

CELEBRATING OUR PAST

**FOUR DECADES OF THE
SOUTHERN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY**



A COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM

CULTIVATING OUR FUTURE

PROLOGUE

The Southern Garden History Society was founded in 1982 by a small group of garden historians in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. They envisioned a society that fostered research, study, and a greater appreciation of historic landscapes and gardens across the South. From its modest beginning, the Society has prospered for forty years, thanks to the hard work, dedication, and commitment of many people. Today, we have over 500 passionate members spread across the United States. As we hold our thirty-eighth annual meeting, we celebrate a milestone for the society—our forty-year heritage.

In this commemorative program, we have highlighted the key leaders and early members who played a significant role in establishing a strong foundation for our Society. The honorees included in this program made significant contributions to the success we enjoy today. This program covers the first four decades of the Society's history with an emphasis on the first ten years, as it was during the opening decade that the Society began to prosper. We extend our gratitude to all who were involved in establishing our roots and look forward to the upcoming decades. As we move into the future, we do so with great respect for our past.

OUR FOUNDING

We owe a special debt of gratitude to our original founders and our founding board members. After William Lanier Hunt suggested the idea of creating a Southern Garden History Society, Flora Ann Bynum, and John B. Flowers III moved forward and started the Society. In the early years, our visionary founding board helped create a solid foundation for the Society to grow and prosper.

FOUNDERS

Flora Ann Bynum
John B. Flowers III
William Lanier Hunt

Winston-Salem, NC
Hendersonville, NC
Chapel Hill, NC

FOUNDING BOARD MEMBERS

Flora Ann Bynum
Pled Duncan Callicott
Hugh Graham Dargan
John B. Flowers III
Glenn L. Haltom
Catherine M. Howett
William Lanier Hunt (Honorary President)
Florence P. Griffin
Peter Edward Martin
Geraldine Meaders Moncrief
Gerald Shirley Powers
David H. Rembert Jr.
A. St. Clair Wright

Winston-Salem, NC
Franklin, TN
Atlanta, GA
Hendersonville, NC
Natchez, MS
Atlanta, GA
Chapel Hill, NC
Atlanta, GA
Elsah, IL
Monroe, NC
Houston, TX
Columbia, SC
Annapolis, MD

On the cover: Magnolia grandiflora, The Laurel Tree of Carolina from Catesby's Natural History, 1743. Reproduced courtesy of Rare Book Division, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Over the years, the board of directors has played a major role in the success of our Society. The members of our rotating, all-volunteer board have contributed their time, energy, and expertise to help make the Society the most respected regional garden history Society in the country. We extend our appreciation for their wisdom, insight, and guidance.

