garden, featuring
lectures, lunch on the terrace of the William Paca House,
horticultural advice, and sale of heritage plants. Write to
William Paca Garden, 1 Martin St., Annapolis, MD 21401, or
call 301-267-6656.

October 5-7, 1989 (Thursday afternoon through Saturday morning)
OLD SALEM SEMINAR on "Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes"
For information write to Old Salem, Inc., Drawer F, Salem
Station, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27108.

IN PRINT

A History of Horticulture in America to 1860, by U. P. Hedrick, has
been reissued, with an addendum of books published from 1861-1920 by
Elisabeth Woodburn, and is available from Timber Press, 9999 SW
Wilshire, Portland, OR 97225. The price of the hardcover edition is
$39.95 plus $3.00 shipping and handling for the first copy, $2.00 for
each additional copy.

Hedrick's history, first issued in 1950, is probably familiar to
members of SGHS. It is concerned with gardening, fruit growing, and
viticulture, and surveys both chronologically and geographically the
development of fruits, flowers, and vegetables throughout the United
States. Hedrick provides information on gardening in relation to its
cultural setting, and includes chapters on plant explorers and botanic
gardens and plant breeding.

The new addendum by Elisabeth Woodburn, a leading dealer in books about
horticulture and gardening and landscape subjects (and also a member of
SGHS), extends the history by indicating key sources on subsequent
developments in American horticulture.
What was the landscape like in Murfreesboro before the days of Shore Juniper and Bradford Pear? Have some yards always been enclosed by chain link fences or vast hedges of Red Top Photinia? How could the Murfreesboro Historical Association expand its fine interpretive program beyond the walls of the restored homes and buildings? These were some of the questions that faced the Association back in 1984 when the decision was made to develop a landscape master plan and vigorously pursue its implementation. After the Master Plan was approved in the summer of 1984, work was begun immediately to recapture the landscape settings in early Murfreesboro.

As funds became available, the fledgling landscape program gained momentum. Soon the somewhat nebulous circles and rectangles on the Plan evolved into planting plans and construction details for the areas given highest priority. The Association's decision to concentrate on one area at a time, with immediate implementation of plans, has allowed the Historic District to use the sites for interpretation while others are developed; and the Association has thereby avoided sinking large amounts of money into detailed plans that might not be implemented.

First priority was given to laying out a system of walkways linking point of interest within the District. Over 2320 feet of walks were installed to connect both public and private historic sites. Those routes most heavily traveled were paved with brick pavers, chosen for their durability; less traveled routes were paved with a local pea gravel edged with bricks. Circular brick terraces, many with wooden benches, offer visitors places to gather, rest, or regroup. The winding walkways just north of the Wheeler House and behind the Rea Museum are reminiscent of the typical layout of garden paths in the mid-nineteenth century.

One major accomplishment in connecting this system of walkways was the construction of a footbridge over the District's ravine. The heavy-timbered bridge spans a gap of about 120 feet and closely resembles the original bridge shown in early photographs of the site. Another small bridge of similar design will connect the municipal parking area with the Hertford Academy.

An early highlight of the landscape program was the dedication of the Ella Cobb Camp Garden in 1986. This garden is located at the corner of Broad and Fourth Streets just across from the John Wheeler House.

more--
Although certainly not authentic to the site, the Ella Cobb Camp Garden, a purely ornamental garden, is typical of the plantings and layouts of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Crape myrtles, old-fashioned roses, annuals, and perennials add texture and color to the closely clipped border of boxwood and dwarf yaupon holly. Benches are located in several places in this highly geometric garden for the enjoyment of its visitors.

Across street is the wonderfully restored John Wheeler House, ca. 1810, which serves as Historic Murfreesboro's educational house museum. Plans are underway to extend the interpretive program of the house into its grounds. The reconstruction of the landscape around the Wheeler House is an attempt to recreate what might have been there in the 1850's, including appropriate dependency buildings and fences as well as plantings of that period.

References to repair work in the Wheeler diaries give some documentation of the outbuildings on the property. In addition to the separate dining room, which was restored along with the house, a carriage house was probably located within the compound not too far from the main house. A smoke house was likely close to the adjoining kitchen building. A smoke house was recently moved to the site from another site in the county.

