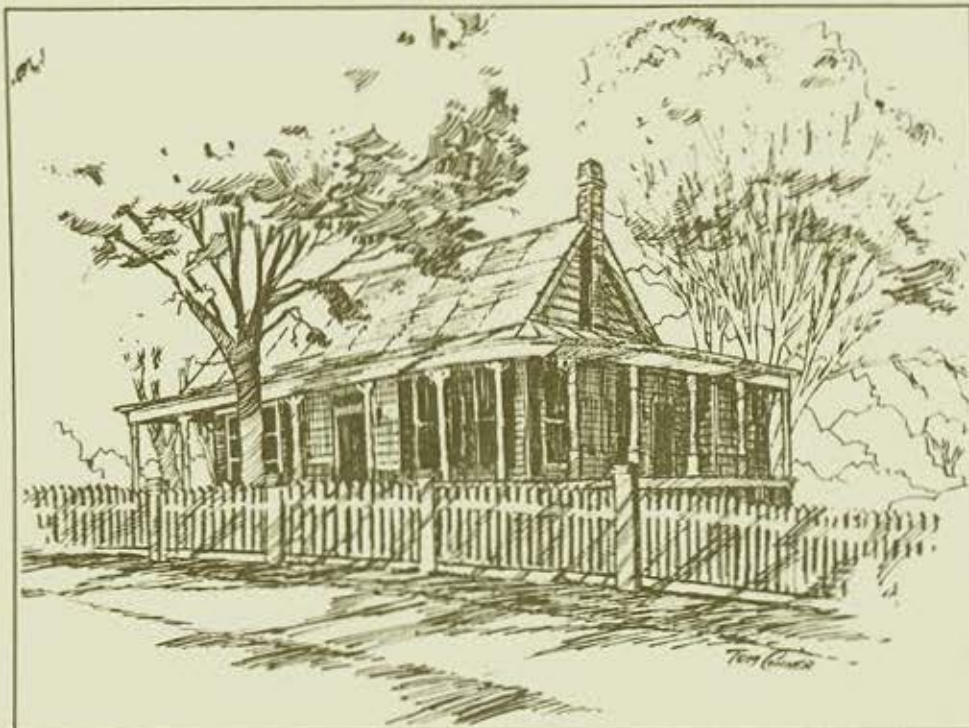


BNS 10/1/92

HERITAGE GARDENS

Restoring The Landscape and Gardens
Around Your Historical Home



George R. Stritikus

Edgar Givhan

Published by Commercial Garden Design
Montgomery, Alabama
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INTRODUCTION

Recreating landscapes and gardens surrounding historic structures is essentially different from restoring the structure. Landscapes, especially gardens, are living things that change from year to year. The gardener will interact with nature to accelerate the process of change. He or she will learn that some things don't do well. She will always be trying out new plants, horticultural techniques and designs. Over the years, her labors will be modified by changes in her own means and taste. And so it is, that just as landscapes exhibit growth and maturation, death and rebirth, the same things are happening to the men and women who tend them. You can't see an 1850's garden as it first was; there is nothing left. There are a few vestiges about Alabama that give us the haziest impression of what once was; beyond that, there are no visual models, so we must turn to printed material or old pictures.

The person who recreates a landscape or garden around a restored historic structure must address this question: do I want to capture a certain period in time, or do I want to incorporate the ideas of the many gardeners who have dreamed and labored here? Either is acceptable so long as you realize what you're doing and carry it out with clear intent and design. What will not come off well is to landscape your property without consulting the past.

The review of Downing's book will give you a distillation of the theory of landscape gardening in 19th century America. The chapter on 19th century gardening fashion is a synopsis of main garden trends, Alabama Landscapes and A List of Recommended Period Plant Material for Alabama Gardens by George Stritikus are treasure troves of historical garden information. Their value is enhanced by the fact that they are products of meticulous research of primary sources (e.g. nursery catalogues and minutes of garden clubs) by Mr. Stritikus. "With these two in hand, anyone can do a creditable job of restoring any garden." (George Stritikus)

Ed Givhan

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF LANDSCAPE GARDENING

by ANDREW JACKSON DOWNING

A Review by Edgar Givhan

Andrew Jackson Downing [see Figure 1] was clearly a trend setter in landscaping (which he called landscape gardening) and garden design in the early years of our republic. The first edition of The Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening was published early in the 19th century, the 4th edition was published in 1849 and the 9th edition was published in 1875 -- some 20 years after his death. Therefore, not only was he influential but the duration of his influence was unusually long. It is evident that he was influenced by English landscape designers, particularly Loudon, but Downing was the first American landscape designer to address the peculiar problems of a new country emerging from the wilderness.



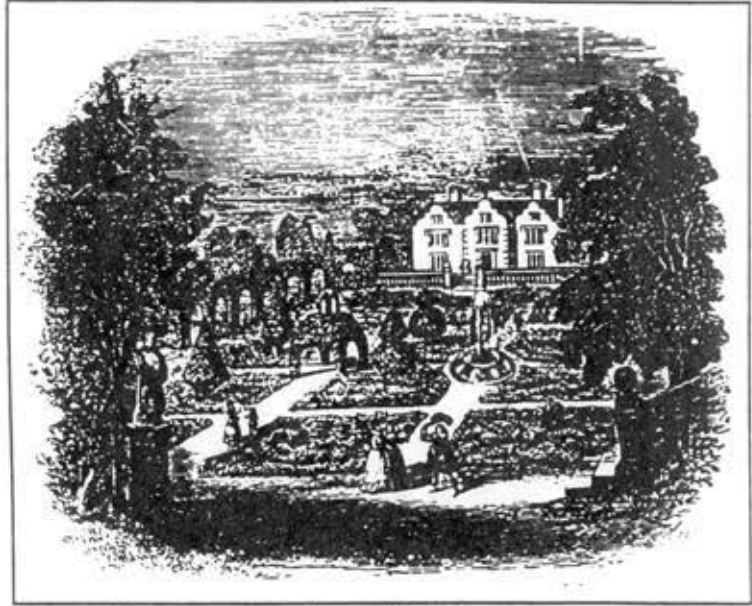
[Figure 1. Andrew Jackson Downing]

We cannot know how greatly he influenced gardens and landscapes in the South, but it is fair to surmise that prior to the Civil War his influence was limited to the educated and wealthy. By the late 19th century his influence was probably widely evident in urban gardens and in well-to-do rural settings, what he would have called a country seat. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that Downing's ideas give us some notion of landscape and garden design in the 19th century South, particularly the late 19th century.

THE ANCIENT STYLE OR GEOMETRIC STYLE OF GARDENING

"The beauties elicited by the ancient style of gardening are those of regularity symmetry, and the display of labored art. These were obtained in a merely mechanical manner and usually involved little or no theory. The geometrical forms and lines of the buildings were only

extended and carried out into the garden. [see Figure 2] The ancient style of gardening may, however, be introduced with good effect in certain cases. In public squares and gardens, where display, grandeur of effect and a highly artificial character are desirable, it appears to be the most suitable; and no less so in very small gardens in which variety and irregularity are out of the question." Downing makes a distinction between what he calls the beautiful and the picturesque in landscape gardening. This is best illustrated by two figures from his book. [see Figures 3 and 4]



[Figure 2. The Geometric style, from an old print.]



[Figure 3. Example of the Beautiful in Landscape Gardening.]



[Figure 4. Example of the Picturesque in Landscape Gardening.]

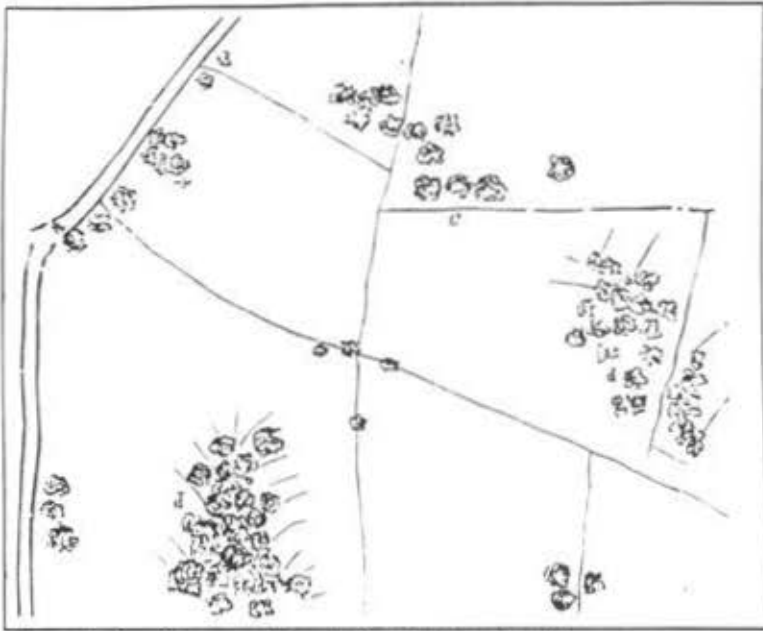
THE NATURAL STYLE OF LANDSCAPE GARDENING

Downing introduces the natural style and contrasts it with the older geometric style. "By landscape gardening, we understand not only an imitation in the grounds of a country residence or suburban residence of the agreeable forms of nature, *but an expressive, harmonious and refined imitation.*"

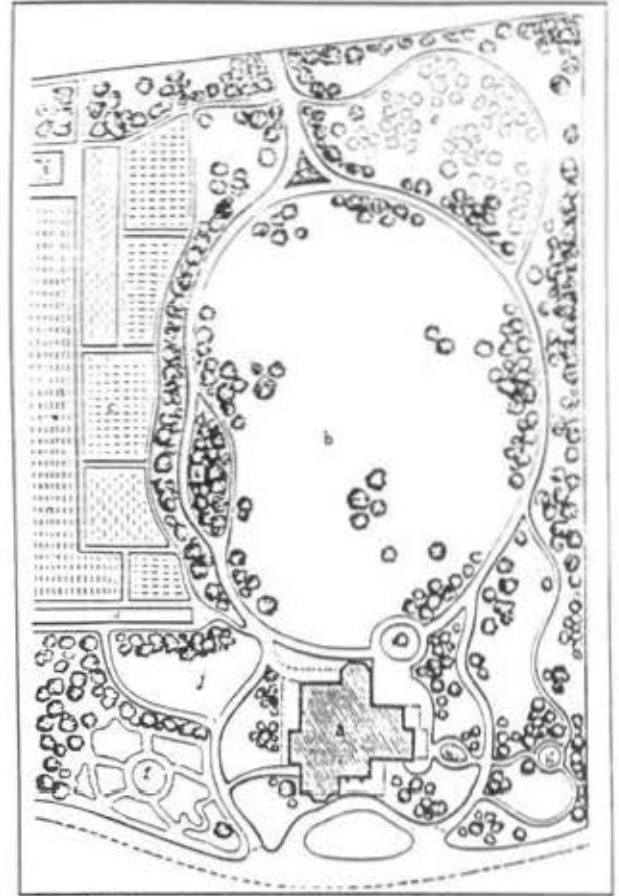
"In almost every instance, the grounds of the country residence have a marked natural character: The efforts of the improver will be most successful if he contributes by his art to aid and strengthen that character. There are many persons with small cottage places of little decided character who have neither room, time nor income to attempt the improvement of their grounds fully. How shall they render their places tasteful and agreeable in the easiest manner? We answer, *by attempting only the simple and the natural*; and the unfailing way to secure this is by employing as leading features only trees and grass. A soft verdant lawn, a few forest or ornamental trees, well grouped, walks and a few flowers give universal pleasure."

"There are no country places in the United States so unsatisfactory and tasteless as those in which, without any definite aim, everything is attempted; and a mixed jumble of discordant forms, material, ornaments, and decorations is assembled -- a part in one style and a bit in another without the least feeling of unity or congruity. These *rural bedlams*, full of all kinds of absurdities, cost their owners a vast deal of trouble and money, without giving a tasteful mind a shadow of beauty."

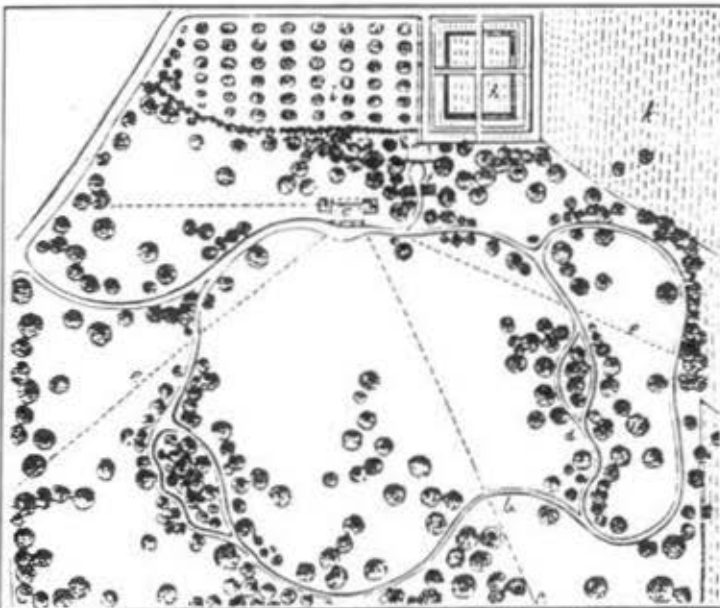
Downing goes on to discuss improvements of a common farm, a suburban villa residence, and a picturesque farm or *ferme ornée*. The following diagrams from his book illustrate clearly his concept of landscape design or what he calls landscape gardening. [see Figures 5, 6, 7, and 8.]



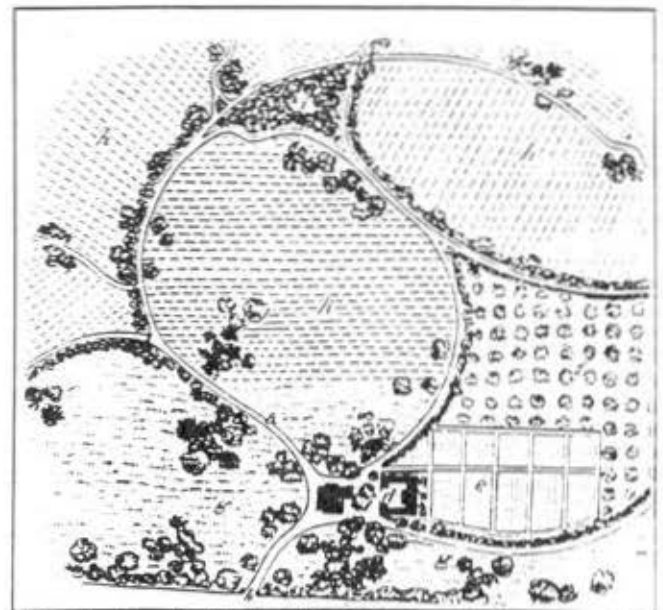
[Figure 5. Plan of a common Farm, before any improvements.]



[Figure 7. Plan of a suburban Villa Residence.]



[Figure 6. Plan of the foregoing grounds as a Country Seat, after ten years' improvement.]



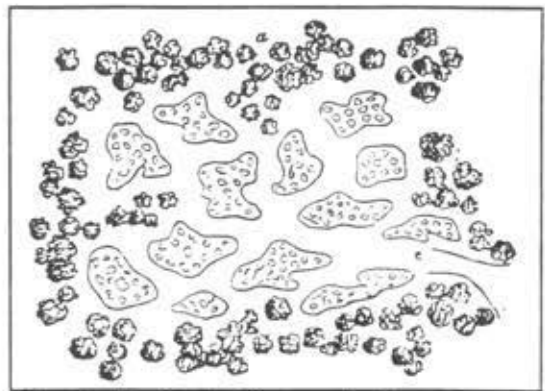
[Figure 8. View of a Picturesque farm (ferme ornée).]

FLOWER GARDENS

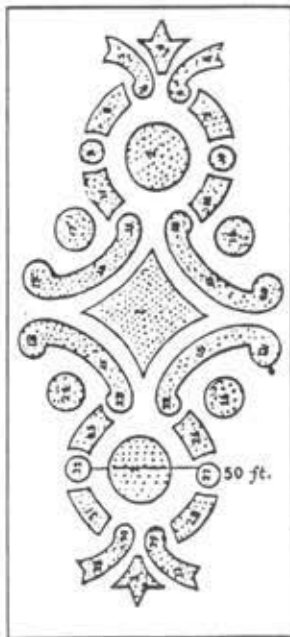
Flower gardens are classified as architectural or general. "*The architectural flower garden* is characterized by regular lines and forms employed in its beds and walks. The flowers are generally planted in the forms of circles, octagons, squares, etc. In various parts of the garden, along the principle walks or in the center of the parterre, are pedestals supporting vases, urns or handsome flower pots with plants are placed. It is evident that the architectural flower garden is superior when the garden is intended to be an appendage to the house."

In other situations, he prefers what he calls the *general flower garden* and further subdivides that into three categories -- irregular, old French and modern English.

