



# Magnolia

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

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## "THE COWS AIN'T ALL OF IT"

### Reynolda Dairy, a Model for Progressive Farmers, 1912-30

By Barbara Babcock Millhouse,  
New York, NY

The title of this article is taken from the novel, *Barren Ground* (1925), by the Southern writer, Ellen Glasgow. When her main character, Dorinda Oakley, speaks of going into the dairy business, she is advised, "The cows ain't all of it, you know." Katharine Smith Reynolds (1880-1924) was fully aware of this when she dedicated a number of years to transforming the barren ground, which would later become Reynolda, into fertile land that could support not only a wide variety of vegetables for her table, but also crops for silage and pastureland for cows.

Glasgow's novel provides a unique opportunity to explore the thoughts and aspirations of a fictional character, whose lifetime and goals parallel those of Katharine Reynolds. In addition, a comparison between these two successful women, one of whom was penniless when she started out, draws attention to the struggle that most people had to undergo to acquire the equipment that Katharine could obtain without difficulty as the wife of savvy businessman Richard Joshua (R. J.) Reynolds, whom she married in 1905. [Reynolds, founder of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, was thirty years her senior, and died in 1918 at the age of 68.]

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Watercolor painting by Margaret Nowell Graham of the Reynolda barn complex, 1922.

Courtesy: Reynolda House Museum of American Art.

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# CALENDAR

*Please visit the SGHS Web site, [www.southerngardenhistory.org](http://www.southerngardenhistory.org), for a complete and more detailed calendar with the latest updates and links to individual Web sites.*

**September 26-28, 2013.** “Feeding the American South,” 19th Conference on Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes, Winston-Salem, NC; biennial conference, at Old Salem Museum & Gardens and Reynolda House Museum of American Art; co-sponsored by SGHS, explores historic methods and resources in cultivating, preserving, and preparing heritage foods and livestock in the American South. Visit: [www.oldsalem.org](http://www.oldsalem.org) or Sally Gant: [sgant@oldsalem.org](mailto:sgant@oldsalem.org); (336) 721-7361.

**September 28-29, 2013.** Library of American Landscape History Conference, “Masters of Modern Landscape Design,” will be held at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. Prominent scholars will introduce their recent work on modern landscape architects, including Thomas Church, James Rose, Robert Royston, and A. E. Bye. The conference also will launch the eponymous new LALH book series. Each of the conference speakers is the author of a forthcoming monograph exploring the career, major works, and legacy of a modern master. Visit: <http://lalh.org>

**September 28-29, 2013.** “Becoming Public: Design, History, Plants, & Preservation in East Bay Gardens,” 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the California Garden and Landscape History Society, Pleasonton, CA. This year we will explore the warm hills of the eastern San Francisco Bay Area by visiting three now-public gardens well adapted to their terrain and climate. All were developed by passionate garden-lovers between the 1880s and 1970s and are currently managed and maintained by cities, non-profit organizations and volunteers. Lectures and Tours feature: Dry Creek Garden, Shinn Historic Park and Arboretum, Ruth Bancroft Garden. Visit: <http://www.cglhs.org/>

**October 2, 2013.** “Forever Green: A Landscape Architect’s Innovative Gardens Offer Environments to Love and Delight,” a lecture by Mario Nievera followed by a book signing and reception, McElreath Hall, Cherokee Garden Library, Atlanta History Center, Atlanta, GA. Tickets and information: (404) 814-4046 or visit [AtlantaHistoryCenter.com/CherokeeGardenLibrary](http://AtlantaHistoryCenter.com/CherokeeGardenLibrary)

**October 4-5, 2013.** “The Botany of Empire in the Long Eighteenth Century,” symposium at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection. This two-day symposium features an international body of scholars working on botanical investigations and publications within the context of imperial expansion in the 18th century. The period saw widespread exploration, a tremendous increase in the traffic in botanical specimens, significant taxonomic innovations, and horticultural experimentation. The symposium coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Rare Book Room at Dumbarton Oaks, and will feature an exhibition of botanical works from the collections. Visit: [BotanySymposium@doaks.org](mailto:BotanySymposium@doaks.org)

**October 18-19, 2013.** 25th Annual Southern Garden Symposium & Workshops, St. Francisville, LA. Featured speakers include Britain’s award winning garden designer John Brookes and sought-after floral designer John Grady Burns. Friday’s highlights include workshops on floral design, wildflower gardening, plant propagation, gardening with ferns, and more. Saturday lectures feature John Brookes, Scott Ogden & Lauren Springer-Ogden, and Dr. Tomasz Anisko. Two private St. Francisville homes, Spring Grove Plantation and Nydrie Plantation, will open for the Speakers’ Gala and Saturday Tea respectively. Visit: [www.southerngardensymposium.org](http://www.southerngardensymposium.org).

