



# Magnolia

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

Bulletin of the  
Southern Garden  
History Society

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## The Maryland Orangeries

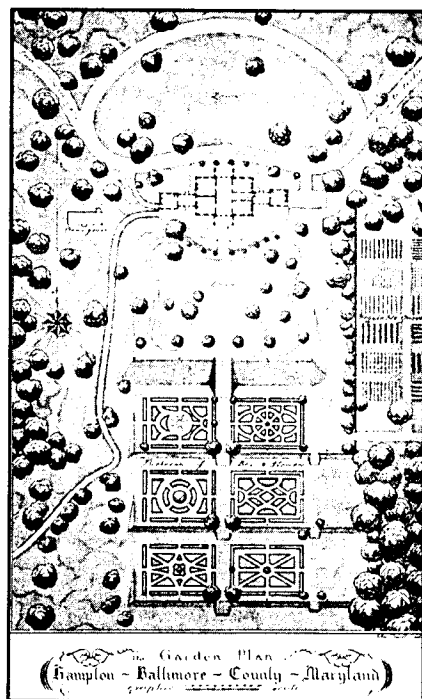
by Michael T. Trostel, Baltimore, Maryland

Serious interest in protecting tender or exotic (i.e. non-indigenous) plants began in the early seventeenth century, with Holland taking the lead. Their gardening books, translated into German, French, and English with "how-to" illustrations, helped spread the development of orangeries. Orangeries were called "greenhouses" until the middle of the nineteenth century because they were used to keep plants green, such as orange and lemon trees, that would otherwise die if left out of doors all year.

*The Whole Art of Husbandry*, published in London in 1631 by Gervase Markham, described an embryo form of an orangery. In 1649, Queen Henrietta Maria's orangery at Wimbleton was listed in a Parliamentary Survey of the manor as containing forty-two orange trees that were valued at ten pounds each — a huge sum in 1649.

In the late seventeenth century numerous orangeries were constructed throughout England. These early examples were tall, relatively narrow buildings with large windows on their south elevations. The usual heat source was charcoal placed in a pit in the floor or in a brazier or an iron stove. In the 1690s, a much improved heating system was developed for the orangery at the Chelsea Physic Garden. A below-grade-level stove supplied heat to underfloor ducts. This basic system continued in use for the next century. In some examples, the heat ducts were also built into the north wall of the orangery.

*Continued on page 2 . . .*



Great Georgian  
Houses of  
America,  
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1933, p. 173

**Inside  
this  
Issue**

**Page 2**    **Calendar**  
**Page 7**    **SGHS Annual Meeting**  
**Page 10**   **In Print**  
**Page 11**   **Journal of Garden History Publications**

## Calendar

### October 3rd-5th, 1996.

"Early Domestic Skills," an educational conference on historical domestic crafts and foodways, including herbal folklore, flax processing, and agricultural rhythms. Sponsored by Old Salem, P. O. Box F, Salem Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27108. Phone: (910) 721-7300.

**October 4th-6th, 1996.** "Plant Collecting Around the World," The Charleston Garden Festival features a City Market with display gardens, vendors, mini-lectures and workshops with Ken Druse, John Faurey of Yucca Do Nurseries in Texas, Steven Sponberg of the Arnold Arboretum, and Don Shadow from Winchester, TN. Activities include tours of 18th-century plantations. Contact the Florence Crittenton Programs, 19 Saint Margaret St., Charleston, SC 29403. Phone: (803) 722-0661.

**October 11th-12th, 1996.** "Exploring Southern Gardens," Southern Garden Symposium & Workshops. Speakers include Dr. Steven M. Still of Ohio State University; Scott Ogden, author of *Garden Bulbs for the South*; Katie Moss Warner, director of horticulture at Disney World Resort; and William E. Brumback, director of conservation, New England Wild Flower Society. Contact the Symposium at P. O. Box 2075, St. Francisville, LA 70775, or call (504) 635-4220.



**October 20th, 1996.** Tour of Sudbrook Park, a Baltimore County community designed by Frederick Law Olmsted (which will preview the November 10th symposium).

**November 10th, 1996.** Symposium on Sudbrook Park, followed by reception and book signing at the Maryland Historical Society. Presentations on Olmsted's design of suburban landscapes by Dr. Charles Beveridge, SGHS member M. Edward Shull, Catherine Mahan, and Beryl Frank, co-author with Melanie Anson of a new book on the Sudbrook Park neighborhood, which will be available at the symposium. For more information about the tour, symposium, and book, contact the Baltimore County Historical Trust, P. O. Box 10067, Towson, MD 21285. Phone: (410) 832-1812.

