



# Magnolia

*Magnolia grandiflora*  
The Laurel Tree of Carolina  
Catesby's *Natural History*, 1743

Bulletin of the  
Southern Garden  
History Society

Vol. IX

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## *Rosemont Plantation Laurens County, South Carolina*

### *The Upcountry Home and Garden of the Cunningham Family*

by Christy Snipes, Columbia, South Carolina

"Mother insists when you cheer Rosemonte again, you must choose a time when her garden will do her some credit - a little piece of vanity - that, eh? Yet, I must confess that winter and spring present a greater contrast here than

anywhere else - the beautifying influence of the latter setting off our old, low house most wonderfully."<sup>1</sup>



*Rosemont Manor House  
(20th century photo)*

Ann Pamela Cunningham penned these winter-time reflections about the garden at her ancestral home in a letter of January 1847. Rosemont Plantation, located in Laurens County, is probably one of the best known of the upper

country plantations because of its association with the remarkable Ann Pamela Cunningham (1816-1875). This visionary South Carolina lady founded the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, which spearheaded the effort in the 1850s to purchase George Washington's home in Virginia and to preserve it for

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## Calendar

**March 6th-14th, 1993:** New England Spring Flower Show. Massachusetts Horticultural Society at the Bayside Exposition Center, Boston. (617) 536-9280.

**March 7th-14th, 1993:** Philadelphia Flower Show. "Preserving the Past, Presenting the Future" at the Philadelphia Civic Center. (215) 625-8250.

**March 18th-30th, 1993:** "Classic Quest: Antebellum Sojourn." A garden and history tour from New Orleans to Charlottesville, VA. Rail Travel Center, St. Albans, VT. 1(800) 458-5319.

**March 20th, 1993:** Huntington Botanical Gardens hosts "Preserving a Heritage of Horticultural Diversity" from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. The conference will feature SGHS members Philip G. Correll and Dr. Arthur O. Tucker as speakers. Registration is \$65. Contact Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA 91108. (818) 405-2160.

**March 23rd-26th, 1993:** A symposium on "John Clayton, Botanist" will be held at the James Madison University Arboretum. Contact Julie Stickley (703) 433-0163.

**April 1st-4th, 1993:** The National Association for Olmsted Parks annual meeting will be held in Atlanta at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. This year's conference will focus on Olmsted's 1893 Druid Hills plan. For more information, contact Patricia White, Conference Steering Committee (404) 876-7508 or Beth Nathan, Conference Coordinator (404) 881-0279.

**April 14th-18th, 1993:** The Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians will be held in Charleston, SC.

**April 16th-18th, 1993:** *SGHS Annual Meeting* in Brenham, Texas. (See article on p. 6)



**April 23rd, 1993:** Wave Hill in the Bronx will hold a conference on "The Landscape Universe." SGHS serves on the advisory council for the Catalog of Landscape Records in the United States at Wave Hill. Call (718) 549-3200 for more information.

**May 6th-9th, 1993:** The Antique Rose Emporium announces the Heritage Rose Foundation 1993 Conference to be held in Old Natchez, Mississippi. Guest speakers include Susan Haltom, Richard Westmacott, Ruth Knopf, and Liz Druitt – all SGHS Members. Contact Charles A. Walker, Jr., 1512 Gorman Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27606, (919) 834-2591 or call Carol Cook Henry at (409) 836-5548. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) for a registration package. Registration deadline is April 23, 1993.

**May 14th-15th, 1993:** The Garden Conservancy conference, "John Evelyn's 'Elysium Britannicum' and European Gardening," will be held at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, DC. For information, (914) 265-2029.

**May 20th, 1993:** "Adapting English Garden Style to the Carolinas," a symposium featuring John Brookes, renowned author and English Landscape designer. Private garden tours 10-5 pm. Registration \$65. Information: Capital Area Preservation, One Mimosa St., Raleigh, NC 27604. (919) 834-4844.

**June 11th-13th, 1993:** "Preservation and Renewal: Looking Beyond 2001," a gardening conference, will be held in Rome, GA and feature SGHS member Bill Welch and *Magnolia* editor Peggy Newcomb as well as other speakers. For a detailed brochure, write Julianne Martin, 7 McCrary Dr., Rome GA 30161.

## Rosemont Plantation

### *Continued from page 1*

generations to come. Miss Cunningham is often referred to as the "First Lady of American Historic Preservation."<sup>2</sup>

Rosemont Plantation is significant, not only for its link with Miss Cunningham, but because it carries great importance on its own merits. It tells the exciting story of the development of an upcountry South Carolina plantation landscape, from its inception in colonial days by Ann

Pamela's grandfather, Patrick Cunningham (ca.1742-1796), to its present state today.

It also excellently portrays the theme of landscape gardening in the South during the nineteenth century. Rosemont represents a plantation of the era, one with an active mistress, Mrs. Robert Cunningham (1794-1873), who was interested in flowers and shrubbery, improving her grounds, and possibly in making a statement of taste and wealth to her neighbors and friends. Descriptions of the beauty and charm of the gardens at Rosemont abound over the years.

Daughter, Ann Pamela, certainly must have been influenced by the tradition and importance of landscape gardening at her home in South Carolina, for during her days as regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, she promised not only the care of George Washington's mansion, but also his gardens.<sup>3</sup>

Rosemont Plantation and its landscape reached a zenith during Robert Cunningham (1786-1859) and Louisa's tenure. Robert Cunningham inherited the manor house and land from his father, Patrick. In the late 1760s Patrick Cunningham had ventured from Augusta County, Virginia and settled on the banks of the Saluda River in South Carolina. Appointed Deputy Surveyor General for the Ninety-Six District, he became a noted loyalist in the Revolution and prospered in the region after the war.<sup>4</sup> Louisa Bird Cunningham possessed as distinguished a family background as her husband. She could claim ties with the patriot Bird family of Birdsboro, Pennsylvania and the prominent Dalton family of Alexandria, Virginia. Louisa grew up on her father Col. William Bird, Jr.'s plantation at Shoals of the Ogeechee in Warren County, Georgia.<sup>5</sup> With her marriage to Robert in 1814, she came to live at Rosemont and began to make the plantation a reflection of her skill and interest in gardening. Former Governor Benjamin Perry wrote in 1874 that Louise Cunningham "had the honor and great pleasure of receiving a collection of rare flowers from Mount Vernon, sent by Judge Bushrod Washington."<sup>6</sup> (Bushrod, nephew of George Washington, inherited the estate after Martha's death in 1802 and, as his ancestor before him, was quite an avid plantsman.)<sup>7</sup> At least one family account documents a visit to Mount Vernon, probably taken around 1819, by Mrs. Cunningham and her two small children, Ann Pamela and John.<sup>8</sup> She may have brought home to Rosemont some of Judge Washington's rare and unusual plants, or, at the least, gleaned design ideas from Mount Vernon for her landscape on the great Saluda River.