"The *irregular flower garden* is surrounded by an irregular belt of trees and ornamental shrubs of the choicest species and the beds are varied in outline as well as irregularly disposed. [see Figure 9] Sometimes grouping together, sometimes standing singly but exhibiting no uniformity of arrangement. This kind of flower garden would be a suitable accompaniment to the house and grounds of an enthusiastic lover of the picturesque, or it might form a pretty termination to a distant walk and pleasure grounds where it would be more necessary that the flower garden should be in keeping with the surrounding



[Figure 9. The Irregular Flower-garden.]



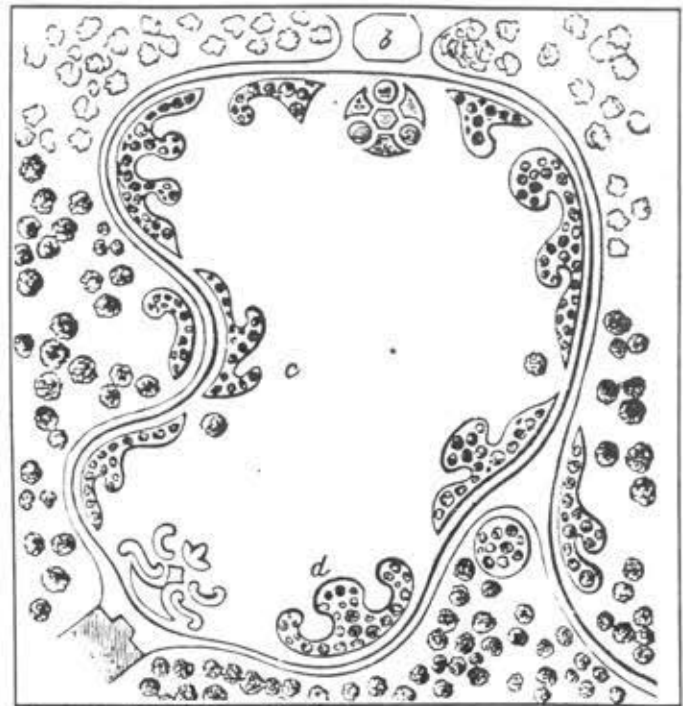
[Figure 10.]

plantation and scenery than with the house. The *French flower garden* is the most fanciful of the regular modes of laying out the area devoted to this purpose. [see Figure 10] The patterns or figures employed are often highly intricate and require considerable skill in their formation. The walks are either of gravel or smoothly shaven turf and the beds are filled with choice flowering plants. It is evident that much of the beauty of this kind of flower garden or, indeed, any other where the figures are regular and intricate, must depend on the outlines of the beds or parterres which are like embroidery. To do this effectively, low-growing herbaceous plants of border flowers, perennials and annuals should be chosen such as will not exceed on an average one or two feet in height."

"In the *English flower garden*, the beds are either in symmetrical forms and figures or they are characterized by irregular curved outlines. [see Figure 11] The peculiarity of these gardens, at present so

fashionable in England, is that *each separate bed is planted with a single variety or at most two varieties of flowers*. Each bed, in its season, presents a mass of blossoms and the contrast of rich colors is much more striking than in any other arrangement. No plants are admitted that are shy bloomers or which have ugly habits of growth, meager or starved foliage; the aim being brilliant effect rather than the display of a great variety of curious or rare plants."

You will notice in Downing's diagram that the flower beds closest to the house and at a distant focal point are quite geometric whereas the ones along the sides of the designed area are in the irregular curved style mentioned above.



[Figure 11. English Flower-Garden.]

In describing what he calls the modern English flower garden, you will recognize that Downing is, in fact, describing what we today call Victorian bedding. This style began in England prior to 1850 and became the rage in our country in the latter part of the 19th century. Many today, particularly the English, consider it gauche. I disagree. Victorian bedding, properly employed, can be quite attractive, and when you think about it, is only a variation on the French style garden.

Downing goes on to discuss his general theories for planting and arranging flower gardens. "It is the aim of most persons to have a continued display of blossoms in the flower garden from the opening of the crocus and snow drop in the spring until autumnal frost cuts off the last pale asters or blackens the stems of the luxuriant dahlias in November. *This may be done with a very small catalog of plants if they are properly selected: such as, flower at different seasons, continue long time in bloom, and present fine masses of flowers.* On the other hand, a very large number of species may be assembled together; and owing to their being merely botanical rarities, and not bearing fine flowers, or to their blossoming chiefly in a certain portion of the season, or continuing but a short period in bloom, the flower garden will have put up but an insignificant appearance. [Avoid planting,] as we often see flower gardens here, with a heterogenous mixture of everything the possessor can lay his hands on or crowd within the enclosure."

Downing goes on to note that "The *mingled flower garden*, as it is termed, is by far the most common mode of arrangement in this country, though it is seldom well effected. The object in this is to expose the plants in the beds in such a manner that, while there is no predominance of bloom in any one portion of the beds, there shall be a general admixture of colors and blossoms throughout the entire garden during the whole season of growth." It is of interest that this approach is exactly the one that would be developed and advocated by

Jekyll and Lutyens fifty years later.

Downing goes on: "To promote the mingled look, the more showy plants should be often repeated in different parts of the garden and the less beautiful large plants being suffered to occupy but moderate space. The smallest plant should be nearest the walk, those a little taller behind them, and the largest should be furthest from the eye at the back of the border. A neglect of this simple rule will not only give the beds, when the plants are full grown, a confused look, but the beauty of the humbler and more delicate plants will be lost amid the tall, thick branches of their studier neighbors."

"Considerable experience is necessary to arrange even a moderate number of plants in accordance with these rules. To perform it successfully some knowledge of the habits of the plants is an important prerequisite; their height, time of flowering and the colors of their blossoms."

DOWNING ON THE USE OF SHRUBS

"Everything depends upon grouping well. It will be found that shrubs may be employed with excellent effect in connecting single trees or finishing a cluster composed of large trees or giving fullness to groups of tall trees newly planted on a lawn, or affecting a union between the building and ground." [Author's note: This is the beginning of foundation planting.]

"The finer and rarer species are disposed about the dwelling while the more hardy and more common sorts along the walks away from the dwelling. When walks are continued from the house through distant parts of the grounds, groups of shrubs may be planted along their margins here and there with excellent affect. They do not shut out or obstruct the view like large trees while they impart an interest to an otherwise tame and spiritless walk. Placed in the projecting bay round which the walk curves so as to appear to be a reason for its taking that curve, they conceal also the portion of the walk in advance and thus enhance the interest doubly. [What] we have said already respecting botanical rarities in flowering plants may be applied with equal force to shrubs, that is, that in order to produce a brilliant effect a few well chosen species, often repeated, are more effective than a great and ill-assorted melange."

NINETEENTH CENTURY GARDEN FASHIONS

by Ed Givhan

In the early 19th century, Alabama was frontier land. Refined ornamental gardens simply did not exist. Spanish Mobile was an exception. "The usual house was of wooden frame, filled in with clay or moss. The side was turned toward the street as in French times and behind was a garden, where flowers were grown as well as vegetables. The whole place was surrounded by a pickett fence." We must remember that in 1803 Mobile was no more than a tiny colonial outpost with a population of 810.*

Ornamental gardens probably appeared in Alabama for the first time in the 1830's. They may have incorporated the ideas of the Colonial Period from the Atlantic seaboard plus the more contemporary natural style advocated by Downing. In truth, it was probably a hodgepodge of whatever struck the early settlers fancy. Most gardens were likely to have been a willy-nilly collection of flowering plants set off to themselves.

COLONIAL GARDEN FASHIONS

1. Geometric layout, usually rectangular.
2. Fruit trees were incorporated in the gardens.
3. Gardens tended to be fit into the spaces between buildings.
4. Gardens were enclosed to prevent depredations by livestock -- fences were universally wooden.
5. Plants within the garden were mingled in a hap-hazard fashion and not laid out in geometric design.
6. Garden paths were sand or gravel.
7. Most gardens had raised beds using water resistant boards to raise them.
8. In the South, houses were very often situated on hilltops to afford vistas. The visitor to the garden could look through the garden or from the garden into the surrounding landscape.

* Mobile of the Five Flags by Peter Hamilton, pp 176, 182.

1800 to 1860 -- ANTEBELLUM SOUTH

The natural style was introduced from Europe and promoted by Andrew Jackson Downing (the extent to which this was adopted in the South is conjectural.). The features were:

1. Irregular layout.
2. Shrubs, flowers and trees were grouped around a large central lawn in thickets, (the English called these Spinneys).
3. An oval walk around the lawn and between the lawn and garden was characteristic.
4. Controlled views of the country side between the thickets were planned.
5. There were often garden rooms off to the side of the central lawn and thickets.
6. The thickets contained several species of trees, shrubs, and flowers arranged in an irregular fashion. The trend that we see today of massing one plant variety was not carried out at this time.

1850 - 1910 -- THE VICTORIAN PERIOD

1. Exotic plants are introduced into the garden. Large leaves were popular.
2. Carpet bedding. "The peculiarity of these gardens, at present so fashionable in England, is that each separate bed is planted with a single variety or at most two varieties of flowers." (Downing)
3. Foreign design elements: France - parterre gardens and boxwoods
Italy - terraces, columnar trees, bright colors.
4. Wrought iron fencing.
5. Foundation plantings became very popular, "affecting a union between the building and grounds. (Downing)
6. Garden ornamentation such as fountains, urns, and benches were popular.
7. Flowers with double blooms were promoted by seed houses.
8. The gardens tended to be ornate rather than simple and classical in design: rococo rather than classical. There was a strong emphasis on intricate lines and forms and geometric patterns in flower bed design.

Reference: Landscapes and Gardens for Historic Gardens, Rudy J. and Joy Favretti, published by The American Association for State and Local History.

" ALABAMA LANDSCAPES :
A Brief Outline." 1

by

George R. Stritikus,
County Agent

Alabama Cooperative Extension Service
Auburn University

March 1985
Revised 11/1991

I. PRESERVATION : OUR FIRST CONSIDERATION

- A. OVERALL GUIDELINES - In the reconstruction of any landscape around a period home, it is very important to preserve any extant features and/or to work them into any new plans.
1. Big Plant Materials, (the oldest on the site) should be conserved (pruned, fertilized, sprayed, etc.) and worked into the new design, rather than being removed. It's preferable to leave them where they are. If not, then relocate them. They add character to the site, and materials of comparable size will be prohibitively expensive. In one sense, they have more right to be on site than the new owners, who frequently come and go!
 2. Fragments of walks should be used to set the design of the new walks. Extant walks need not be preserved on site if they are in bad shape, but their design should not be ignored. If they are unsuitable where they lay, destroy them, but use their design elsewhere as a permanent record.

1. In 1985, because of his previous research and interest in Alabama's gardening history, the author was asked to write this brief survey for the chapter on "Site Work" in the Alabama Preservation Manual, a joint venture between the Alabama Council of the American Institute of Architects and the Alabama Historical Commission. This is available from the Ala. Historical Commission, 725 Monroe Street, Montgomery, AL, 36130-5101, for \$15.00. In June 1986, the "List of Recommended Plants..." (GSA#7) was added. See the list of sources at the end of this paper.

3. The archaeology of the site should not be disturbed. If the site requires grade changes, try to accomplish them above ground by adding to, rather than digging down. Bulldozers destroy any possibility of future archaeology. Even if the desire to explore the site is remote, it should still be kept an option for future generations.
4. Outbuildings are normally found in bad shape or not at all. Their location should be noted on new plans, and if at all possible, rebuilt. If not, try not to build over their location, as they are prime sites for archaeology. Outhouses make excellent tool storage structures. Dairies and spring houses with their lattice walls, are excellent for disguising air conditioner compressors. Smokehouses and kitchens make excellent additional storage, office or workshop space. Site plans should be flexible enough to allow outbuilding reconstruction on their original sites--either at the time of restoration, or at a future date.
5. Maintaining the integrity of the site is more important than a total, conjectural reconstruction. At this stage in the research into Alabama gardens, understatement is professionally safer than a big splash of pure fantasy !

II. CONSTRUCTION OF CONJECTURAL LANDSCAPES

- A. GENERAL GUIDELINES - From looking at diaries, journals, and old photographs--several things can be deduced to serve as guidelines. I hesitate to use the word "reconstruct" as only a few extant plans of old gardens prior to 1900 survive. See FS.#8,15,16, and PMI.#18,32, and 46 at the end of this document.
 1. The socio-economic level of the family (builder or successive generations) is not a foolproof indicator of the extensiveness of a landscape. Some of the finest houses and/or some of the wealthiest families in Alabama prior to 1900, lived with the most utilitarian of landscapes, as commonly understood today. Conversely, some of the most humble structures were crammed with flowers and shrubs.
 2. The educational level or the extent of travel, while helpful, does not necessarily indicate extensive landscapes or the use of more up-to-date styles.
 3. Extent of landscapes was determined by the personal idiosyncrasy of the individual. This is indicated in family stories or photos. In interpreting the site, you have to allow for successive owners and their varying degrees of interest. These complicate design decisions.
 4. Cost of maintenance today precludes many design decisions.

The position of priority, and dedication of personal and material resources of an avid gardener, can rarely be approached, unless the new owners are similarly afflicted. Chemical weed control and professional maintenance expertise can accomplish an acceptable appearance, but at a price. "Biting off more than we can chew" is a universal problem that definitely affects landscapes--then as now.

5. The average Alabama landscape was very Spartan, if not non-existent, prior to 1900; at least in today's sense.
6. The best that can be said is that the architecture dominated the site. That's the way they wanted it, and that's the way it should be kept. Lush Gardens of Eden surrounding every old home are generally a figment of latter-day imagination !
7. Garden or Landscape Designs - Any attempt to organize styles and assign them to specific dates is artificial. It is more valid to speak of an evolution in style and organize them that way. There is, however, a rough correlation between the two--dates at which certain styles seem to predominate. Whether they do or not does seem to be determined by common sense factors--i.e. cost, desire for style, interest of owner, etc.

Early - Pioneer to Civil War - A broad span with much divergence. On one hand you have strictly utilitarian considerations characterized by a general crudeness of style. However, many log cabins had vines and flowers on them. The most refined style was after the manner of Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton with their English park developments.

Middle - Post-Civil War to 1900's - The War definitely changed the way places looked. Vast estates were scaled down. Andrew Jackson Downing was widely read in Alabama and his style copied and adapted down into the present.² In general, more shrubs and flowers were used, than in the previous period.

Late - 1900 to 1940 - The period most people remember. It's the period easiest to document. Can be considered the "Grand Age" of Alabama gardens. At this point in time, when people remember grandmother's garden, this is the grandmother's garden they are remembering!

2. Most widely found in libraries in the South is Landscape Gardening and Rural Architecture- "A Treatise on the Theory and Practice Of Landscape Gardening Adapted to North America with a View to the Improvement of Country Residences," by A.J. Downing, 550 pages, 1849 with numerous editions.

8. Regional Variation: With all that's been said, there is still regional variation to deal with. The region affects design considerations. South Alabama, particularly Mobile, will be exposed to Spanish and French influences and plant materials. North Alabama developed next. Design considerations will be more English. Very early on, bricks were widely used for building, so they would be used in gardens of this region earlier. Central Alabama would generally come after the above. Its design influences seemed to come from North Alabama. Mobile started influencing plant materials in the rest of the state, only in the early 1900's.

B. HISTORICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN DEVELOPING CONJECTURED LANDSCAPES

1. Early founding of a Garden Club: In the early 1800's agricultural societies were founded to experiment and share ideas. The Chunnennuggee Ridge Horticultural Society was founded in 1847 outside Union Springs, in Bullock County. It is said to have been the first in the South, and the third in the nation. The membership came from Tuskegee and Eufaula, a circle of nearly 50 miles radius. From its minutes on file at Archives and History, it was first and foremost interested in flowers. It remained so for about 50 years. This early interest in flowers--annuals, perennials, and especially bulbs, would directly impact on conjectural landscapes of that period. See PMI.#4 at the end of this document.
2. The Range Laws: At the turn of this century, it became illegal to let livestock roam free. In 1920, the 3 urban counties - Mobile, Montgomery, and Jefferson - passed range laws requiring livestock confinement. Other counties followed suit in the 1940's. Total compliance was not effected until 1951, when the legislature forced all counties to enact enclosure laws to keep livestock out of the yards. Conjectural landscapes that omit this feature are quite anachronistic and truly strange-looking !
3. World War II: Many homes sold their cast and wrought iron fences, steps, and yard furniture to the scrap iron drives of the War effort. Those extant today are due to individuals who ran contrary to patriotic sentiment. So, the 1940's saw two events that removed enclosures from Alabama landscapes and opened the house to the grounds.
4. The Garden Club Movement of the 1920's and 30's: The garden club movement came to Alabama in the 1920's with the first statewide president being a lady from Montgomery, elected in 1938. It represented a grassroots movement that absorbed much of its momentum from the Women's Suffrage Movement a generation before. In a short span of years (1920-50's), they had succeeded in putting a foundation planting around most Alabama homes, including rural ones. Never before had shrubs been so widely used and so widely

appreciated. See PMI.#6,25,and 26 at the end of this document.