The original kitchen foundation, walls, and floors were identified and located by archaeological work a few years ago. Until funds are available for a full-fledged reconstruction, the location will be marked by a low foundation wall built of old bricks in such a way as to avoid disturbing archaeological remains.

Other dependencies mentioned by Dr. Wheeler, such as the barn, pig pen, mule shelter, cow stall, corn crib, lumber house, tool house, and servants' quarters, were located further from the house.

Fences and enclosures in antebellum times varied in style but were always functional, for gardens, orchards, and crops needed to be protected from free-ranging domestic and farm animals. In Murfreesboro, fences were especially important landscape features. Future plans therefore include the introduction of several types of fences appropriate for the periods of the restored structures of the town. The detailing of the picket fence around the Wheeler House, for example, was copied from one pictured in an early Murfreesboro photograph.

The recently constructed kitchen garden and grape arbor behind the Wheeler House will be a wonderful place to teach visitors about period vegetables, herbs, perennials, and fruits. An orchard of apple, peach, and pear trees is planned for the open field north of the house. An old mulberry tree growing near the northwest corner of the house is a reminder of days past when Dr. Wheeler "set irish potatoes under the fence near Mulberry tree."

Other plantings have been chosen because they were available in Murfreesboro in the mid-nineteenth century. Native plants popular in gardens of the period are freely used in recreations of period gardens. Landscape plans have been based on diaries, photographs, and the above-mentioned archaeological work.

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SPRING ISSUE

We will be glad to consider publishing your article on any aspect of Southern garden or landscape history. Send it by April 24, 1989 to Peggy Newcomb, Associate Editor, at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, Inc., Box 316, Charlottesville, VA 22901. Send us also your news of events, meetings, and publications on topics of interest to our members.

SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY
Old Salem, Inc.
Drawer F, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108

Mr. C. Allan Brown
809 Winston Terrace
Charlottesville VA 22903
Editor's note:

We are sending this issue to arrive before the annual meeting, which will be held in Savannah, Georgia on May 12 through 14. We hope to see many of you there for the outstanding program that is planned for us.

To assist all members, perhaps especially those who cannot be present this year to learn from our speakers and tours, we have made sources of information in print the theme of this issue. We include announcements and reviews of several new books, and an extensive list of sources for historic seeds and plants, compiled by Scott G. Kunst of Old House Gardens, Ann Arbor, Michigan, for the Seeds and Plant Materials Committee of the Association for Living History Farms and Agricultural Museums. We are grateful to Mr. Kunst and to the Associations Museum for allowing us to provide it to you. The list is printed as an insert to this bulletin, unnumbered, so that members can remove and use it as a separate reference guide.

In a renewed effort to obtain information on activities, projects, and studies in all the states of our region, we also include in this issue a list of our current state editors for Magnolia. Please send information and news about your own activities in garden and landscape history, or about those of others that you know about.

Only by exchanging such information can we all learn how to do what we are doing; by presenting information about restoration and maintenance problems and how they have been solved, you can enable others to learn from your experience. And by telling members where your project is, and what it is, you can bring interested visitors to your community.
CALENDAR

May 12-14, 1989 (Friday afternoon through Sunday evening)
SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY 7th annual meeting in
Savannah, Georgia.

May 18-20, 1989 (Thursday evening through Saturday noon)
MORDECAI GARDEN SYMPOSIUM, Raleigh, North Carolina.
Theme of this year's program is "The Well-Furnished
Garden." Members $65; non-members $75. Checks should be
to Mordecai Square Historical Society, 1 Mimosa St.,
Raleigh, N. C. 27604.

May 20, 1989 (Saturday)
Symposium on HORTICULTURAL PERSPECTIVES: PAST AND PRESENT
at Green Spring Farm Park, Annandale, Virginia. Fee, which
includes luncheon, is $35.00. For information telephone
(703) 759-5241. Send check for registration by mail to:
Fairfax County Park Authority, 3701 Pender Drive, Fairfax,
Virginia 22030.

May 25, 1989 (Thursday)
CELEBRATION OF ROSES at WILLIAM PACA GARDEN, Annapolis,
Maryland. An all-day meeting planned to coincide with the
blooming of heritage roses at the Paca Garden, featuring
lectures, lunch on the terrace of the William Paca House,
horticultural advice, and sale of heritage plants. Write to
William Paca Garden, 1 Martin St., Annapolis, MD 21401, or
call (301) 267-6656.