**February 28-March 2, 2014.** “Preserving our Coastal Garden History,” 32nd Annual Meeting of the Southern Garden History Society in Savannah, GA. This late-winter gathering takes place in one of America’s oldest coastal cities. The meeting features gardens and homes within the Historic Savannah District and the Isle of Hope along the Intercoastal Waterway, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Tours include Lebanon Plantation (1804), along the Little Ogeechee River; Wormsloe Plantation; the Cope/Jaakkola House, built in 1868; and Judge Solomon’s camellia gardens and home, Wellesley Manor. Optional tours include three rice plantations in Liberty County. For more information, contact Lucy Hitch, 2014 Annual Meeting chair, [lucy.hitch@comcast.net](mailto:lucy.hitch@comcast.net). The hosting hotel is the Hilton Savannah Desoto, (912) 232-9000; [SAVDH-salesadm@hilton.com](mailto:SAVDH-salesadm@hilton.com). Meeting brochures will be mailed early December 2013.

## Reynolda Diary.....(continued from page 1)

When learning how to manage her first dairy, Katharine looked forward to the process of planning and equipping a technologically up-to-date barn and milk rooms. She wrote letters to various organizations asking for advice and studied the literature on the major breeds, weighing the pros and cons of each before deciding on Jerseys. She also made it her task to interview and select a highly trained herdsman to care for them.

In 1917 a local reporter was convinced that the farm was “destined to become one of the great factors in the development of the rural life, not only of Forsyth County but of the entire Piedmont section of North Carolina.” He also described Reynolda as the “experiment station” to which students of dairying, as well as agriculture and livestock raising looked for reliable and authentic information. In order to test these assertions, articles on dairy farming from period magazines are brought to bear on the question: how advanced was the Reynolda dairy in relation to others at that time?

Oral histories stored in the Reynolda archives provide an excellent resource for introducing the human side of the Reynolda dairy business. The son of the first dairyman,

Thomas Guy Monroe, shares stories of his father’s travels with R. J. Reynolds and provides humorous details on Reynolds’ unexpected visits to the farm. Other employees share their reactions to the unceasing supply of rich milk and butter, the champion bulls, and various other aspects of life in Reynolda village in the early twentieth century.

Katharine agreed with agrarian leaders that Southern poverty resulted from the backwardness of its farms and was determined to become a factor for change. Her own family experienced a tragedy when her five-year-old brother died of a milk-borne disease. As a result, she was highly motivated to keep her family and that of her employees from suffering from a similar misfortune.

The Reynolda milk was not pasteurized. Providing safe, clean milk depended entirely on maintaining a healthy herd and absolute cleanliness. Although pasteurization had been available since the 1890s, it was slow to take hold. Most people disliked the taste of pasteurized milk and believed it to be less nutritious. Even so, cities like Chicago instituted it in 1916 after an epidemic, and soon other cities followed. Widespread pasteurization did not come to the South, however, until



Courtesy R.H.M. of American Art.

Jersey herd at pasture. Cows were selected for quality of milk rather than quantity.



Courtesy R.H.M. of American Art.

The main barn, designed by Charles Barton Keen, 1912.



Courtesy Reynolda House Museum of American Art

The barn complex, photo by Thomas Sears, L.A., circa 1921.



Courtesy Reynolda House Museum of American Art

Reynolda's pedigreed Jersey herd, circa 1918, which won 142 state fair ribbons in 1921.

## Reynolda Diary.....(continued from page 3)

after World War II.

Katharine was supplying wholesome, safe milk not just to the family and Reynolda employees, but to the lunchrooms of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, and regular customers. She also expected the dairy to serve as a model for farmers who wanted to upgrade their outmoded and inefficient dairy practices. The story of the rise and decline of the Reynolda dairy takes place at a time when milk production was shifting from the family cow to large regulated commercial dairies. Flourishing between 1916-30 it was one of a cadre of small, local dairies, which filled the gap between these two eras.

[Barbara Babcock Millhouse, Founding President of Reynolda House Museum of American Art, is the granddaughter of

Katharine Smith and R. J. Reynolds. This paper is from her keynote address for the Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes Conference in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, September 26-28, 2013.]



Calves grazing at dairy.

Courtesy R.H.M. of American Art.

## Arthur Solomon – Camellia Pioneer

By Gene Phillips, Savannah, Georgia

Arthur Wellesley Solomon (1872-1962), born in Savannah, Georgia, was one of nine children of Henry and Sarah Alexander Solomon. After completing school in Savannah he attended Georgia Tech and was a member of the first graduating class. Returning to Savannah, he established a career in the laundry business and purchased the E&W Laundry in 1905. In 1914 Solomon was appointed to the Chatham County Commissioners and given the honorary title “Judge.”



Judge Arthur Solomon

Judge Solomon is most remembered for his 46-year career as a county commissioner and the public service he performed for the community. It was his own personal project to plant trees and shrubs along the roads and highways around Savannah so that all citizens and visitors could enjoy them as they traveled about the area. He transplanted young live oaks that he gathered from friends and county properties to roadsides and along highways. Judge Solomon instituted programs to plant the parks and squares with azaleas, oleanders, and camellias that he propagated and transplanted. Those small live oaks are now large, graceful trees found throughout the

community. Many of the azaleas, camellias, oleanders, and other species that he planted survive today. In order to share with others the things that he enjoyed most, he opened his gardens to the public every year when the azaleas and camellias were blooming. He spent many hours teaching people about his plants and would share generously his cuttings, plants, and flowers with anyone who was interested.