C. NOTES ON SPECIFIC LANDSCAPE FEATURES

1. Enclosures - Prior to 1940's, all homes had some kind of enclosures. The enclosed space is referred to as a yard. It was a place to do outside work, free from roaming livestock. Some enclosures were so large as to encompass 1 or 2 additional slave houses. Some enclosures were small, only enclosing the front of the house, while a separate enclosure was in the back. Some houses had enclosed flower gardens away from the house. The burial plot was enclosed to keep livestock from scratching on the monuments and pushing them over. Many times, small vegetable gardens were enclosed with another kind of fence, away from or adjacent to the enclosure of the house. In earlier dates, pioneer fields had high enclosures to keep out wild deer and domestic livestock. In short, we lived behind fences and the animals ran free, until after the 1940's.

a. Types of Fences:

Early - The pioneer fences were mostly wooden and easily built. Many would have been the split-rail fence. They were used to enclose fields, vegetable gardens, and possibly, homes. They usually used whatever trees were plentiful. Only those made of chestnut and red cedar lasted any length of time. Sometimes still found, they are usually not able to be reconstructed of hardwoods, because of the expense.

Middle - Fences were made of sawn lumber that involved carpentry skills. They began with posts set about every 6' to 8'. These posts were sometimes sawn 4" x 4", sometimes whole limbs of the same dimension were used, and sometimes split lumber. Between the posts, on or slightly underground was nailed a "snake board," usually a sawn 1"x10" or 12". Next came the pickets, usually sitting right down on the snake board. Pickets were of various styles. In some instances, thin split-rails were used. In many instances sawn 1"x1" were used. In some instances, 2"x2" were used, but I have not seen many which used our traditional 1"x4"s. Pickets were of uniform height and closely spaced. The gateposts were usually special - 6"x6" with a special carved finial or carpentered top. Pickets on gate were special, sawn to form an arch. Corner posts were like gateposts, sometime, but most often not. Gateposts were 6" to 2' or so higher than the pickets. Wooden fences would have been painted or whitewashed, but as time went on and labor got expensive, probably

not.

Late - Now we get those lovely, highly-carpentered wooden fences with different shaped pickets, with very fancy box-shaped corner and gateposts. Any pattern book of the neoclassical style of the 1910 and 20's--as well as early magazine photos-- will show you the wealth of design.

b. Materials Used:

Early - Mostly spilt lumber was used. Some sawn lumber was used. Surely unpainted as most of the cabins were, except possibly in Mobile. Only treated lumber should be used. Nails should be zinc-coated, so they don't rust and stain the pickets. Some wrought iron was used at the finer homes, probably painted a dark color. Bushes with thorns, maintained as a hedge, were also used for large enclosures.

Middle - Sawn lumber predominates. Barbed wire fences begin to appear. More wrought iron, along with cast iron, is used on better homes in the cities. Clipped hedges were often used for fences.

Late - Most anything is found. Wire fences come into vogue.

c. Height of Fences:

Early - Because of wild animals, fences were high. They appear as tall as a man's shoulder, probably 5' in many engravings.

Middle - As wild animals decrease, fences didn't need to be as tall. Cows don't jump as high as deer ! Some examples seem to be 3.5' to 4' tall.

Late - Hair-pin metal fence--still extant--seem to be 3' or so in cities. Farms used wire fences at 3.5' to 4'. Some fancy wooden fences are about the same. Some examples get taller again on grander houses for style purposes.

2. Walks and Yards:

a. Layout: In many instances, the enclosed yard had no walks at all. In some instances they did. In some, the gates were directly in front of the house, so a walk went straight to the door, with flower beds down each side. In others, the gate was off to one corner of the yard, for convenience - closer to town or closer to the barn. A walk curved up to the front door. In some instances the front yard was non-existent. The fence was right in front of the house, the gatepost located at the foot of the steps up to the porch. These varieties can be found all throughout the three periods, on all types of houses, both grand and small. In some, the yards are full of flowers, shrubs and

bulbs. In most, they are stark bare. As you move to the Middle period, with cities growing out to meet country, homes and streets being installed, many put in front walks because, for the first time, there really was a "front" to view the property from. In the Late period, the geometry of the city seemed to dictate the layout of the walks and yards, but there were many exceptions.

b. Materials Used:

Early - Rarely was brick used. North Alabama seems to be the exception. Some early examples seem to have had brick walks in a herringbone pattern. Some only had a brick landing at the foot of the porch steps - say 6' x 8' or 10' x 12'. Most Early, as well as Middle, walks and yards were swept dirt. White sand was desired, but owners settled for what they had. Many times, the first step was a flat rock in the earth to cut down on wet weather mess.

Middle - Many used nothing but swept dirt. (See Fact Sheet #6 on making cement and soil walks, for a procedure to recover the period look, without the period drawbacks.) Near the end of the period, cement hexagons began to be used. Brick patterns were most often herringbone or a running course. I've rarely seen basket weave until the 1950's. One exception is Pitts Folly at Uniontown, which seems to have an early basket weave front walk.

Late - Further use of cement hexagons and some black and white marble squares were used, with cement sidewalks taking over after the WWI. More brick was used since the turn of our century.

c. Problems with Brick: Bricks used on the ground needed to be a special high density, highly-fired brick to resist deterioration due to freezing and thawing. Early inhabitants found this out fast in North Alabama. Local brick would just not stand up and they had to be replaced every 10 years or so. This makes dating the use of brick walks very ambiguous. Just because they may be there now, gives you no idea when they were installed, and how many times they were replaced.

d. Reconstruction of Swept Dirt Walks and Yards: See the fact sheet #6 on how to use a cement soil mixture to reconstruct swept walks and yards. Refer to end of this article.

e. Pea Gravel: Use of gravel walks is essentially French and therefore suitable for Mobile and other places of French influence. Consider mixing sand with it and rolling it to make a harder (easier) surface to walk on.

- f. Crushed Rock: For many purposes, a finely crushed rock like number 8910 can come very close to looking like white sand. When packed and rolled, they can be quite tight and acid rain will cause it to set up like concrete. The texture is about like turkey grit, which is a little bit bigger than parakeet gravel.

3. Flower and Shrub Beds:

- a. Evolving Design: As said before, many enclosed yards had no flowers or shrubs at all. So far, I have not found reference to an herb garden or kitchen garden per se. Whatever culinary and medicinal plants were probably grown in the vegetable gardens or mixed into the front walk, if there was one. As their flowers multiplied, they expanded and ran along the front fence. Then finally, they expanded up against the house itself. Many times, beds would fill the yard before being put up against the house. This evolution is found throughout Early, Middle, and Late periods. Lots of flower beds made a haven for snakes and many persons were unwilling to accommodate beauty at the expense of safety. A plain swept area has always been, and still is, the best deterrent to snakes.

- b. Arrangement of Materials Within Beds: In general, flowers were allowed to sprout in the beds at will. Victorian taste had the beds planted in ribbons of color, but the effect was not long-lasting. Usually it was the Southern style to mix and match perennials and reseeding annuals. Sometimes attempts were made to balance beds to make them identical, but more often than not, plant materials were not used symmetrically.

c. Edging for the Beds:

Early - Poles of cedar and chestnut, maybe 4" in diameter, were laid on the ground and back-filled with soil. Sometimes the beds were lined with rocks. Most of those were upgraded later, so few examples would remain. Gaineswood had two enclosed flower gardens and it looks like sawn lumber was used to build the beds - 2" x 4" probably. In any instance, where old photos exist, the beds appear raised--probably due to constant sweeping of the walks. However, it was believed that cold, stale air was bad for vegetables, so many vegetables were planted on raised beds from the late 18 th. century on.

Middle - We have photos of sawn lumber, rocks, Confederate beer bottles, and bricks being used. Most often, all these materials would be used on the same property. A telltale sign of a modern landscape is uniformity of edging materials. With brick edging, I've seen bricks placed in a variety

of ways, but not the modern fashion of having the short end up. Usually it's with the long side up--sometimes a double row. Some photos show the sawtooth arrangement. A few examples show bricks laid in 3 courses, as if a wall was being built with no roll-lock at top.

Late - As fences came down, and more and more shrubs were put into the turf, fewer raised beds were used. There were flower beds, but beds didn't exist around everything.

D. PLANT MATERIALS APPROPRIATE FOR PERIOD LANDSCAPES

1. Shrubs - In the Early period, there was almost a total lack of their use. Even in the Middle period, not that large a palette was used, most of them being flowering shrubs. Only in the Late period were evergreens used to increase a sense of woodlands. Most early nurseries in the state were fruit tree. Many did not switch over to shrubbery until the 1920's and 30's.

Early - Use of mostly native plant material is appropriate. Some roses and some boxwoods were brought by pioneers as remembrances of places left. As such, they were specimen plants and should be used as such. Often one or more fragrant things were placed near porches or windows--sweet shrub, rose, lilac (which doesn't do well in central and south Alabama), rosemary, etc.

Middle - A beginning of using shrubs as specimens in beds, and the edging of beds with shrubs. Boxwood were more widely used. The late Middle period, probably saw the introduction of the old Liriope called Spicata. More flowering shrubs were used. Most shrubs were appreciated for their growth habits. Shearing was not normal, except for hedges. This means many deciduous things were cut back to the ground every other year or so. The Victorians liked loud colors in shrubs and dramatic contrast in textures. Things with big leaves and variegated foliage were popular.

Late - The blossoming of shrub use--heavy use--use that required constant pruning once they grew. The proximity of planting put heavy pressure on gardeners to begin shearing to keep things orderly. This was surely the Golden Age of shrubs. As example, the indica azalea (introduced in Charleston, SC, 1849) was present early in Mobile, but was thought to be too tender inland. 1930 saw their arrival in Montgomery, Eufaula, and Birmingham--an extremely late date! The karumes didn't come into use until 1940's and 50's. The colors and textures of shrubs were less loud and more refined than the Middle period.

2. Flowers - Annuals and Perennials - Seeds traveled well and very early on, could be carried around. Later, newspapers carried ads from drugstores and dry goods stores announcing a new arrival of seeds and bulbs. See "resources" at end of article for details.

Early - Mixed batches of seeds are appropriate. Things that lived in our humidity and reseeded themselves were preferred. Poppies, bachelor buttons, dianthus, foxglove, etc., four-o'clocks probably appropriate. Grown in beds, see above. Also appropriate are the flowering natives like black-eyed susans, coneflowers, monarda, wild iris, etc.

Middle - More extensive use of, and a greater variety of flowers. Iris limited to early white, purple, yellow, and blue. Daylilies, both yellow and orange, though orange was more popular. Their early name--outhouse lily--gives a clue to their use.

Late - Almost anything goes, and usually did.

3. Bulbs

Early - There was early interest in bulbs. Two types of simple daffodils were used. Bedding dahlias were also the rage. Use of French Roman hyacinths, snowflakes and Chinese sacred lilies.

Middle - There was renewed interest in daffodils late in this period. The use of large trumpet daffodils appropriate only after 1880. More species of daffodils used. Hardy gladiolus used. Cannas widely used into next period.

Late - Lilies appropriate, along with other daffodils. Lots of minor bulbs, use of more tropical bulbs--tritomas, etc. Lots of cannas at the turn of the century. (Today, leaf rolling caterpillars make use of systemic poisons, like cygon, a necessary soil drench or monthly spray.) Iris become more colorful, but still aren't ruffled, yet. Use of dwarf and intermediate iris appropriate. Some variation in basic daylily color, but still pretty restricted.

4. Turf - Broad areas of turf were designed into English park developments of the Early period. Gaineswood maintained its turf with a flock of sheep. Sheep are not long-lived here, so the used was rarely satisfactory. Most places in the Early period simply didn't concern themselves with such. The next turf plots to crop up were in the working man's garden of the late Middle period, where a square of turf occupied center stage in the backyard--bordered with a walk and flower beds. Up until the widespread use of the

lawnmower, turf areas were sickled one or two times a year. Municipal areas were even cut less. The lawnmower didn't come into wide use until the 1900's. In Central and South Alabama, centipede is the grass of choice for, if it is not mowed, it will not grow excessively high and can still be walked on. Weeds were and can still be walked on. Weeds were "natural" until after the 1950's, with the advent of herbicides (centipede resents many weed-killers and should not be heavily fertilized).

5. Vines - In all three periods, vines were widely used, much more so than now. In the Early period, many bare dog trots were adorned with vines. On some, the entire roof was covered with things like wisteria, and cypress vine. The Middle period saw more vines used on pillars, trellises, or just on strings at the edge of the porch. The Late period saw many exotic vines come into use. Honeysuckle is appropriate for the Middle and Late periods. Vines got the bad reputation of destroying the wood. When they are appropriately trellised that is not really a problem.
6. Houseplants and Pots - Even the earliest period had some houseplants. Generally it was a vine of some sort, growing in water or in a pot and trained around a window. In the Middle period, even more pot plants were used--palms, ivy around the window, etc. Those Victorian bay windows were usually full of pot plants. Commercial clay pots are appropriate only for the Late period. Hunt around at a local pottery for handmade pots for that truly authentic touch. If one can't be found, contact Bogg's Pottery, Rt. 1, Box 432, Prattville, Alabama 36067. They had pots in a Smithsonian show last year called "Southern Potters." They are on old Highway 31, north of Prattville, at the Pine Level exit, just off Interstate 65.
7. Roses - These were brought into the state very early, if not by the Spanish themselves. Gardens of the Early and Middle period relied heavily on roses as a major plant material. Even in the Late period, many roses were still in use. Older varieties are much more resistant to fungus diseases. With today's chemicals, blackspot control is no particular problem. See works by Dr. Bill Welch, listed at back of GSA #5- "List of Recommended Plants". A great source is the Old Rose Emporium in Texas, which carries only roses adapted for the Southeast.

E. GARDEN STRUCTURES - Comments & Notes

1. Arbors were widely used in all periods. Early arbors were usually for grapes. Late arbors were often ornamental vines. Early arbors were cedar posts with split rail for

frames. As these soon warp under the weight, it's usually easier to use 1 1/2 or 2" galvanized pipe for the frame. Fancier arbors would have masonry columns. Arbors of the Late period were those lovely colonnaded affairs with fancy wooden frames. Because of the shortness of wood's life and the weight of the vines, few have survived into the present. Allow ample headroom, particularly if the arbor is to be walked under.

Selecting Varieties : Early arbors were for practical purposes. They were usually for grapes. Muscadines are most suitable for us in central and south Alabama. On arbors with a lot of foot traffic underneath, consider using varieties that are "imperfect". These have only female flowers, with no male, pollen forming parts, present. These naturally have minimum fruitset. They aren't as messy. Some older, readily available, imperfect flowered varieties are Dulcet, Higgins, Hunt, Scuppernong, Summit, and Fry (which is not always cold hardy). The use of female, fruiting vines in traffic will be regretted.

2. Benches & Pedestals - Pedestals were for big pots full of flowers and were popular in the Middle and Late periods. Many were made of rockwork using cement and round pebbles. Of course, at the opposite end from this vernacular style was cast iron, and it can be used in all 3 periods.
3. Gazebos - In the Early and Middle period, two forms of gazebos were used commonly, but rarely survived. One was the type made out of tree limbs in a "rustic" style. See Downing for examples. The other was the gazebo "not made with hands." The owner planted Eastern red cedar (5 or 6) in a circle - maybe 10' - 15' apart. When they got tall enough, someone was sent up into them with a chain. By using a rope attached to the chain, each tree was climbed and tied to its opposite, so eventually all 6 met above the center of the circle, being tied together with the chain, forming an evergreen canopy over the circle. These persisted well into the 1900's. The high style of all 3 periods saw masonry structures much like temples, usually round with a dome roof. Wooden structures were also used in the Middle and Late period. Many gazebos were made of wooden lattice painted white. Middle period photos show many of these as quite awkward looking, with little style and grace.
4. Goldfish Pools were standard items in Late period gardens. More often, they were free-form with rocks embedded in the concrete rim. Sometimes they were square or rectangle with brick edging. They usually were 2'+ deep (which is really not necessary here in the south and central Alabama), and had waterlilies growing in boxes on the bottom.
5. Pillars were used in all three periods. Rambler roses were usually grown on them. Most pillars were free-standing. Ideally, an old red cedar died, was topped out, and the

branches cut off, leaving 6" - 12" studs for the vines to grow up on. In the Middle and Late periods, pillars were put in a row 10' - 12' apart and a chain was draped between them. The roses were then grown closely to the chain for a swag effect. Many times these formed the outer boundary of a flower garden or walk.

6. Trellises began to appear commonly in the Middle period. Many were awkward wooden lattice contraptions that don't need to be put back, as they were not long-lived. In the Middle and Late periods, trellises were made of old galvanized pipe and wire. These lasted indefinitely. Many were arches--both over walks or out in the yards. Many were just rectangles or square, say 8'X 12'. These are worth putting back.