FORMER & CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Jeff Abt	Nacogdoches, TX	Sherold Hollingsworth	Winston-Salem, NC
Barbara Adkins	Harpersville, AL	Davyd Foard Hood	Vale, NC
Wayne Amos	Athens, GA	Catherine M. Howett	Atlanta, GA
Beate Ankjaer-Jensen	Fredericksburg, VA	Harriet H. Jansma	Fayetteville, AR
Linda Askey	Birmingham, AL	Lucy Lawliss	Fredericksburg, VA
Jim Barganier	Montgomery, AL	Anne Legett	Baton Rouge, LA
Cleo Barnwell	Shreveport, LA	A. Jefferson Lewis	Athens, GA
Bill Barrick	Mobile, AL	Shingo Manard	St. Francisville, LA
Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess	Natchez, LA	Adam Martin	Atlanta, GA
Charles Bradberry	Nacogdoches, TX	Peter Edward Martin	Elsah, IL
Flora Ann Bynum	Winston-Salem, NC	Perry Mathewes	Winchester, VA
Pled Duncan Callicott	Franklin, TN	Kenneth McFarland	Fredericksburg, VA
Anne Carr	Atlanta, GA	Patti McGee	Charleston, SC
Frances Carter	Tallahassee, Florida	Geraldine Meaders Moncrief	Monroe, NC
Staci Catron	Atlanta, GA	Dean Norton	Alexandria, VA
Gordon Chappell	Williamsburg, VA	Larry Paarlberg	Tallahassee, FL
Fletch Coke	Nashville, TN	Ben Page	Nashville, TN
Peggy Cornett	Charlottesville, VA	Kathleen Perilloux	Baton Rouge, LA
James R. Cothran	Atlanta, GA	Mary Anne Pickens	Katy, TX
Ruth Coy	Richmond, KY	Gerald Shirley Powers	Houston, TX
Betsy Crusel	New Orleans, LA	Sally Reeves	New Orleans, LA
Hugh Graham Dargan	Atlanta, GA	Jeanne Reid	Greenville, SC
Ced Dolder	Atlanta, GA	David H. Rembert Jr.	Columbia, SC
Marion Drummond	Baton Rouge, LA	Mollie Ridout	Annapolis, MD
Lee Dunn	Atlanta, GA	Will Rieley	Charlottesville, VA
Susan McLeod Epstein	Charleston, SC	Barbara Sarudy	Monkton, MD
Judith Flowers	Taylor, MS	Lee Bynum Schwall	Winston-Salem, NC
John B. Flowers III	Hendersonville, NC	Ed Shull	Catonsville, MD
Carla Foster	Crockett, TX	Peggy Singlemann	Richmond, VA
Belinda Gergel	Columbia, SC	Andrea Sprott	Charlotte, NC
Edgar G. Givhan II	Montgomery, AL	Justin Stelter	Nashville, TN
Greg Grant	Center, TX	John Sykes	Baton Rouge, LA
Florence P. Griffin	Atlanta, GA	Jane Campbell Symmes	Madison, GA
Gail Griffin	Bethesda, MD	Helen Tudor	Apalachicola, FL
Louise Gunn	Atlanta, GA	Suzanne Turner	Baton Rouge, LA
Glenn L. Haltom	Natchez, MS	Susan Urshel	Fort Worth, TX
Susan Haltom	Ridgeland, MS	Derek Wade	Charleston, SC
Randy Harelson	New Roads, LA	Bill Welch	College Station, TX
Peter Hatch	Charlottesville, VA	Jane Baber White	Lynchburg, VA
Nancy Haywood	Houston, TX	Carleton B. Wood	LaGrange, GA
Lawrence Henry	Murrells Inlet, SC	Anne St. Clair Wright	Annapolis, MD
Robert Hicks	Franklin, TN		
Susan Hitchcock	Columbia, SC		

SOCIETY ADMINISTRATORS

Virginia Hart (2010 - 2019) and Rebecca Hodson (2019 - Present)

LEADERSHIP

From the beginning, the Society has benefited from strong leadership. Since our founding, twenty different presidents have provided wise and stable guidance. Thanks to their commitment and direction, the society has prospered.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Pled Duncan Callicott	1983	Nashville, TN
John B. Flowers III	1984-86	Hendersonville, NC
Catherine M. Howett	1986-88	Atlanta, GA
Edgar G. Givhan II	1988-90	Montgomery, AL
Harriet H. Jansma	1990-92	Fayetteville, AR
Florence P. Griffin	1992-94	Atlanta, GA
Benjamin G. Page Jr.	1994-96	Nashville, TN
William C. Welch	1996-98	College Station, TX
Peter J. Hatch	1998-00	Charlottesville, VA
Kenneth M. McFarland	2000-02	Fredericksburg, VA
Gordon W. Chappell	2002-04	Williamsburg, VA
James R. Cothran	2004-06	Atlanta, GA
Mary Anne Pickens	2006-08	Columbus, TX
A. Jefferson Lewis III	2008-10	Athens, GA
J. Dean Norton	2010-12	Alexandria, VA
Staci L. Catron	2012-14	Atlanta, GA
Carleton B. Wood	2014-16	LaGrange, GA
Susan Haltom	2016-18	Ridgeland, MS
John Sykes	2018-20	Baton Rouge, LA
Perry Mathewes	2020-22	Winchester, VA

