



# *Sowing Seeds of Knowledge Reaps Conservation with Beauty*

Environmental Edition, Mary Lovings, Editor

Landscape Design Edition, Dr. John Barnett, Editor

Horticulture Edition, Gail Berthe, Editor

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Theme for Martha Price Administration, 2015 - 2017:

Sowing Seeds of Knowledge Reaps Conservation with Beauty

## **COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR**

It is a pleasure and honor to serve The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. during this administration as editor of *Sowing Seeds of Knowledge Reaps Conservation with Beauty: Landscape Design*. This editor has big shoes to fill as Jane Hersey served as GCG Landscape Design School Chairman and was the first editor of *Scatter Info as We Bloom and Grow: Landscape Design*. During the 2015 – 2017, the theme will be “Sowing Seeds of Knowledge Reaps Conservation with Beauty”. Hosted by Laurel District and Marietta Garden Club, a Landscape Design School was completed May 4 – 5 2015. This editor, along with our current Landscape Design School Chairman – Jane Whiteman, would certainly hope and encourage each GCG District to consider hosting a Landscape Design School during the 2015 – 2017 administration. More information will be sent to all District Directors, Council Presidents, and Club Presidents in hopes that this goal can be accomplished. No one individual can reach such a goal. It will take all of us to jump in and do our part, especially one that has the “bar raised high” across the beautiful state of Georgia.

The gardens established on the campus of the University of Georgia in Athens memorialize the twelve ladies who founded the first garden club in America. Every garden club member in The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. is encouraged to visit these gardens, as well as other gardens across our state. You would not regret your time in The Founders Memorial Garden, nor the other awesome estates and gardens in Georgia.

As many gardens as possible, as well as other information about Landscape Design, will be disseminated during this administration to encourage, enhance, and enlighten the joy of hundreds of landscape designs as this editor shares in *Sowing Seeds of Knowledge Reaps Conservation with Beauty: Landscape Design* newsletters.

Dr. John Barnett, Landscape Design Editor



Founders Memorial Garden  
Athens, GA.

## *Hills & Dales Estate and Gardens LaGrange, Georgia*



One of my most favorite activities in our garden clubs is the opportunity and desire to visit many of the historical estates and gardens in our area. I had the privilege of venturing through the estate and gardens at Hills & Dales Estate and Gardens in LaGrange, Georgia just a few weeks ago with Three Rivers Garden Club. We had an absolute beautiful day to wander around the gardens and tour the awesome estate of the Fuller E. Callaway family home that was designed by the noted architectural firm of Hentz & Reid from Atlanta.

Hentz & Reid decided to locate the home on the site of the old Ferrell house which sat on the crest of the hill overlooking the garden and the surrounding countryside. Hentz & Reid were classically trained architects and drew their design inspiration from the Italianate character of the existing terraced boxwood garden. The Italian elements of the home were carefully blended with Georgian architectural details to create what Neel Reid called Georgian Italian. The use of stucco, Indiana limestone, and terra-cotta roof tiles for construction further accentuated the Italian villa look.

Mr. Callaway commissioned Hal Hentz and Neel Reid in 1913 and the design was completed in 1914. The home was officially opened on June 15, 1916 when Fuller and Ida celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Detailed records of the building process survive and provide much insight into the construction process. Construction was scheduled to begin in 1914, but was delayed due to the outbreak of WWI. Construction began in March of 1915 and the entire project was completed in 15 months at a total cost of approximately \$125,000. The exterior of the home has remained essentially unchanged since 1916. Hills and Dales is considered to be one of the finest homes designed by Hentz & Reid. The success of the project greatly advanced their careers and secured their reputation as one of the most important architectural firms in the Eastern United States.



*Dwarf English Boxwood*

The most notable signature plant at Hills & Dales Estate is dwarf English boxwood. Ferrell Gardens contains 2 ½ acres of formal boxwood parterres. The boxwoods are primarily dwarf English boxwood, but there are also species of American boxwood, tree boxwood, Spanish boxwood and curly leaf boxwood.

### *The Front Entrance*

The front gate was designed by Hentz & Reid in 1916. The elegant entry gates were manufactured in New York for the Callaways.



*East Portico House Entrance*

### *The Porte – Cochere*

Porte – Cochere is where family and guests frequently entered the home from this covered entry which features beautiful cast-stone columns and a vaulted ceiling.





## *Magnolia Espalier*

These Southern Magnolia espaliered (trained to grow flat against the wall) on the side of the former garage and chauffeur's quarters, framing the arched windows

## *The Pool and Bathhouse Terrace*

The bathhouse was added by Alice and Fuller Jr. in 1941. It was designed by architect Hill R. Huffman of Atlanta to blend with the existing architecture of the estate. The swimming pool was replaced in 2004 with a terrace that features an attractive central fountain.



## *The Ray Garden*

In the early to mid-1900's the Callaway family had a large vegetable garden in this area. In 1950, Alice Callaway converted part of the old vegetable garden into the Ray Garden, where she grew roses, ornamental conifers and colorful annuals.

## *The Cold Frames and Workhouse*

These sturdy cold frames are seasonally covered with glass to protect tender plants from the winter cold. The garden workhouse is situated over the boiler room which provided heat for both the main house and the glasshouse.