**February 21st-23rd, 1997.** "Tools of the Trade," Southeast Regional Meeting of the Association for Living Historical Farms & Agricultural Museums. Held at Colonial Williamsburg. Presentation proposals should be submitted by July 31st. Contact John A. Caramia, Jr., Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, P. O. Box 1776, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1776. Phone: (804) 220-2473; Fax: (804) 220-7357.

*continued on page 11...*

## *The Maryland Orangeries...* *continued from page one*

By the early eighteenth century, orangeries were a necessary adjunct to any fashionable garden. Royalty led the way with orangeries at Hampton Court, Kensington Palace, and Kew. Those at Kensington Palace and Kew were important architectural compositions placed in highly visible locations in the gardens.

*The Gardener's Dictionary* by Philip Miller, first published in 1731, was a basic guide for all gardeners in Great Britain and the American colonies. Miller recommended a depth of sixteen to eighteen feet for "small or middling Houses" and a depth of twenty to twenty-four feet for larger orangeries. The piers between the tall windows should be as narrow as possible with

folding shutters at the windows. He suggested also a "House for Tools, and many other Purposes" be built against the north wall with the fireplace or grate (for the heat ducts located under the floor of the orangery in the tool house). The walls and ceiling of the orangery should be plastered and whitewashed — white being the only color to be used inside. A room over the orangery was recommended to help keep out the frost in a hard winter.

In 1819 *The Practical American Gardener* was published in Baltimore. The author was given as "An Old Gardener." Repeating most of Philip Miller's recommendations for orangeries of the previous century, The Old Gardener warned that heat should be used with great caution and only in severe frost or moist weather "in order to dispel the damps." The heat should never be

above 45 to 46 degrees farenheit. The windows of orangeries should be five- to six-feet wide. Since some circulation of fresh air was needed every day, he recommended that the windows have triple sashes so that both the upper and lower sashes could be opened. The plants should not be crowded and those farther from the windows should be raised for more air and sun. There should be tressels with planks upon them for the plants to be "neatly and judiciously disposed." The Old Gardener listed "the more hardy kinds of green house plants, such as the oleander, hydrangea, myrtles, pomegranates, oranges, lemons, etc. ." Other plants he listed for growing in orangeries were geraniums, jasmines, myrtles, and China and Othaheite roses.

The most important eighteenth-century orangery in Maryland was the Lloyds' at Wye House, which today has the distinctions of being the only eighteenth-century orangery to survive in the United States. The original portion, constructed some time between 1750 and 1770, was twenty by thirty-three feet. It was two stories tall with a billiard room above the orangery. There were one-story extensions at each end, about nine by nineteen feet, and the gardener's quarters were built against the back wall. This orangery was enlarged in 1779 to its present length of eighty-five feet with a work room built behind the east addition adjacent to the gardener's quarters.

The orangery was located at the north end of the bowling green. The stables were at the opposite end where the present Wye House, built between 1785 and 1792, stands. To the east of the bowling green were the formal gardens with a central axis from the bowling green to the house. The earlier Wye House is gone but its office wing still stands just beyond the garden.



The orangery at Mount Clare was probably completed by the fall of 1760 when Charles Carroll, Barrister ordered a thermometer for it. The Barrister (there were four Charles Carrolls in colonial

Annapolis and each had to add a "distinction" with his name to avoid confusion) completed his summer residence overlooking the Patapsco River in 1760. His orangery was twenty-eight feet square with the south half the orangery, and his gardener's quarters and, perhaps, a work room in the north half.

Mount Clare presented a balanced composition overlooking a series of four terraces or "falls" as they are called in the Chesapeake region. Beyond the orangery was a greenhouse twenty-four by thirty-nine feet, probably constructed between 1775 and 1790. On the opposite side of the house was a twenty-eight feet square laundry balancing the orangery beyond, which was a "shed" the same dimensions as the greenhouse. All these buildings were connected

by screen walls giving a total length of 360 feet — an impressive sight when seen from the Potapsco River.

When George Washington was considering building an orangery at Mount Vernon, he asked Tench Tilghman, his former military aide and Mrs. Carroll's brother-in-law, for information about the one at



*Hampton Mansion, South or garden façade. View by Robert Cary Long circa 1838. The orangery is to the extreme left. Great Georgian Houses of America, Vol. 1. 1933.*

Mount Clare. In a letter from Mount Vernon, dating August 11, 1784, Washington wrote:

"Dear Sir: I shall essay the finishing of my green house this fall, but find that neither myself, nor any person about me is so well skilled in the internal construction as to proceed without a probability at least of running into errors.