Judge Solomon was one of America’s foremost camellia pioneers. His home and garden, Wellesley Manor, contained one of the finest collections ever assembled in this country. He traveled the world in search of the perfect camellia, and he shared his bounty generously with his friends. In 1945 Solomon was the driving force in the formation of the American Camellia Society, served as the second President and hosted an annual meeting in Savannah. As ACS President, he developed the idea of establishing the National Camellia Trail, which stretched up and down Highway 17 – the Dixie Highway – which was then the main North-South corridor along the coast. Much of the Historic District, Isle of Hope, and Chatham County still features Judge Solomon’s plants and will be part of the tour of the 2014 SGHS Annual Meeting. In addition, society members will see two acres of camellia species at The Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens, donated by the Southeastern Camellia Society, which demonstrate the diversity, exquisite beauty, and enormous landscape potential that camellias offer. It was Judge Solomon’s dream to inspire generations with the beauty of nature, especially his beloved camellias. In honor of all his contributions and dreams the camellia collection at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens was named “The Judge Arthur Solomon Camellia Trail.”

## The Trials and Tribulations of a Collector

By Judge Arthur Solomon

When only a youngster, in and around Savannah, I was more or less familiar with japonicas, as we knew them in those days, but we didn't know anything about varieties; they were usually the imbricated type (*Alba Plena*), or the regularly formed Sarah Frost, and, of course, the usual pink with some variegated ones. However, my hankering for a garden came from my English parents, who continually told us of the many beautiful things grown in England and about the gardens there, saying there were none like them in America. I was enthused by these glowing accounts of what they had across the sea, and made up my mind to have a garden and a hobby (flowering evergreens) so that my home would look just as beautiful in midwinter as at any other time of the year. So naturally *Camellia Japonica* – the only midwinter bloomer – became the background of the whole scheme of planting; and after spending three or four years clearing up the grounds and making a definite layout of what I wanted, I had the good fortune to have the advice of Mr. P. J. Berckmans, of Augusta, who told two of his friends, Mr. Meehan of Germantown, Pennsylvania, and Mr. Dreer of Philadelphia, what I was hoping to accomplish at Savannah. These two gentlemen came to see me and offered their assistance in procuring for me the original plants that I set out at Wellesley Manor. I looked all over the country to find an unimproved place which I could landscape to suit my ideas: on the water – with many trees – not too far from the city – paved road – and good drainage. So I was quite fortunate when I located twenty-seven acres at Grimball's Point, which had most everything I was looking for, including both shade from the large oaks and pine groves for the camellias.

The camellia planting was started with fifty varieties from France in March, 1914, and to these have been added numerous plants whenever I thought I could pick up good ones. Some were located in rural places in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama, but most of them were purchased through the different nurseries. Whenever I saw an outstanding flower I made arrangements to buy a couple of plants, thinking one might die and I would always have one left.

In 1936, I built a greenhouse so that I would have blooms untouched by freeze, frost, or rain, but I never grew a single plant in the greenhouse. They are moved out right after blooming and moved in again about November 15 each year.

In 1937, Mrs. Solomon and I toured the Chateau district of France and took in the principal cities of Tours, Angiers, and our real destination, Nantes, and the Guichard Soers Nurseries there, with whom I had a great deal of correspondence regarding the purchase of

two hundred bushes. We reached there about the middle of June, and with the aid of an English interpreter whom we brought along with us, I was able to make selections of the two hundred plants which I wanted. These plants were to be shipped to me at Cherbourg in the early part of August, in order to meet the S.S. *Queen Mary* from Southampton.

Prior to my departure from Savannah I had shipped to the *Queen Mary* a box of Florida peat moss and asked them to have it aboard boat so that we would have it upon our return from England, which they did. The reason for this was that Embargo No. 37 was then in effect, and you could not bring any plant from abroad with any foreign soil on the roots. The Department of Entomology at Washington permitted me to keep the French soil on the plants until we were within three miles of the United States.

When we reached Cherbourg in August there were three big cases, much larger than I had anticipated, and the plants delivered were also larger than I had intended to purchase. I had asked for two to three-year-old plants but what I received [were] four to five-year-old ones, with roots heavily cut back, and, of course, an additional charge for the size. The nursery also charged me more than was originally agreed upon because they said that I was a "collector" and not a "dealer" or "nurseryman." I presume I should have paid them what I had agreed to in the beginning, but after some correspondence back and forth, I sent them a check in full to get rid of the matter.

After the three boxes of plants were placed in the hold of the S.S. *Queen Mary*, I proceeded to unpack them. Fortunately I was able to obtain the services of the gardener aboard ship, who procured for me the services of two seamen. But even on a ship as large as the *Queen*, there was not too much fresh water for any purpose: however, we did enough to comply with the government's request, but it was a tedious job. It is only four and one-half days from Cherbourg to New York, and much to the

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Entrance to Judge Solomon's manor and gardens.