MAGNOLIA

From its humble beginning as *Hoe and Tell!* in 1983, the Society's quarterly bulletin has grown to become a highly respected professional publication. Renamed *Magnolia* in 1984, the publication has been a great success thanks to a small handful of people who have dedicated countless hours to its production. It has indeed become a publication that members eagerly look forward to receiving. We also thank all those who have contributed articles, calendar listings, meeting reviews, and other information to *Magnolia* over the years. In the early years the editor was assisted by a group of state editors. Occasionally, *Magnolia* has been augmented by *Magnolia Essays*, which were conceived to feature significant papers too long to publish in *Magnolia*. The Society has also partnered with several other organizations to publish proceedings and books on topics related to southern garden history.

MAGNOLIA EDITORS

Harriet H. Jansma	Editor
Peggy Cornett	Editor, Associate Editor
Kenneth M. McFarland	Editor, Associate Editor
Davyd Foard Hood	Book Review Editor
Staci L. Catron	Associate Editor
Catherine M. Howett	<i>Magnolia Essays</i> Editor
Barbara W. Sarudy	<i>Magnolia Essays</i> Editor

EARLY STATE EDITORS

Alabama, George R. Stritikus – Arkansas, Jane Crawford and Bill Hall – Florida, Mary A. Staab – Georgia, Lucy Lawliss – Louisiana, Dana Martin Currier – Maryland, M. Edward Shull – Mississippi, Glenn Haltom – North Carolina, Kenneth M. McFarland – South Carolina, Mary Palmer Dargan – Tennessee, Martha Bradley – Texas, William C. Welch – Virginia, J. Dean Norton – West Virginia, Pricilla Lawson

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The New Louisiana Gardener - Nouveau Jardinier de la Louisiane

1838 publication by Jacques-Felix Lelievre and translated into English by Sally Kittredge Reeves.

Published by LSU Press in cooperation with the Southern Garden History Society in 2001.

Residential Work of the Olmsted Firm in Georgia, 1893-1937

Spring 1993 edition of *Magnolia Essays*, Occasional Papers of the Southern Garden History Society, by Lucy Lawliss.

ANNUAL MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

The Society's annual meeting is an honored tradition that brings members together at unique locations across the South. The tradition began in 1983 with the first meeting in Atlanta, Georgia and continues today with our thirty-eighth annual meeting in Mount Vernon, Virginia. Each year a dedicated individual or group of individuals coordinate and organize the annual meeting. Thank you for welcoming the Society into your communities and sharing your gardens with our members.