III. RESOURCES FOR FURTHER STUDY OF ALABAMA GARDENS:

A. PUBLISHED SOURCES BY VARIOUS AUTHORS:

Letters from Alabama by Philip Henry Gosse,
Overbrook House: P.O. Box 7688, Mountain Brook, AL
35253. Journal observing many details of Central
Alabama in 1838. Very complete account - 300
pages. A 1983 reprint of the 1859 edition is
available from Dr. Virginia Van de Veer
Hamilton, at above address.

"Decorative Plants Around Historic Alabama Homes." by
Dr. Henry P. Orr; Alabama Review, January 1958.
pp. 5-30. Well worth the effort to get a Xerox
copy. He contacted a historian in each county to
submit information, then compiled all the
information. I have done an alphabetical listing of
all the plant names in his article, but have not
yet published it as a Plant Material Index. Contact
me if you want that listing.

"Ornamental Planting in Eufaula." by Dr. Henry P. Orr;
Alabama Review, October 1963, pp. 260-269.
Particularly in depth information about one city of
the Black Belt. Well worth getting a Xerox copy.

"Rich Heritage." by Martha Belle Sulzby; a chapter in
Pioneer American Gardening, compiled by Elvenia
Slossan, 1949-51 President of the Nation Council of
Federated Garden Clubs; Coward-McCann, Inc. New
York, 1951, pp. 75-79.

"Gardens I Remember." by Mrs. Annie B. Williamson
Fitch, Alabama Review, Spring 1945, pp. 111-116.

B. ITEMS BY THE PRESENT AUTHOR:

MAGAZINE ARTICLES:

Alabama Heritage", No. 5, Summer 1987. Published
Quarterly by the University of Alabama. Section 3
titled "Stepping into the Past: The Story of the
Battle-Friedman Garden", pages 30-47. Lots of
photos and drawings. 22 pages

BROCHURES:

Alabama: Her People, Houses, and Gardens

"A glimpse at the way various Alabamians have
expressed their understanding of design and their
love of plants during the last two centuries." A

brochure of 54 pages that accompanied a photographic exhibit showing 16 gardens all over the state, with a brief history of the house, the gardener, and the garden. Both were prepared by the author for the 4 Annual Meeting in Montgomery, 1986, of Southern Garden History Society, with a partial Grant from that organization. A revised edition, done in 1987, has drawings of all the gardens added to the text. Seven photo albums combining both the exhibit and the brochure were put on deposit at several libraries around the state.
 Updated 1992 version 58 pages

ARTICLES:

The following is a listing of the articles I have written, using various sources, for various reasons, that pull together information I have researched. They have been assigned numbers and are arranged roughly in the order they were written.

- GSA #1 "On Being There", an account of a 1907 Nanz & Neuner Florist Catalog from Shelbyville, Ky. For the Heritage Rose Bulletin.
 1981 1 page.
- GSA #2 "Old English Boxwoods of a Georgia Plantation" an account of the boxwoods at the Jones Plantation near Millen, Georgia. For the Journal of the American Boxwood Society.
 March 1982 5 pages
- GSA #3 "Alabama Landscapes", for the Alabama Preservation Manuel, a brief outline for amateur and restoration professional. Pre-computer with typos! For the Alabama Historical Commission.
 March 1985 9 pages
- GSA #4 "Fine Tuning the Period Garden", the script of a slide presentation. A visual overview of 200 years of Alabama's gardening history. Prepared for S.G.H.S. meeting March 14, 1986 in Montgomery.
 March 1986 9 pages
- GSA #5 "List of Recommended Period Plants for Alabama Gardens" a listing of plants found in historical references that I have come across. For the Alabama Historical Commission.
 June 1986 20 pages
- GSA #6 "An early (1813-15) List of Bulbous Plants associated with the LeConte Plantation at Woodmanston, Georgia.
 October 1990 9 pages
- GSA #7 "List of Rec.Plants..." (same as GSA #5, only revised.)

March 1991

30 pages

GSA #8 "Alabama Landscapes" (same as GSA #3, only revised.)
November 1991 22 pages

GSA #9 "A Brief History of the Leconte Botanical Garden
at Woodmanston, Ga."
December 1991 6 pages

FACT SHEETS:

The following is a listing of the Fact Sheets I have assembled, for various reasons. They pull together information in a more manageable form, but are not really narratives, per se. They have been assigned numbers and are arranged in the order they were written.

FS #1 "Toward a Period Look in Landscapes." Bare outline
for a meeting of the Historical Commission in
Tuscaloosa.
November 1979 2 pages

FS #2 "Resource List- Toward a Period Look." for the same
meeting. With Wayne Farris, County Agent,
Tuscaloosa.
November 1979 1 page

FS #3 "Plant Materials at Fendall Hall, Eufaula." A good
list for a turn of our century garden.
1980 2 pages

FS #4 "Resource List - Historic Alabama Plants," listing
only three articles prior to my work in the field.
For Old House Revival Meeting.
August 7, 1981 1 page

FS #5 "Roses listed by Mary Wallace Kirk in Locust Hill " A
list of 15 roses in her grandmothers garden.
1982 1 page

FS #6 "Recipe for Hard Dirt Walks." How to make a
soil/cement mixture that sets up and looks like
swept earth.
1982 2 pages

FS #7 "Lowndesboro, Alabama." A brief history prepared for
the S.G.H.S. in Montgomery.
March 1986 2 pages

FS #8 "Rosewood, 1855, Lowndesboro." A history and
measured drawings of the second oldest garden in the
state that has always been taken care of and was
never changed. Prepared for S.G.H.S. meeting.
March 1986 2 pages

- FS #9 "Roses in Alabama Gardens." A listing of all rose names found in the materials thus far. (see revised listing further down.) For the Heritage Rose Society.
September 1986 11 pages
- FS #10 "Roses Sold in Alabama Before 1900." Compiling of several early sources.
September 1986 7 pages
- FS #11 "Roses Sold in Alabama in 1920's & 30's." Compiling several rose nursery catalogs.
1986 9 pages
- FS #12 "Roses in Alabama Gardens -1986." FS #9 revised to include two new sources.
July 1987 16 pages
- FS #13 "Roses Sold in Alabama Before 1900- Which are still in Cultivation Today." All roses in FS #10 were cross checked in Modern Roses 8 to see if they are still grown today.
January 1987 6 pages
- FS #14 "Roses in Alabama Gardens - Which are still in Cultivation Today." All roses in FS #12 were cross checked in Modern Roses 8 to see if they are still grown today.
July 1987 12 pages
- FS #15 "Battle - Friedman Update." An account about finding the documentation to make this our state's oldest, extant garden. For the Tuscaloosa Preservation Society.
February 1988 5 pages
- FS #16 "New Light of the Battle - Friedman Yard." New photos change the way the front walks and hedge looked in FS # 15. For the Tuscaloosa Preservation Society.
November 1991 4 pages

PLANT MATERIAL INDEXES:

These Indexes pull out and list references to gardens and plant materials from each of the following books, magazines and/or articles, published and unpublished. Here again they have been assigned numbers and are listed in the order they were written.

- PMI #1 Collirene, The Queen Hill by J. M. Albaugh and R.L. Traylor; Herf Jones-Paragon Press, 1977.
1981 1 page
- PMI #2 "Our Settlement", an unpublished manuscript by Miss

- J. Nicholene Bishop for "Tanglewood", her home in Hale County, now run by the University of Ala.
1981 1 page
- PMI #3 Alabama Antebellum Architecture. A scrapbook view of the 1930's by W. & V. Burkhardt; Un. of Ala Printing Service, for Ala. Hist. Comm., 1976.
1981 6 pages
- PMI #4 Minutes of the Chunnannuggee Ridge Horticultural Society Unpublished book in the Manuscript Collection of Alabama Archives and History.
1981 2 pages
- PMI #5 Sketches for Alabama, by Mary Gordon Duffe, Brown and Nabors Editors, Un. of Ala. Press, 1970. About Jefferson County in the 1860's.
1981 1 page
- PMI #6 "Gardens I Remember", an article in the Alabama Historical Quarterly, Spring 1945 by Mrs. Annie B. Williamson Fitch.
1981 1 page
- PMI #7 Antebellum Mansions of Alabama by Ralph Hammond, Bonanza Books, New York, 1951.
1981 1 page
- PMI #8 Historic Homes of Alabama and Their Traditions. National League of Pen Women, Birmingham Alabama, 1935.
1981 4 pages
- PMI #9 White Pillars by Frazer Smith; Bramhall House, New York, 1966.
1981 1 page
- PMI #10 Locust Hill by Mary Wallace Kirk, Un. of Ala. Press, 1975. Built in 1823. Bought by her family in 1865; Tuscumbia, Colbert County.
1982 2 pages
- PMI #11 History of Alabama, 1540-1900 by Lucille Griffith, Colonial Press, Northport, Al. 1962.
1982 5 pages
- PMI #12 Journal of a Residence on a Georgia Plantation in 1838 by Frances Anne Kemble; A. Knopf, 1961. Not about Alabama but very good!
1982 6 pages
- PMI #13 "The American Farmer" magazine, Vol. 7, 1825 Baltimore, J. Skinner, Editor. One of three bound volumes in library at Magnolia Grove. This one signed by Isaac Croom.

- 1983 3 pages
- PMI #14 same...Vol. 9, 1827
1983 4 pages
- PMI #15 same.. Vol. 14, 1832
1983 7 pages
- PMI #16 Letter by Thomas Hazzard of St. Simon's Island, dated April 1832 from Southern Agriculturist, reprinted in American Farmer Nov. 30, 1832 concerning flowers in his Southern garden.
September. 1983 2 page
- PMI #17 "Myrtle Hall, Boligee, Al. cir 1840." A description of the garden by the daughter of the builder from the National Register Nomination file at Historical Commission.
September. 1983 1 page
- PMI #18 Plan for the rose garden, with the plant list , for Gowrie Plantation on Argyle Island, Ga., 1859, in the Mangault Papers; Southern Historical Collection at Chapel Hill, NC.
June 1983 2 pages
- PMI #19 Bound Herbarium of Judge Thomas M. Peters, of Moulton, in Lawrence County. In the State Herbarium at Auburn, compiled by Dr. John Freeman.
May 1983 1 page
- PMI #20 List of plants from Betty Roper's Herbarium notebook, Dated Spring 1853, Rocky Mount, Montgomery County at Alabama's Archives and History.
March 1983 2 pages
- PMI #21 List of plants from Frances Smith's Herbarium notebook, Lowndesboro, Ala - about 1850. Now at the State Herbarium in Auburn.
April 1983 3 pages
- PMI #22 Letters from Alabama 1817-1822 by Ann Newport Royall; Un. of Ala. Press, 1969, Southern History Publications number 14. Really interesting !
December 1984 7 pages
- PMI #23 Journal of Ann Fennel Davis of Trinity, Alabama, privately published for members of the family. Design of an 1858 formal garden, with watercolor print, located in Madison County, near Decatur.
March 1984 2 pages
- PMI #24 Letters from Alabama, an annotated edition of Philip Henry Gosse, by Dr. Virginia Van der Veer Hamilton, Overbrook House 1983. Originally

- published 1859. All takes place in Dallis County
1838. Very worthwhile reading.
June 1985 7 pages
- PMI #25 Typescript of a garden club program given in Montgomery
and published in the newspaper Feb. 24. 1907. The
older members speak of gardens they remember.
April 1985 3 pages
- PMI #26 same but subsequent program , March 1907. Both on
file at Alabama's Archives and History.
April 1985 3 pages
- PMI #27 "Little Magnolia" an unpublished manuscript, written
by Mary Dreyspring in 1939. A history about an
early Montgomery nursery and the Magnolia beside
the house.
June 1985 13 pages
- PMI #28 The Dairies of Dr. Hardy Vickers Wooton, of Rosewood
in Lowndesboro. 4 vols. from 1813-1856, in
manuscript collection at Alabama's Archives and
History.
August 1985 2 pages
- PMI #29 Mother was a Rebel. by Helen Blackshear, August 1972
private printing. about her mother, who was raised
in the Battle-Friedman house in Tuscaloosa.
August 1985 3 pages
- PMI #30 List of ornamental plants listed in Wilson's 1860
Montgomery nursery catalog. In private hands.
April 1986 1 page
- PMI #31 Pegues Dairies and Letters. typed and bound by
Mattie Pegues Wood for her children. About her
mother, Rebecca Ann Evens Pegues, who came to
Alabama in 1840.
August 1986 4 pages
- PMI #32 The 1857 landscape plan and plant list of Henry
Watson's house in Greensboro, Alabama with brief
history.
July 1987 5 pages
- PMI #33 The 1858-59 nursery catalog of C.C. Langdon at
Langdon Station, outside Mobile. The largest
19th.C nursery in Alabama.
1987 10 pages
- PMI #34 Plants listed in 1873-4 nursery catalog of C.C.
Langdon. Copy in private hands.
July 1987 5 pages
- PMI #35 Roses listed in C.C. Langdon 1873-4 nursery catalog.

- July 1987 3 pages
- PMI #36 Books that C.C. Langdon recommends in his 1873-4 nursery catalog as necessary for Southerners to read.
July 1987 1 page
- PMI #37 "Remember When" by Tom Conner, a column out of Montgomery Advertiser for May of 1988, describing what back yards used to look like, until recently.
June 1988 1 page
- PMI #38 A list of plants in Grandmother's Garden. A survey of Federated garden Club members in Georgia.
September 1990 5 pages
- PMI #39 The 5 Volume Bound Herbarium of John Carmichael Jenkins of Natchez, Ms. Dated 1836-37. The history of the man and a listing of the plants.
August 1990 15 pages
- PMI #40 "The American Cotton Planter", a magazine published in Montgomery, Ala. from 1853-1861. Very interesting!
March 1990 10 pages
- PMI #41 The Courtship book of Mary King Robinson. A small pressed flower book at Burritt Museum in Huntsville. Dated January 1861.
March 1991 2 pages
- PMI #42 Thomas Affleck's Evaluation of 1854 Southern Gardens, A letter to the editor of the Natchez paper, taken from the American Cotton Planter, same year. Very worthwhile!
April 1991 5 pages
- PMI #43 "Azaleas were rare in 1859 Gardens". Article by Robert Nelson, a Columbus Ga. nurseryman writing for the American Cotton Planter, published in Montgomery.
April 1991 4 pages
- PMI #44 A list of plants from the Fannie A. Nelms Herbarium, dated 1858, from Marion, Alabama."
December 1991 15 page
- PMI #45 An entry for "Flowers and Floriculture" from Thomas McAdory Owen's 1920 History of Alabama.
December 1991 3 pages
- PMI #46 Measurements & Notes on the yard at Tanglewood, Hale County. (See PMI #2 also.)
December 1991 4 pages
- PMI #47 A partial listing of the plants in the Sarah Frances Jenkins Herbarium, dated 1861, from Livingston,

Alabama.
December 1991

2 pages

The above numbered items are on file in the following places:

Alabama Archives and History in Montgomery,
Anniston Public Library,
Auburn University Library - Archives,
Auburn University Library - Special Collections,
Birmingham Public Library,
Cullman County Public Library,
Decatur Public Library,
Gadsden Public Library,
Huntsville Public Library,
Massachusetts Horticultural Society Library,
Mobile Public Library,
New York Botanical Society Library,
St. Augustine Historical Society Library,
The Peachtree Garden Library - Atlanta, GA.
and the University of Alabama Library at Tuscaloosa.

If unable to find, call Montgomery County Agent's office at
1-205-281-1292 for copies.

or write to

George R. Stritikus, County Agent
4576 South Court Street
Montgomery, Alabama
36105

I wish to express gratitude to Dr. Fred Deneke of the
Horticulture staff at Auburn University for proof reading this
text for me. I enjoy having him as a friend and colleague.

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RECIPE FOR HARD DIRT WALKS

Most old homes in Alabama had swept walks and yards. Many gardeners wanted white sand, but had to settle for dirt. Few homes had brick walks in gardens before the 1900's. In period restorations, swept dirt areas are not desirable for several reasons.

1. Weeds create a maintenance headache.
2. Grit tracked into the restoration is hard on floor surfaces.
3. During wet weather they create more mess than we are willing to put up with.

However, nothing goes so far in creating a really authentic "look" than these swept dirt walks and yards.

Using certain products and processes, today, we can accomplish the same "look" without the hassle of being truly authentic. It involves mixing cement with dry, powdered soil, and using it to make our walks and yards. Here is one recipe used at Lucas Tavern - Hull Street Historic District, Montgomery, Alabama.