"Shall I for this reason, ask the favor of you to give me a short description of the Green-House at Mrs. Carrolls? I am persuaded, now that I

planned mine upon too contracted a scale. My house is (of Brick) 40 feet by 24, in the outer dimensions, and half the width disposed of for two rooms, back of the part designed for the green house; leaving the latter in the clear not more than about 37 by 10. As there is no cover on the walls yet, I can raise them to any height, the information I wish to obtain is,

"The dimensions of Mrs. Carroll's Green-house. what kind of floor is to it. how high from the top to the ceiling of the house, whether those



means kept warm at the Roots — She does not seem to think there is any occasion for the Heat to be conveyed all around the Walls by means of small Vacancies left in them She has always found the Flues mark'd in the plan sufficient for her House —

"She recommends it to you to have the upper parts of your Window sashes to pull down, as well as the lower ones to rise — you then Give Air to the Tops of your Trees —

"Your Ceiling she thinks ought to be Arched and at least 15 feet high — She has found the lowness of hers which is but 12 very inconvenient —

"Smooth Stucco she thinks preferable to common Plaster because drier —

"The Door of the House to be as large as you can conveniently make it — otherwise when the Trees come to any size, the limbs are broken and the Fruit torn off by moving in and out

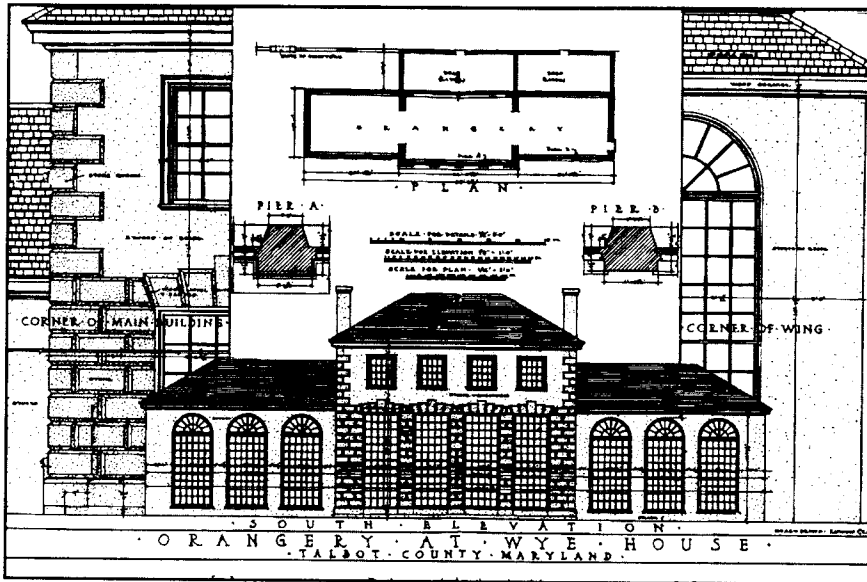
"It is the Custom in many Green Houses to set the Boxes upon Benches — But Mrs Carroll says they do better upon the Floor, because they then receive the Heat from the Flues below to more advantage . . ."

Recent archaeology confirms the information in Tilghman's letter of reply and his

accompanying sketch of the heating system — a series of underfloor ducts running along the south wall and back to a central chimney.

In October 1789, when the orangery at Mount Vernon was completed, Mrs. Carroll sent President Washington "five boxes, and twenty small pots of trees, and young plants; among which were two Shaddocks — One Lemon and One Orange, of from three to five feet in length; Nine small orange trees; Nine Lemon; One fine balm sented Shrub; two Potts of Aloes, and some tufts of knotted Marjoram" from her orangery.

Governor Horatio Sharpe maintained an orangery at his Annapolis residence. Sharpe arrived in Maryland in 1753 and rented Edmund Jennings house on the edge of Annapolis with four acres of gardens running down to the Severn River. The orangery may have been built by the Jennings family. We know Sharpe was using it by 1764 when Henry Callister of Talbot County tried



*Wye House orangery elevation and plan. Endpaper from Old Buildings, Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland, by Henry Chanlee Forman, Tidewater Publishers Cambridge, Maryland, 1967.*

flues run all around the House, the size of them without, and in the clear. Whether they join the wall, or are separate and distinct from it, if the latter, how far they are apart, with any other suggestions you may conceive necessary."

Tilghman's reply, on April 18, 1784, and accompanying sketch are considered prime documents in the history of the development of orangeries in America:

"Inclosed you will find answers to your Several Queries respecting the Green House including the order in which they were put, and that you may the better understand the Construction of Mrs Carroll's, I have made a rough Plan of the Manner of conducting the Flues — Your Floor being 40 feet long Mrs Carroll recommends two Flues to run up the Back Wall, because you may then increase the number of Flues which run under the Floor, and which she looks upon as essential — The trees are by that

to sell the governor a thermometer for it. This orangery was eighteen by eighteen feet and, like Mount Clare's, in the form of a pavilion with a hip roof and the chimney in the center.