October 5-7, 1989 (Thursday afternoon through Saturday morning)
OLD SALEM CONFERENCE on "Restoring Southern Gardens and
Landscapes," Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Theme of this
7th conference is "Gardening for Pleasure in the South;"
the program will begin with an address by Suzanne Turner,
Professor of Landscape Architecture, Louisiana State Univer-
sity, and a member of the SGHS board of directors, entitled:
"Gardening for Pleasure in the South: A View from Three Cen-
turies." The fee of $135 includes three meals. For information,
write to Landscape Conference Registrar, Old Salem, Inc., Box F,
Salem Station, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27108; or telephone (919)
721-7300.

IN PRINT

American Landscape Architecture: Designers and Places, edited by
William H. Tishler, ASLA, is an overview of our country's designed
places and those who created them. It shows how the field of landscape
architecture developed from the fine art of "embellishing grounds by
fancy" into a sophisticated science of site and city planning. The
paperback volume is available from the National Trust for Historic
Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. The
price of $10.95 is presently discounted 10%; shipping is $1.50 for 1 or
2 copies, $2.50 for 3 to 5 copies, and $3 for 6 or more copies.
THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY

Chairman Pro-Tem Francis H. Cabot (Box 222, Cold Spring, N.Y. 10516) has announced plans to form the Garden Conservancy, an organization whose purpose is to encourage and facilitate the transition from private to public status of exceptional American gardens, and to encourage the preservation and restoration of important gardens.

Sponsored in its initial phase by the Tides Foundation of San Francisco, the project is being organized on the model of the Trust for Public Land, and will seek members of the public who endorse its goals, particularly those who visit gardens in their own communities and elsewhere and who want to know about gardens in North America open to the public.

Tax-deductible contributions to the organization are possible now under the umbrella of the Tides Foundation, to which checks can be made payable. Declare your interest, seek information, or make a contribution to The Garden Conservancy, Box 219, Cold Spring, N.Y. 10516.

IN PRINT

I. The Catalog of Landscape Records in the United States, a project of the American Garden and Landscape History Program at Wave Hill, 675 W. 252nd St., Bronx, N.Y. 10471, publishes a Newsletter announcing landscape records available for study in all parts of the United States. More than 3000 correspondents now participate in its exchange of information. Readers may call or write for information on particular topics of study, and all are encouraged to send information for others.

An inquiry in the Catalog's Newsletter for Winter, 1989, follows:

The Memphis, Tennessee parkway system's Overton and Riverside Parks are the subject of study and an exhibition. In 1900, Olmsted Brothers were instrumental in the establishment of the Memphis Park Commission. The actual commission to design the parks went to George E. Kessler in 1901. He worked on this project until 1910. Any information, correspondence, illustrative materials or memorabilia related to the Memphis park system or Kessler is sought for this study and exhibition. Contact: Lisa Thompson, Ritchie Smith Associates, 3355 Poplar Avenue, Suite 200, Memphis, TN 38111, or tel. (901) 458-1136.

II. Once Upon a Windowsill, a history of indoor plants, by Tovah Martin, has been published by Timber Press, 9999 S.W. Wilshire, Portland, OR 97225. The large format book is illustrated with 19th-century engravings. Logee's Book Shop, 141 North St., Danielson, CT 06239, tel. (203) 774-8038, offers autographed copies for $29.95 plus $3.00 postage and packing. The book lists appropriate plants for Victorian homes, and provides instructions for growing indoor plants of the Victorian era.
IN PRINT, continued

Fearing Burr's FIELD AND GARDEN VEGETABLES OF AMERICA, reprinted
--a review by Peggy Newcomb, Associate Editor of Magnolia and Assistant Director of Gardens and Grounds, Monticello (She is author of Popular Annuals of Eastern North America: 1865-1914.)

After 123 years, Fearing Burr Jr.'s Field and Garden Vegetables of America returns in a long-awaited third edition, beautifully reproduced by the American Botanist, Booksellers. Regarded by experts as the definitive analysis of nineteenth-century vegetable cultivars, this treasured and, heretofore, scarce resource can now become an indispensable addition to the libraries of garden historians and preservationists. Burr's colorfully detailed varietal descriptions are fascinating; and, accompanied by 98 superb botanical renderings by Isaac Sprague, they remain one of the few specific accounts available to aid in the documentation and recreation of early American gardens today.