1. Order approximately 35 lbs. of Portland Type I cement for every square yard of walk surface. Color is a consideration, so order only the gray and not the white.
2. Choose a dry, windless day in warm weather to do the work.
3. Put out the cement evenly over each square yard of soil. Be sure to remove (or kill) all grass and weeds from the area beforehand. Contact local county agent for suitable chemicals to use.
4. Rototill the cement into the first 5 inches of soil, being sure to mix it in very well.
5. Using boards, make a "crown" on the area. (1" or 2" higher in the middle than at the edges) This assures water will not stand.
6. Using a lawn roller (from a rental store), roll the area to compress the air out of the soil-cement mixture and check for a "crown" again.
7. Using a fine spray nozzle, wet the surface well. Be sure to soak the area around the edges.
8. Try to keep any heavy traffic off the area for 7 days (or several good rainfalls), so the area can "cure."
9. When weeds and grass become a problem around the cemented area, spray them with Glyphosate ("Round-up" or "Klean-up").

Following these steps in restoration, you can have the "period" looks without the headaches.

HISTORICAL NOTE:

Many homes had flagstones on the ground at the foot of the wooden or cast iron steps. The finer homes used slabs of marble, the lesser ones used large, flat rocks. These helped cut down wet weather mess. In restoring a walk, don't forget to put in one or two stones for that "authentic look," although there will no longer be any need for them.



George Stritikus
Associate County Agent

A LIST OF RECOMMENDED PERIOD PLANT MATERIALS
FOR ALABAMA GARDENS . (1)

by

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Montgomery, Al
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For the sake of convenience and organization, Alabama's gardening history has been divided into three major time periods. While this may be seen as artificial, there are some visual characteristics in common which would establish "Periods" as being grounded in visual reality. They are the following :

1. Early Gardens - Pioneer to 1850
2. The Golden Age - 1850s to 1900
3. Late Gardens - 1900 to 1940.

I. PLANTS APPROPRIATE FOR EARLY ALABAMA GARDENS
- Pioneer to 1850. (2)(3)

Trees: (*indicates wide popularity)

Mimosa Tree	-- <u>Albizia julibrissin</u> Durazz. (4)
Hickory	-- <u>Carya</u> Nutt.
Chestnuts:	
American	-- <u>Castanea</u> Mill. (5).
Chinquapin	-- <u>Castanea pumila</u> (L.) Mill.
Catalpa	-- <u>Catalpa bignonioides</u> Walt.
Dogwood	-- <u>Cornus florida</u> L.
Hawthorn	-- <u>Crataegus</u> L.
Persimmon	-- <u>Diospyrus virginiana</u> L.
Beech	-- <u>Fagus grandifolia</u> J. F. Ehrh.
Honey Locust	-- <u>Gleditsia triacanthos</u> L.
Sweet Gum	-- <u>Liquidambar styraciflua</u> L.
Tulip Tree	-- <u>Liriodendron tulipifera</u> L.
Magnolias: (6)	
Cucumber	-- <u>Magnolia acuminata</u> (L.) L.
Southern	-- <u>Magnolia grandiflora</u> L.
Bigleaf	-- <u>Magnolia macrophylla</u> Michx.
Umbrella	-- <u>Magnolia tripetala</u> L. (7)
*Chinaberry	-- <u>Melia azedarach</u> L.
Black Gum	-- <u>Nyssa sylvatica</u> Marsh.

Yuccas: (14)	
Spanish-Bayonet	-- <u>Yucca aloifolia</u> L.
Adam's Needle	-- <u>Yucca filamentosa</u> L.
Huckleberry	-- <u>Vaccinium stamineum</u> L.

Vines:

Cross Vine	-- <u>Bignonia capreolata</u> L.
Trumpet Creeper	-- <u>Campsis radicans</u> (L.) Seem. ex Bur.
Watermelon	-- <u>Citrullus lanatus</u> (Thumb.) Matsum. & Nakai
Blue Morning-glory	-- <u>Convolvulus</u> L. (46)
Muskmellon	-- <u>Cucumis melo</u> var. <u>reticulatus</u> Ser.
Cucumber	-- <u>Cucumis sativus</u> L.
Gourd	-- <u>Cucurbita pepo</u> var. <u>ovifera</u> L.
Cypress Vines:	
Scarlet	-- <u>Ipomoea coccinea</u> L.
Crimson	-- <u>Ipomoea quamoclit</u> L.
Scarlet Woodbine	-- <u>Lonicera sempervirens</u> L.
Passionflower	-- <u>Passiflora incarnata</u> L.
Greenbrier	-- <u>Smilax lanceolata</u> L.
Grapes:	
Fox Grape	-- <u>Vitis lambrusca</u> L.
Muscadine (58)	-- <u>Vitis rotundifolia</u> Michx.
*Wisteria	-- <u>Wisteria frutescens</u> (L.) Poir (15)

Flowers:

Horned Poppy	-- <u>Argemone mexicana</u> L. 'alba'
Butterfly Weeds:	
Orange B. W.	-- <u>Asclepias tuberosa</u> L.
Smallflowered	-- <u>Asclepias perennis</u> (16)
Gerardia	-- <u>Aureolaria flava</u> (L.) Farw.
Canna	-- <u>Canna indica</u> L. (red & yellow mixture)
Dayflower	-- <u>Commelina erecta</u> L.
Larkspur	-- <u>Delphinium carolinianum</u> Walt.
Strawberry	-- <u>Fragaria virginiana</u> Duchesne
Cotton	-- <u>Gossypium herbaceum</u> L.
Sunflower	-- <u>Helianthus rigidus</u> (Cass.) Desf.
Cardinal Flower	-- <u>Lobelia cardinalis</u> L.
Horehound	-- <u>Marrubium</u> L.
*Four-O'clock	-- <u>Mirabilis jalapa</u> L.
Primroses:	
Evening P.	-- <u>Oenothera biennis</u> L. (17)
Sundrops	-- <u>Oenothera fruticosa</u> L.
Cactus	-- <u>Opuntia humifusa</u> (Raf.) Raf.
Apple-scented Geranium	-- <u>Pelargonium odoratissimum</u> (L.) L'Her. ex Ait.
Pokeberry	-- <u>Phytolacca americana</u> L.
Brambles:	
*"Easter Rose"	-- <u>Rubus coronarius</u> Sweet (a double-flowered Raspberry)
Raspberry	-- <u>Rubus idaeus</u> L.

Goldenrod	-- <u>Solidago altissima</u> L.
Indian Pink	-- <u>Spigelia marilandica</u> L.
Mullein	-- <u>Verbascum thapsus</u> L.
Indian Corn	-- <u>Zea mays</u> L.
Wild Zinnia	-- <u>Zinnia pauciflora</u> (18)
Texas Pinks (19)	

Bulbs: (20)

Dahlia	-- <u>Dahlia</u> Cav.
Hyacinth	-- <u>Hyacinthus orientalis</u> var. <u>albulus</u> Bak. (probably the French Roman) (21)
Peony	-- <u>Paeonia lactiflora</u> Pall.
Tulip	-- <u>Tulipa</u> L.

II. PLANTS APPROPRIATE FOR MIDDLE ALABAMA GARDENS

- The Golden Era, 1850 to 1900. (22)

Trees: (In addition to those listed before.)

Crapemyrtle	-- <u>Lagerstroemia indica</u> L. (23)
Double Flowering Apple	-- <u>Malus</u> Mill.
Double Flowering Almond	-- <u>Prunus dulcis</u> (Mill.) D. A. Webb
Double Flowering Peach	-- <u>Prunus persica</u> (L.) Batsch.

(Plants above are listed in early nursery catalog.)

(Plants below come from various other sources.)

Maples:

Boxelder	-- <u>Acer negundo</u> L.
Red Maple	-- <u>Acer rubrum</u> L.
Red Buckeye	-- <u>Aesculus pavia</u> L.
Serviceberry	-- <u>Amelanchier canadensis</u> (L.) Medic.

True Cedars:

Deodar Cedar	-- <u>Cedrus Deodara</u> (D. Don.) G. Don.
Cedar-of-Lebanon	-- <u>Cedrus libani</u> A. Rich.
White Fringe Tree	-- <u>Chionanthus virginicus</u> L.
Japan Cedar (24)	-- <u>Cryptomaria japonica</u> (L.f.) D. Don.
China Fir (25)	-- <u>Cunninghamia lanceolata</u> (Lamb.) Hook
Varnish tree (26)	-- <u>Firmiana simplex</u> (L.) W.F. Wright
Ginko	-- <u>Ginko biloba</u> L.
Silver-Bell	-- <u>Halsia carolina</u> L.
American Holly	-- <u>Ilex opaca</u> Ait.
*Eastern Red Cedar	-- <u>Juniperus virginiana</u> L.
Sweet Bay Magnolia	-- <u>Magnolia virginiana</u> L.
Crabapple	-- <u>Malus coronaria</u> (L.) Mill.
Paulownia (27)	-- <u>Paulownia tomentosa</u> (Thunb.) Steud.

Oaks:

Holly-leaved	-- <u>Quercus Ilex</u> L.
Turkey	-- <u>Quercus incana</u> Bartr.

- Cork -- Quercus Suber L.
Black Locust -- Robinia pseudoacacia L.
Willows: (28)
 Weeping -- Salix babylonica L.
 Corkscrew -- Salix Matsudana 'Tortuosa' G. Koidz.
European Mt. Ash -- Sorbus Aucuparia L.
Western Redcedar -- Thuja plicata J. Donn. ex D. Don
Lilac Chaste Tree -- Vitex agnus-castus L.

Shrubs: (In addition to those listed before.)

- Boxwoods: (29)
 American Box -- Buxus sempervirens L.
 Dwarf English Box -- Buxus sempervirens var. 'suffruticosa' L.
 Sweet Shrub -- Calycanthus floridus L.
 *Cape Jasmines: (30)
 Old Fashioned -- Gardenia chinensis L.
 Gardenia -- Gardenia jasminoides Ellis
 Dwarf Gardenia -- Gardenia radicans L.
 Mock Orange -- Philadelphus coronarius L. (31)
 *Roses: (Three pages worth)
 9 different kinds of China Roses
 13 different kinds of Tea Roses
 7 different kinds of Noisettes
 4 different kinds of Bourbon Roses
 7 different kinds of Moss Roses
 75 different kinds of Hybrid Perpetuals
 16 Misc. Roses including

Rosa banksiae Ait:f -- Lady Banks' Rose
 (white as well as yellow)
Rosa chinesis var. 'Viridiflora' Jacq. -- The Green Rose
Rosa gallica L. -- Apothecary Rose
Rosa X harrisonii Rivers -- Harrison's Yellow
Rosa hugonis Hensl. -- Father Hugo Rose
Rosa laevigata Michx. -- Cherokee Rose
Rosa roxburghii Tratt. -- Chestnut Rose
 Spirea -- Spiraea (32)
 Lilac -- Syringa vulgaris L. (33)

(Plants above are listed in early nursery catalog.)

(Plants below come from various other sources).

- | | | |
|----------------------|----|--|
| Butterfly bush | -- | <u>Buddleia Davidii</u> Franch. |
| Camellia | -- | <u>Camellia japonica</u> L. (34) |
| Jersey Tea Ceanothus | -- | <u>Ceanothus americanus</u> L. |
| Buttonbush | -- | <u>Cephalanthus occidentalis</u> L. |
| Rock Rose | -- | <u>Cistus</u> L. |
| Quince (35) | -- | <u>Cydonia oblonga</u> Mill. |
| Scotch Broom | -- | <u>Cytisus scoparius</u> (L.) Link |
| Deutzia | -- | <u>Deutzia scabra</u> Thunb. (36) |
| Loquat | -- | <u>Eriobotrya japonica</u> (Thunb.) Lindl. |
| Forsythia (37) | -- | <u>Forsythia X intermedia</u> Zab. |

Virginia Sweetspire	--	<u>Itea virginica</u> L.
Mountain Laurel	--	<u>Kalmia latifolia</u> L.
Kerria	--	<u>Kerria japonica</u> (L.) DC.
Bay tree	--	<u>Laurus nobilis</u> L.
Privet	--	<u>Ligustrum sinense</u> Lour.
Bananashrub	--	<u>Michelia figo</u> (Lour.) K. Spreng.
*Sweet Myrtle	--	<u>Myrtus communis</u> L.
Oleander	--	<u>Nerium oleander</u> L.
Tea Olive	--	<u>Osmanthus fragrans</u> (Thunb.) Lour.
Photinias: (38)		
Japanese	--	<u>Photinia glabra</u> (Thunb.) Maxim.
Chinese	--	<u>Photinia serrulata</u> Lindl.
*Pittosporums: (39)		
Green	--	<u>Pittosporum Tobira</u> (Thunb.) Ait.
Variegated	--	<u>Pittosporum Tobira</u> 'Variegata' (Thunb.) Lindl.
*Cherry Laurel	--	<u>Prunus caroliniana</u> (Mill.) Ait.
Pomegranate	--	<u>Punica granatum</u> L.
Native Azalea	--	<u>Rhododendron canescens</u> (Michx.) Sweet (40)
Dewberry	--	<u>Rubus</u> (41)
Elderberry	--	<u>Sambucus canadensis</u> L.
Persian Lilac (33)	--	<u>Syringa persica</u> L.
*Arborvitae	--	<u>Thuja occidentalis</u> L.
Highbush Blueberry	--	<u>Vaccinium corymbosum</u> L.
*Snowball	--	<u>Viburnum</u> L.
Weigela (42)	--	<u>Weigela florida</u> (Bunge) A. DC.

Vines: (In addition to those listed before.)

Carolina Jasmine	--	<u>Gelsemium sempervirens</u> (L.) Ait.
White Jasmine	--	<u>Jasminum officinale</u> L. (43)
Honeysuckles: (44)		
Monthly	--	<u>Lonicera x Heckrottii</u> Rehd.
Japan	--	<u>Lonicera japonica</u> Thunb.
Red Woodbine	--	<u>Lonicera sempervirens</u> L.
Yellow Woodbine	--	<u>L. sempervirens</u> L. var ' <u>sulphurea</u> '

(Plants above are listed in early nursery catalog.)

(Plants below come from various other sources.)

Bittersweet	--	<u>Celastrus</u> (45)
Morning-glories: (46)		
White	--	<u>Convolvulus</u> L.
Purple	--	<u>Convolvulus</u> L.
Climbing Hydrangea	--	<u>Hydrangea anomala petiolaris</u> (Siebold & Zucc.) McClint.
Patridgeberry	--	<u>Mitchella repens</u> L.
Vinca	--	<u>Vinca</u> L.

Flowers: (In addition to those listed before.)

Chrysanthemum (47)	--	<u>Chrysanthemum</u> L.
Geranium	--	<u>Pelargonium</u> L'Her.

(Plants above are listed in early nursery catalog.)

 (Plants below come from various other sources.)

Yarrow	-- <u>Achillea</u> L.
Hollyhocks	-- <u>Althaea</u> L.
Snapdragon	-- <u>Antirrhinum</u> L.
Mustard	-- <u>Brassica</u> L.
China Aster	-- <u>Callistephus chinensis</u> (L.) Nees.
Bellflower	-- <u>Campanula</u> L.
Carnation	-- <u>Caryophyllus</u> Juss.
Horse Balm	-- <u>Collinsonia canadensis</u> L.
Pink Ladyslipper	-- <u>Cypripedium acaule</u> Ait.
Double Delphinium	-- <u>Delphinium</u> L.
Pinks	-- <u>Dianthus</u> L.
Yellow Fringed Orchid	-- <u>Habenaria ciliaris</u> (L.) R. Br.
Bluet	-- <u>Hedytis</u> L.
Yellow Star Grass	-- <u>Hypoxis hirsuta</u> (L.) Cov.
Blue Iris	-- <u>Iris pallida</u> Lam. (48)
Lupine	-- <u>Lupinus</u> L.
Mullein Pink	-- <u>Lychnis coronaria</u> (L.) Desr.
Indian Pipe	-- <u>Montoropa uniflora</u> L.
Cinnamon Fern	-- <u>Osmunda cinnamomea</u> L.
Wood Sorrel	-- <u>Oxalis</u> L.
Red Poppy	-- <u>Papaver argemone</u> L. Hispid
Scented Geraniums:	
'Prince Rupert'	-- <u>Pelargonium crispum</u> 'Prince Rupert'
Lemon Geranium	-- <u>Pelargonium crispum</u> (L.) L'Her. ex Alt.
Rose Geranium	-- <u>Pelargonium graveolens</u> L'Her.
Penstemon	-- <u>Penstemon</u> Michx.
Petunia	-- <u>Petunia</u> Juss.
Blue Phlox	-- <u>Phlox divaricata</u> L.
Mayapple	-- <u>Podophyllum peltatum</u> L.
Rose Pogonia	-- <u>Pogonia ophioglossoides</u> (L.) Ker-Gawl.
Bracken Fern	-- <u>Pteridium</u> Gled.
Ranunculus:	
Tall	-- <u>Ranunculus acris</u> L.
Buttercup	-- <u>Ranunculus sardous</u> Crantz
Sage	-- <u>Salvia officinalis</u> L.
Bloodroot	-- <u>Sanguinaria canadensis</u> L.
Pitcher Plant	-- <u>Sarracenia</u> L.
American Chaffseed	-- <u>Schwalbea americana</u> L.
Skull Cap	-- <u>Scutellaria</u> L.
Blue-eyed Grass	-- <u>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</u> Mill.
Comfrey	-- <u>Symphytum officinale</u> L.
Rue Anemone	-- <u>Thalictrum thalictroides</u>
Spiderwort	-- <u>Tradescantia virginiana</u> L.
Trilliums:	
Red Trillium	-- <u>Trillium</u> L. (49)
White Trillium	-- <u>Trillium</u> L. (50)
Clover	-- <u>Trifolium</u> L.
Bellwort	-- <u>Uvularia perfoliata</u> L.
Scarlet Verbena	-- <u>Verbena</u> L.
Vetch	-- <u>Vicia</u> L.

