From the President

Another stimulating Annual Meeting/Conference was enjoyed by all who attended. The Conference planners: Barbara Wyatt, Cari Goetcheus, Hugh Miller, Linda McClelland and Dan Nadineick, with assistance from many area planners and activists provided plenty of food for thought in stimulating educational sessions and tours of the Maryland/Virginia countryside. Many thanks for all their efforts. Please read the article elsewhere in this newsletter to get a better idea of all of the events.

We celebrated 25 years of Alliance history on Saturday evening with the help of some of our most prestigious members, especially Robert Melnick, who joined us from Oregon, Susan Buggey from Canada, Shary Berg from Boston and Barbara Wyatt from Maryland. Each of these ex-Presidents spent a few moments highlighting some accomplishments over the years. My sincere thanks to all of them. And also to Bob Harvey and Bill Tishler who couldn’t attend, but were kind enough to loan slides of Alliance activities. These covered almost every year’s Annual Meeting. Cari Goetcheus is putting the slides on CD for our future use. If you own have slides or photographs of Alliance activities, please contact her (e-mail clg2964@netzero.net) as soon as possible.

It was my job to talk about the future. It is a subject of hope and excitement. First, we are anticipating being featured, along with other organizations, in an article in ASLA magazine about the historic/cultural landscape movement. Frank Martin is working on it now. Watch for it soon. Second, Nick Weeks is planning a fabulous 2004 Annual Meeting/Conference in Sonoma, California which will explore 300 years of landscape changes and the current issues faced by the agricultural interests of the region. We will get to know the viticulture, first hand, at some of the local wineries. Finally, the Board of Directors has made some important decisions. We will go to a one-time-per year dues schedule. If you haven’t paid your dues this year, or don’t know your status, please contact Sherda Williams, our membership coordinator (e-mail: sherda_williams@nps.gov, or 2740 Redick Ave, Omaha, NE 68112-3336). We will also be changing our fiscal year to coordinate with this change. In addition, we will be asking other like-minded organizations to join us in planning a gathering to discuss shared interests, concerns and the status of the cultural landscape movement at this important juncture in our history. Look for more about all of these activities on our web site and in future newslflashes and newsletters. (P.S. If you are not receiving the electronic newsflashes which are sent out on a regular basis, make sure that you include your current e-mail address with your membership renewal, or check with Sherda.)

Finally, I am very pleased to welcome two new board members to our ranks: Ann Hoover, from Muncie, Indiana where she is a professor in the Landscape Architecture department at Ball State, and Jerry Barkdoll from Baltimore, Maryland where she works with the Federal Highway Administration. I look forward to working with them and with all the fine, dedicated people who comprise the Board of Directors of the Alliance.

—Camille Fife

Preservation on the Edge:
The Historic Landscape Challenge
25th Anniversary Annual Meeting

The Alliance’s 25th annual meeting, held May 28-31, 2003 at ThorpeWood, a remote retreat in the mountains near Frederick, Maryland was a resounding success. The presentations and discussions revolved around international, statewide and county efforts using zoning, agricultural land preservation programs and smart growth initiatives as means to preserve open space and historic landscapes.

The meeting began with an international perspective on community-based resource values, followed by state and local case studies depicting how local values were incorporated into the land preservation process. Several of the initial presentations introduced the group to the highly effective statewide programs in Maryland such as the Rural Legacy Program, and the variably effective agricultural land preservation programs implemented by the counties, showcased through Frederick and Howard county case studies. Other interesting presentations included African-American Hillside landscapes, highway planning in rural Pennsylvania, battlefield preservation initiatives and a “lessons learned” case study about the Cooper River Historic District nomination process in South Carolina. In the final presentation of the day, the group was provided an introduction into how the state of Virginia has approached growth and land protection. Because Virginia has few statewide programs for land protection, Virginia counties/municipalities have been protecting land through their comprehensive planning process and tax incentives emphasizing continued agricultural use.

Friday’s field trip was a whirlwind tour of over 100 miles of Mary land and Virginia’s pastoral landscapes along rural roads, major highways and through historic town centers. Beginning in Maryland, the group stopped at Point of Rocks, MD to hear about the efforts underway the Carrollton Manor Trust, a fairly new but highly successful land trust that has engaged local citizens to participate in the planning, development and land protection process for their communities. Then, led by David Edwards of Virginia’s Department of Historic Resources (SHPO office), our band of merry wanderers crossed

Left: Former Tuleyries estate in Virginia.
the Potomac River to visit the first of five
rural/agricultural districts in the Virginia
countryside, the 25,000-acre Catoctin Rural
Historic District. Next we wandered on to
Waterford, VA, a very intact colonial
settlement and one of the first National
Historic Landmark districts in the country.
After talking with a Waterford Foundation
advocate about development pressures and
touring the small hamlet briefly, we visited
the 10,000 acre Goose Creek Historic
District, one of the few working agricultural
landscape districts in Virginia. Then we
drove through and adjacent to the 10,290
acre Long Marsh Historic District to the
town of Berryville, VA.