The book is unique for its ambitious scope and breadth of material. When Burr approached this topic in the early 1860's, America's horticultural literature was already saturated with "how-to" manuals in the garden calendar style, as popularized by Bernard McMahon's The American Gardener's Calendar. However, Burr himself, a seedsman and well-respected authority on horticulture throughout New England, recognized a further need to begin to unravel the already mounting confusion of nomenclature in the seed trade -- a problem compounded by a few unconscionable seed dealers who renamed pirated varieties routinely for their own gain.

In his Hingham, Massachusetts, garden outside Boston, Burr undertook the monumental task of actually collecting and testing thousands of the vegetable cultivars then flooding the market. His efforts to clarify these synonyms are indeed commendable. It is difficult to imagine the overwhelming challenge of paring down 75 types of cabbage lettuce to 32, for example, or determining that 86 broccoli "varieties" were, in actuality, a mere 34! Through his systematic and comprehensive approach, Burr was, in fact, attempting to create an organization for vegetable cultivars to match the level and calibre of fruit classification.

This 1988 edition includes perhaps the greatest statement of its significance in the Preface by Kent Wheatley, Director of the Seed Savers Exchange, and Introduction by Robert Becker, Associate Professor of Horticulture at Cornell University. Each in his own right has contributed immeasurably to the understanding, appreciation, and preservation of heirloom vegetable cultivars. Becker not only presents an illuminating biographical sketch of Burr, but also delves extensively into the horticultural literature and activity of the period. His twentieth-century perspective combines with Burr's exhaustive work to provide a rare window into the nature of garden vegetables in an earlier time.
Finding period plants is not easy. Modern hybrids are often very different from earlier varieties, and many once-popular plants are no longer widely available. But here are some tips.

1. Know what you are looking for. With jumbled diversity the rule, it is the only way to find what you need. Educate yourself nationally, regionally, and (most importantly) site-specifically.

2. Start with what you have—including "weeds." Every old site has plants waiting to be rediscovered and appreciated. Then look over the fence and down the road. In general, the closer you stay to your site, the more appropriate your plants will be.

3. Ask your site's descendents, neighbors, friends, and long-time local gardeners for seeds or plants. Older forms often persist in family gardens.

4. Collect seeds or plants from abandoned home-sites, cemeteries, and so on—with sensitivity and permission. Old plants are often tenacious.

5. Avoid modern hybrids. Choose open-pollinated varieties, and use origination lists to search for historic cultivars.

6. Choose species, botanical, or wild forms of garden plants. These are often the same as older garden varieties.

7. Save seed. Seed collected from modern plants can revert to less-improved, more old-fashioned forms.

8. Look harder, and ask. Call one more nursery, look beyond all the marigolds—you may be surprised. And demand creates supply.

9. Order by mail. Though almost every nursery carries a few historic items (rarely identified as such), the following sources will be of more help than most—if you know what you are looking for. (And, again, if you don't find something, ask.)

Especially valuable sources are marked with asterisks. A few important organizations are included, too. For other sources, see Barbara J. Barton's monumental and current Gardening By Mail II (Tusker Press, Box 597004, San Francisco, CA 94159, $18.50 postpaid).

I. GENERAL CATALOGS

W. Atlee Burpee Co.  
Warminster, Pa 18974  
mainstream, free

Stokes Seeds  
P.O. Box 548  
Buffalo, NY 14240  
many bedding plants, free
Geo. W. Park Seed Co.
Cokesbury Rd.
Greenwood, SC 29647-0001
mainstream, free

***J.L. Hudson, Seedsman
PO Box 1058
Redwood City, CA 94064
many species, $1

***Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants
Monticello/ PO Box 316
Charlottesville, VA 22901
small but growing list, SASE

Comstock, Ferre and Co.
P.O. Box 125
Wethersfield, CT 06109
since 1820, free

Gurney's Seed & Nursery Co.
2751 Page St.
Yankton, SD 57078
since 1866, free

R.H. Shumway, Seedsman
PO Box 1
Graniteville, SC 29829
since 1870, $1

Earl May Seed & Nursery Co.
P.O. Box 500
Shenandoah, IA 51603
classic, free

D. Landreth Seed Co.
PO Box 6426
Baltimore, MD 21230
est. 1784, mainly new list, $2

Abundant Life Seed Fdtn.
PO Box 772
Port Townsend, WA 98368
New Age, $1

De Giorgi Co.
1529 N. Saddle Creek Rd.
Omaha, NE 68104
$1

Farmer Seed and Nursery
P.O. Box 129
Faribault, MN 55021
classic, free

Henry Field's Seed & Nursery Co.
407 Sycamore St.
Shenandoah, IA 51602
since 1892, free