ANNUAL MEETING LOCATIONS & COORDINATORS

1983	Atlanta, GA	Florence P. Griffin and Anne C. Carr
1984	Natchez, MS	Glenn L. Haltom
1985	Annapolis, MD	A. St. Clair Wright
1986	Montgomery, AL	Edgar G. Givhan II, Peggy Givhan, and George R. Stritikus
1987	Monticello, Charlottesville, VA	Peter J. Hatch and Peggy Cornett
1988	Nashville, TN	Ben and Libby Page
1989	Savannah, GA	Mary Helen Ray
1990	Mount Vernon, VA	J. Dean Norton (Mount Vernon Ladies' Association)
1991	St. Francisville, LA	E. "Shingo" Dameron Manard and Suzanne L. Turner (Betsy Crusel and Carol Pettit)
1992	Charleston, SC	Hugh Graham Dargan and Mary Palmer Dargan
1993	Washington/Fayette Counties, TX	William C. Welch and Diane Welch (Nancy F. Haywood, Harley Ponder, and Jayme Ponder)
1994	Williamsburg, VA	Gordon W. Chappell and Lawrence Henry
1995	Mobile, AL	Edgar G. Givhan II and Holle Briskman
1996	Easton, MD	M. Edward Shull and Nan Shull
1997	Tallahassee, FL	Janet "Weej" W. Broderson
1998	Biltmore Estate, Asheville, NC	William Alexander
1999	Houston, TX	Nancy F. Haywood, Linda Hughes, Susan Keeton, Jayme Ponder, Betty Schoolar, Richard Skinner, Gloria Skinner, William C. and Diane Welch
2000	Mount Vernon, VA	J. Dean Norton, Gail Griffin, and Wayne Amos
2001	Tryon Palace, New Bern, NC	Perry Mathewes, Frances D. Inglis, and Carleton B. Wood
2002	Natchez, MS	Elizabeth M. Boggess, Rose Godfrey, and Anne MacNeil
2003	Atlanta, GA	Ced Dolder (Anne C. Carr, Staci L. Catron, James R. Cothran, Mary Palmer Dargan, Mary Ann Eaddy, Louise S. Gunn, Pat Hargrett, Chris Hastings, Susan Hitchcock, Mary "Tunkie" Miller, Rebecca Moore, Tevi Taliaferro, and Jennifer Yankopolus)
2004	New Orleans, LA	Betsy Crusel, Sally K. Reeves and Louise C. Hoffman
2005	Fredericksburg, VA	Beate Jensen and Kenneth M. McFarland (Gail Griffin, J. Dean Norton, M. Edward Shull, Nan Shull, Wayne Amos, Decca Frackelton, Carter Frackelton, Peggy Cornett, and Phillip Watson)
2006	Fort Worth, TX	Susan Urshel
2007	Annapolis, MD	Mollie Ridout, Gail Griffin, Wayne Amos, and M. Edward Shull
2008	Athens, GA	A. Jefferson Lewis III and James R. Cothran
2009	Camden, SC	Davyd Foard Hood, Lisa Taylor Towell, and Sallie Iselin
2010	Mount Vernon, VA	J. Dean Norton (Mount Vernon Ladies' Association)
2011	Baton Rouge, LA	Marion Drummond, Anne Legett, and John Sykes
2012	Richmond, VA	J. Dean Norton
2013	Lynchburg, VA	Jane Baber White (Heidi James, Mina Wood, Nancy Marion, Melanie Christian, Jessica Ward, Mary Kathryn McIntosh, Foxie Morgan, Betty Sue Brown, Leigh Giles, Kay Van Allen, Ted Delaney, Tom Burford, and Al Chambers)
2014	Savannah, GA	Lucy Hitch (Caroline Harrington, Helen Marshall, Hugh Golson, Diane Saturday, Jan Bradley, Ron Melander, Cathy Adler, Susan Myers, Barbie Lientz, Helen Johnson, and Pat Tuttle)
2015	Nashville, TN	Justin Stelter, Ben and Libby Page
2016	Charleston, SC	Susan Epstein (Sallie Avice du Buisson, Nic Butler, Sallie Duell, Mollie Fair, Nancy Small Frederick, Winslow Hastie, Karen Padgett Prewitt, Derek Wade, Kathy Wade, and others)
2017	Lexington, KY	Leslie James (Jan Meyer, Jennifer Steen, Sue Fosson, Margaret Lane, Dede McGehee, Ruth Coy, Susan Daole, Peggy Graddy, Kathy Gross, Robert James, Bob James, Phil Meyer, Jackie Prewitt, Bonnie Rumble, Esther von Unrug, Susan Wade)
2018	Jacksonville, FL	Marianne Salas (Carolyn Lindsay, Magi Taber, Joan and Preston Haskell, Mary Pietan, and Holly Keris)
2019	Birmingham, AL	Alleen Carter (Norman Johnson, Mike Rushing, Louise Wrinkle, Cathy Adams, Barbara Adkins, Jason Kirby, Katherine Pearson, June Mays)
2022	Mount Vernon, VA	J. Dean Norton and Gail Griffin

PRIOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Society periodically presents awards to individuals who have provided outstanding service to the Society or who have significantly advanced its mission and goals. The Flora Ann Bynum award is the highest award bestowed for service to the Society, while the William Lanier Hunt award is the highest award presented for a lifetime of service to the field. The Certificate of Merit is awarded to both members or non-members who have made a significant contribution to the field. Honorary Director may be bestowed on individuals who have rendered exceptional service to the Society.