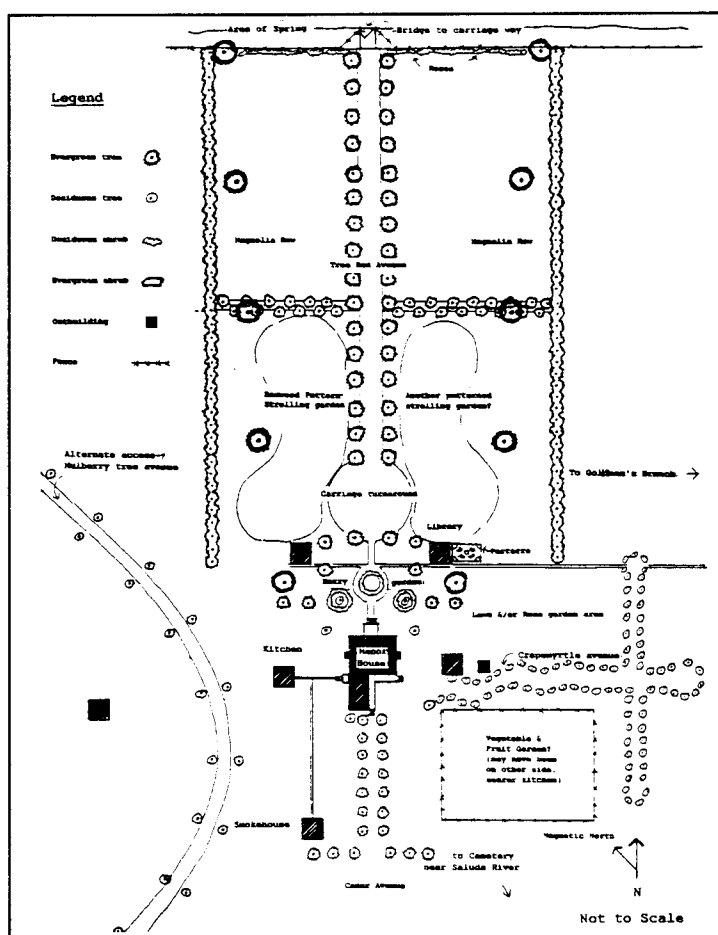
Louisa Cunningham was also aptly named by Benjamin Perry "the pioneer florist in the upcountry." He described her landscape efforts as a work of a master gardener:

Her passion for flowers was unsurpassed: she collected them from all parts of the world. Her flowers and shrubbery covered acres of ground around "Rose Mont."



which she watched over and cultivated with the care of a mother for her infant children. Years afterwards, when I saw her pioneer garden and shrubbery they were surpassingly beautiful, and laid off with great taste and artistic skill. She was most generous, too, in the distribution of her rare and beautiful flowers and plants amongst her friends and acquaintances."

Recent historical research on the Cunningham family has proved Perry's stunning tribute to be



*Conjectural drawing of the layout of the grounds around the manor house at Rosemont Plantation. Sketch based on primary resource materials, and survey and preliminary archaeological investigation by Chicora Foundation, Inc.*

true. Louisa Cunningham, the lady of the plantation, created ornamental and practical gardens at Rosemont, a setting for the manor house and its complex of outbuildings. During the 1830s and 40s she was particularly active in improving her formal gardens. She rearranged plants and changed the layout, added new vegetation and paling, and designed new areas,

such as a flower parterre garden.<sup>10</sup>

During this period, Louisa Cunningham also exchanged plants with relatives and friends. For example, in 1837 she made a trip to visit Mrs. Seabrook on Edisto Island especially to collect flowers from this low country garden.<sup>11</sup> (The Seabrook family's "Oak Island" plantation was occupied by federal troops during the Civil War. There exists a photograph of Mrs. Seabrook's garden, complete with soldiers, which shows the layout of the landscaped grounds.)<sup>12</sup> Likewise, in 1842, Mrs. Cunningham received



how to cultivate certain plants. One example is shown in a letter written by Ann Pamela to Mrs. Benjamin Perry in March of 1847 with instructions on "how to plant orange seeds successfully," prefaced several times throughout by "Mother says."<sup>15</sup> Louisa even sought direction in 1847 from family friend and notable horticulturist Joel Poinsett on the building of a greenhouse at Rosemont. Poinsett sent instructions on where to procure the materials and suggested contacting "Buist the gardener" in Philadelphia for a more detailed plan.<sup>16</sup>

The ornamental gardens at Rosemont certainly seem to have held the focus of the lady of the plantation; however, in researching the historical record, we see that the practical landscape plays an equally important role. Often mentioned in letters of the time are the fortunes of the plantation crops along with the products of the vegetable/fruit garden and orchards at Rosemont. In one case, Louise Cunningham wrote in the summer of 1838 that it had been "a delightful fruit year" with plentiful apricots, nectarines, figs, grapes, and raspberries grown at Rosemont.<sup>17</sup> In 1842 Ann Pamela sent the tasty products of the plantation to relatives: "a jar of pickles ..., 2 bottles of Tomato catsup - a jar of fig preserves, some peach marmalade, & some fat ...."<sup>18</sup> In the 1860s Louisa Cunningham not only ordered ornamental plants but also food producing vegetation from nurseryman William Summer's Pomaria Nurseries in nearby Pomaria, South Carolina. The list of ornamentals she selected include "Dioclea glycinoides," golden-edged euonymus, thrift, spirea, "Pomphone" chrysanthemum, and the rose. Practical plants ordered are the peach, apple, cherry, apricot, pear, plum and pomegranate trees, the strawberry plant, and the grape vine.<sup>19</sup>

With Captain Robert Cunningham's death in 1859 and the ensuing Civil War, Rosemont Plantation began a spiral downwards. Ann Pamela and her mother Louisa struggled to keep the plantation operating during the difficult war years and Reconstruction. The gardens at Rosemont suffered much decline during this period. Finally, Louisa Cunningham died in 1873, with Ann Pamela following shortly after in 1875.

Another generation of Cunninghams would be left to live, farm, and garden at Rosemont into the twentieth century and a new order. However, as early as the 1890s, the Rosemont homesite and gardens became a remembrance of the past. Both are well documented in family correspondence,



*Ann Pamela Cunningham, First Regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union. (Portrait owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cuningham, Florida.)*

"rare French roses" from Mr. Gourdine of Charleston in exchange for the "yellow rose trees" she gave to him. Mrs. Crawford of the same city lamented that she could not get the "trees for your lawn" from Mr. Bull's "place" since he had gone to Columbia, but she presently sent "single oleanders," "some roots of the Live Oak and Palmetto," and a "cluster of sour oranges" in a box to Mrs. Cunningham.<sup>15</sup> During a visit to Rosemont by the Benjamin Yancey family in April of 1852, Louisa Cunningham generously shared "a bundle" of "bright & beautiful flowers" with Mrs. Benjamin Yancey.<sup>11</sup>

The mistress of Rosemont also provided horticultural advice to friends and relations on

newspaper articles, and photographs of the period. One writing, "The Story of Rosemont" printed in 1904, provides an account of the garden which is repeated in years to come:

Seven acres of flowers and 30 acres in a park surrounding the flowers! Beautiful avenues, making a cross, led from the front of the house into the park. Remains of the great park are seen today in a few gigantic magnolias, rare trees and a wilderness of shrubbery.<sup>20</sup>

Unfortunately, in August of 1930, the manor house was destroyed and its owner, Hugh Banks Cunningham, perished in the terrible fire. Afterwards, Rosemont Plantation still survived, with some of the land farmed, almost up until its sale out of the family in 1947.