J.W. Jung Seed Co.
335 S. High St.
Randolph, WI 53956
classic, free

Heirloom Garden Seeds
P.O. Box 138
Guerneville, CA 95446
$2

II. ORNAMENTALS

A. ANNUALS, PERENNIALS, SHRUBS, TREES

Andre Viette Farm and Nursery
Rte. 1, Box 16
Fisherville, VA 22939
perennial plants, $2

Wayside Gardens
P.O. Box 1
Hodges, SC 29675-0001
plants, many unusual, $1

Bluestone Perennials
7211 Middle Ridge Rd.
Madison, OH 44057
inexpensive cell-packs, free

White Flower Farm
Rte. 63
Litchfield, CT 06759-0050
perennial plants, $1
Louisiana Nursery
Rte. 7, Box 43
Opelousas, LA 70570
shrubs, etc. $2; iris, etc. $2

***The Fragrant Path
PO Box 328
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023
seeds, many old, $1

***Seed Source/Sharp Plants
Rte. 2, Box 265B
Asheville, NC 28015
Maver's, many species, $3

Canyon Creek Nursery
3527 Dry Creek Rd.
Oroville, CA 95965
perennials, many old, $1

Primrose Path
RD 2, Box 118
Scottsdale, PA 15683
perennials, some old, $1.50.

Foxborough Nursery
3611 Miller Rd.
Street, MD 21154
dwarf/odd evergreens, etc.; $1

Far North Gardens
PO Box 52248
Livonia, MI 48152
diverse perennials, etc., $2

B. INDIVIDUAL PERENNIALS, ETC.

Brand Peony Farm
PO Box 842
St. Cloud, MN 56302
many old, $1

Ensata Gardens
9823 E. Michigan Ave.
Galesburg, MI 49053
Japan. iris, ask for old; free

Arthur H. Steffen, Inc.
PO Box 184
Fairport, NY 14450
clematis, wholesale only, $2

Country Garden
Rte. 2, Box 455A
Crivitz, WI 54114
"for cutting," many cultivars, $1

Hillier Nurseries
Ampfield House, Ampfield
Romsey, Hants. SO5 9PA
England

Chiltern Seeds
Bortree Stile, Ulverston
Cumbria, England LA12 7PB
extensive, world-wide list, $3

***Select Seeds
81 Stickney Hill Rd.
Union, CT 06076
all antique, $1.50

***Thompson and Morgan
PO Box 1308
Jackson, NJ 08527
everything, color photos, free

Old Thyme Flower & Herbal
Seed Exchange/B. Bond
Rte. 1, Box 124A
Nebraska City, NE 68410
heirloom seed exchange

New Peony Farm
Box 18105
St. Paul, MN 55118
many old, free

Heard Gardens, Ltd.
5355 Merle Hay Rd.
Johnston, IA 50131
lilacs, $1

Lilypons Water Gardens
PO Box 10
Lilypons, MD 21717-0010
$5
Adamgrove
Rte. 1, Box 246
California, MO 65018
iris, some species & old, $1

Gilson Gardens
P.O. Box 277
Perry, OH 44081
groundcovers, free

Kurt Bluemel, Inc.
2740 Greene Lane
Baldwin, MD 21013
ornamental grasses, $2

Historic Iris Preservation Soc.
Verona M. Wiekhornst, Treasurer
Colorado Springs, CO 80917
society for antique iris, $3/yr.

C. SPRING AND SUMMER BULBS

***John Scheepers, Inc.
RD 6, Phillipsburg Rd.
Middletown, NY 10940
everything, $3

Rex Bulb Farms
P.O. Box 774
Port Townsend, WA 98368
lilies, $1

McClure & Zimmerman
P.O. Box 368
Friesland, WI 53935
free

De Jager Bulbs
P.O. Box 2010
South Hamilton, MA 01982
free

C.A. Cruickshank
1815 Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Toronto, Ontario M4P 2M1
also perennials, $3

***B & D Lilies
330 "P" St.
Port Townsend, WA 98368
many species lilies, $1

***Daffodil Mart
Rte. 3, Box 794
Gloucester, VA 23061
many old, $1 list

Van Engelen, Inc.
Stillbrook Farm, 307 Maple St.
Litchfield, CT 06759
free

International Growers Exchange
P.O. Box 52248
Livonia, MI 48152
diverse, $5/3 yrs.