As at Mount Clare, the governor's house and garden was a balanced composition. The house was fifty-two feet long with the orangery fifty-two feet to one side and a balancing eighteen-foot square building to the other. There were two shallow falls. It was fifty-two feet from the house to the first fall and twenty-six to the next where the orangery was located. There also was a mound on axis with the house by the river's edge.

Sharpe brought Dr. Upton Scott with him as his personal physician. In 1762, after Scott's marriage to an heiress, he built a grand house on two acres. Dr. Scott was noted as one of the foremost gardeners in colonial Annapolis. Sometime between 1762 and 1775, he built a fourteen by thirty-foot orangery in his garden. There are numerous contemporary references about Dr. Scott's garden and the plants it contained.

Belair, in Prince George's County, was built for another governor, Samuel Ogle, in the mid-1740s. The next generation of the family added a fifteen by twenty-eight foot orangery to the east end of the house. Archaeology has unearthed the heating duct that ran along its long south wall.

In some respects, Belair's original plan was more English than American. Although a plantation house, it had a basement kitchen. When the son of the builder built a forty-foot square kitchen and laundry building away from the house, he was able to utilize the flue of the former basement kitchen to heat the new orangery. Belair also sat above a series of broad falls with a wide lawn by the house. The house and lawn survive, but the falls and great avenue of tulip poplars leading down to the old highway are now enveloped by a housing development.

There also was an orangery at Richard Lee's plantation, Blenheim,



overlooking the Potomac River in Charles County. Blenheim, built circa 1756, had the greatest value of any private house in that county in the Federal Direct Tax of 1798, but little is known of this important house that burned in the late nineteenth century. The

garden was described in the 1780s as "walled with brick (except about two hundred feet which has fallen down two years ago)." Clearly a prime site for garden archaeology.

The last of the Maryland orangeries was the one at Hampton in Baltimore County. It was built by Charles Carnan Ridgely in the middle 1820s, or by his son in the early 1830s. It may have been designed by Robert Cary Long, a prominent architect at the time in Baltimore. The orangery was added to an existing garden and appeared, if one squinted enough, as a Greek temple set against a backdrop of trees. This orangery had a wood floor above a crawl space. The underfloor duct, running along the south and east sides, also heated the crawl space, thus giving a more even heat to the entire floor than in the earlier orangeries. There was a low shed at the west end, out of sight from the mansion, for the furnace and fuel storage. Against the north wall was a small vestibule so one could enter or leave the orangery with a minimum of heat loss.

When Hampton was completed in 1790 it was the largest house in Maryland and its gardens were intended to be equally impressive. There is some evidence that William Birch may have been partially responsible for the design of the falling garden. When the orangery was constructed, it cut



*Mount Clare — detail of Charles Willson Peale painting. Orangery to the left — Ice House to the right. Private collection.*

through one of the lead, underground watering pipes dating from the original garden layout.

In the summer, the plants were taken out of the orangery and set along serpentine gravel paths in the gardens. Mr. Stewart Ridgely, who grew up at Hampton in the late nineteenth century, said that on rainy summer days the children would be sent out from the house to roller skate on the wood floor of the empty orangery.

The Hampton orangery burned in 1928 and was rebuilt in 1976. At its completion, Mrs. Morgan Shiller, then owner of Wye House, gave her last two orange trees to Hampton, thus completing the circle of the history of orangeries in Maryland. ✦

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[This article is an expanded version of Michael Trostel's lecture, "The Conservatory at Wye," published in Tidewater Tapestry: the SGHS fourteenth-annual conference proceedings.]

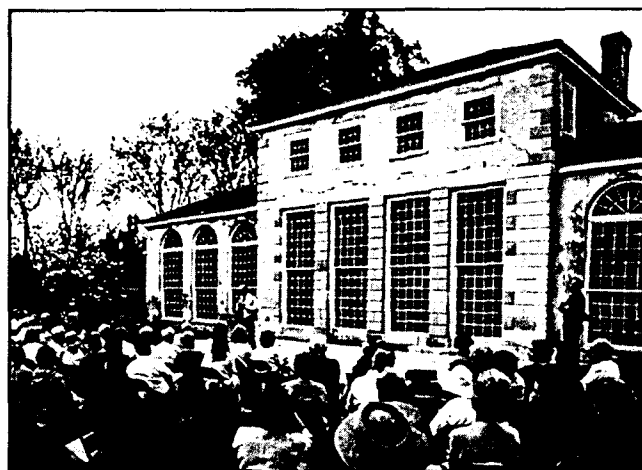


photo by Ken McFarland

Mount Vernon's Dean Norton addressing SGHS members in front of the orangery at Wye House.