Amazingly, a part of Rosemont still exists. Although the Piedmont forest in succession has almost closed up around it, the garden area (consisting of about six acres near the old homesite) still exhibits considerable integrity after



remain on the site - some original specimens, some descendants of these. Notable examples include the Japanese cryptomeria, Japanese varnish tree, Osage-orange, empress tree, white mulberry,

English boxwood, tree boxwood, crape-myrtle, sweet mock orange, sweet shrub, periwinkle, and English ivy.

It is truly fortunate that Rosemont's ornamental landscape above ground and the archaeological treasure below has avoided destruction over time. Perhaps this site was spared because of Ann Pamela Cunningham's tremendous feat in saving George Washington's home. The memory of her work has never completely died in Laurens County. Likewise, there are more than a few individuals who have assumed stewardship of the land over time. The list includes past and present members of the Cunningham family and two generations of the present owners, the Niles Clark family. It also comprises the imaginative members of the Laurens County Historical Society who sponsored a study of Rosemont Plantation beginning in 1990.

The Rosemont Plantation Project has just concluded with four primary accomplishments to note: 1. A factual and documented history of the Cunningham family and its life on the land; 2. An introductory examination of the existing historic landscape; 3. A preliminary archaeological investigation of Rosemont; and 4. The nomination of Rosemont to the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, the Rosemont Plantation Project has heightened public awareness of this significant historic and archaeological resource and has emphasized the need to preserve Rosemont for the future. (Rosemont resides precipitously near Lake Greenwood, a rapidly developing recreational area.)

In the scholarly realm, valuable information has been produced by this study on plantation life of nineteenth-century upper South Carolina, especially on landscapes of the period. From examining the landscape gardening tradition at Rosemont, we have

expanded our body of knowledge in the fledgling field of landscape gardening research. The elements of the "cultural landscape" have come to light: styles of gardens during the period; gardening techniques of the era; ornamental and exotic plants that were grown; vegetables and fruits that were cultivated; traditions of the period, such as



*Family portrait (ca. 1823) Louisa Cunningham and children Ann Pamela, John, and Ben Yancey— sitting and receiving flowers from his mother. (This painting is displayed in a historic house owned by Historic Waco, Waco, Texas.)*

more than 160 years. There are elements of Louisa Cunningham's design intact: huge American tree boxwood avenues lead up to the front of the former house, towering magnolias loom in the forest, and tremendous crape-myrtle trees stand in an avenue to the east of the home. Many non-indigenous trees, shrubs, and ground covers

trading plants among friends; and the participants in gardening at Rosemont, not only the main players but other vital workers, such as Sam and Austin, slave gardeners.

With Rosemont's potential virtually untapped, the challenge of the 1990s will be the preservation and protection of this noteworthy historic resource. It is hoped that as the visionary Ann Pamela Cunningham attained success with George Washington's Mount Vernon, the future will hold a similar vibrant response and fortunate conclusion for her Rosemont Plantation †

<sup>1</sup> Ann Pamela Cunningham, letter to Mrs. Benjamin Perry, January 13th, 1847, Benjamin Franklin Perry Papers (Perry Papers), Alabama Department of Archives and History (A.D.A.H.), Montgomery, Alabama.

<sup>2</sup> Charles B. Hosmer, Jr., *Presence of the Past, A History of the Preservation Movement in the United States Before Williamsburg*, (New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons 1965), 47-51.

<sup>3</sup> \*For the story of Ann Pamela Cunningham and her efforts for Mount Vernon see: Grace King, *Mount Vernon on the Potomac: History of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1929) and Elswyth Thane, *Mount Vernon is Ours* (New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1966).

<sup>4</sup> Ann Pamela Cunningham, *Untitled History of the Cunningham Family*, (circa 1843-1844), Perry Papers, A.D.A.H.

<sup>5</sup> Lucy Henderson Horton, *Family History* (Franklin, Tennessee: Press of the News, 1922), 79-82 and Grace Gillan Davidson, "Colonel William Bird of the Shoals of the Ogeechee," fragment of a newspaper article, no date (circa 1936).

<sup>6</sup> Benjamin Franklin Perry, *Reminiscence of Mrs. Louisa Cunningham* (Greenville, South Carolina: J.C. Bailey's Book and Job Press, 1874), 4.

<sup>7</sup> Elizabeth Kellam deForest, *The Gardens and Grounds at Mount Vernon: How George Washington Planned and Planted Them* (Mount Vernon, Virginia: The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, 1982), 6.

<sup>8</sup> Floride Cunningham, letter to Mrs. Nancy Halsted, February 20, 1874, Mount Vernon Archives, Mount Vernon, Virginia.



<sup>9</sup> Perry, *Reminiscences of Mrs. Louisa Cunningham*, 4-5.

<sup>10</sup> John Cunningham, letter to Benjamin Cudworth Yancey, February 24, 1839, Benjamin Church Yancey Papers (Yancey Papers), Southern Historical Collection (S.H.C.), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Louisa Cunningham, letter to Benjamin C. Yancey, April 8, 1839, Yancey Papers, S.H.C.; and Ann Pamela Cunningham, letter to Benjamin F. Perry, n.d. April 1843, Perry Papers, A.D.A.H.

<sup>11</sup> Louisa Cunningham, letter to Benjamin C. Yancey, May 15, 1838, Yancey Papers, S.H.C. \*The Yancey brothers: William Lowndes Yancey (1814-1863), statesman and great successionist orator; and Benjamin Cudworth Yancey (1817-1891), lawyer and statesman, were wards of the Cunningham family during the late 1820s and 30s. Their mother, Caroline Bird Yancey, sister to Louisa B. Cunningham, was left a widow when Benjamin Cudworth Yancey (the senior) died in 1817.

<sup>12</sup> Mac Griswold and Eleanor Weller, *The Golden Age of American Gardens: Proud Owners, Private Estates 1890-1940* (New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc. in association with The Garden Club of America, 1991), 159.

<sup>13</sup> Margaret Crawford, letter to Louisa Cunningham, December 10, 1842, typed copy of original letter, Cunningham Family Records, Mrs. Thomas Smith, Texas.

<sup>14</sup> Charlotte Percival, letter to Mrs. Benjamin Yancey, April 14-15, 1852, Yancey Papers, S.H.C.

<sup>15</sup> Ann Pamela Cunningham, letter to Mrs. Benjamin F. Perry, March 31, 1847, Perry Papers, A.D.A.H.