FLORA ANN BYNUM MEDAL

Flora Ann Bynum (2005)
Peggy Cornett (2008)
Peter J. Hatch (2012)
Gail Griffin (2014)
J. Dean Norton (2016)

William C. Welch (2016)
Davyd Foard Hood (2018)
Gordon Chappell (2019)
Kenneth McFarland (2022)

WILLIAM LANIER HUNT AWARD

Suzanne Turner (2019)

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Margaret Page Bemiss (2010)
Janet W. "Weej" Broderson (2010)
Evelyn "Patti" McGee (2010)
Jane Baber White (2010)
James R. Cothran (2011)
Davyd Foard Hood (2012)

Marion Drummond (2013)
Frances D. Inglis (2014)
Catherine Howett (2015)
Sally Gant (2018)
Norman Kent Johnson (2019)
Susan Haltom (2022)

HONORARY DIRECTORS

Staci L. Catron (2019)
A. Jefferson Lewis III (2014)
Jane Campbell Symmes (2012)
Kenneth M. McFarland (2010)
Mary Anne Pickens (2010)
William C. Welch (2002)
Benjamin G. Page Jr. (2002)
Edgar G. Givhan II (2002)
Florence P. Griffin (2002)

Atlanta, GA
Athens, GA
Madison, GA
Fredericksburg, VA
Columbus, TX
College Station, TX
Nashville, TN
Montgomery, AL
Atlanta, GA

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Over the years, numerous members have provided invaluable financial support for the Society. Thanks to the commitment of many generous people, the Society moves into its fourth decade with a solid financial base. The lifetime members listed below have demonstrated a particularly strong commitment to the Society. We are also extremely grateful for the patron and benefactor level members who have supported the Society over the years.

Jeff Abt
Fred Bartenstein
Hugh Graham Dargan and Mary Palmer Dargan
Greg Grant
Louise S. Gunn
Judith M. Hanes
Nancy F. Haywood
Barbara B. Manard

E. "Shingo" Dameron Manard
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. McGee
Lucy A. McGinnis
Dr. Ruby O. Osborne
Mrs. Walter M. Robinson Jr.
Deen Day Sanders
Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stromeyer
Linda M. Williams

CHARTER MEMBERS

One-hundred seventeen early supporters joined the Society between May of 1982 and May of 1983. By joining during the first year of the Society's formation, they are our official charter members. To them we express a debt of gratitude. The charter member list was reprinted from the twentieth commemorative edition of *Magnolia*, published in the fall of 2002.