## Annual Spring SGHS Board Meeting

At the spring meeting held May 10th, immediately preceeding the annual meeting in Easton, Maryland, plans were reviewed for the fifteenth-annual meeting to be held in Tallahassee, Florida, March 21st-23rd, 1997, with Mrs. Edwin W. Broderson (Weej) as chair and the Margaret E. Wilson Foundation as host at Goodwin Plantation. It was noted also that the 1998 annual meeting will be in Asheville, North Carolina, with Biltmore Estate as host. The date has yet to be set.

Dr. William C. Welch, chair of the publications committee, reported on the status of the translation and research background for *Nouveau Jardinier de la Louisiane*, an 1838 book on Louisiana gardening written in French by J. F. Lelievre of New Orleans.

It was reported that, at the request of the publications committee, SGHS member Isabel Bartenstein of Mendham, New Jersey, has been promoting the sales of *Magnolia Essays Number One*, by writing departments of landscape architecture at various schools throughout the country.

The fall board meeting is scheduled for November 1st-3rd at Brookgreen Gardens, Murrells Inlet, South Carolina, with board member Lawrence Henry and his wife as hosts. ✦

# Society Visits Maryland's Eastern Shore for Annual Meeting

by Kenneth M. McFarland, Hillsborough, North Carolina

A magnificent eighteenth-century green house (orangery), houses redolent of English Palladianism, and breathtaking Eastern Shore landscapes were but some of the features attracting members of the Southern Garden History Society to Maryland for our fourteenth-annual meeting. Ed and Nan Shull, with the invaluable assistance of such knowledgeable local residents as Georgia Adler, worked literally for years to organize the event, but their efforts more than paid off in a function that maintained in every way the reputation for excellence that hallmarks the Society's yearly gatherings. (Society members who attended the 1985 Annapolis meeting may recall the exhibit set up in Easton by Ms. Adler, then director of the Historical Society of Talbot County, called "The Art of Gardening: Maryland Landscapes and the American Garden Aesthetic, 1730-1930.") Lending aid at every point too were members of the Historical Society of Talbot County whose offices and buildings in Easton provided both meeting spaces and a staging point for the meeting activities.



*Ed Shull—the everhelpful conference coordinator—protects Dean Norton from the impending storm.*

As has become the norm for our annual meeting, those activities included an array of formal presentations, tours, meals, and social



functions. In the first category, members attended sessions led by highly-respected garden historians, as well as leading authorities on the historic architecture and landscapes of Maryland. Keynoting the event

Friday afternoon was Baltimore native Eleanor Weller, whose slides from the Archive of American Gardens reminded members both of the wealth of visual material available at the Smithsonian and of Ms. Weller's and Mac Griswold's seminal book *The Golden Age of American Gardens*. While Ms. Weller's talk was geographically wide ranging in its review of gardens and garden styles, the next speaker, Pete Leshner of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, reminded us of the wealth of history to be studied right in Easton and Talbot County — a point that subsequent tours more than supported.

The evenings formal annual dinner at the Tidewater Inn included recognition of Flora Ann Bynum, whose years of tireless work as secretary-treasurer continues to be the backbone of our Society. Conference coordinator Ed Shull then made a toast to honor the memory of St. Claire Wright of Annapolis. In his tribute to her major work in the restoration of the William Paca Gardens, Mr. Shull dedicated the entire annual meeting to "the wit and grit" of this outstanding lady.

Friday's presentations, in turn, set the stage for the next morning when a battery of speakers, impressive by any standard, examined in detail the buildings and their settings that comprise Maryland's historic cultural landscape. Gathering now in Easton's restored Avalon Theatre, members heard first from Orlando Rideout of the Maryland Historic Trust. Beginning with pre-contact Native American habitation practices and continuing on into the railroad age, Mr. Rideout scrutinized the interaction between peoples and landscapes that had shaped the appearance of first the Maryland countryside and later the region's towns and cities. Peter Kurtze, also of the Maryland Historical Trust, then narrowed the discussion to examine the range of buildings, small and large, that typify Maryland's vernacular and high-style architecture — and indeed setting the stage for several of the sites to be toured later in the program. Fittingly, the morning's presentations then concluded with Barbara Wells

Sarudy of the Maryland Humanities Council, who examined area gardening practices. Her audience was treated to a series of stunning garden/landscape scenes, many of which appear in regional furniture decorative schemes.

Despite such an excellent introduction, however, neither lectures nor slides could do full justice to the gardens and houses scheduled for afternoon visits. Following lunch at Third Haven Meeting House — including a gracious introduction to both the structure and the history of local Friends' meetings — Society members toured a series of sites long connected to the Tilghman and Lloyd families. At Hope, a house of the late eighteenth century built by Peregrine Tilghman with early twentieth-century gardens established by William and Ida Starr, we were hosted by current owners, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Stifel. Next, Wye Heights, with its early ha-ha and magnificent array of garden rooms, offered a look at the combination of gardens and waterscapes that make this area of Maryland so interesting.