## Arthur Solomon..... (continued from page 5)

disgust of my better half, I spent two and one-half days of this time in the hold, washing the French mud off these plants. When I came to our rooms in the evening for dinner my wife didn't like the idea of my passing through the ship in borrowed, ill-fitting overalls, but a camellia fancier will do almost anything, wife or no wife.

By the time we arrived at New York the boxes were all repacked in Florida peat moss and ready for inspection. They were given the once-over, not very thoroughly, but it was a different story when they reached Washington! There each plant was unpacked, and while I have no idea what they were treated with, I felt sure they were immune from any pests regardless of what country they had inhabited because the heavy fishing line with which they were tied when I received them popped like paper twine in my hands. Now, I don't blame the government for taking these precautions, as I would have hated it very much if I had brought into my garden some foreign disease that would give future trouble.

Out of the two hundred plants only about forty lived, but that was a better proportion than the hundred one-year-old grafts which I purchased in Ghent, Belgium, from Victor de Bisschop and also had delivered to me at Southampton, none of which survived.

In 1939, I imported seventy-five bushes from Kobe, Japan. These were sent on a ship sailing from Kobe that I was to meet at Portland, Oregon, but when the ship arrived there were no plants aboard. I could not wait for the next ship, so I had the government fumigate them in Portland and send them by fast express direct to Savannah, and of this group only about ten are alive. (Too long a boat trip, with bare roots.) These proved to be very interesting plants, however, as the government had washed all the soil from them, giving me excellent opportunity to see how the Japanese had prepared their plants for quick growth, every one of which was inarched. These remaining plants did not make any phenomenal growth but they turned out to be sturdy bushes because they were very small when received.



The Golf Course, 1918, Wellesley Manor, Grimball Point.

I am convinced now that it does not pay to buy plants abroad: the risk is too great and the proportion that lives is too small. Then again, we now have many new varieties coming on, since the bushes in America are getting old enough to throw out quantities of seed, and from these seeds we are getting an enormous variety of blooms that are being placed on the market.

In Italy, on the shores of Lake Maggiore, the camellias grow very tall: those that I saw were mostly seedlings, but some were 18 inches in diameter and 30 to 35 feet tall. From these old plants a great many seeds have been obtained and in Europe nearly all plants are side grafted on this seedling stock when it is only a year old.

Since the receipt of the last shipment from Japan, I have picked up a good many plants in different nurseries on the Pacific Coast, in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and our two neighboring states have furnished me with other plants. So now I have a collection from which I hope to graft on my own seedlings to make the garden a worthwhile one for those interested in *Camellia japonica*.

[Gene Phillips is President of the Southeastern Camellia Society and Editor of *CamelliaWeb Express*]

## Members in the News

**Peter Hatch** continues to receive most richly deserved accolades for his book *"A Rich Spot of Earth" Thomas Jefferson's Revolutionary Garden at Monticello*, published by Yale University Press and now in its third printing. In August he was a winner of the Silver Award of Achievement from the 2013 Garden Writers Association Media Awards program. The award was presented before the GWA annual conference in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. Hatch was also recently profiled at his Albemarle County, Virginia home for an article by garden columnist Adrian Higgins in the July 3, 2013 edition of *The Washington Post*.

The August/ September issue of *Garden and Gun* magazine features **Ben and Libby Page** and their restored 1845 Greek Revival retreat, Brookside, in Giles County, Tennessee. The article by Julia Reed includes interior and exterior photographs of the Pages and their country home.

The scholarly journal of the North American Japanese Garden Association, issue number 1, 2013, includes an article by former SGHS board member **Anne Leggett**, "Middlegate Japanese Gardens, Japan on the Gulf of Mexico," which recalls a rich garden legacy in Pas Christian, Mississippi.

# Book Review

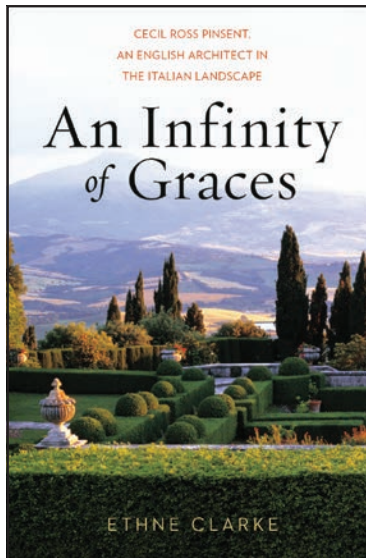
***An Infinity of Graces: Cecil Ross Pinsent, An English Architect in the Italian Landscape***, by Ethne Clarke | W. W. Norton & Co. | hardcover, 192 pages | ISBN-10: 0393732215; ISBN-13: 978-0393732214 | 2013 | List price: \$45

Cecil Ross Pinsent (1884-1963) is a figure little recognized today, and his name little known, except among a small circle of historians who have specialized in the gardens created in the Tuscan countryside near Florence in the opening decades of the twentieth century. And yet, his architectural and landscape work at I Tatti and La Foce, for Bernard and Mary Berenson and Antonio and Iris

Origo, respectively, produced two of the most important estate gardens created in Italy in the twentieth century. (His role at a third, Villa Gamberaia, distinguished by an extraordinary water terrace, remains uncertain.)