Robert L. Ables, Charleston, SC
Mrs. Ivan Allan Jr., Atlanta, GA
Mrs. W. B. Barnes Jr., Columbia, MS
Mrs. Cleo Barnwell, Shreveport, LA
Mrs. James C. Barrett, Flat Rock, NC
Mrs. James A. Biggs, Natchez, MS
Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham, AL
Mrs. John J. Bond, Boone, NC
Mrs. R. L. Boxwell, Greensboro, GA
Dr. Martha W. Bradlye, Johnson City, TN
Mrs. Duncan Briggs, Jackson, MS
C. Allan Brown, Little Rock, AR
Allen W. Bush, Fletcher, NC
Mrs. Zachary T. Bynum Jr., Winston-Salem, NC
Janice Priester Byrne, Natchez, MS
Mrs. W. F. Calhoun, Natchez, MS
Mrs. Richard A. Campbell, Natchez, MS
Mrs. Julian S. Carr, Atlanta, GA
Charles L. Clemons, Montgomery, AL
Jane C. Crawford, Fayetteville, AR
Hugh G. Dargan Jr., Charleston, SC
Mrs. Ovid R. Davis, Atlanta, GA
Robert B. DeMaine, Chapel Hill, NC
Dunaway Gardens Restoration, Inc., Newnan, GA
Edith Eddleman, Durham, NC
Mrs. Edward D. Eidt, Vidalia, LA
Mrs. James P. Evans Jr., Jackson, MS
Mrs. U. B. Evans, Ferriday, LA
Cynthia L. Fechner, Charlottesville, VA
Mrs. Charles C. Feltus, Natchez, MS
Edna W. Ferguson, Natchez, MS
Mrs. I. J. Florence, Natchez, MS
Mrs. Thomas Florence, Marietta, GA
Mrs. Graydon Flowers Sr., Mattson, MS
Mrs. Graydon Flowers Jr. Dublin, MS
John Baxton Flowers III, Durham, NC
Susan Bliss Frett, Southern Pines, NC
Mrs. Thomas H. Gandy, Natchez, MS
H. Hal Garner, Vidalia, LA
Dr. Edgar G. Givhan, Montgomery, AL
Mrs. Frank Gladney, Baton Rouge, LA
Cynthia E. Grant, Columbia, SC
Mrs. Robert W. Graves, Jackson, MS
Mrs. John T. Green, Natchez, MS
Thomas M. Greene, Southern Pines, NC
Helen C. Griffith, Atlanta, GA
Mrs. William W. Griffin, Atlanta, GA
Mrs. Saul Habas, Natchez, MS
Mrs. Robert B. Haltom, Natchez, MS
Carol S. Hancock, Demorest, GA
Mrs. Haines Hargrett, Atlanta, GA
Mrs. Carl Hartrampf Jr., Atlanta, GA
Madalene Hill, Cleveland, TX
Mrs. Francis W. Howe, Pinehurst, NC
Catherine M. Howett, Atlanta, GA
Karen Humeniuk Landscape Design, Greenville, SC
William Lanier Hunt, Chapel Hill, NC

Mrs. Jerome Jansma, Fayetteville, AR
Mrs. Thomas P. Jerman, Pinehurst, NC
Mrs. David Laufer, Atlanta, GA
Mrs. O. T. Loflin Jr., Ferriday, LA
Sally-Bruce McClatchey, Atlanta, GA
John F. McEllen, Savannah, GA
Mrs. Max McLaurin, Jackson, MS
Mrs. Robert McMillan, Winston-Salem, NC
Mrs. Cecil C. Malone Jr., Atlanta, GA
Roy W. Mann Jr., Rome, GA
Mrs. H. D. Meaders, Marietta, GA
Mrs. B. R. Moore, Atlanta, GA
Mrs. J. W. Moncrief Jr., Monroe, NC
Joseph C. Morris, Rockingham, NC
Mrs. Ronald A. Moss, Mount Pleasant, MI
M. C. "Mac" Newsom III, Raleigh, NC
J. Dean Norton, Mount Vernon, VA
Mrs. Edwin Bennett Ogden, Natchez, MS
Ben and Libby Page, Nashville, TN
Philip S. Page, Winston-Salem, NC
Mrs. Owen T. Palmer, Gulfport, MS
Gerald S. Powers, Houston, TX
William G. Randles, Hermitage, TN
Mrs. Charles E. Ratcliffe, Natchez, MS
Mrs. George V. Ray, Savannah, GA
Mrs. Warren D. Reimers, Jackson, MS
Dr. David H. Rembert Jr., Columbia, SC
Mrs. J. M. Reynolds, Greensboro, GA
Mrs. Whit Robinson, Natchez, MS
Ellen R. Samuels, New York, NY
Susan E. Schnare, Athens, GA
Susanne A. Schrage, Mount Vernon, VA
Nancy Nye Schroll, Charlottesville, VA
Mrs. R. L. Scott, Jonesville, LA
Ms. Elaine T. Segner, Raleigh, NC
Stella R. Sharp, Natchez, MS
Joyce G. Shipp, Rochelle, GA
M. Edward Shull, Catonsville, MD
Jeannie Taylor Sims, Savannah, GA
Mrs. Fred Smithdeal, Winston-Salem, NC
Mrs. Edward V. Staab, Chapel Hill, NC
George R. Stritikus, Montgomery, AL
Mrs. John C. Symmes, Madison, GA
Mrs. Clifford Tillman, Natchez, MS
Mrs. C. R. Tillman, Natchez, MS
Mrs. LeDare H. Thompson, Columbia, SC
Ken Traynham, Chapel Hill, NC
Mary Walton Upchurch, Montgomery, AL
Susan E. Urshel, Greensboro, NC
Mrs. J. F. Walter, Atlanta, GA
Mrs. Frank H. Weller, Monkton, MD
Mrs. Thomas L. Williams Jr., Thomasville, GA
Mrs. Charles T. Wilson, Durham, NC
Mrs. Samuel L. Winston Jr., Vidalia, LA
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lambdin Winston III, Vidalia, LA
Mrs. Charles K. Wright, Atlanta, GA
Col. and Mrs. J. M. P. Wright, Annapolis, MD

PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY

WILLIAM LANIER HUNT, F.R.H.S.

Specialist in Southern Gardening and Civic Beautification

The Hunt Arboretum

Lectures

P.O. Box 637 Chapel Hill, N.C.
Sept. 22, '79

Short Courses

Mr. John B. Flowers
Stagville Preservation Center
P. O. Box 15628
Durham, N. C. 27704

Mrs. Zachary T. Bynum
832 South Main Street
Winston-Salem, N. C. 27101

Dear John and Flora Ann:

I have not been idle concerning the Southern Garden History Society. I thought I had better get this thing together as soon as possible. The incorporating papers are in preparation, and I have been talking to people over the South about it and found a great deal of interest from people who will really carry it out.

It seems to me that we should go ahead, now, as you say, and prepare the necessary documents for action. I have set up the corporation (I suppose you realize that the Society must be a tax free corporation) in North Carolina and my lawyers are working on the details. This is "old stuff" to me after having set up the Botanical Garden Foundation. Getting it tax free was a gruelling experience!

I am hoping that you two will be willing to be incorporators with me. It is being set up with me as President, and I await your consent to be officers. My lawyers say we need three, and I hope that you two will be Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer. In the event that they insist upon separate Secretary and Treasurer, who would suggest for the fourth person?

At our first meeting, we should set up some By-laws unless they insist upon by-laws in the incorporating papers. I shall send you my suggestions for purpose of the Society. Naturally it should read something like: For the study and enjoyment of garden history in the Southern States.

My region in which I have been functioning since 1927 has been Va., N. C., S. C., Ga., Ala., Miss., La., Texas, Ark., Tenn., Ken., W. Va. I do not think Oklahoma fits very well.

I have been studying locations for archives. Had a discussion with Dr. Carolyn Andrews Wallace, and we are going into this matter more thoroughly this week...next. The matter of archives need not concern us too much until we have the Society going. In England, we now have a separate set-up for garden plans, etc. Peter Hunt gave me his proposals some years ago, and we tried to get some institution interested. Even Dumbarton Oaks turned it down, but I have a warm connection up there. For a Southern society, Washington is too far north. Paper is running out. I shall be in touch.

Private Plant Collection at Chapel Hill

Sincerely,

Bill Hunt

1979 letter from Bill Hunt to Mrs. Zachary T. Bynum and Mr. John B. Flowers III concerning the formation of the Southern Garden History Society.
Courtesy of Lee Bynum Schwall.

The purpose of the Southern Garden History Society shall be to encourage and promote scholarship of southern garden and landscape history, historical horticulture, and the preservation and restoration of historic gardens and landscapes in the South. It shall gather and disseminate Southern garden history through forums, conferences, publications, and other means deemed appropriate by the board. The Society is funded by membership dues and charitable gifts. Those interested in supporting the Society should contact the Society at the address below. Gifts may also be made online through the Society's website. The Society, a 501c3 non-profit, recently established the Flora Ann Bynum Endowment Fund with the North Carolina Community Foundation. Society funds are used to publish *Magnolia*, provide annual meeting scholarships, and support other Society initiatives.

Southern Garden History Society • P.O. Box 15752 • Winston-Salem, NC 27113

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