For those fond of Palladian architectural forms as well as early garden sites and structures, Wye House then presented a perfect location to conclude the day. Here Society members not only visited the circa

1784 dwelling of Edward Lloyd IV, with its awe-inspiring temple form center block and early library that included such works as Philip Miller's *The Gardener's Dictionary*, but they also were treated to a close examination of the only eighteenth-century orangery extant in the country. Confronting truly ominous weather, Baltimore architect Michael Trostel and Mount Vernon horticulturist Dean Norton then nonetheless braved the elements to examine both the Wye orangery specifically and early green house operations in general. [see Michael Trostel's article "The Maryland Orangeries" in this issue.]

Sunday's optional tours treated participants to Harleigh, Wye Hall, and Wye Plantation (presently the location of the Aspen Institute, a non-profit educational organization). ♦

## A Plant List for the South

by Flora Ann L. Bynum, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

"We need a list of heirloom plants for the South," Peter commented to me this past March as we traveled together to an herb symposium in Greensboro, North Carolina, where Peter was to speak.

"Peter," I said, "that's something I have always wanted to do. We need such a list so badly. I get constant inquiries in the SGHS headquarters asking about appropriate plants for garden restorations."

Thus began a discussion on how to go about achieving such a list. We know that many people throughout the South are working on heirloom plant lists currently. A compilation of these various lists would be a good first step. The person sending in a list should be responsible for the correct botanical names and for supplying background data, such as where

and when the plant was first noted in a Southern garden, Southern nursery, or other reference. The lists sent in should be primary listing of plants documented for that particular area or site.

A major decision would be how to divide the various climatic regions of the South, which range from the upper Southern states, to tropical regions of Florida, to the deep South, and to the western areas of Texas.

We debated whether or not to have a cut-off date of 1820 and if the lists should only include plants in common usage, or if obscure plants should be noted as well. Although we did not resolve these issues on the short ride from my house to Greensboro, we are very excited about the usefulness of this undertaking. Please send your ideas to me at SGHS headquarters. If you have a list for your area to share, please send it along. **Let us hear from you! ♦**

## New SGHS Officers and Board Members



Dr. William C. Welch of College Station, Texas was elected president of the Southern Garden History Society at its annual meeting in May. Peter J. Hatch of Charlottesville, Virginia was elected vice-president, and Flora Ann Bynum of Winston-Salem, North Carolina was re-elected secretary-treasurer. William Lanier Hunt of Chapel Hill, North Carolina continues as honorary president.

Dr. Welch has served on the society's board since 1988 and has been vice-president under Ben Page for the past two years. He is an extension landscape specialist in the department of horticulture at Texas A&M University. The author of *Perennial Garden Color*, *Antique Roses for the South*, and co-author of *The Southern Heirloom Garden*, he is a frequent speaker on heirloom plants and gardens of the South.

Mr. Hatch is director of gardens and grounds at Monticello, a position he has held since 1977. He has overseen the restoration of Thomas Jefferson's grove, vegetable and fruit gardens, vineyards, and north orchard, and the conception and development of the Center for Historic Plants. He lectures nationally and his writings have appeared in numerous periodicals. He has served on the SGHS board since 1986.

The membership elected four new board directors: Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess of Natchez, Mississippi, Dr. Edgar G. Givhan, II of Montgomery, Alabama, Harriet Jansma of Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Barbara Wells Sarudy of Monkton, Maryland.

Dr. Boggess is president and project director of Archaeologists Unlimited, a non-profit corporation with offices in Natchez and Tucson, Arizona. Her personal speciality is historic archaeology, especially landscape archaeology of the plantation South. She is presently engaged in several writing projects, including a history of gardens and gardening in the Natchez District. She has a Ph.D. in classical archaeology.

In addition to an active medical practice in hematology, Dr. Givhan is co-owner of Commercial Garden Design, a firm designing English-style gardens for the deep South, has published two garden books, and lectures on horticulture and garden history. He was chair of two SGHS annual meetings, one in Montgomery and one in Mobile, Alabama, served on the SGHS board from 1984 to 1995, and was president 1988-90.

Mrs. Jansma is communications director, University Relations, of the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. She is a published researcher/writer and she lectures frequently. Most recently she co-wrote with C. Allan Brown, "Landscape Gardening in the South: Changes in Residential Site Design in a Nineteenth-Century Southern Town," which was published in the summer 1996 issue of the *Journal of Garden History*. She served on the SGHS board from 1984 to 1993 and was SGHS president for 1990-92. She also was editor of *Magnolia* from 1984-1990.