The gardens of I Tatti and La Foce are at once rich, beautiful, and appealing. They raised pride in the hearts of their owners and drew the admiration of guests invited to enjoy them in the warmth of their first day. They were also influential, fostering the creation of others in their place and down through time. As Ethne Clarke writes, Cecil Ross Pinsent became “an adept in the architectural and landscape language of the Italian Renaissance.” So much so that his work as the favorite of wealthy Florentine expatriates, principally between 1910 and 1939, came to shape perceptions of what historic Italian gardens should look like. Today, both handsomely-maintained, they continue to evoke deep appreciation.

Cecil Ross Pinsent brought an unusual background, a remarkable sensitivity, and a valuable architectural education, earned both in the classroom and over long hours at drafting tables, to his practice. Ethne Clarke devotes the first half of her book, and four of its five chapters, to her narrative of his life, his professional work, and the close friendships he forged and maintained with a privileged few who became his clients. Mr. Pinsent was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, on 5 May 1884, where his father, Ross Pinsent, was engaged in the import/export business and had other financial interests. In 1889 the family returned to England, first to Selly Wick, a family house near Birmingham, and in 1890 to London, where they eventually



settled at 16 Maresfield Gardens in Hampstead.

Cecil Pinsent entered Marlborough College in 1897, and in 1901 he began his study of architecture at the Architectural Association. That same year he was engaged in an apprenticeship in the office of architect William Wallace where, in 1903, he was hired as a draftsman. Between 1905 and 1907 he was both a student at the Royal Academy School of Architecture and a draftsman in the office of Edwin Thomas Hall, an architect best remembered for Liberty's Regent Street façade. In the later year he completed his architectural examinations, became an associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and entered the employ of Charles Edward Mallows (1864-1915), a leading Arts and Crafts architect in whose office Cecil Ross Pinsent had his first important, practical introduction to garden design.

Meanwhile, his future was fixed by travel, his first trip to Italy, which extended from October 1906 to July 1907. The larger part of his experience was enjoyed in the company of Edmund and Mary Houghton, English expatriates who had lived in Florence since 1900. They adopted the young Mr. Pinsent as their protégé, introduced him to their friends in the Anglo-American society, and effectively secured his fame with an introduction to the Berensons at I Tatti on 21 January 1907. Cecil Ross Pinsent returned to London in the summer of 1907, where Mary Berenson introduced him to Geoffrey Scott (1884-1929), the future author of *The Architecture of Humanism* (1914), who became an associate and life-long friend. In 1907-1908 he completed a house and garden at 20 St. Anthony's Road, Bournemouth, for Miss Jane Houghton, the sister of Edmund Houghton. In 1909 the Berensons engaged Mr. Pinsent as the architect for a new library at Villa I Tatti. Cecil Pinsent was involved in architectural work at Tatti until 1950 and maintained his correspondence with Bernard Berenson until his death in 1959. In 1911, with the best of prospects, Mr. Pinsent established himself in an apartment in the via della Terme in Florence that was his home and office until his return to England just before World War II. In the event Bernard Berenson was one of three principal clients in Tuscany with whom Cecil Ross Pinsent enjoyed a close, lifelong personal and professional relationship. The others were Lady Sybil Cuffe Cutting (1879-1943), a daughter of Lord Desart (1848-1934) and the wealthy widow of William Bayard Cutting Jr. (1878-1910), and her daughter, Iris Cutting (1902-1988). In 1911 Lady Cutting engaged Mr. Pinsent for architectural work at Villa Medici in Fiesole. He was back at the Villa Medici in 1915 to undertake new design work in its terrace gardens. He returned to the Villa Medici at the behest of Lady Cutting, following her marriage to Geoffrey Scott in 1918 and her third marriage in 1926 to Percy Lubbock

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## Book Review..... (continued from page 7)

(1879-1965). The Lubbocks gave up the Villa Medici and removed to Gli Scafari, a seaside villa at Lerici, where Mr. Pinsent oversaw the completion of the house and its gardens to his design.

Meanwhile, he was also working for Iris Cutting and Antonio Origo (1892-1976), at La Foce, whose extensive lands they had decided to acquire before their marriage in March 1924. La Foce would become Cecil Ross Pinsent's greatest achievement and one of the most important estates, comprising a villa, its outbuildings, and gardens, farms, their houses, and outbuildings, fields, vineyards, and olive groves, and a school for the estate children, created in the twentieth century. For its evolution the reader should turn to Iris Origo's memoir, *Images and Shadows*, published in 1970, Caroline Moorehead's biography, *Iris Origo, Marchesa of Val d'Orcia*, which appeared in 2000, and *La Foce: A Garden and Landscape in Tuscany* written by Benedetta Origo (b. 1940) and published in 2001.