<sup>16</sup> Ann Pamela Cunningham, letter to Mrs. Benjamin F. Perry, November 18, 1846, Perry Papers, A.D.A.H. and Joel Poinsett, letter to Robert Cunningham, January 6, 1847, Louisa Cunningham file, S.H.C.

<sup>17</sup> Louisa Cunningham, letter to Benjamin C. Yancey, August 30, 1838, Yancey Papers, S.H.C.

<sup>18</sup> Ann Pamela Cunningham, letter to Mrs. Benjamin C. Yancey, December 13, 1842, Yancey Papers, S.H.C.

<sup>19</sup> Order for plants by Louisa Cunningham, January 16, 1860; February 23, 1860; and February and March 3, 1863, Account Books of Pomaria Nurseries, 1859-1861 and 1861-1866, Summer Family Papers, South Carolina Library, Manuscript Collections, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

<sup>20</sup> H.L. Watson, "The Story of Rosemont," *The State*, July 12, 1904, Columbia, South Carolina.

## Blumen Auf Dem Grab (Flowers on the Grave) Round Top Cemetery

by William C. Welch and D. Greg Grant, Texas

Old cemeteries have always had an appeal to garden historians. Those that have somehow avoided the modern practice of "perpetual care" and applications of glyphosate herbicide often contain plant collections that are not only reflections of a past era, but are "time tested." The old custom of placing favorite ornamental plants on the grave sites of loved ones provides a link to earlier plant usage that is difficult to find in today's gardens. Because of our nation's migration from

rural areas to cities, most families have left behind their ties to cemeteries whose care was once an important part of their culture.

Participants in the eleventh annual SGHS meeting will spend some time in a community that has one of Texas' numerous and fascinating old cemeteries. Although Bethlehem Lutheran Church and its adjacent cemetery will not actually be a tour stop, they are a short walk from Henkel Square in Round Top where we will be visiting an

authentic restoration of 19th-century Anglo-American and German-American culture.

Actually, most everything in Round Top is within walking distance, it being a town with a current population of eighty-one. The community predates its name and was first known as Townsend and later as Jones Post Office, after



*Bethlehem Lutheran Church, built in 1866.  
Photo by Greg Grant.*

the first postmaster for the Republic of Texas. (The Republic Period in Texas spanned the years 1836-1845.) The town sits on a hill that rises prominently when approached from the southwest, but the name Round Top refers to an octagonal structure that became a widely visible landmark in the late 1840s.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church was built and consecrated in 1866 of local cedar and sandstone under the supervision of Carl Siegismund Bauer who had immigrated from Germany several years earlier. It is a good example of German architectural style and houses a native red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) pipe organ built in 1867 by Traugott



Wandke. The church and the organ have received historical plaques, and the building is thought to be the oldest Lutheran church in the state of Texas in which services are held regularly. The building has recently

been carefully restored both inside and out and is used regularly for church services by a surprisingly large and active congregation. Red cedar was also used for flooring and pews in the sanctuary that seats approximately one-hundred worshippers. Recent interior work includes beautifully refinished altar furnishings with faux marble accents by an area craftsman.

Although in somewhat disrepair, the walls and grounds of the cemetery have a pleasant aura of "benign neglect." In addition to the wonderful native stone walls, many individual grave sites are enclosed with native stone curbing, a traditional German practice. Plants are rather sparse, but a close look reveals some interesting choices that are obvious links to earlier times.

A spring visitor is most likely to notice immediately a sprinkling of Texas bluebonnets (*Lupinus texensis*), the state flower, throughout the cemetery. And although a number of them have died, native red cedars are present in orderly rows along now crumbling stone wall terraces. There are also pecan trees (*Carya illinoensis*), the state tree, scattered throughout the modest grounds. *Vinca major* has naturalized beneath the live oaks (*Quercus virginiana*) on the property. Shrubs are

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*Round Top Cemetery. Photo by Greg Grant.*

# Book Review



## **Keeping Eden: A History of Gardening in America.**

Massachusetts Historical Society - Walter T. Punch, General Editor. Boston: Little Brown & Co., 1992. Bibliography, index, ix, 277 pp. Illustrations. Hardback. ISBN 0-8212-1818-2.

For all too many writers of garden history, the Claude glass remains an essential tool. They lock each garden in its own frame, label it with creator, date, and style, and proceed to identify its aesthetic attributes, design precedents, and influential properties. Their efforts are not without interest or value, but such writers invariably fail to ask the very questions that would enhance their investigations so profoundly, questions about the peculiar economic conditions or social dictates shaping each gardening venture. Call it connoisseurship or what you will, the Claudian approach falls short of substantive history. Walter T. Punch and his colleagues at the Massachusetts Historical Society saw the glint of the glass and recognized its limitations. They also realized just how scarce are well-founded general studies of American garden history. Their observations led to the production of *Keeping Eden*, a handsomely illustrated and designed collection of sixteen essays addressing various aspects of gardening in

America over four centuries. The book's collaborators successfully portray the garden not as an isolated artistic phenomenon, but as an integral element of a greater world. Perhaps most significantly, they eschew the

traditional pursuit of European precedent and influence by concentrating instead on indigenous requirements, choices, and achievements. As the editor promises in his introduction, *Keeping Eden* fosters a new awareness of the American garden.

Like any collection of essays, even one that is purpose-written to express a single issue or theme, *Keeping Eden* is a considerably variegated work. Some essays are essentially annotated or descriptive lists. Specifically, Elisabeth Woodburn's "American Horticultural Books" and Walter Punch's "The Garden Organized" offer no real historical arguments, but do serve as useful references to publications, botanical gardens, and horticultural and garden history societies. The papers by D. Keith Crotz and Peggy Cornett Newcomb might be categorized as catalogic, except that each author artfully discusses the circumstances and ramifications of, respectively, technological change and plant selection for American gardens. Keith N. Morgan's "Garden and Forest - Nineteenth-Century Developments in Landscape Architecture" is a straightforward, well-integrated and clearly documented overview of a complicated era. Similarly broad in scope is

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## *Round Top Cemetery Continued from Page 7*

not common in this particular cemetery, although one can't help but notice the usual representation of roses, in this case, several European types (*Rosa sp.*) and several red China roses (*Rosa chinensis*).

As with most limited-maintenance old cemeteries throughout the South, bulbs make up the predominant surviving palate of flowering plants. Most numerous perhaps is the starch or musk hyacinth (*Muscari racemosum*) whose fragrant spring blossoms are often mistaken for bluebonnets from a distance. Several narcissus are present, including the Chinese sacred lily (*Narcissus tazetta orientalis*) and *Narcissus tazetta italicus*. A number of amaryllids are at home in the cemetery. One of these is the autumn daffodil (*Sternbergia lutea*), a mediterranean relation of daffodils.