Dr. Sarudy is executive director of the Maryland Humanities Council in Baltimore, Maryland and president of the Coalition for Maryland History and Culture, Inc. Her research interests are in American gardens from the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries. The July-September 1989 issue of the *Journal of Garden History* devoted an entire issue to Dr. Sarudy's essays on "Eighteenth-Century Gardens of the Chesapeake." Dr. Sarudy, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, was a speaker for the annual meeting of SGHS in Easton, Maryland (May 1996).

Under the society's revised bylaws adopted in April 1993, directors serve a three-year term and then rotate off the board, but they can be reelected after a one-year absence. The directors who rotated off this year were Glenn Haltom of Natchez, Catherine Howett of Atlanta, Georgia, and M. Edward Shull of Catonsville, Maryland. Florence Griffin of Atlanta, who was an ex-officio board member as immediate past president, went off the board and Ben G. Page, Jr. of Nashville, Tennessee became ex-officio member as immediate past president.

Directors returning to the board for another term are James I. Borganier of Montgomery; Betsy Crusel of New Orleans, Louisiana; Louise Gunn of Atlanta; Nancy F. Haywood of Houston, Texas;

*continued on page 11...*

## In Print

### OLD SOUTHERN APPLES

by Creighton Lee Calhoun, Jr. The McDonald & Woodward Publishing Company, 1995. 350 pp. 70 color and black and white drawings. cloth \$49.95; paperback \$39.95. ISBN 0-939923-59-9

Author Lee Calhoun was first introduced to Southern Garden History Society members through his fascinating article on "A History of Southern Apples" published in *Magnolia* (Vol. IX, No. 1, summer/fall 1992). In *Old Southern Apples*, Mr. Calhoun greatly expands his overview of the history and uses of apples in the South from Maryland to Texas and Florida to Arkansas. Although apples became a major commercial crop in parts of the South during the late nineteenth century, southern farmers grew apples as a year-round food source for three centuries. Southerners developed unique apple varieties adapted to the climate and soils of this region through the selection and grafting of wild seedlings. These distinct varieties, numbering more than 1300, were suited to specific uses such as drying, cider, apple butter, and winter keeping. The book begins with the history, culture, and uses of apples in the agrarian South. An exhaustive compilation of apple varieties grown in the South before 1928 follows. The more than 1600 varieties examined are divided into extant and extinct groups, and all known facts concerning the history and descriptions of each apple are given, including a listing of synonyms. The book also includes forty-eight color plates painted by United States Department of Agriculture staff artists between 1880 and 1930, which were selected from the vast archives of the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland. The author pays tribute to the North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX) and their publication, *Pomona*, which served as inspiration for Lee and his wife Edith. (Anyone wishing to join NAFEX can write Jill Vorbeck, Route 1, Box 94, Chapin, Illinois 62628.) Lee and Edith Calhoun presently own and operate a small nursery in Pittsboro, North Carolina, that specializes in old southern apple varieties.



### THE GARDENING BOOK of James L.

Hunter, *A Southern Planter* by Catherine Howett. American Botanist, publishers, 1996. 46 pages, paperback. \$18.00. ISBN 0-929332-059

This garden manuscript from antebellum Georgia features the Hunter family, who were influential in raising the educational and social standards of Georgia and Alabama. These gardening records kept by James Hunter, the son of General John L. Hunter, provide a rare glimpse into the types of plants and gardening practices used during this early period. Catherine Howett, professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Georgia, and SGHS board member, has written an in-depth survey of the people, times, and significance of horticulture in the antebellum South. The book, printed on acid-free paper in a numbered, limited edition of 400 copies, can be ordered directly through the American Botanist booksellers, P. O. Box 532, Chillicothe, IL 61523. Please include \$1.25 shipping.

### THE ORGANIC ROSE GARDEN by Liz Druitt.

Taylor Publishing Company, 1996. Hardcover. 210 pages, 175+ color photographs by Virginia Brown. \$21.00. ISBN 0-87833-906-X.

Liz Druit, formerly of the Antique Rose Emporium and coauthor with its owner, Michael Shoup, of *Landscaping With Antique Roses*, is a familiar figure among the ranks of active SGHS members. She has not only written countless articles on the topic of heirloom roses (including a lead article for *Magnolia*, Vol. X, No. 3, 1994, "Cherchez Le Musk"), but also hosts an environmentally focused PBS garden show, *The New Garden*. Foremost, Ms. Druit is an experienced rose gardener and she writes compellingly from that experience. Throughout *The Organic Rose Garden*, the author breathes new life into the complex histories of roses, revealing their romance and our sheer passion in growing them — "Our species is plain addicted to *their* species." While the book considers many modern types, the old roses comprise the bulk of text, which includes introduction dates and first rate photographs of the blossoms. Curiously, the pages of the "Quick Reference Chart for Garden Form" are not numbered, making the use of this otherwise valuable section a bit of a chore.