Ethne Clarke offers short accounts of Villa I Tatti, La Foce, Gli Scafari, Villa Le Balze at Fiesole designed by Mr. Pinsent for Charles Augustus Strong (1862-1940) and now the property of Georgetown University, Torre di Sopra, which he refitted for Antonio Maraini and his wife, and Jane Houghton's house and garden at 20 St. Anthony's Road, Bournemouth in the closing chapter of *An Infinity of Graces*.

The rise of Fascism in Italy made Pinsent's presence in Florence difficult, and he relocated to England where he stayed with relatives until being commissioned in June 1944 as a captain in the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archive Commission. He served in this post into September 1945 when he was discharged. The post-war years were unsettled for Cecil Pinsent until he was invited by

his old mentor, Edmund Houghton, a widower since his wife Mary's death in 1942, to share his late sister's house in Bournemouth. This comfortable arrangement ended with Mr. Houghton's death in September 1953. Cecil Ross Pinsent then removed to Hilterfingen Thunersee, Switzerland, where he occupied rooms in the home of an acquaintance. He died on 5 December 1963. His body was interred in a local churchyard in Hilterfingen.

In 1955 Cecil Pinsent compiled a list of clients and projects, beginning with the commission by Miss Jane Houghton and continuing to his last work for the Origos at La Foce in 1955-56. This list is published as an appendix in *An Infinity of Graces*, which is illustrated with many black-and-white photographs from Mr. Pinsent's albums that are preserved by his family. In the introduction Ethne Clarke discusses the literature of, by, and about the Florentine expatriate community, its villas and their gardens, beginning with John Ruskin's *Mornings in Florence* (1875-77), continuing with Edith Wharton's *Italian Villas and Their Gardens* of 1904, and including David Ottewill's *The Edwardian Garden* (1988) and Charles Quest-Ritson's *The English Garden Abroad* (1992). She also cites, in one sentence, Erika Neubauer's pioneering essay, "The Garden Architecture of Cecil Pinsent," published in the *Journal of Garden History* in 1983. She also could have included May Brawley Hill's *On Foreign Soil: American Gardeners Abroad* (2005). Her book now joins this roster. Nevertheless, Cecil Ross Pinsent and his work await a scholar of his genius.

Davyd Foard Hood  
Isinglass  
Vale, North Carolina

## Lucy Lawliss Named Superintendent of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park

By Kenneth M. McFarland

August 21, 2013 saw SGHS member and former member of our board, Lucy Lawliss, ASLA, become superintendent of one of the nation's premier National Park Service battlefield properties. Encompassing 8,000 acres also makes it one of the largest. Under her purview too is Chatham Manor (1771), known for its Ellen Biddle Shipman landscape design from the 1920s. Prior



Lucy Lawliss



to becoming acting superintendant here in spring 2013, Lucy served from 2008 as superintendant of George Washington Birthplace National Monument in the Northern Neck of Virginia and the Thomas Stone NHS in Charles County, Maryland.

Assuming this permanent position also means something of a homecoming. A native of Connecticut, Lucy studied art history at Fredericksburg's Mary Washington College from 1973-75. Friends might, however, tend to connect her more with Georgia than Virginia. In 1979 she received her BLA at the University of Georgia's College of Environment and Design. After working in Atlanta for Robert and Company, then Eberly and Associates, Lucy returned to Athens, taking a MLA and Certificate in Preservation in 1992.

Many will recall that Lucy studied with former SGHS board member and president, Catherine Howett, who encouraged her to submit "Residential Work of the Olmsted Firm in Georgia," which was published in the 1993 *Magnolia Essays: Occasional Papers of the Southern*

*Garden History Society.*

Lucy began her work for the National Park Service in 1991, becoming closely linked with the NPS Cultural Landscapes Program. Her career took her from Atlanta, to Washington, D. C., to California, and then back to the East Coast for the Washington Birthplace position.

Some of her biggest challenges doubtlessly are ahead, as she oversees not only the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania sites, but also large elements of the Wilderness and Chancellorsville battlefields. In particular, she will face pressures from residential and commercial growth that has already consumed important components of the region's Civil War acreage, not withstanding notable successes by both governmental and nonprofit forces in battle ground acquisition. Here, however, Lucy's extensive knowledge of cultural landscape management, along with her landscape architectural and personal diplomatic skills, will surely serve the National Military Park and the nation well. Perhaps the Society will one day again meet in Fredericksburg and assess the fruits of her labors.

## Glenn Haltom – 1930-2013 – Homage to a Founding Board Member

By Carleton Wood

June 25, 2013 was a sad day for the Southern Garden History Society as one of our early leaders and founding board member, Eleanor Glenn Lamb Haltom passed away in Ridgeland, Mississippi. Glenn was a charter member of the Society, being among the first to support efforts to establish a garden history society in the South. In addition to being a charter member and founding board member, Glenn welcomed the Society to Mississippi in 1984 when she coordinated the second annual meeting of the Southern Garden History Society, in Natchez. During the early years of the Society she served also as the Mississippi state editor of *Magnolia* and she continued to serve as an active board member through 1996.