Violets: (51)

*White Violet -- Viola blanda Willd.
Yellow Violet -- Viola rotundifolia Michx.
Wild Pansy -- Viola tricolor L.

Bulbs: (In addition to the ones listed before.)

(Plants below come from various other sources.)

Windflower -- Anemone quinquefolia L.
Blackberry Lily -- Belamcanda chinensis (L.) DC.
Spring Beauty -- Claytonia virginica L.
Hardy Gladiolus -- Gladiolus byzantinus Mill.
Spider Lily -- Hymenocallis caroliniana (L.) Herb.
Narcissus:
 Daffodil -- Narcissus intermedia (52)
 Trumpet Daffodil -- Narcissus pseudonarcissus L. (53)
 Chinese Sacred Lily - Narcissus tazetta var. orientalis
 (L.) Hort.
 Jonquil -- Narcissus X odorus L. var. 'Campernelle' (54)
Pink Oxalis -- Oxalis violacea L.
Rain Lily -- Zephyranthes atamasco (L.) Herb.
 (white & pink)

III. PLANTS APPROPRIATE FOR LATE ALABAMA GARDENS -1900 to 1940.

Trees: (In addition to those listed above.)

Redbud -- Cercis canadensis (L.)
Camphor Tree -- Cinnamomum champhora (L.) J. Presl.

Shrubs: (In addition to those listed above.)

American Tree Box	-- <u>Buxus sempervirens</u> var. <u>Arborescens</u>
Sasanqua (34)	-- <u>Camellia sasanqua</u> Thunb.
Bronze Elaeagnus	-- <u>Elaeagnus pungens</u> Thunb.
Waxleaf Ligustrum	-- <u>Ligustrum lucidum</u> Ait.
Winter Honeysuckle	-- <u>Lonicera fragrantissima</u> Lindl. & Paxt.
Nandina	-- <u>Nandina domestica</u> Thunb.
Palms:	
Coconut	-- <u>Cocos nucifera</u> L.
Windmill	-- <u>Trachycarpus fortunei</u> (Hook.) H. Wendl.
Ribongrasses:	
Green	-- <u>Phalaris arundinacea</u> L.
Variegated	-- <u>Phalaris arundinacea</u> var. <u>variegata</u>
Azaleas: (55)	-- <u>Rhododendron</u>
Indica	-- <u>Rhododendron indicum</u> (L.) Sweet
Karume	-- <u>Rhododendron obtusum</u> (Lindl.) Planch.
Catawba Rhododendron	-- <u>Rhododendron catawbiense</u> Michx.

*Roses: (Lots and lots)
 Ramblers: 'Dorothy Perkins'
 Hybrid Teas: 'La France'
 Polyanthas: 'Margo Koster', 'Cecile Brunner'
 Multifloras:
 Climbers: 'Silver Moon', 'American Pillar'
 *Spirea -- Spiraea X bumalda 'Anthony Waterer'

Vines: (In addition to the ones listed above.)

Virgins' Bower -- Clematis virginiana L. (56)
 Evergreen Wintercreeper-- Euonymus fortunei (Turez) Hand.
 Mazz. var vegeta
 Algerian Ivy -- Hedera canariensis Willd. (57)
 Japanese Climbing Fern -- Lygodium japonicum Swartz.
 Scuppernong (58) -- Vitis rotundifolia Michx.
 Japanese Wisteria -- Wisteria floribunda (Willd.) DC. (59)

Flowers: (In addition to the ones listed above.)

Daylilies: (60)
 Orange -- Hemerocallis fulva (L.) L.
 Double Orange -- Hemerocallis fulva var. Kwanso
 Lemon Lily -- H. lilioasphodelus L.
 *Tall Bearded Iris: -- Iris X germanica L. (61)
 Early White -- Iris X albicans J. Lange
 Early Yellow
 Early Purple -- Iris X Kotchii A. Kern.
 Liriope -- Liriope spicata Lour. (62)
 Madagascar Periwinkle-- Vinca herbacea Waldst. & Kit.

Bulbs: (In addition to the ones listed above.)

Swamp Hyacinth -- Camassia Lindl.
 Lily of the Valley -- Convallaria L.
 Crinum Lily -- Crinum L.
 Lycoris:
 Spider Lily -- Lycoris radiata (L'Her.) Herb. (63)
 Surprise Lily -- Lycoris squamigera Maxim.
 Star of Bethlehem -- Ornithogalum umbellatum L.
 Pink Oxalis -- Oxalis violacea L.
 Montbretia -- Tritonia Ker-Gawl.

ENDNOTES AND COMMENTS FOR
A LIST OF RECOMMENDED PERIOD PLANT MATERIALS
FOR ALABAMA GARDENS .

A WORD ABOUT THE FORM OF THESE ENDNOTES & COMMENTS :

Originally this list was put together at the request of the Alabama Historical Commission to be the chapter on site work in the Alabama Preservation Manuel- a joint venture between them and the Alabama Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. As such, it is a source book of restoration information for both restoration professionals and the general public - both of whom may, or may not, be well acquainted with the identification and nomenclature of plants.

With a background in Extension, it was quite easy for me to write these notes for the Do-It-Yourselfers as my primary audience. The form of these endnotes, therefore, is deliberately aimed at educating and entertaining a non-academic audience.

I have had enough feedback from individuals to be aware that I was highly successful in doing exactly that. Many have said that, whereas they normally hate footnotes, they thoroughly enjoyed reading mine.

With that being said, the reader can appreciate that I avoided the traditional academic form for footnotes. Any academic person can easily make the allowances necessary to derive what they are looking for in this section of the list.

At the end of GSA#8, "Alabama Landscapes", there is a complete listing of all the sources I had available to compose this present list. You may want to refer to the individual articles, fact sheets, and plant material indexes listed there.

There is a modern movement in taxonomy to level out capitalization in common names. There has always been a problem as to what part of a common name should be capitalized and what part shouldn't. My own disposition leans heavily toward the 18th. Century style of using capitols like sprinkling salt out of a shaker. This I am deliberately avoiding. I am ardently trying to be "modern," according to prevailing tastes.....it certainly looks strange at times....and I may slip and capitalize some part of a common name.....but I am making an effort !

#1. This is not a list of "probables" or "possibles", but plants documented in primary sources, researched and available to me. As such, it should be considered as skeletal in selecting plants for a period garden. These should form the major plant materials used in a recreated period landscape. Other plants may be included, but it would be a mistake to use a questionable plant extensively in a period garden. Our forebears tried new and different plants, just as we do today. Who can say which -- and when, and how long they were successful. Obviously, some were successful and some were not. In looking through old seed

catalogs of the late 1800s, you are struck with how they seemed to have everything we have now. But the real questions are what was popular in your locale, and when? At this point in our research, we can only begin to answer those questions.

Notes on Section I: Plants for Early Gardens - Pioneer to 1850.

#2. Plants listed are generally taken from Letters From Alabama, Philip Henry Gosse's 1838 journal of Pleasant Hill, Dallas County (central Alabama), with additional plants taken from the 1847 minute book of the Chunnannuggee Ridge Horticultural Society, near Union Springs, Bullock County (east central Alabama). See PMI#24 for more details.

#3. This list is compiled primarily for Alabamians using common Alabama plants. To that end, common names are given priority. I have tried to use the common names that I have heard people use at Auburn, with its horticultural traditions rooted variously, but generally in Ohio State University. That lacking, I have used common names found in Blanche Dean's Wildflowers of Alabama and Adjoining States, which represents the botanical tradition of the University of Alabama. When all else fails, I've selected common names from Cornell's Hortus III, with its traditions furthest removed from Alabama.

The second purpose of this list is for serious study by horticulturists and scholars. For that reason, the scientific names given conform to Hortus III, with its most up to date nomenclature....at least as close as I could come in identification. Where only a genus name is given, and the species names is missing, a precise identification cannot be made.

#4. Because of the blight, mimosa rarely last long in the landscape. They are still worth using nonetheless. It will never live long enough to become a specimen tree. But its flowers are unbeatable in a shrub border. Gosse reports its use in 1838 was rare. It was more widely used in the next period.

#5. American chestnuts are now not used in landscapes because of the famous blight. Chinese chestnut, Castanea mollissima Blume can be substituted, under some circumstances. It is much smaller growing.

#6. Several magnolias are native to Alabama, but not listed by Gosse...most notably, Magnolia virginiana L.

#7. Magnolia tripetala L. has a very heavy, unpleasant odor and isn't recommended for well-populated areas, or for use too close to the house !

#8. Because of two serious diseases, sycamore shouldn't be counted on too heavily as a prominent specimen in the landscape. The attractiveness of its bark still warrants gambling with one or two.

#9. All oaks seem to have been popular as shade trees in the yards. I don't know why Gosse doesn't mention southern red oak -- Quercus falcata Michx. -- which seems so commonly used in yards in central Alabama. Nor does he mention that the streets were lined with Live oaks. T. Affleck, in 1854, says these trees were widely used for street trees. I therefore include them here on this list. See PMI#42 for more details.

#10. Almost every house had an orchard adjacent to it. Fruit trees still should be a prominent feature of any landscape setting of an old house. With the exception of apples, there is no benefit at all in growing old varieties. Contact your local county agent for a list of recommended varieties that do well in your locale and more importantly, which are disease resistant. This cuts down on spraying, which can be very frequent. Central Alabama and south Alabama specifically have lots of fungus and insect problems, which make growing beautiful fruit difficult at best.

In the case of apples, the extra spraying is worth the effort. Old varieties of apples had a magnificent diversity of flavors for eating out of hand. However, once ripe, they deteriorated rapidly and stored poorly. Modern varieties are just the opposite, keeping firm for weeks, but tasting rather bland and mealy. Fireblight (a bacterial disease) and some fungus rots are major problems with these older apple varieties. Regular weekly sprayings keep these to a minimum. Many old varieties reappeared in the trade with our Bicentennial celebration. Old Sturbridge Village has an extensive collection of these old apple varieties...with a climate much better suited to their growth !

#11 T. Affleck says that this plant was widely used in Mobile as a hedge plant, by the 1850's. See PMI#42 for more details.

#12. Oral tradition in north Alabama indicates Rosa roxburghii Tratt., the chestnut rose, was brought by early pioneers into that area...although, anyone who has seen it has to wonder just what they saw in it, for it to merit such regard !

#13. The plant seen by Gosse, lining the streets of Mobile, was very probably the needle palm, Raphidophyllum hystrix (Pursh.) H. Wendl. & Drude. Wayne Hitt, a Prattville horticulturist, said that this plant was widely distributed in south Alabama. It was over harvested as Xmas greenery for up east in the 1870's and 80's. Today it is hard to find. He found this reference in Roland Harper's Economic Botany of Alabama, which I have not had a chance to do a plant material index for.

#14. Along with the two yuccas mentioned by Gosse, Yucca aloifolia L. and filamentosa L., there is a third one widely seen. It is Yucca flaccida Haw. and is known as Adam's-needle. The leaves are less rigid and bend downward when older. Often not found in the trade, it is much more graceful, and less dangerous to have in the landscape. Its blue-grey foliage color is more

interesting than the over-used spanish-bayonet, which has rigid leaves with a single thorn at the tip. It is deadly when backed into !

#15. Gosse arrived in Alabama in May, after the spring flowers had bloomed. He left just before spring arrived, so he didn't get to see our spring things in bloom. Unfortunately, it never occurred to him to ask if the wisteria he saw bloomed before or after it leafed out. The native -- Wisteria frutescens -- is probably the "Glycine" referred to by Gosse, which the pioneers are said to have called "Virgin's Bower." They grew it on trellises and around the open passages of their dog-trot cabins. It is called american wisteria. It blooms after the leaves form and has velvet flowers that bumble bees are crazy about. Many seedlings of this plant have short, stubby flower spikes, that are really not that attractive. However, others have nice, long flower spikes that are every bit as beautiful as the more common oriental cousin. That I am aware of, this plants is not available in the trade. Also see endnote # 57 about a possible Spanish introduction for this plant.

Otherwise, the common wisteria that blooms before it leafs out is Wisteria floribunda...a Japanese plant. Though there are exceptions (as with camellias), Japanese things didn't come into our gardens until after the Civil War, when Admiral Perry forced Japan to open up to the West. I will admit that it is perfectly possible that the Spanish, and/or Portuguese, could well have introduced this spectacular vine to Europe (and to Alabama) at an earlier date, because of their favored trade status with the Orient. I wish Philip Henry had arrived a little earlier so that he could have observed if it bloomed before or after the leaves come out...a critical distinction !

#16. This "small flowered butterfly weed" is not in Hortus III. It was identified as such by Dr. Daniel Jones, Associate Professor and Chairman of Biology Dept. of the University of Alabama in Birmingham in the 1983 reprint of the Gosse journal by Dr. Virginia Van de Veer Hamilton, Overton Press.

#17. In speaking of this large flowered evening primrose, Gosse says it's flowers are yellow. He says nothing about the pink one -- Oenothera biennis L.-- which is common along our roadsides. Dr. Daniel Jones identified Gosse's as the pink one, assuming that Gosse's description was in error. As with all introduced plants that are very well adapted to their new climate, it is very difficult to determine if they are "native," or have become "naturalized" after a few years.

#18. Hortus III says that 17 species of zinnia are native to southwest United States, Mexico, and South America....NOT any to the southeast ! Gosse's wild zinnia, which "is so common as to be ignored," is possibly the yellow coneflower with an orange eye -- Dracopis amplexicaulis (Vahl.) Cass., which does look a lot like a wild zinnia . It may also be Ratibida pinnata, a local yellow coneflower with no colored eye.

#19. These "Texas Pinks" were listed in the 1847 minute book of the Chunnannuggee Ridge Horticultural Society as having been donated (along with a geranium) to be auctioned off to raise money. I cannot find this common name in any of my books, so a definite identification cannot be made at this time. See PMI#4 for more details.

#20. With the exception of cannas, Gosse doesn't list any other bulbs. The spring bulbs had bloomed out by the time he arrived in Alabama. These are listed in the 1847 minute book of the Chunnannuggee Ridge Horticultural Society. See PMI#4 for more details.

#21. Wilson's 1860 nursery catalog lists only one bulb-type plant-- hyacinths, most likely the simple "French Roman," which was very popular in the next time period. Tulips were purchased in 1847 for members of the Chunnannuggee Ridge Horticultural Society but were not sold by Wilson's, possibly because they can't be naturalized here. Neither does Wilson's sell daffodils, probably because the opposite is true. They multiply so readily here as to make them too common to carry for sale. (See endnote #52 .)

NOTES FOR SECTION II: PLANTS FOR THE GOLDEN AGE - 1850 TO 1900.

#22. This section of the list is a composite of several primary sources. The plants first on the list are taken from the 1860 catalog of a Montgomery nursery -- Wilson's Montgomery Nursery -- which operated from around 1838 to the late 1880s. These should be considered to be popular, as Alabamians were quite capable of mail ordering plants from up East. The fact that these plants are competing with mail order items means that the plants listed have a high degree of popularity to warrant their production. See PMI#30 for more details.

The remaining plants are taken from six pressed flower collections : the Roper herbarium, the Smith herbarium, the Jenkins herbarium, the Judge Peters herbarium, the Robinson courtship herbarium and most recently, the Nelms herbarium.

The Roper herbarium is dated "Spring 1856" from Highland Home, Montgomery county. Because of its needle work cover, it is maintained at Alabama's Archives and History in Montgomery. See PMI#20.

The Smith herbarium is dated about the same time from Lowndesboro in Lowndes county. It is housed at the State Herbarium in the Botany Dept. of Auburn University, under the stewardship of Dr. John Freeman. See PMI#21.

The Sarah F. Jenkins herbarium is dated 1861 from Livingston, Sumpter County, Alabama. It is presently in the hands of Mr. Jenkins Jackson, a descendant of the family, who now resides in Montgomery. I have not been able to personally examine it, but 70 of the 100 plants it is said to contain are listed in Dr. Henry Orr's article, "Decorative Plants Around Historic Alabama Homes", in the January 1958 issue of Alabama Review. See PMI#47.

Dr. John Freeman, mentioned above, has the second bound volume of Judge Thomas Peters, an Alabama Supreme Court justice from Moulton, Alabama. It deals heavily with trees. See PMI#19.