D. OLD ROSES - See also the listings of old rose nurseries and experts available for a long SASE from the American Rose Society, P.O. Box 30,000, Shreveport, LA 71130, as well as the Combined Rose List by Beverly R. Dobson ($11.50, 215 Harriman Rd., Irvington, NY 10533), which lists sources for some 5000 old and new roses.

Roses of Yesterday and Today
802 Brown's Valley Rd.
Watsonville, CA 95076-0398
extensive, $2

***Pickering Nurseries
670 Kingston Rd.
Pickering, Ontario L1V 1A6
high quality, $2

Lowe's Own-Root Roses
6 Sheffield Rd.
Nashua, NH 03062
$2

High Country Rosarium
1717 Downing St.
Denver, CO 80218
$1

**Woodlanders**
1128 Colleton Ave.
Aiken, SC 29801
Southeast natives, 2 stamps

**Prairie Moon Nursery**
Rte. 3, Box 163
Winona, MN 55987
wetland, prairie, woodland, $1

**Forestfarm**
990 Tetherow Rd.
Williams, OR 97544
many shrubs, etc., $2

**Prairie Nursery**
PO Box 365
Westfield, WI 53964
grasses, forbs; seeds, plants, $2

**Appalachian Gardens**
Box 82
Waynesboro, PA 17268
shrubs, trees, etc.; free

**Sunlight Gardens**
Rte 1, Box 600A, Hillvale Rd.
Andersonville, TN 37705
$2

**F. HOUSE PLANTS, BEDDING PLANTS, EXOTICS**

**Logee's Greenhouses**
55 North St.
Danielson, CT 06239
extensive, $3

**Cook's Geranium Nursery**
712 N. Grand
Lyons, KS 67554
$1

**Shady Hill Gardens**
821 Walnut St.
Batavia, IL 60510-2999
geraniums, $2

**Anabelle's Fuchsia Gardens**
32531 Rhoda Lane
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
many old, with dates, $1

**Color Farm Growers**
2710 Thornhill Rd.
Auburndale, FL 33823
coleus, $.50

**The Banana Tree**
715 Northampton St.
Easton, PA 18042
exotics, $.75

**Merry Gardens**
P.O. Box 595
Camden, ME 04843
fuchsias, geraniums, ivies, etc.
III. EDIBLES AND USEFUL PLANTS

A. MAINLY VEGETABLES

Seeds Blum
Idaho City Stage
Boise, ID 83706
$3

Ronniger’s Seed Potatoes
Star Route
Moyie Springs, ID 83845
SASE

Bountiful Gardens
5798 Ridgewood Rd.
Willits, CA 95490
J. Jeavons, Chase Seeds, free

***Native Seeds/SEARCH
3950 W. New York Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85745
native & Native American seeds

Vermont Bean Seed Co.
Garden Lane
Fair Haven, UT 85743
many old beans, peas, free

Nichols Garden Nursery
1190 North Pacific Hwy.
Albany, OR 97321
and herb seeds, free

Heirloom Seeds
PO Box 245
West Elizabeth, PA 15088
$1

Gleckler Seedmen
Metamora, OH 43540
unusual varieties, free

Heirloom Vegetable Gdn. Project
157 Plant Science Bldg.
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853-0327
19th-c. collection, SASE + $1

***Seed Savers Exchange
PO Box 70
Decorah, IA 52101
membership $15; Inventory $12

Le Marche/Seeds International
PO Box 190
Dixon, CA 95620
gourmet, some antiques, $2

The Tomato Seed Co.
PO Box 323
Metuchen, NJ 08840
some antiques, free

***Southern Exposure
PO Box 158
North Garden, VA 22959
mostly older or heirloom, $3

Pinetree Garden Seeds
Rte. 100 North
New Gloucester, ME 04260
free

Johnny’s Selected Seeds
P.O. Box 2580
Albion, ME 04910
free

Redwood City Seed Co.
PO Box 361
Redwood City, CA 94064
and other "useful plants," $1

