

THE HEART OF EARLY AMERICAN HORTICULTURE

Charleston's best kept secret is its preeminence in early American horticultural history. There are other cities where significant advances were made, but none so broad-reaching and interesting as in Charleston. In terms of the depth of experimentation and the investment in developing a horticultural industry, as well as a culture of designed landscapes, Charleston reigns supreme in my book.

Suzanne Turner



Ornamental Parterre Garden at South Mulberry

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 34th Annual Meeting is limited to 175 Southern Garden History Society Members on a first-come, first-served basis. To join or renew your membership, visit www.southerngardenhistory.org. Registration is by mail only. Registrations will be accepted in the postmark date order.

The registration fee is \$400. This fee includes activities on Friday and Saturday, including lectures, transportation, tours, receptions and meals, as noted. Travel to Charles Towne Landing on Friday will be by carpool but we will provide transportation for those who do not have a vehicle. An additional \$125 fee is required for Sunday's optional tour. Cancellations made by March 31 will be eligible for a full refund. Refunds for cancellations after March 31 will be determined by available funds after all conference expenses have been paid.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The host hotel for all guests, programs and tour departures is the Francis Marion Hotel located at 387 King Street, Charleston, SC 29403. Cost is \$259 per night single or double occupancy. To receive this discounted rate register by Thursday, March 24, 2016. For reservations call the hotel at (843) 722-0600 or (877) 756-2121. To receive the discounted block rate, identify that you are with the **Southern Garden History Society**. Parking is \$16 per day (self park) or \$21 (valet). To cancel a room reservation the hotel must be notified one week prior to your scheduled check-in.

TRANSPORTATION

Charleston International Airport is located 12 miles from the Francis Marion Hotel. There are a variety of shuttle options from the airport to the downtown area. Go to ground transportation to locate a shuttle or taxi. The estimated taxi fare is \$30, while the cost of a shared shuttle is approximately \$14. The hotel provides return service only.

A DAY ON YOUR OWN

Charleston has such a rich history that it is impossible to include all of the area's wonderful properties on the meeting itinerary. We hope you will consider arriving early or staying an extra day. Suggested sites to visit include: Middleton Place, Drayton Hall, Magnolia Plantation & Gardens, Edmonston-Alston House, Nathaniel Russell House, Aiken-Rhett House and more. Visit our website or charlestoncvb.com for more information.

CONTACT

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2016

Annual Meeting of the **SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY**



Sowing the Seeds of Horticulture in America

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

April 22 - 24

34th Annual Meeting

southerngardenhistory.org

WELCOME

The 34th Annual Meeting of the **Southern Garden History Society** (SGHS) is set in the lovely coastal city of Charleston, South Carolina, April 22 - 24, 2016. We warmly welcome you to one of the South's most beautiful cities, featuring inspiring classical architecture, magnificent gardens and landscapes, and delicious southern cuisine.

SETTING

According to *The Gardens of Historic Charleston* by James R. Cothran, "No place in America is endowed with a horticultural heritage as rich and diverse as Charleston and the Lowcountry." Settled in 1670, Charleston represents the mecca of gardening for both current gardening trends and historic gardens and documentation. With its temperate climate, unique and well-preserved architecture, and exquisite gardens, it is one of the world's top cultural and historical destinations. Join us as we go behind the scenes to see some of the area's finest gardens while learning of our rich horticultural heritage.



High Battery

FRIDAY

We will kick off the meeting with several talks about the forces that shaped the rich landscape history of the Charleston area. Afterwards we will depart for Charles Towne Landing, where the first permanent European colony in the Carolinas was established. We will enjoy libations and a Lowcountry supper at Founders Hall, where the old meets the new in this Gold Certified LEED building set among a garden of native plants.



69 Church Street, Charleston



Walled Garden at South Mulberry

SATURDAY

On Saturday morning we will tour a variety of private gardens in the historic district, including several designed by Loutrel Briggs. We will visit Mrs. Whaley's famous Charleston garden, which is lovingly maintained by her daughter. We will visit several gardens inspired by historical precedents, including an intricate parterre garden at the home of Ben and Cindy Lenhardt.



A Charleston Garden Designed by Loutrel Briggs

Following lunch at Francis Marion we will depart for Mulberry Plantation, a historic property located between Charleston and Moncks Corner in rural Berkeley county. This National Historic Landmark plantation dates to 1714 and features wonderfully preserved rice fields, dikes and canals. The home is one of the best preserved examples of Jacobean baroque style architecture in the United States and is located on a high bluff overlooking the west bank of the Cooper River.

After touring Mulberry Plantation we will return to the city and enjoy cocktails and dinner at the Charleston Museum.

SUNDAY (OPTIONAL TOUR)

We will tour the Ashepoo, Combahee, and Edisto Basin, which is one of the largest undeveloped estuaries on the East Coast. Frequently called the ACE Basin, this area consists of over 134,000 acres in Colleton and Beaufort counties. The basin features beautiful lowland scenery punctuated with old rice plantations. During our tour we will visit White Hall, Cockfield and Rose Hill. We'll learn the unique history of the basin including the story of lowland rice production. Participants will enjoy a lunch overlooking the estuary and arrive back at the hotel by 5 p.m.



Ashepoo, Combahee, and Edisto Basin Conservation Area

PRESENTATIONS

During the conference there will be a variety of informative and scholarly presentations to acquaint you with the rich garden, architectural, and landscape history of the Charleston region. **Suzanne Turner** will provide an overview of Charleston garden history. **Nic Butler**, an interdisciplinary historian, will present a program entitled "Forgotten Gardens of Early Charleston." **David Shields** will discuss the production of food crops in the coastal region, while **Richard Porcher** will participate in the Sunday tour and talk about how the rice culture shaped the land. All four presenters are accomplished authors, and their publications will be available for purchase at the Preservation Society of Charleston, 147 King Street, along with a full selection of books and gifts local to Charleston and the Lowcountry.