Glenn and her husband Robert lived in Natchez for nearly 50 years. She helped found the Pine Burr Garden Club in Meadville and was an active member of the Pilgrimage Garden Club in Natchez. Glenn loved gardening and instilled a love of horticulture in her children and grandchildren through the numerous and varied ornamental plants that bloomed in their garden. Beyond gardening she was actively involved with the Junior Auxiliary of Natchez, DAR, Natchez Antiques Forum, and Jefferson Street Methodist Church.

According to Dr. Elizabeth M. Boggess, a longtime

friend from Natchez, "It is not a coincidence that fifteen of the Society's charter members hail from Natchez. That is in large measure due to the efforts of Glenn. I remember that she always loved camellias. Her passing is a great loss for the Society, her friends, family, and those who love southern gardens."

Glenn is survived by her husband Robert B. Haltom, her three children Laura Haltom St. Clair, Dr. James R. Haltom, Dr. Thomas L. Haltom and six grandchildren. While we all feel a great loss, we are pleased the Haltom family's longtime association with the Southern Garden History Society continues through Glenn's daughter-in-law Susan Haltom, wife of Jim, who currently serves on the board of directors.

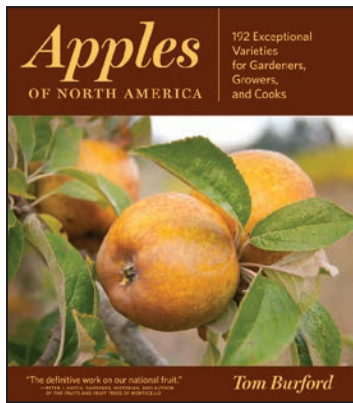


Glenn Haltom

# In Print

*Apples of North America: Exceptional Varieties for Gardeners, Growers, and Cooks*, by Tom Burford | Timber Press, 2013 | Hardcover, 300 pages | ISBN-10: 1604692499; ISBN-13: 978-1604692495 | list price 29.95

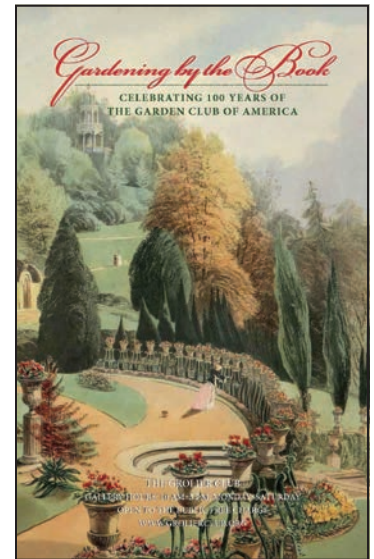
The apple is one of the most iconic fruits, traditionally picked on cool fall days and used in pies, crisps, and ciders. There is no better guide through this flavorsome world than Tom Burford, whose family has grown apples in the Blue Ridge Mountains since 1715. The book is brimming with beautiful portraits of heirloom and modern apples of merit, each accompanied by distinguishing characteristics and common uses. As the view broadens to the orchard, you will find information on planting, pruning, grafting, and more. The exploration of the apple culminates with an overview of the fruit's transformative capabilities when pressed, fermented, cooked, or dried. *A review of this book will appear in the next issue of Magnolia.*



*Gardening by the Book: Celebrating 100 Years of the Garden Club of America*, by Arete Swartz Warren | published by the Grolier Club and The Garden Club of

America, New York, 2013 | Hardcover, 256 pages | ISBN: 9781605830445; ASIN: 1605830445 | list price \$50

Since its founding in 1913, The Garden Club of America has maintained for its members a significant library of rare books on gardening. To mark its centenary, the GCA has published a lavishly illustrated survey of this little-known but remarkable collection of treasures, tracing the activities of the premier American gardening association over the course of a century through superb color plate books on natural history and floriculture, treatises on garden design and landscape architecture, and early photographic works on gardening. Published in connection with an exhibition held at the Grolier Club May 15-July 27, 2013, this handsome book was designed by Linda Florio, with forewords by Marian Weldon Hill and Eugene S. Flamm, and essays by Leslie K. Overstreet, Denise Otis, and Arete Warren, followed by detailed descriptions of 150 items from the collection.



## Garden Capital of Texas

Nacogdoches, the oldest town in Texas, has officially been named the Garden Capital of the Lone Star State. The designation was formally authorized by a bill by State Representative Travis Clardy, and signed by Governor Rick Perry on May 2, 2013. Named for the Nacogdoches tribe of the Caddo Indians, who gardened on the high ground between La Nana Creek and La Banita Creek, these first gardeners cultivated a variety of beans, sunflowers, and tobacco; and they created the strongest and most advanced Indian culture in Texas. The Spanish learned the Indian ways and added spices and herbs to their garden plots. After Spanish military control ended in the 1830s, Nacogdoches became a city in the territory of Texas in 1846. When Frederick Law Olmsted (designer of Central Park, the Biltmore estate landscape, etc.) came to Nacogdoches in 1853, he said of the town: “The

houses along the road...stand in gardens, and are neatly painted—the first exterior sign of cultivation of mind since the Red River.”