## *The Herb Garden*

The herb garden contains a wide variety of culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs. Four rose pillars with antique climbing roses pay homage to the rose garden that was once here.

## *The Greenhouse*

Originally constructed in 1916, the greenhouse was remodeled in 1949 by Alice and Fuller Callaway, Jr. and is maintained much the same as it was in Alice's time.



## *The Church Garden*

This is the oldest part of the garden where Sarah Ferrell started her planting in 1841. Once called the Sanctuary, this garden area contains several religious symbols planted in boxwood.

## *Grapes*

Sarah Ferrell drew her inspiration for this cluster of grapes planted in boxwood from a Biblical account in Numbers.



## *Sunken Garden*

The Sunken Garden is delineated by a beautiful semi-circular stone wall. Stone steps on each side lead down to a curved stone bench and a round pool.

## *Magnolia Walk*

The Magnolia Walk is the longest terrace in the garden. Magnolias along this terrace were reportedly planted from seed during the War Between the States.



## *The Maze*

At the east end of Magnolia walk, near the GOD topiary is where Sarah Ferrell's boxwood maze is said to have been. Fuller, Sr. redesigned this area after purchasing the property, while Alice Callaway added St. Fiacre to the birdbath.



## *Bird Gate*

The unique bird gate was commissioned by Alice Callaway from noted blacksmith Ivan Bailey.



## *God Topiary*

At the east end of the Magnolia Walk Sarah Ferrell planted the word "GOD" in boxwood.

## *The Well & Tea Hedge*

This stone wellhead marks the location of another well that was used to water the garden during the Ferrell era. It features ironwork designed by Neel Reid. Beside the well is a hedge of Tea plants shaped in a shallow "v" which was installed by Alice Callaway.



## *Lover's Lane*

The long narrow walkway bordered on both sides by large boxwood is called Lover's Lane.

## *First Terrace with Fountain and Mottos*

On the upper terrace adjacent to the home are boxwood mottos planted by Sarah Ferrell and Ida Callaway. The large central fountain was added at the suggestion of Neel Reid in 1916.



## *Florida Lane*

This garden walkway was named Florida Lane since it contained many tender and tropical plants brought back from Florida by the Ferrells and Callaways.

## Terraces

The hillside on the northeast side of the property, below the home, was terraced in the 19th century. Cotton was grown on these terraces when the Ferrell's owned the property.



## Second Terrace

On this avenue, the yellow flowering golden rain trees offer shade to the stone benches added by Fuller and Ida Callaway.



## June Blooming Calendar

Each month at Hills & Dales Estates and Gardens the gardens are in bloom with many flowers, trees and shrubs. Though space will not permit us to show all the plants for each month, the June Blooming Calendar is filled with the most awesome summer flowers, trees and shrubs. Some of them are:



AB Hydrangeas



Daylilies



Begonias



Gardenias



Gloriosa Flowers



Hydrangeas



Mimosas



Roses



Rose Campions



Vitex



White Roses



Anthuriums

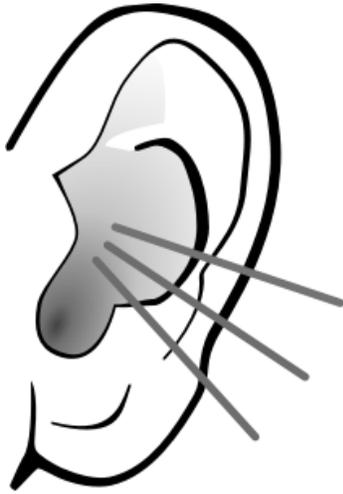


Begonias



Impatiens

Much of this information was borrowed from the Hills & Dales Estate and Gardens web site.  
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## *Keep Your Ears Open.....*

### **LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL**

Plans are in the making at the present time for a Landscape Design School in Macon. Dates have not been set at this time but information will be shared across the state as soon as all registration procedures are confirmed. More information about this school will be included in the next Landscape newsletter of Sowing Seeds of Knowledge Reaps Conservation with Beauty and you can also check the GCG Website for registration information.



Just one of the many Flower Gardens at The State Botanical Garden in Athens, Georgia. The Flower Garden's collections weave a rich tapestry of Garden flowers, celebrating their beauty and universal appeal. Since flowering plants co-evolved with their pollinators, these collections also reveal the necessity of protecting those hardworking insect species. The Flower Garden has distinct plant collections and communities. These include the Annual Garden, featuring the All-America Selections Display Garden; the Spring, Summer and Fall Bulbs Gardens; the Curator's Choice Garden; and the Daylily, Daffodil, Iris, Rose and Peony Gardens. There is a Fragrance Garden, a Perennial Garden, a Meditation Garden and a Woodland Walk. Visit The State Botanical Garden and enjoy as we are Sowing Seeds of Knowledge Reaps Conservation with Beauty in Landscape Design.

Sowing Seeds of Knowledge Reaps Conservation with Beauty is a monthly publication of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. Each edition focuses on one of three themes: the Environmental Studies, Landscape Design Studies, and Horticulture Studies.

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