Another interesting member of the amaryllis family present is the oxblood lily, *Rhodophiala bifida* [*Hippeastrum bifidum*]. This fall-blooming

beauty was supposedly introduced by Peter Oberwetter, botanist, who came to Texas from Germany around 1848. There are probably more oxblood lilies in central Texas than its native Argentina. Also to be noted are the tropical white spider lily (*Hymenocallis caribaea*), summer snowflakes (*Leucojum aestivum*), and hybrids of *Crinum bubispermum*. Appropriately, "German" iris is a common sight, most likely *Iris x albicans*, which was historically grown in Mohammedan graveyards as well.

Old cemeteries like Round Top are an excellent library of hardy, historical plants. It is most unfortunate that these priceless collections of both human culture and horticulture are vanishing. Participants in the meeting and others who may be interested in a more in-depth look at cemeteries in Texas will enjoy Terry Jordan's book, *Texas Graveyards, A Cultural Legacy* published in 1982 by the University of Texas Press ♣



# *Proposed Bylaws of The Southern Garden History Society*

by Jane C. Symmes  
Chair of the By-Laws Committee

As the Southern Garden History Society approached its tenth anniversary, the board in its planning for the next decade decided the original by-laws should be reviewed. A committee was appointed for this purpose. One special concern was the need for larger board representation considering the society's wide geographic range and increasing membership.

After long discussions and study, the revised by-laws were approved at the October board meeting. They are to be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting in April.

## ARTICLE I

### **NAME AND GEOGRAPHICAL AREA**

The name of this organization shall be the Southern Garden History Society. The Society will function in the District of Columbia and in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

## ARTICLE II

### **PURPOSE**

The Southern Garden History Society (hereinafter, the Society) is organized as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of North Carolina. The purpose of the Society shall be the gathering and dissemination of knowledge of Southern garden history through forums and publications.

## ARTICLE III

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Any person, corporation, or other legal entity interested in the purpose of the Society shall be eligible for membership in the Society upon application and payment of dues for the class of membership sought. The classes of membership and dues shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE IV

### **OFFICES**

The principal office of the Society shall be located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, or in such other location as the Board of Directors may determine. Other offices may be established by resolution of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE V

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1. Management Powers, Number, and Qualifications. The property, affairs, and business of the Society shall be governed and managed by the



Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, excluding Honorary and ex-officio Directors, shall number not more than twenty (20) nor less than five (5) persons. The exact number shall be fixed by a resolution of the Board of

Directors from time to time. Directors shall be members of the Society, of the age of twenty-one (21) years or over, and residents of one of the states of the United States of America listed in Article I or the District of Columbia. Each Director (other than Directors elected to fill vacancies as hereinafter provided for in Section 7 of Article V) shall be elected by a plurality vote of members present at the business session of an annual meeting of members of the Society.

Section 2. Nomination of Directors. Any member of the Southern Garden History Society may present a nomination for Director or Directors to the Nominating Committee, provided the nomination is presented in writing at least one month prior to the annual meeting of members at which the Directors are elected. From the nominations for Directors made by the members and from other nominations made by members of the Nominating Committee, the Nominating Committee shall select a slate to be approved by the existing Board of Directors and voted on at the annual meeting of members.

Section 3. Term of Office and Succession. At the annual meeting of members of the Society in 1994, the existing Board of Directors shall be divided into three groups, as nearly equal in numbers as possible, the first group to serve an additional one-year term, the second group to serve an additional two-year term, and the third group to serve an additional three-year term, so that after the annual meeting of members in 1994, the terms of approximately one-third of the Directors will expire each year. Following the expiration of the terms of office of the Directors elected at the 1994 annual meeting, the term of office of each Director shall be three years. The term of office of each Director shall begin upon adjournment of the annual meeting of members at which such Director is elected and continue until adjournment of the third annual meeting of members thereafter. If the Board of Directors, by resolution, increases the number of Directors and additional Directors are elected at the 1993 annual meeting, the terms of the added Directors will expire at the end of the annual meeting of members in 1994. After 1994, whenever the Board of Directors shall increase or decrease the number of Directors constituting the Board, such increases or decreases and lengths of terms shall be made so that, as nearly as possible, the terms of office of one-third of the total Board shall continue to expire each year thereafter. After the annual meeting of members in 1994, no Director, other than a Director filling an unexpired term, shall be eligible for re-election to succeed himself or herself until a period of one year has elapsed following the expiration of his or her term as Director. After the elapse of one year, that person shall be eligible for re-election to the Board of

Directors. Any Director filling an unexpired term under the provisions of Article V, Section 7, of these Bylaws shall be eligible for re-election to the Board of Directors without an intervening year.

Section 4. Removal from Office. A Director may be removed from office, with or without cause, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board of Directors.

Section 5. Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held semi-annually within the geographical area described in Article I at locations selected by the Board. One of the semi-annual meetings shall be held immediately preceding the annual meeting of members of the Society. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at any time upon the call of the President or the Secretary duly served on or sent or mailed to each Director not less than fourteen (14) days before the special meeting.

Section 6. Quorum. A majority of the number of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the act of a majority of such Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors except as may be otherwise specifically provided by law, by the Articles of Incorporation, or by these Bylaws.

Section 7. Vacancies. In case one or more vacancies shall occur on the Board of Directors by reason of death, incapacity, resignation, removal from office under Section 4 of this Article V, removal of residency outside the geographical area described in Article I, or any other reason, the remaining Directors shall continue to act and such vacancy may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Directors then in office.

Section 8. Liability. In the absence of fraud or bad faith, the Directors shall not be personally liable for the debts, obligations, or liabilities of the Society.

Section 9. Ex-officio Directors. The immediate past President and the Editor of *Magnolia*, the official bulletin of the Society, shall be ex-officio Directors. Officers of the Society whose terms as Directors expire during their terms as Officers also shall be ex-officio Directors during the remainder of their terms as Officers. Ex-officio Directors shall have the same rights, privileges and powers as other Directors, including the power to vote. They shall be counted for the purpose of determining a quorum or vote.

#### ARTICLE VI HONORARY DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint such honorary members to the Board as it may by resolution determine. Such honorary members may attend meetings of the Board of Directors and may make recommendations to the Board, but shall not have the power to vote nor shall they be counted for the purpose of determining a quorum.



#### ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section 1. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Society plus one other Director appointed by the

President to serve during the term of that President. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in each quarter of the year in person or by telephone conference call. Subject to the supervision and control of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall have the power to direct the business and other affairs of the Society in accordance with these Bylaws and in keeping with policies adopted by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 2. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall be composed of three (3) Directors appointed by the President to serve for the duration of that President's term of office. The President shall name and appoint one of the three to be Chairperson. The Nominating Committee shall select by simple majority vote nominees for Directors and Officers of the Society. A written report of nominations shall be presented to each Director at least three (3) days prior to a meeting of the Board of Directors at which approval or election is to take place.

Section 3. Other Committees. Other committees, both standing and temporary, may be established by Resolution of the Board of Directors. These committees shall have such powers of the Board as are delegated by the Board and not in conflict with any statute, the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws. The Chairpersons and members of these committees shall be appointed by the President for the balance of that President's term of office or, if authorized by the Board of Directors, for longer periods.