The courtship book of Mary King Robinson is dated Jan. 1861 and comes from Huntsville. It is maintained at the Burritt Museum (she was the mother of Dr. Burritt). See PMI#41.

The latest is the Fannie Nelms herbarium from 1858 at the Marion Female Seminary in Perry county. It was donated by the Underwood family to the Perry County Historic and Preservation Society and is kept stored in the old Seminary Museum building. See PMI#44.

Because of the academic nature of these collections, many of these flowers are natives but some are obviously garden flowers. This tends to indicate that they were grown together in the same gardens.

#23. There are several crapemyrtles on the site of the old Wilson nursery on Mildred Street and Pleasant Avenue. Several are single trunked specimens, measured in 1986 at 3 feet in diameter 1 foot from the ground line! They are all water melon red, round headed, smallish trees; not nearly so tall as those at Middleton Place, outside Charleston, South Carolina.

#24 T. Affleck reports the use of this plant is rare in this time period. It will be more widely used in the next time period. See PMI#42.

#25 same as endnote #24

#26 same as endnote #24

#27 same as endnote #24

#28 same as endnote #24

#29. Of course, "Edging box" was much sought after, so the inclusion of dwarf english boxwood in Wilson's 1860 catalog is understandable. What is puzzling is the omission of american boxwood - Buxus sempervirens L. Possibly it was too readily available from local gardens to be carried for sale. From early photos of the Battle-Friedman house (built, 1838; landscaped 1843.) in Tuscaloosa, the walks the English gardener installed for the Battles were lined with dwarf english box. See PMI#15.&16. By the 1880's, as early photos attest, they began to die out when about 4 feet high and the Friedmans eventually removed all of them and lined the beds with violets, which is not a very wise move ! If american boxwood had been used, they would easily have gotten bigger, faster by the time the photos were made. Regardless, even though it is not listed in Wilson's catalog, I feel reasonably certain that it would have been...no matter for what reason it was left out.

It should be remembered that both these boxwoods do not do well in central and south Alabama. For that reason I recommend the substitution of 'wintergreen' japanese boxwood for us. It tolerates our heat much better and doesn't go bronze in the

winter.

#30. Hortus III recognizes Gardenia radicans as a form of Gardenia jasminoides Ellis, calling it Gardenia jasminoides var. 'prostrata'. Wilson's Montgomery Nursery catalog of 1860 begins their shrub list with two "Cape jasmines", one being called "dwarf"! See PMI#30. This boggles my mind, as I thought 'prostrata' was a Japanese plant, coming into our gardens after the 1940's. The old-fashioned gardenia, while being a bush 5-6 feet tall, had small, somewhat ugly flowers. In the late 1800's, the odor reminded some people of funerals, so it wasn't welcome in every garden. This old-fashioned type is rarely seen today. For the purpose of this list, I take the easy way out and assume that our dwarf gardenia is Wilson's dwarf Cape jasmine. However, it might have been a local cultivar, a sport of the regular gardenia. "Dwarf" may also refer to the size of the leaves or the flowers, as well as to the growth habit. The pressed specimen in the Nelms 1858 herbarium is a rather smallish flower - less than 2 inches in diameter - with very smallish leaves. These old types were still living until "a few years ago," when a severe freeze took many of these old bushes out in the Montgomery area. I couldn't get an exact date on that freeze, possibly the one in the 1960's that was so bad on camellias also.

In the 1850's, a Mississippi nurseryman writes in the Natchez paper that there are three types of gardenias present. The old "chinese" described above, the "dwarf gardenia" described above and the "New", Fortunes' gardenia, which he says was to be called Gardenia chinensis, replacing the old type. Botanist don't work that way. More likely, it ended up Gardenia Fortunei. He was not optimistic that it will do well in the South. Little did he know! It seems to have replaced the older type entirely. When it got transferred to G. jasminoides, I don't know. See PMI#42.

#31. In the late 1800's, "mock orange" was the common name for carolina cherry-laurel. (Today in the Black Belt, it is also the common name for a tree - osage orange -- Maclura pomifera (Raf.) C.K. Schneid.)

Wilson's 1860 nursery catalog lists "syringa" - which was the common name for Philadelphus. Today, it is sometimes called "english dogwood", as well as "mock orange", because of its odor. In pressed flower collections, there is also a specimen labeled "inodorus", which has no odor. I feel if space is to be given to this plant, you might as well use the one with the odor. There are French hybrids that are very nice and a selection called "Natchez", that has really large flowers. "Syringa", while being the common name in the 1800's for Philadelphus (carried by Wilson's Nursery), is also the Latin name for lilac--which puts the emphasis on odor. Therefore, I conclude that Wilson's Philadelphus is coronarius L., with its great odor. This flower was very popular for use in weddings. This is just an example of how confusing common names can ultimately be! See PMI#30.

#32. Wilson's 1860 catalog lists as plural--"spyreas"-- but doesn't specify which ones. See PMI#30. Those most commonly seen are spring flowering ones, except for 'anthony waterer', which

blooms during the summer. The spring flowering ones are most likely the ones Wilson carried. I admit there is a lot of confusion in common names and I myself am confused as to the exact Latin names of the types I commonly see. I appreciate the help of Dr. Harry Ponder of the Auburn Horticulture Department in clearing up some of my confusion. He teaches the plant material courses at Auburn and is a member of one of Alabama's oldest nursery families, located outside Dadeville, near Walnut Hill. The most commonly seen is Spirea X vanhouttei (C. Briot) Zab., a single white flower in little corymbs (clumps) along the stems, with bluish-green foliage that is about the size of your thumbnail. The common name is vanhoutte's spirea, though Hortus III calls it bridal-wreath (which I have never heard used for this plant). Its flowers look a lot like S. cantoniensis Lour. which is called reeves spirea. I can't say I've seen it , though Dr. Ponder says it's quite common. I commonly see the double reeves spirea -- S. cantoniensis var. lanceata. Its white flowers are very double, looking like little roses. Its leaves are lance-shaped. It is truly a fine cultivar, well suited to our climate and it deserves wider use. Also commonly seen is thunberg's spirea -- which is sometimes called "bridal-wreath spirea", sometimes "garland spirea" and sometimes "babies-breath spirea". It is thin and wispy looking. The bush has a very fine texture with yellow-green leaves. The flowers are tiny, single, and all along the branches. There are two spireas that can be described this way. If the plant is dwarf, being 3 feet or less in height, it's most likely S. thunbergii Seibold ex. Blume. If it is 6 feet or more in height, it's most likely S. X arguta Zab. The dwarf one is quite nice and highly desirable in our landscapes, though not always seen in the trade.

The most common summer-flowered spirea is S. X bumalda Burn. 'anthony waterer'. This is a natural dwarf, being about 3 feet high. It too is well suited for our climate and by its size, well suited to planting up against the house. The flowers are flat headed umbels, rosy red in color. One form has variegated twicks scattered throughout the foliage and another has twicks that have pink in the variegation.

#33. Lilacs do only moderately well in Alabama, so are recommended for North Alabama only. In central and south Alabama, they are difficult to grow and do not flower well.despite the fact that the American Lilac Society says we should have no trouble growing them. Another species, Persian lilac, Syringa persica L. , seems to do better in central Alabama. The common lilac seems to want more cold in the winter than we can give it to flower well. There are repeated assertions that grandmother had some bushes of old lilac that did very well in central Alabama, but no one has shown me one yet. This bears further investigation.

#34. Camellias were hothouse plants in New England in the 18 th. century. They were supposedly first planted outside by Henry Middleton, at the insistence of the French naturalist, Andre Michaux, at Middleton Plantation on the Ashley river, outside Charleston, South Carolina on a visit dated 1797. Three of the

four plants are still there. For an excellent history of camellias in the Mobile area, see Robert Rubel's article by that name in the 1952 yearbook of the American Camellia Society (pps. 231-240). Mobiles' first nurseryman was A.B. Homer (referred to as "Florist" at that time). One of his invoices, dated 12/18/1838, listed thirty double camellias "of five sorts" from Liverpool, England. Oral history reports a very big, old camellia beside the Battle-Friedman house (built 1838, landscaped 1843.) when the Friedmans purchased it in 1875. They went to great lengths to build a temporary greenhouse around it every year to protect it from the cold...though it eventually died. All but 2 of the 10 camellias at Fendall Hall in Eufaula were planted in the 1920s and 1930s. From this I conclude that camellias were rare in central and north Alabama gardens before the Civil War. Interest in them began to grow in the late 1800s and reached a zenith in the 1920s and 30s. Another zenith was reached in the 1950s. Its lack of cold tolerance and its susceptibility both to scale insects and a root rot fungus has caused it to fall into disfavor. Except possibly for the Mobile area, its extensive use is more characteristic of the 1900s. Its high maintenance is certainly a factor that needs to be taken into consideration.

I still would like to see "early " camellias collected, propagated and maintained in one or several locations. Our weather is still so unpredictable that this would really need to be under glass to preserve the collection. So many are seedlings, and they sport so badly, that few nurserymen will venture a name on any particular old specimen. This is why they need to be gathered and grown in several places....so they can be compared, studied and cataloged.

Sasanqua camellias are a japanese plant and did not come into our gardens until after 1900. See endnote # 59.

#35. In the 1800's, quince was the common name for Cydonia oblonga Mills , a small tree from Asia with apple-like fruit the size of softballs ! At some point, probably the turn of this century, the japanese flowering quince -- Chaenomeles speciosa (Sweet) Nakai, replaced it. It is much smaller growing (and smaller fruited !). It is now the one most commonly seen in the trade. I have seen the true cydonia only once or twice. It is sufficiently different to warrant trying to locate it in the trade....but in general the japanese chaenomeles is ok as a substitution. I recently found a specimen labeled "pineapple quince" for sale . It was the true cydonia, as it was already 6-8 feet tall.

#36. In the modern landscape, the dwarf deutzia -- Deutzia gracillis Siebold & Zucc. is more manageable than Deutzia scabra Thunb. which can grow easily to be more than 12 feet high. Except for height, it looks essentially the same, while being only about 3 to 4 feet high.

#37. T. Affleck reports that the use of this plant is rare in this time period. It will become widely used in the next time period. See PMI#42.

#38. same as endnote # 37 above for both these photinias. Today, the japanese photinia has passed out of the trade because of entomosporium leaf spot disease. This is one of the parents of "red tip", or P. fraserii. In the last couple of years, the disease has become more virulent and now is widespread on red tip itself. The disease can be controlled with monthly sprayings of a fungicide.

#39. T. Affleck reports that this plant is rare in this time period. It will become more widely used in the next time period. See PMI#42.

#40. The specimen of native azaleas in the pressed flower collections are pink and/or white. The orange flowered one , Rhododendron austrinum (Small) Rehd.-- the florida or flame azalea-- is not present. Therefore, any white or pink species (or hybrids) would be acceptable for use in the restored landscape.

#41. The pressed flower collections contain specimens of our wild blackberry, labeling it Rubus trivialis, which is no longer recognized in Hortus III as a legitimate name. This can be a raspberry, a blackberry, or a dewberry.

#42. T. Affleck reports that this plant is rare in this time period. It will become more widely used in the next time period. See PMI#42.

#43. This white jasmine is most likely a houseplant even though there is no evidence of greenhouses at the Wilson Nursery site, which is pictured very clearly in two oversized, early engravings of Montgomery.

#44. If spireas are confusing, the honeysuckles are even more so ! An exact identification of the four carried by Wilson's nursery in 1860 isn't possible. See PMI#30. Scarlet woodbine is now more commonly known as trumpet or coral honeysuckle -- Lonicera sempervirens. It also has a yellow form seen rather commonly, so this is possibly his yellow woodbine -- Lonicera sempervirens var, sulphura. Japan honeysuckle is our common weed so maligned. In cooler climates, where it does not reseed itself, it is very handsome and less rambunctious. Wilson's "monthly honeysuckle" is confusing. In exaggerated sales hype, this is usually a plant that blooms every month or, more accurately, a plant that throws a few flowers here and there after its normal bloom period. Dr. Harry Ponder, who teaches plant material classes at Auburn's Horticulture Department, and himself a member of one of Alabama's oldest nursery families, thinks it is probably Lonicera X heckrotii -- the ever-blooming or gold-flame honeysuckle. I appreciate his help. I must have been asleep when Dr. Henry Orr covered honeysuckles in my plant materials classes!

#45. This may be oriental bittersweet or american bittersweet. One pressed flower collection has a specimen labeled Celastrus bullata which has no botanical standing in Hortus III.

It is probably Celastrus orbiculatus Thumb. which has naturalized here from China. It might also be Celastrus scandens L., american bittersweet, which isn't exactly native to Alabama, but can be found here. It is native to North Carolina and northward.

#46. Precise identification of these white and purple morning-glories isn't possible beyond face value. If they were natives, the white would be Ipomoea pandurata (L.) Meyer. This plant is perennial, coming up from a large sweet potato root. Its throat is deep purple and is a really handsome flowering vine. The purple -- Calystegia sepium (L.) R. Br. -- is an annual, late flowering plant. The color lavender is really quite bright. It does reseed itself, but can be lost for no apparent reason. Its flower is much smaller than the white, being about 2 inches or so in diameter. The white is really quite large, 4 to 5 inches across, and quite showy. Most likely they are simply horticultural selections of Convolvulus available in the seed stores...rather than the natives.

#47. Which chrysanthemums were sold by Wilson's nursery can't be stated for sure, but they were most likely the hardy garden mums, which included Linnaeus' little yellow flowered mum, that he called Chrysanthemum indicum L. These bedding mums are only one group of a genus with over 100 species. Particularly popular was a dark, brownish red cultivar. Mrs. Friedman of the Battle-Friedman House in Tuscaloosa, was so fond of this plant that she had the parlor furniture upholstered in a brocade of this color, which even pictured chrysanthemums !

In the central part of the state, we have a single daisy mum that is better performing than any of the garden mums on the market. I haven't seen it at any old home sites, so I can't tell how early it was introduced. It has not been positively identified yet. In Troy, they think it is a species, C. Koreanna. One elderly Montgomery gardener said she knew it to definitely be a variety called "Claire Curtis." I have checked this with the state mum society and they don't agree. This year, Van Bloem's marketed a plant they called C. rebellum "Clara Curtis". I tried it and, thus far, it has done miserably. I don't think it is the same plant.

Our local variety is so vigorous as to appear to have a multiple set of genes. Neglected and in hard packed soil, it blooms at about 12". Well tended with ample fertilizer, it blooms at about 3 to 4', so as to always need support. Flowers are very frost resistant and they always give a good show. We are trying to get a name on this.

#48. See endnote #61 for comments about Iris pallida.

#49. This red trillium was native and could be either Trillium recurvatum Beck., or Trillium decumbens Harbison , or Trillium cuneatum Raf. or Trillium underwoodii Small.

#50. This white trillium might be Trillium cernuum L., Trillium catesbaei Ell. or Trillium pusillum Michx.

#51. White violets, purple violets and the white with the purple lined centers were widely used to edge flower beds in late Victorian gardens. This is a horrendous maintenance problem for they take over-- quickly! The seed capsules explode, so you will soon have them where you thought impossible ! Therefore, I recommend using them as a groundcover in isolated beds, bordered by walks. See the "Alabama Heritage" magazine article.

#52. Narcissus intermedia used here is a name not recognized by Hortus III. It is a very common type throughout central Miss., Ala. and Ga., but nowhere else. It is probably a natural hybrid of a Narcissus tazetta, which was widely circulated by local gardeners in this region, with, most likely, a jonquilla type called "campernelle." No one knows for certain. It looks somewhat like a yellow flowered paperwhite, but with much fewer flowers. It multiplies readily in low wet places, which is not a characteristic of daffodils. It was widespread very early, being in the Roper 1853 herbarium along with "Campernelle," a type of Narcissus juncifolius. No other daffodils are included in these early herbariums.

I was quite surprised to see that two daffodils I had thought were very old, were not present in the herbariums. You see them everywhere. One is the little yellow trumpet whose petals of the outer ring (the segments of the perianth) have a graceful twist. This gives them a charm often missing in modern , face forward hybrids. This cultivar , I am told , is Narcissus pseudonarcissus var. ajax and its widespread habitat is probably due more to prolificness, rather than its tenure.

The other one I was surprised not to find has foliage just like ajax and is very double. Its petals have a ragged appearance and are all the same color yellow. Though it is sometimes called "butter and eggs", I prefer the other name, "scrambled eggs" ! That better describes the messy appearance of the flower. It is very slow to open and needs a long, cool spring to open up well. In central and south Alabama, where that kind of Spring is rare, it is sometimes called "The Green Daffodil " for the yellow pigment doesn't form well, and the bloom is more apt to "blast" -- turn brown before opening fully.

This is a very old cultivar called "von Sion" and goes back to the 16th. century Holland. It is a curiosity and, though old, probably didn't come to Alabama until after 1900.