Peace Seeds
2385 SE Thompson St.
Corvallis, OR 97333
diverse, unusual, $3.50

Grain Exchange
2440 E. Water Well Rd.
Salinas, KS 67401
soc. for old, unusual grains, SASE

Heritage Seed Program
c/o Heather Apple
RR3, Uxbridge
Ontario L0C 1K0
heirloom edibles exchange
B. MAINLY HERBS

Catnip Acres
Christian St.
Oxford, CT 06483-1224
$2

Well-Sweep Herb Farm
317 Mt. Bethel Rd.
Port Murray, NJ 07865
and flowers, vegetables; $2

Fox Hill Farm
440 W. Michigan Ave., Box 9
Parma, MI 49269
plants, $1

Sandy Mush Herb Nursery
Rte. 2, Surratt Cove Rd.
Leicester, NC 28748
$4

Companion Plants
7247 N. Coolville Ridge Rd.
Athens, OH 45701
$2

***Richters
Goodwood, Ontario LOC 1A0
Canada’s largest, $2.50

C. FRUIT

***South Meadow Fruit Gardens
15310 Red Arrow Hwy.
Lakeside, MI 49116
vast; free list, $8 catalog

J.E. Miller Nurseries
5060 W. Lake Rd.
Canandaigua, NY 14424
extensive, some antiques, free

Lawson’s Nursery
Rte. 1, Box 473
Ball Ground, GA 30107
antique apples, etc., free

***Living Tree Centre
PO Box 797
Bolinas, CA 94914
antique apples, $6

***Bear Creek Farms
PO Box 411
Northport, WA 99157-0411
2 stamps

***Applesource / Tom Vorbeck
Rte. 1
Chapin, IL 62628
apples for taste-testing, free

PO Box 462
Geneva, NY 14456
free

Clark Kerr Apple Variety Museum
Pennsylvania State University
Dept. of Horticulture
State College, PA 16801

Johnson’s Nursery
Rte. 5, Box 29J
Ellijay, GA 30540
peaches, free
Edible Landscaping  
P.O. Box 77  
Afton, VA 22920  
figs, natives, etc., free

U.S. Espalier Nursery  
16850 NE Leander Dr.  
Sherwood, OR 97140  
espalier, some old

***North American Fruit Explorers  
Rte. 1, Box 94  
Chapin, IL 62628  
society for old, unusual; $8

IV. PLANT SEARCH SERVICES

North Star  
RFD 1 Box 1655A  
Burnham, ME 04922  
(207) 948-2401

"Plants Wanted"  
American Hort. Society/ Box 0105  
Mt. Vernon, VA 22121  
free for members

Plant Finders of America  
106 Fayette Circle  
Fort Wright, KY 41011

V. GARDEN FURNISHINGS, FENCING, IRONWORK, STRUCTURES, ETC. - A listing of catalogs and other sources is being compiled by Scott G. Kunst. Your input is welcome. In the meantime, see the listings in the Old-House Journal Catalog (Old-House Journal, 935 Ninth St., Brooklyn, NY 11215, $15.95 postpaid) and Gardening By Mail II (as cited in the introduction to this source list).

This source list incorporates the work of Arthur O. Tucker, Robert F. Becker, Martin McGann, the Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants, ALHFAM Seed & Plant Committee members, and many others. Thanks to all.

It was published February 1989 and will be updated regularly. Please help by sending us suggested additions, deletions, corrections, and other feedback.

Single copies are available by mail. ALHFAM MEMBERS please send a business-size, self-addressed, 25-cent-stamped envelope to Robert F. Becker (address above). ALL OTHERS please send $1.00 plus a business-size, self-addressed, 25-cent-stamped envelope to Scott G. Kunst (address above).
IN PRINT, continued

PERENNIAL COLOR FOR TEXAS AND THE SOUTH, by William C. Welch
--review by Nancy Volkman, Associate Professor
of Landscape Architecture, Texas A & M University

Many books on perennials have come out in recent years, but Dr. Bill Welch [a member of the SGHS Board of Directors] has written one which gives useful guidance in how perennials can be used to create garden designs which are well adapted to the modern small garden and to the contemporary necessity of a relatively self-perpetuating and water-conserving garden, and which rely on historical precedent for both materials and design concept.