Section 4. Committee Records and Reports. Each committee shall keep records of all of its transactions, which records shall be presented to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have the power to disapprove, rescind, and nullify any acts or transactions of such committees, and all acts and transactions of the committees not disapproved, rescinded, or nullified shall be held and taken to be approved and confirmed by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Committee Rules. A majority of the members of a committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a committee meeting, and the act of a majority of those members at that meeting is the act of the committee.

#### ARTICLE VIII OFFICERS

Section 6. In General. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer elected by the Board of Directors at two-year intervals at the scheduled meeting immediately

preceding the annual meeting of the members. These officers must be members of the Board of Directors at the time of taking office. Any officer may succeed himself or herself if duly re-elected. Officers shall take office and serve from the conclusion of the annual meeting of the members at which they were elected until and through the conclusion of the second annual meeting of the members thereafter. Any officer may be removed from office, either with or without cause, at any time by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors then in office. Any two or more offices may be held by the same person, except that the same person shall not be both President and Secretary.

Section 2. Powers and duties. The officers of the Society shall each have such powers and duties as generally pertain to their respective offices, as well as such powers and duties as from time to time may be conferred upon them by the Board of Directors.

Without limiting the foregoing:

(a) President. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Society and shall give general supervision and direction to the affairs of the Society, subject to the direction of the Board of Directors. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors and at the annual meetings of members of the Society.

(b) Vice President. The Vice President shall act in the case of the absence or disability of the President and shall have other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

(c) Secretary. The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings of the Board of Directors for which notice is required, shall keep the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, and shall maintain the general records of the Society.

(d) Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all receipts and monies of the Society, shall deposit them in the name of the Society in a bank or financial institution approved by the Executive Committee, and shall disburse funds as authorized by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer and President, individually or together, shall sign all checks and withdrawal slips on behalf of the Society upon any and all of its bank accounts. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the timely filing of all forms required by law for the Society to retain its tax exempt status. The Treasurer shall keep regular accounts of receipts and disbursements and of the properties and business transactions, if any, of the Society. He/she shall submit financial reports when requested and shall present an itemized financial statement at each regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society. The Treasurer shall also file any quarterly or annual forms required by the Federal Government or any State or local government.



## ARTICLE IX ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Place, Date, and Functions. The Society shall hold an annual meeting of members in the spring of each year at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors. If

possible, the annual meeting will be held each year in a different part of the geographical area defined in Article I. At the annual meeting of members, in addition to a business session devoted exclusively to the operational and financial affairs of the Society, educational programs consistent with the purpose of the society are to be conducted. The Board of Directors shall decide upon the dates and place of meeting of the annual meeting at least one year in advance of the meeting if possible. Invitations to attend must be sent to all members in good standing in advance of the annual meeting. If capacity is limited for any reason, reservations and attendance may be limited to those members who first accept.

Section 2. Quorum. The members present at the business session of an annual meeting of members shall constitute a quorum.

## ARTICLE X GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Assets on Dissolution. Upon the termination or dissolution of the Society in any manner or for any reason, its assets, if any, remaining after payment or provision for payment of all liabilities of the Society shall be disposed of as provided in the Articles of Incorporation.

Section 2. Gifts. The Board of Directors on behalf of the Society and the President on behalf of the Board of Directors may accept any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the purposes of the Society.

Section 3. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Society shall be such period as the Board of Directors shall determine, and unless otherwise so determined, shall begin on the first day of May of each year and end on the last day of April of the following year.

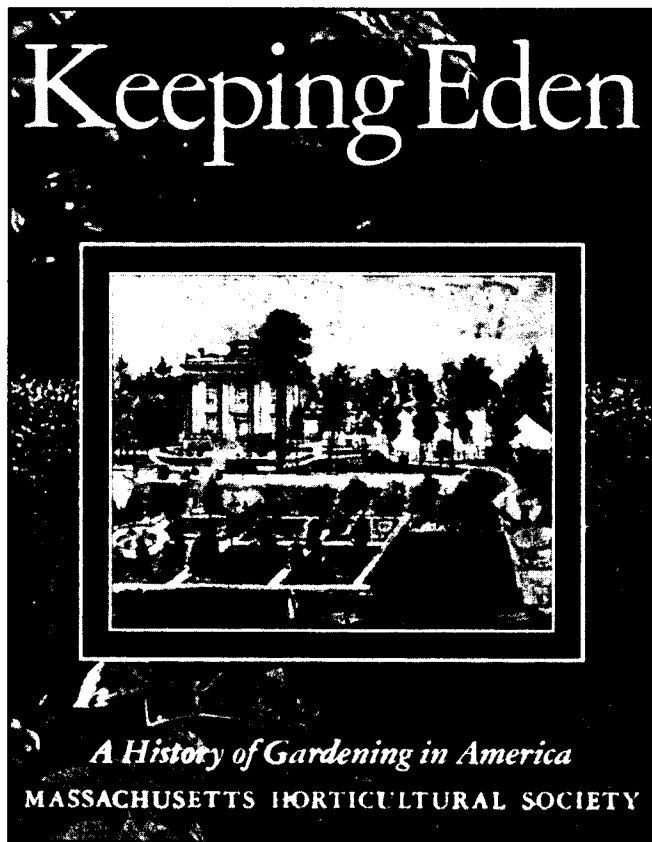
Section 4. Corporate Seal. The seal of the Society shall consist of an impression bearing the name of the Society around the perimeter and the word "Seal" or "Corporate Seal" and such other information, including the year of incorporation, in the center thereof as is desired. In lieu thereof, the Society may use an impression or writing bearing the words "Corporate Seal" enclosed in parentheses, which may also be deemed the seal of the Society.

Section 5. Amendments. The Bylaws of the Society shall be subject to alteration, amendment, or repeal, and new Bylaws not inconsistent with any statutory provisions or with any provision of the Articles of Incorporation shall be made by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all Directors then holding office at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors.

## Book Review

*Continued from page 8*

Mac Griswold's "American Artists, American Gardens." While primarily concerned with its representations of gardens in the graphic arts, this nicely crafted essay also provides an excellent short account of the historical functions and meanings of gardens in America. Tamara Plakins Thornton offers a lively and scrupulously observed account of how horticulture has been employed as a moral agent since the early nineteenth-



century. Regional developments constitute a strong subtheme in the book and are most effectively identified and analyzed in the pieces about the West, such as David Streatfield's treatment of gardening in Arizona, California, and the Pacific Northwest from the late nineteenth-century to the present day. The selection of essays reveals an understanding of the geographical and chronological diversity, as well as the inherent complexity of American garden history, and qualifies the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's publication as an important addition to the subject literature.