The southern part of the state finds another type of narcissus which appears to have been introduced very early. It is the chinese sacred lily -- Narcissus tazetta var. 'orientalis' (L.) Hort., of the tazetta or paperwhite family of daffodils. These particular tazettas differ from regular paperwhites -- Narcissus tazetta L. -- in blooming date, shape of flower and foliage color. True paperwhites try to bloom in December in Alabama, which is fine along the coast but not always good news in central Alabama, where the average date of the first killing frost is November 15. The foliage is usually more emerald green and the individual flower does not always have a distinctly formed "teacup" sitting on its saucer.

The chinese sacred lily waits to bloom in February and March, has grey-green foliage like other daffodils and the individual flower has a definitely formed "teacup", off-white to butter yellow color, sitting on a well shaped, cream colored saucer. The odor is every bit as nice as paperwhites and the overall flower head is somewhat bigger than paperwhites. In Georgia, it was used to edge flower beds in very early gardens. The tazettas are not cold hardy and central Alabama is about as far north as they can be used.

When did ajax, von Sion and chinese sacred lily come to Alabama? I don't know yet. They are certainly there by 1900. More research is needed, particularly in the Mobile area, where introductions can be very early. Mobile is like another whole world away from the rest of Alabama!

In naming and locating old daffodil varieties, I have found Brent Heath invaluable. He is a third generation bulb grower whose grandfather grew over 3,000 varieties on their farm. He now subcontracts southern growers (and some in Holland) to grow the older varieties of the Deep South, that don't always do well even for him. His firm is the Daffodil Mart; Route 3, Box 794; Gloucester, Virginia 23061 ; 1-804-693-3966. Unlike most modern growers, he is not running after every new variety and trashing the older standbys. His catalog is well worth having and his comments about each variety definitely worth the 2 or 3 dollars in cost. He is an active member of the Southern Garden History Society and invites both information and bulbs of older varieties that do well in our area to assure propagation. (See next endnote.)

#53. In central and south Alabama, the trumpet daffodil -- sometimes called "ajax", seems to have been used in the late 1800s, possibly earlier in north Alabama. There was a national daffodil rage which started around the 1880s and easily went into the 1930s. It brought into Alabama gardens many more types, including jonquilla types, the Barrii and Leedsii groups (no longer recognized as distinct groups by the American Daffodil Society) and the more odoriferous miscellaneous species. The large trumpets, like "king alfred", came into Alabama gardens around the turn of our century. (See above endnote.)

#54. "Campernelle" can still be purchased, but they are not exactly identical to the ones seen around Alabama. Ours have a trumpet that is more flared, with a decided genetic tendency for this trumpet to split open, disfiguring the flower.

Therefore, if bulbs are to be used in a restoration, they should be gathered from old home sites, rather than being purchased.

Notes for Section III : Plants for Late Gardens - 1900-1940.

#55. Indica azaleas were in Mobile prior to 1800, but didn't spread into central Alabama until later. See PMI#43. They were called chinese honeysuckles but were not really cold hardy in central and north Alabama ! The first ones came to Eufaula in

1922, according to Mrs. Maude McCullohs, whose father, G.N. Hurt, brought them to his wife's locally renowned garden at Fendall Hall from a trip to Mobile. See PMI#3.

Mrs. Martha Parker's father, Mr. Henry Hattimer, brought the first ones to Montgomery about the same time. In Birmingham, Gary Gurlock, the Director of the Birmingham Botanical Garden, says that azaleas became evident in the landscapes there about the same time. The gardens which feature loads of azaleas and camellias, in Alabama at least, seem to have been gardens of the 1940s and 50s. The karume azaleas, usually referred to as "dwarfs", which in growth habit they aren't, didn't come to the Arnold Arboretum until the 1920's. They later came into the trade, so their use is even later than the indicas. The original karumes of 20 or so different types, sent by E.H. Wilson from the Orient at the turn of this century, are now growing all in one location... the Fernbank Center in Atlanta.

#56. Clematis virginiana L. -- virgin's bower -- is a native vine and is practically indestructible. It was probably used in earlier gardens, but these late gardens romanticized the vine covered cottage, and used vines extensively. Check out any early issue of House Beautiful or Better Homes and see the old photos.

Philip Henry Gosse reports that the 1838 Protestant settlers called wisteria "Virgin's Bower". This would indicate a Catholic origin for the name, if not also the plant. In south Alabama, that would mean that it was probably brought in by the Spanish and escaped; becoming so naturalized as to have been thought of as native by subsequent naturalists...like Rosa laevigata Michx. - the cherokee rose - which is now thought to have been introduced from China as weed seeds in rice imported for planting. By the time Audubon painted them, they were so widespread as to be thought native.

#57. The algerian ivy at Fendall Hall was said by Mrs. McCullohs, to have come from an old plantation in Thomasville, Georgia. This indicates that it was used earlier than 1900 in Georgia and, possibly, the warmer parts of the Black Belt. Some winters here in Montgomery kill it unless it grows with some protection...like a wall or under trees. See FS#3.

#58. For the botanist and horticulturist, the scuppernong (the bronze colored muscadine) is in the same genus and species as the dark colored muscadines. Actually, "scuppernong" is a named horticultural variety of muscadine. There are many others, all having dark berries. To the general public, they are two different types, as if two different species. They aren't! For a listing of specific varieties for use on arbors, see GSA#8, page 11,12.

#59. Our gardens contain so many plants of Japanese origin. Most of these were not available to us until after the Civil War when Commodore Perry forcibly established diplomatic and trade relations with Japan. Only then were their gardens truly open to plant explorers and collectors.....who were suspicioned as spies, there for other reasons than plant collecting! New finds came

first to botanical gardens for evaluations before being released into the trade for propagation and sale. It appears this process took years, so I feel reasonably certain that these plants did not come into Alabama gardens until the 1900s -1930s. Some Japanese "oriental" plants came to the U.S. earlier by way of having been in China first, when it was botanized by the West. The spectacular Wisteria floribunda just might have been one of these.

#60. Looking at early garden magazines, it appears that daylilies weren't widely popular until after the 1950s. The single orange was the only one present in the 1930 garden at Fendall Hall, Eufaula. The double orange ('Kwanso' , introduced in 1865, with its variant forms) wasn't there. Also not present was the lemon lily, the yellow daylily--which is every bit as old as the single orange. I have no explanation as to why this fragrant daylily was not also widely used. This garden of Mrs. G.N. Hurt in Eufaula had a black man as gardener who took great pride in his work. He made it a point to secure any new plant he saw around town for Mrs. Hurt. Why these two daylilies were not there, I don't know. See FS#3.

Otherwise, these two daylilies-- the single orange and single yellow -- were certainly old enough to have been used in Pioneer gardens but, as of yet, I have no evidence of using the orange earlier than 1850s and the yellow earlier than 1900.

One of the common names given in the books for daylily may give a clue to how it was used in the landscape---the outhouse lily ! Well they are known to be "heavy feeders"...though they will live for years in neglect and shade. They shouldn't be widely used in an Alabama landscape until after 1900, and possibly the 1950s.

#61. It would appear that three tall-bearded iris, so widely seen in central Alabama , would be easy to get names for,....but not so. All these are very early bloomers.

The early white -- Iris X 'albicans' (Lange-1860) -- was used by Moslems in cemeteries around the Mediterranean. So vigorous, so full of stamina, it thrives on neglect. Too bad the flowers themselves don't share in some of that substance! The petals break down at the slightest rain or wind.

There is an early yellow, probably "Flavescens" (DC-1813), which is really on the greenish side, with some brownish veining at the base of the petals. This is called "reticulation" and was a major characteristic of iris in the early 1900s. Subsequent taste deemed this undesirable, and the trait was bred out of the newer iris. Many of the colors of iris in this period were brownish, which I refer to as "root-beer jewel tones". The large brightly colored, ruffled iris so widely available today are decidedly modern. Pink iris came into our gardens in the 1950s.

There is an early flowered purple iris -- Iris X Kochii (Kerner-1887), which is a rich Kool-aid purple. These three forms were identified for me by Mr. William Lanier Hunt of North Carolina about ten years ago. He says Iris X germanica var. 'alba'(Cree-1837), which is a very old white, doesn't like our heat. Its petals have a distinctive look. I have seen a bluish

lavender form that is genetically unstable in our heat and reverts to a white. I feel this form is the source of the folk belief, very common around here, that colored iris eventually turn white. I have since seen an old purple that reverted back to white, and a bona fied report that some old french (WWI) types uniformly came back yellow, a few years ago! This is probably related to climate (heat and rainfall) and the various layers of the rhizome where buds can be initiated, when the usual buds are dead.

These three early blooming iris are perhaps used in earlier gardens in the state, but that is not well documented. The two documented iris in old pressed flower collections are both tall-bearded. The Roper (1856) has one she labeled "Blue Flag". All the pigment is gone so the blue must have been very pale. That's why I identified it as Iris pallida (Lam.-1789). Its petals are light blue (almost lavender). The falls curl back under giving the flower a unique shape of a figure 8. There are usually 3 or so flowers per scape. Hortus III identifies it as Iris pallida var. Dalmatica (1600) saying its flowers are lavender. It has a very fine fragrance and is one of the iris grown for the production of "orris root". Powdered iris rhizome of this type smells very much like violets, and has long been used for this purpose.

The most recent herbarium,, the Nelms (1858) from Marion, has an iris looking a great deal like 'albicans'.

This time period - 1900-1940 - was the heyday of iris interest and they were widely used in gardens of this period. Many early photos exist in early home magazines that clearly show how these plants were used .

Around here, another widely seen iris has brassy yellow standards. The falls are a reddish-brown. This is most likely 'Honorabile' (Lemon 1840).

Another is a white with a light stiching of purple around the edges. This is most likely 'Mme. Chereau' (Lemon-1844). It was very popular.

Another widely seen iris has white standards and violet falls. This is most likely Rhein Nixe (G&K-1910). For an excellent treatment of these old iris, see an "Old House Journal" article by Scott Kunst- XIX/3, May/June 1991.

#62. The 1930s garden at Fendall Hall in Eufaula had several patches of liriopse. It was not the japanese liriopse -- Liriope muscari (Decne.) L.H.Bailey, which is a "clumper". It was Liriope spicata Lour., which runs underground like a big bermudagrass. It appears to have been used earlier than muscari, but I have no documentation. Spicata should be used very cautiously in the landscape. It is not a suitable edging plant, as it is too invasive. Those who have used it so, generally regret it. Muscari on the other hand, works well for this purpose--however the visual appearance is not identical. For me there is too great a difference for these two plants to be used interchangeably.

You should not confuse the two. Muscari leaves are broad and tend to curl over and lay on the ground. They tend to be susceptible to a leaf spot fungus, that with some degree of effort, can be controlled. The variegated form is particularly

susceptible to this leaf spot fungus. Spicata leaves are narrow and spike-like. They tend to stick straight up, not curling over or laying down on the ground. It is also not as susceptible to the leaf spot fungus. See FS#3.

#63. Even though Lycoris radiata (L'Her.) Herb. appears early by being so widespread, it doesn't seem to be. It's just so very prolific ! One elderly charter member of the Federated Garden Clubs of Alabama (1938) says it was not a popular plant until after the 1900s. It was thought to be too strange looking...blooming without foliage ! She alleges that it was even thought to bring "bad luck" ! It should probably be used in Alabama only in this late period.

It is to be noted that the yellow form was used in St. Augustine at the Flagler Hotel, in the late 1800s. It was called hurricane lily, because the rains of the hurricane season brought it into bloom. The story is told that, for some reason, it fell into disfavor with the hotel and was ordered dug up and destroyed. An unnamed hotel gardener couldn't bring himself to do that and became a Johnny Appleseed with the surplus.....which is supposed to account for the large population of yellow Lycoris in that part of the state.

I wish to express gratitude to Dr. Fred Deneke of the Horticulture staff at Auburn University for proof reading this text for me. I enjoy having him as a friend and colleague.

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REFERENCES FOR FURTHER STUDY :

I have found these books to be very helpful and I heartily recommend them for their various strong points.

1. Manuel of Woody Landscape Plants

Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses.

By: Michael A. Dirr

Dept. of Horticulture

University of Georgia

Athens, Georgia

Revised 1983, (newer edition available)

Published by: Stipes Publishing Co.

10-12 Chester Street

Champaign, Illinois 61820

This book alone is worth the price for anyone interested in historical horticulture. Included with the information on over 300 species of trees and shrubs is their introduction or cultivation dates. I would have used them in this paper but Dr. Durr does not specify just which literature and where they are from. For this paper, I limit myself to Alabama literature. But it is still a marvelous book with a wealth of information.

2. A Photographic Guide--Landscape Plants in Design

By: E.C. Martin, Jr.

Dept. of Landscape Architecture

Mississippi State University

1983

Published by: AVI Publishing Co.

Westport, Connecticut

Though basically a landscape design book, it is written from the perspective of different plant materials and how to use them in the landscape. The number of photographs you won't believe ! Each left and right hand page is devoted to a plant and there are easily 10 to 12 photos per plants on those pages. It makes identification much easier.

3. Know it and Grow It

A guide to the Identification and Use of Landscape Plants in the Southern States.

By: Carl E. Whitcomp

Associate Professor of Horticulture

Oklahoma State University

Stillwater, Oklahoma

Revised 1976

Published by: The Author

Rt. 3, Box 251-F
Stillwater, Oklahoma
74074

This is a text used in the plant material courses at Auburn. Along with photos that help you identify the tree and shrubs, there is also a map of the Southeast showing the range of each plant. The further from this range a plant is grown, the more trouble it will be to grow well. This alone makes this book worth having.

4. Perennial Garden Color For Texas and The South

A Guide on Gardening with Perennials in the South.

By: William C. Welch
Extension Landscape Specialist
Department of Horticultural Sciences
Texas A. & M. University
Copyright 1989

Published by: Taylor Publishing Company
1550 West Mockingbird Lane
Dallas, Texas
75235

Order from: Perennial Garden Color
2553 Texas Avenue South
Suite C
College Station, Texas
77840

A must book for anyone who researches old gardens of the Southeast. The first book that I know of to picture and describe old garden flowers extensively. The antique rose section is top notch and was sorely needed!

5. Antique Roses for the South

Planting and Growing, Landscaping, Floral Designs, Antique Rose crafts and Collecting Old Roses.

By: William C. Welch
Extension Landscape Specialist
Department of Horticultural Sciences
Texas A. & M. University
Copyright 1990

Published by: Taylor Publishing Company
1550 West Mockingbird Lane
Dallas, Texas
75235

There are thousands of old roses for a Southerner to choose from if they are reconstructing an old garden, and many will not live in our climate...just as they did not in the years past! This book can save a lot of time and money. Mr. Welch is invaluable at helping to save wasted time and money. These roses will do well for us. Couple him with the Old Rose Emporium and you have an unbeatable resource for

planting an old rose garden in the South!

6. The Antique Rose Emporium Catalog

Route 5, Box 143
Brenham, Texas
77833
1-409-441-0002

An absolute must for anybody growing roses in the Southeast. They carry about 200 varieties...most all of which were collected from abandoned areas and old home site....so their survivability is practically guaranteed. All roses are on their own roots and are shipped bare root or in containers. They have a newsletter and in the Fall a big Old Rose Symposium on site - with noted speakers and identification experts.

7. Antique Plant Newsletter

By: Dr. Art O. Tucker
Depart. of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Delaware State College
Dover, DE 19901

A nice summery of what is going on in collecting and identifying old garden plants and making them available to interested persons. Dr. Tucker's forte is taxonomy and he maintains a nursery collection with lots of old flowers that he has collected and named. Well worth the nominal fee.

8. Old House Gardens

Scott G. Kunst.
536 Third Street
Ann Arbor, MI
48103

A very active man in writing about old garden things for the Old House Journal. He collects, identifies and has for sale many old things. He has a good catalog.

ORGANIZATIONS :

The Southern Gardening History Society
Secretary,
Drawer F, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108

The preeminent group. They have a newsletter called the "Magnolia", that is very newsworthy and academic. They have a yearly meeting hosted in different states, that is fun to attend. Every two years, they sponsor a Southern Gardening Restoration Symposium in Winston-Salem that is very informative and exciting. All for \$15 a year!

The Heritage Rose Group of the American Rose Society
c/o Dr. Noel R. Lykins
1407 Metcalf Road
Shelby, North Carolina
28150

They have a monthly newsletter that is very helpful to anyone interested in collecting and growing old roses. The dues are \$5.00 and very well worth it.

The Heritage Rose Foundation
1512 Gorman Street
Raleigh, North Carolina
27606
1-919-834-2591

This group with nominal dues is really geared for those of us into collecting old roses locally. Active in assisting with the building of collections, and ultimately in establishing regional display gardens for collections.

The Historic Iris Preservation Society.
c/o Verona Wiekhorst
4855 Santiago Way
Colorado Springs, CO
80917
1-719-596-7724

This group out of the American Iris Society is really organized and on the ball. They have already begun collections of old iris before they pass into obscurity. The \$5.00 dues are well worth the cost of the Journal named "Roots". Members readily swap old varieties of iris back and forth. Would that other plant societies were so far-sighted!

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