As he clearly explains, perennial gardens are well adapted to contemporary life. They provide almost constantly changing effects of varying color and texture, while requiring relatively little maintenance or additional expense, once established. If the average homeowner would spend the one or two hours a week now devoted to lawn maintenance on a perennial garden, he or she would realize how misplaced is the notion that lawn is "easy care" and planting beds time-consuming. Homeowners would also have the greater beauty and variety of the flower garden to enhance their properties.

Proper selection of perennials and companion plants would also assist in water conservation, already an important consideration in much of the South. Many plants used for cottage gardens have survived in these climates, untended, for decades. The history of the use of these plants, such as old roses and native forbes, give testimony to their drought hardiness. Tolerant perennials and shrubs offer a way to create a xeriscape [a landscape adapted to a dry environment] that does not look like a "desertscape."

While the main purpose of Perennial Color for the South is obviously to provide useful information for today's home gardener, this new book also makes a major contribution to the embryonic study of historic landscapes in Texas. The preservation of historic landscapes in Texas is hampered by the lack of well-documented information on how people arranged and planted the land that they occupied. All too often those who wish to create a "period landscape" either use older plants arranged in a modern composition, or, equally inauthentically, copy designs from other areas of the country which in no way reflect the Texas experience and character. Dr. Welch's brief history of cottage gardens and their unique development in the south-central region is an important piece in the historic landscape puzzle just beginning to be assembled.

Beginning with the Spanish period, perennials were used in landscapes of missions and private residential gardens. The Lynchburg, Texas, plantation of the de Zavala family, which was described in detail in a letter, gives readers some idea of the richness of Spanish gardens. An artist's rendering of the design will be included. Other noted Texas gardens, such as those at Eagle Island Plantation and Bolivar, are also mentioned. Thomas Affleck's contributions, both as a nurseryman operating in Natchez, Mississippi, and Washington County, Texas, and as continued--
Review of *Perennial Color for Texas and the South*, continued--

author of the influential *Southern Rural Almanac*, are noted. Other sources of inspiration for cottage gardens, from the mid-nineteenth century "Hill Country Germans" of Texas to the writing of Gertrude Jekyll, are also reviewed. The historical section concludes with a discussion of popular plants of early gardens.

"Perennials Past and Present," a detailed encyclopedia of perennial plants, presents horticultural information in a clear and practical manner. Even those species for which a great amount of information is needed are treated in full, rather than in an overly simplified and brief summary. I have found *Perennial Color for Texas and the South* to be an exceptionally fine publication, and recommend it for its clarity and usefulness.

**AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AWARD**

Jane Campbell Symmes, owner of Cedar Lane Farm, a wholesale nursery in Madison, Georgia, has been chosen to receive an award from the American Horticultural Society at its annual meeting in July of this year. The choice of Mrs. Symmes, an active member of Southern Garden History Society who helped to plan our first annual meeting at Atlanta, was announced in the AHS *News Edition*, March, 1989.

Mrs. Symmes, a native of Atlanta, became interested in historic houses and gardens while studying art history at Agnes Scott College. She and her late husband, John Cleve Symmes, founded Cedar Lane Farm. For her work there to continue the cultivation of high quality cultivars that are no longer widely available in the trade, Mrs. Symmes will receive the Commercial Award given to an individual person for outstanding work in horticulture.

Jane Symmes served on the first board of trustees of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation. As a board member of the Madison-Morgan Cultural Center, she conceived the exhibition "John Abbot in Georgia: The Vision of a Naturalist Artist (1751-ca. 1840)," presented in 1983. She was named Outstanding Nursery Person by the Georgia Nursery Association in 1982. We join others in praising her for her accomplishments in horticulture and historic preservation, and in congratulating her upon receiving this newest award.

**REPORT ON SGHS MEMBERSHIP**

Membership dues have been coming in well, reports Flora Ann Bynum, secretary-treasurer. Notices for annual dues were mailed at the end of January. A second notice was sent at the end of April to those who did not respond to the initial notice.
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SUMMER ISSUE

We will be glad to consider publishing your article on any aspect of Southern garden or landscape history. Send it by August 1, 1989 to Peggy Newcomb, Associate Editor, at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, Inc., Box 316, Charlottesville, VA 22901, or to the state editor for your state, listed on the previous page. Send us also your news of events, meetings, and publications on topics of interest to our members.

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