*Keeping Eden* is divided into two sections, the first composed of broadly-drawn essays arranged chronologically and the second, those of a

thematic nature. Contributors to the second part of the book, many of whom have already been mentioned, generally are the more successful in presenting rigorous and intriguing observations about American gardens. A number of these writers are virtually alone in pursuing certain issues central to American cultural history that should have received greater attention throughout the book. For example, Phyllis Andersen in "The City and the Garden" is one of surprisingly few authors in *Keeping Eden* to consider the classic dichotomy of city versus country, civilization versus nature. Andersen, Mac Griswold, Catherine Howett, and Michael Pollan, in his clever and thoughtful afterword about the future of American gardening, are the only writers to address more or less directly the concept expressed in the title of the book. The familiar equation of Eden and America is not really explored in any of the essays, suggesting that the title may have been applied only after they had been written and assembled. Like the title, the short introductions provided for each essay fail to explain how each might relate to this implied theme of the natural or ideal garden.

Members of the Garden History Society of Williamsburg and the Southern Garden History Society will be interested in the six essays that consider eighteenth-century gardens in some depth. Andersen and Griswold again offer perceptive and virtually solo observations on gardening in towns, utilitarian gardens, landscape archaeology, and the gardens of African-American slaves. Peggy Cornett Newcomb builds a strong case for the historical study of individual plant varieties and pointedly advocates close attention to documentary sources. References to historical source materials, as well as current material culture studies, is not apparent in Gordon de Wolf's account of the earliest colonial developments. His essay suffers from an outmoded bias towards New England and a poorly substantiated narrative. Diane Kostial McGuire in "Early Gardens Along the Atlantic Coast" falls into another venerable, but erroneous assumption, the characterization of colonial New England gardens as utilitarian and southern gardens as ornamental. Her essay too seems rather insecurely grounded in the literature. For example, the gardening efforts of Washington and Jefferson are discussed at length without benefit of their own readily available words, and their influence is accepted rather than critically tested. When John Custis is

mentioned, but his truly exceptional garden is not and the expertise of professional and slave gardeners goes unnoticed, credibility is strained. By contrast, Catherine M. Howett's study of landscape and garden in the South combines an intelligent reading of the historical evidence with a well-defended delineation of regional identity.

In addition to the instructive essays of diverse topic, time, and place, *Keeping Eden* includes a selection of nicely reproduced plates and drawings. A greater use of plans, both original and reconstructed, would have clarified the composition of many examples and perhaps opened up new lines of inquiry. Most of the bibliographies provided with the essays are quite extensive and representative of current garden history scholarship. As editor Walter Punch admits, *Keeping Eden* is not a comprehensive history of American gardening. A tendency to focus on large, formally designed gardens, evident particularly in those essays about the colonial era and the South, clearly illustrates his point. Nevertheless, the book confirms the tremendous potential of thoughtfully structured research and identifies many of the major issues that will be absolutely essential to composing such a work ♣

*Review by Vanessa E. Patrick, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation for the Garden History Society of Williamsburg.*

**The Garden Tourist 1993: A Guide to Garden Tours, Garden Days, Shows, and Special Events.** Lois G. Rosenfield. Portland, OR: Timber Press. \$9.95. (available at bookstores or directly from Timber Press, 9999 S.W. Wilshire, Portland, OR 97225 (800) 327-5680; add \$3.75 for shipping.)

This 160-page guide lists by states and cities garden tours, garden days, shows, and special events sponsored mainly by nonprofit organizations, including several who are SGHS members. There is a listing of a number of major regional flower shows and some international events ♣

[Correction: The Winter 1993 issue was mistakenly numbered Vol. X No. 1, please note that it should be Vol. IX No. 2.]



**Garden Shrubs and Their Histories.** Alice M. Coats. New York: Simon & Schuster. \$40.00 cloth.

Walking into a garden and not knowing the history of the plants you see is like going to a party of complete strangers with nobody to introduce you. All you can do is look and speculate. We can add substantially to our knowledge of shrubs with this reprint of Coats's book. An added bonus are the notes, following each plant entry, by John L. Creech, former director of the National Arboretum, which specifically address American gardeners and bring this classic up to date.

The plants are listed in alphabetical order from Abelia to Yucca. The entries are full of fascinating stories behind the discovery and introduction of our most familiar garden shrubs. The rose, one of the oldest cultivated shrubs, has new hybrids being developed into the present while the ubiquitous forsythias go back only a century.

This new edition is also illustrated with 112 classic paintings by some of the most renowned botanical artists of the 18th and 19th centuries. Coats, who lived from 1905-1978, published her first book, *Flowers and Their Histories*, in 1956. *Garden Shrubs* followed in 1963, and *Quest for Plants* in 1969 ♣

*Review by Susan Stahl, gardener at the Hermitage.*

## GARDEN SHRUBS *and their Histories*



ALICE M. COATS

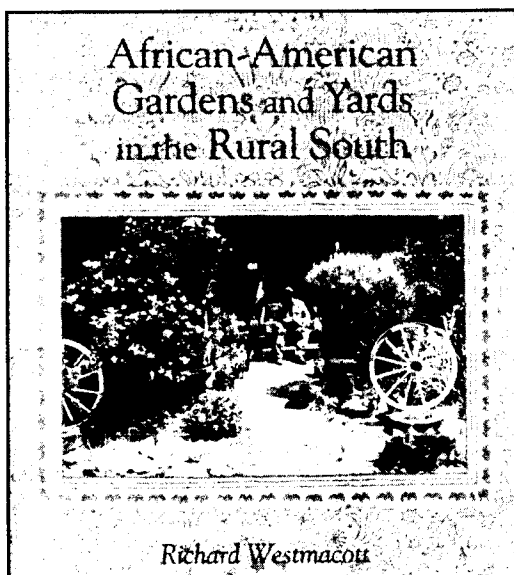
With notes by Dr. JOHN L. CREECH

## In Print

**The Formal Garden: The Tradition of Art and Nature** by Mark Laird has recently been published by Thames & Hudson of New York.

**Heritage Gardens** is available for \$10.00 from Dr. Ed Givhan's Lime Ridge Flower Farm, P.O. Box 11516, Montgomery, AL 36111. 1(800) 332-GROW.

**African-American Gardens and Yards in the Rural South** by Richard Westmacott. Published in December 1992 by The University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville 37996-0325. Available for \$24.95 in paper and \$39.95 in cloth. Many Southern Garden History members will recall Mr. Westmacott's discussion of his research during the October 1991 Old Salem "Restoring Southern



Gardens and Landscapes" conference. (He will be a featured speaker at the 1993 conference.) Readers are also referred back to the Spring 1992 *Magnolia* for an article by Mr. Westmacott based on this book. In addition to a broad selection of black-and-white illustrations, this study contains a section of striking color photographs, as well as numerous garden survey plans and plant lists.

**Genius in the Garden: Charles F. Gillette and Landscape Architecture in Virginia** by George C. Longest has recently been published by the Virginia State Library and Archives.