## Recent Publications of Note from the *Journal of Garden History*

**Bartram's Garden Catalogue of North American Plants, 1783.** *Journal of Garden History*. Vol. 16, No. 1, January—March 1996. edited by John Dixon Hunt. Taylor & Francis Ltd. 66 pages. paper. ISBN 0144 5170

**New Perspectives on Southern Gardens.** *Journal of Garden History*, Vol. 16, No. 2, April—June 1996. guest edited by C. Allan Brown. Taylor & Francis Ltd. 152 pages. paper. ISBN 0144 5170

The prestigious international quarterly, *Journal of Garden History*, has just published back-to-back issues of eminent interest to the serious scholar of garden history in America. The first, a detailed annotation and analysis of John Bartram's premier nursery outside Philadelphia during the late eighteenth century, can be purchased directly from Bartram's Gardens by writing: Historic Bartram's Garden, 54th St. and Lindbergh Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19143. The cost is \$19.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Also available, the "1783 Bartram Broadside" printed on 100% cotton paper in original antique type. The cost is \$15.00, or order both catalogue and broadside for \$30.00 plus s/h. For more information, call (215) 729-5281.

The most recent issue focuses exclusively on garden history of the South. Its four original essays plus introduction (by prominent members of the Southern Garden History Society) are highly researched, meticulously edited, and refreshingly regional in scope. The volume is rich in primary documentation on gardening, from the early Moravian settlement of Bethabara (1753-72) to the early twentieth-century gardening renaissance of the South. Copies will be available through the Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants by this fall. For more information, call (804) 984-9816.

Reviews of each of these publications will follow in upcoming issues of *Magnolia*. +

## New Officers

*continued from page 9...*

Lawrence Henry of Murrells Inlet, South Carolina; Shingo Manard of New Orleans; Kenneth M. McFarland of Hillsborough, North Carolina; J. Dean Norton of Mount Vernon, Virginia; Jane Symmes of Madison, Georgia; and Suzanne L. Turner of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. As editor of *Magnolia*, Peggy C. Newcomb of Charlottesville, Virginia serves also as an ex-officio member. +

— Flora Ann Bynum, secretary-treasurer



photo by Peggy Newcomb

SGHS members stroll towards the mansion at Wye Heights.

## Calendar

*continued from page 2...*

**March 21st-23rd, 1997.** Fifteenth-annual meeting of the Southern Garden History Society, in Tallahassee, Florida. For more information, contact conference coordinator Weej Broderson, 2469 B Grassroots Way, Tallahassee, FL 23211. Phone: (904) 656-1163.

**October 2nd-4th, 1997.** "Expanding and Redefining the Vision," the eleventh conference on Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes at Old Salem. The planning committee is currently soliciting suggestions and proposals for lectures, workshops, and panel discussions pertinent to the theme. Proposals should be submitted to the Landscape Conference, Old Salem, P. O. Box F, Salem Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27108. Deadline for consideration is September 30th, 1996.

## Members in the News



Atlanta's **Louise Richardson Allen** was profiled in the Jan./Feb. issue of *Southern Accents*. A longtime SGHS member, Mrs. Allen was cited for her profound influence on the development of the Atlanta History Center's park-like landscape. Since the 1940s, she has made an impact on local attitudes toward native plants and has helped to establish the *Atlanta Botanical Garden* and the *Southeastern Flower Show*.

*American Home Style and Gardening's* Feb./March issue includes an article on antique bulb dealer and northern SGHS member **Scott Kunst**, by another member and garden writer, **Marty Ross** of Kansas.

**Ben and Libby Page's** Nashville garden was featured in "Garden Retreat," an article by **Linda C. Askey** for the July issue of *Southern Living* magazine. Ben, our most recent past-president, and Libby have been active members of SGHS for many years.

The August issue of *Atlantic Monthly* magazine contains a profile of the life and gardening career of Monticello's **Peter Hatch**, who is our recently elected vice-president of SGHS. ♦

## Dues Notice

Dues notices were mailed in mid-July for the year May 1, 1996 through April 30, 1997. Members who have questions about their dues are asked to write society headquarters (see address below on mailer) or call the membership secretary, Kitty Walker, at (910) 721-7328, or the secretary-treasurer, Flora Ann Bynum, (910) 724-3125.

*Deadline for the submission of articles for the fall issue of Magnolia is September 30th.*

**Dr. William C. Welch, President**

**Peter J. Hatch, Vice-President**

**Flora Ann Bynum, Secretary-Treasurer**

**William Lanier Hunt, Honorary President**

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