Today, the city's grandest show of flowers and foliage has developed around the campus of Stephen F. Austin State University. SFA now is the center of the most prosperous and prominent set of flowering gardens in the State of Texas. SFA hosts the largest azalea garden in the state and Nacogdoches was named the first Azalea City in America. The university is home to the Pineywoods Native Plant Center, the Mast Arboretum, the Gayla Mize Garden, the Kingham Children's Garden, and the SFA Recreational Trails and Gardens. Collectively these gardens contain the state's largest botanical collections of azaleas, bald cypress, boxwood, camellias, gardenias, hollies, hydrangeas, magnolias, and maples.

# *No Wasted Hour: Marion Drummond, 1930-2013*

*By John Sykes*

Former SGHS board member and recipient of the Society's 2013 Certificate of Merit, Marion Deane Drummond died on August 24, 2013, her 83rd birthday, at her home in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Drummond was considered an icon in the Gulf South landscape nursery industry for her knowledge of plants and tireless promotion of native plants in the landscape.

A native of San Francisco, Drummond grew up in the Los Angeles area and earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Stanford. In her 60s, she earned her Master's in Landscape Architecture from Louisiana State University. Her first "real" job besides that of mother of three was site director for LSU Hilltop Arboretum in Baton Rouge. During her decade at Hilltop, she helped make the former native plants nursery into an outdoor classroom for gardeners and children. Drummond started the annual speaker's symposium, Saturday workshops, and created a loyal base of dedicated volunteers. She began PlantFest!, the arboretum's annual sale of native plants, which set the standard for plant sales with its incredible variety

and on-line catalog. She was best known for her great friendships with all the nursery growers of the Gulf South. In 2002 at the age of 72, she became the Executive Director of the Mobile Botanical Gardens where she worked until 2009. For more than 20 years, Marion was a fixture at the Conference on Landscaping with Native Plants at Cullowhee, North Carolina and attended the most recent session in June.

"One of her signature talents was gathering people, and using her wiles to persuade them to take on tasks they never knew they could or wanted to do," said Janet Forbes, LSU Hilltop Arboretum. Marion was the driving spirit of boundless energy behind the successful SGHS Annual Meeting in Baton Rouge in April 2011. Her weekly planning meetings with Anne Legett and John Sykes were so meaningful that the trio kept the tradition going until the week before her death. As Linda Askey wrote in her nomination letter for the Society's Certificate of Merit, "I will always strive to live every day as richly as Marion Drummond does, but I may never. No hour is wasted; so much is accomplished. She continues to be a blessing to Southern gardens and gardeners."



Photo by Jessica Ward

Marion Drummond (left), John Sykes, and Anne Legett enjoyed an evening reception at Pharsalia during the 2013 SGHS annual meeting in Lynchburg.



Southern Garden History Society

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**This is the final issue for 2012-2013 memberships.  
Renew electronically at: [www.southerngardenhistory.org](http://www.southerngardenhistory.org)**



## Awards and Scholarships

The **Flora Ann Bynum Award** is the highest award bestowed by the Southern Garden History Society. It is not awarded annually, but only occasionally to recipients who have rendered outstanding service to the society. Nominations may be made at any time by any member. The award will usually be presented at the annual meeting.

The title **Honorary Director** (Board of Directors) may be bestowed on individuals who have rendered exceptional service and made significant contributions to the society. Nominations for Honorary Director are made to the President by current Board members and are approved by the Board of Directors.

The **Certificate of Merit** is presented to a member or non-member, whose work has advanced the mission and goals of the society. Awarding of certificates will be approved by the Board of Directors and will usually be announced at the annual meeting.

Society **Scholarships** assist students in attending the society's annual meeting and are awarded to bona fide students enrolled in college and university majors relevant to the mission and goals of the society. The scholarship provides a waiver of registration fees plus \$500 to assist with travel and lodging.

*Details, requirements, and directions for submitting applications are posted on the SGHS Web site: [www.southerngardenhistory.org](http://www.southerngardenhistory.org). For those without internet access, a copy of this document can be mailed or faxed. Contact Peggy Cornett, Magnolia editor.*

## Annual Membership Dues

The society's membership year is from **August 1—July 31**. The membership secretary will mail renewal notices in the summer for the 2013-2014 year. Membership categories:

<b>Benefactor</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Patron</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Sustainer</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Institution or Business</b>	<b>\$75</b>
<b>Joint</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Individual</b>	<b>\$30</b>
<b>Student</b>	<b>\$15</b>

For more membership information, contact:  
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Email: [membership@southerngardenhistory.org](mailto:membership@southerngardenhistory.org)  
**Memberships can now be made electronically on our Web site!**  
[www.southerngardenhistory.org](http://www.southerngardenhistory.org)

*Deadline for submitting articles for the Fall issue of Magnolia is November 15, 2013.*

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