**The Brandywine Valley: An Introduction to its Cultural Treasures** by James S. Wamsley (Harry N. Abrams & Co.) is a tour of Wilmington, DE and environs with photographs of Nemours ♦



## The Moravians, Still Earliest American Tea Planters

by Flora Ann Bynum, Winston-Salem, NC

In the last *Magnolia*, I set out to disprove the legend, much quoted in various forms, that the French botanist André Michaux grew the first tea plants in America around 1800 at Middleton Plantation near Charleston, South Carolina. The Moravian Archives here record that the Moravians successfully grew tea in 1760 in what is now Winston-Salem, North Carolina. So "move over, Michaux," said I.

Thanks to fellow SGHS members, we now have references to two other pre-Michaux planters of tea in America. Larry Gulley, manuscript librarian of the University of Georgia in Athens, sent a photocopy of a book, *The Natural History of the Tea-Tree*, by John Coakley Lettsom, M.D., London, 1799. The book states that tea "was introduced into Georgia about the year 1770." Mr. Gulley went on to report that there were numerous tea plantings in Athens from the 1850s when a newspaper gave out seedlings, and that last year he himself had started over two hundred plants from seed.

Dr. Arthur O. Tucker, research professor of Delaware State College in Dover, sent material also, including a reference from *Green Immigrants: The Plants That Transformed America* by Claire Shaver Haughton, 1978. Mrs. Haughton states: "America appeared to be ideal for growing tea, and on December 12, 1760, the Society for the Encouragement of Art and Commerce in the American colonies met in London to lay out plans for establishing tea plantations here..."

"The society ordered that huge balls of wax embedded with tea seed be sent to each colonial governor, and to outstanding statesmen and gardeners... After many months of delay, experimental plantations were started in South Carolina, which had the proper climate and a surplus of slave labor. Seed was planted, young trees were set out, and the plantations thrived. But before they became commercially profitable the American Revolution broke out, and England was forced to abandon the venture."

Because these plantations could not have been planted until 1761 or 1762, the North Carolina Moravians are still ahead ♦

## Members In The News



## Ninth Conference on Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes

The September/October 1992 issue of *Southern Accents* "The Southern Gardener" column featured new SGHS member **Jim Kibler's** work on the records of an upcountry South Carolina antebellum nursery known as Pomaria and mentioned the use **Christy Snipes** has made of these in her work on Rosemont Plantation.

The **Southern Garden History Society** itself received mention in the January 1993 issue of *Southern Accents* with an announcement of the upcoming eleventh annual meeting.

*Fine Gardening's* "Public Gardens" column in the March/April issue was devoted to SGHS institutional member **Atlanta Botanical Garden** and that same magazine's "Gleanings" column mentioned both the **Southern Garden History Society**, and recently founded sister institution **New England Garden History Society**, as well as the **Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants** and **Old Salem** as resources for information and, in the case of the latter two, seeds.

Back in July 1992 *Smithsonian* magazine contained an article, "Rose Rustlers Are Giving 'Antique' Varieties New Life," by Bruce Fellman which described the work of SGHS members **Pam Puryear**, **G. Michael Shoup**, and **William C. Welch** in preserving these older varieties. Note that all three will be at this year's annual meeting ♦

The March/April issue of *Southern Accents* carried stories on three SGHS members. **Peter Patout**, owner of Patout Antiques in New Orleans, was featured in "Courtyard Repast, Peter Patout Refines the Art of Creole Entertaining." "The Adaptable Garden" featured the Charleston courtyard garden of **Patti McGee**, which was visited by SGHS members who attended the society's annual meeting in Charleston last March. "Tryon's Gardens" showed the recently discovered eighteenth-century plan for the garden of Tryon Palace, New Bern, NC, and told the story of the drawing's discovery in Venezuela. The article discussed the dilemma now facing the palace garden curators - to go back to the original plan, or to retain the current Colonial Revival garden, now a "magnificent American landscape." ♦

Readers are again encouraged to mark their calendars for the October 7th-9th, 1993 dates of this biennial event. As always an exciting array of speakers is on tap for the Old Salem program, speakers who this year will address the impact of both native and immigrant groups on the Southern landscape. SGHS board member Bill Welch will offer the opening address for the conference which will include presentations on the influence of Native American, African-American, Spanish, French, English and German peoples. Bill will be joined by speakers such as anthropologist Richard Yarnell of the University of North

*Continued on page 16 . . .*

## Of Interest

**Allen Lacy's Homeground** is a new publication, a quarterly newsletter for American gardeners who enjoy reading about gardens as well as working in them.

*Homeground* will include a lively mix of essays on practical subjects like plant combinations, groundcovers and vines, and other topics as well as taking a more meditative and, at times, humorous look at what lies behind the passion for gardening. Allen Lacy has been writing gardening columns for over a decade, currently for *The New York Times* and is the author of several highly praised books.

Subscriptions are \$38 per year and can be obtained by contacting **Allen Lacy's Homeground**, Box 271, Linwood, NJ, 08221.

**The Garden History Society of Williamsburg** is an organization attempting to bring together from various disciplines those in the Williamsburg area who share overlapping interest in garden history. The purpose of this society is the scholarly examination of facets of garden history with primary scrutiny devoted to the landscape of the mid-Atlantic region before the Civil War. For more information, contact Terry Yemm, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, Virginia 23187 ♦

# Magnolia Essays Launched



**T**he first *Magnolia Essays, Occasional Papers of the Southern Garden History Society* will be published this spring on the subject "Residential Work of the Olmsted Firm in Georgia, 1893-1937." The paper is by Lucy Lawliss, a landscape architect with the National Park Service in Atlanta.

Catherine Howett, now serving as editor for *Magnolia Essays*, is a SGHS board member and professor of landscape architecture at the University of Georgia. Mrs. Howett also served as president of the Society in 1986-1988 and has received much support from current president Florence Griffin in this project.

This essay will be dedicated to William Lanier Hunt of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, who first urged the formation of the society and who now serves as honorary president. Foreword is by Dr.

*Deadline for submission of articles for the Summer Issue of Magnolia is May 1st, 1993.*

Rick Beard, an Olmsted scholar who is executive director of the Atlanta Historical Society.

A copy of the first *Magnolia Essay* will be mailed to each member of the society on the membership list as of the date of publication. Additional copies will be available for sale through the SGHS headquarters.

Members of the society's publication committee are Dr. William C. Welch, Flora Ann Bynum, Judith Flowers, Catherine Howett, Kenneth M. McFarland, and Peggy C. Newcomb +

## *Continued from Ninth Conference*

Carolina at Chapel Hill, historian Susan Parker of the Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board, restoration landscape architect Rudy Favretti, and environmental design professor Richard Westmancott of the University of Georgia. Greg Grant and Scott Kunst, each a skilled horticulturist as well as a garden historian, will offer practical workshop sessions and formal presentations. Look for further details in upcoming issues of *Magnolia* and in the conference flyers all SGHS members will receive +

**Florence P. Griffin, President**

**Ben G. Page, Jr., Vice-President**

**Flora Ann Bynum, Secretary-Treasurer**

**William Lanier Hunt, Honorary President**

*Magnolia grandiflora* reproduced by courtesy of Rare Book Division, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library.

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