Berryville has historically been the
seat of Clarke County, VA as well as a
regional center for marketing and shipping
agricultural products. Leaving Berryville, we
crossed into the Greenway Rural Historic
District, location of 17th century Lord
Fairfax’s colonial holdings. We ate lunch at
the 712-acre Virginia State Arboretum, also
known as the Blandy Experimental Farm
Historic District. Next we wandered on to
Fairfax’s colonial holdings. We ate lunch at
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After lunch we went to Sky
Meadows State Park which provided amazing
views down a long valley that hasn’t been
impacted too much by development yet.
That valley is part of a proposed Crooked
Run Valley Historic District still being
developed. From here we continued along the
very scenic Zulla Road. We enjoyed a lovely
picnic supper on the historic stone-arched
Goose Creek Bridge which was built ca.
1805 and was the site of a clash between
Union and Confederate troops. The
abandoned bridge is located in the midst of
the Mosby Heritage Area which is a
grassroots effort that has not relied on
federal or state funding to define it or
provide continued support.

Saturday morning we wrapped up
the presentations discussing landscape
preservation initiatives in Massachusetts, a
Midwest land trust known as the Prairie
Land Trust and the Historic American
Landscapes Survey (HALS). For the final
session, the group gathered around
ThorpeWood’s massive native stone hearth
seated in rustic-style log furniture to chat
with Robert Melnick and Arnold Alane.
The two led a conversation of lessons learned
in the essays they edited for their prize-
winning book, *Preserving Cultural
Landscapes in America.*

With an afternoon field trip to
Monacacy Battlefield, a National Park
Service site, people were introduced to a
small but wonderful battlefield resource on
the edge of Frederick. The site provides
insight into a cross section of continued land
use from the early 1800s, to the Civil War
battle it has been preserved on behalf of, to
the mid 1900s. With a few spare hours to
wander around Frederick after the battlefield
tour, we all rendezvoused at Isabella’s in
downtown Frederick to celebrate 25 years of
advocating for historic landscape
preservation at our annual banquet.

Kudos to Camille Fife who did an
excellent job coordinating a rotating slide
show of past annual meeting sites, members
and activities. Tina Bishop created a
wonderful timeline of Alliance history and
activities. Robert Melnick, Shary Berg,
Barbara Wyatt, Susan Buggey and Camille
Fife all gave overviews of the various eras of
the Alliance, from its initial “we’re not an
organization” stage, its education and
advocacy publications, to it’s recent strategic
planning efforts to determine the direction
and continued effectiveness of the
organization into the 21st century. Many
shared their thoughts and reflections on the
various meetings, events, and members who
have inspired them over the years, while also
providing enthusiastic outlook for the future
of the Alliance and the field of landscape
preservation.

The planning committee would like
to express thanks to the many people—
speakers, tour guides, resource people,
moderators, planners, etc. for making this a
memorable and fitting celebration of our
25th anniversary. All had a grand time and
look forward to next year’s annual meeting
in the wine country of San Francisco,
California!
“Garden Blitz ’03”

National Park Service cultural resources staff and volunteers completed the 3rd annual “Garden Blitz” at Ellsworth Rock Garden during the week of May 26, 2003. Ellsworth Rock Garden was designed by Jack Ellsworth from 1965-1994. Mr. Ellsworth was a skilled Chicago carpenter who summered at Kabetogama Lake, now part of Voyageurs National Park in northern Minnesota.

Ellsworth Rock Garden is an outstanding example of a vernacular art environment. Although untrained, Mr. Ellsworth created a landscape of complexity and durability. During its heyday in the 1960s, the garden comprised over 200 sculptures: creations using mortar and local stones that resemble chairs and tables, animals, human figures, and abstract shapes. The sculptures are focal points within an overall composition of terraced rock planting beds and walkways. During the summer months, the beds would fill with color. Ellsworth used both annuals and perennials in the planting beds, but it was the orange Asiatic lilies that provided the stunning impression that local residents still remember.

This year’s “Garden Blitz” encompassed a number of projects, including restoring three painted stones that functioned as welcome signs for visitors as they arrived at the garden. Steve Seebahn, a paint conservator from Petoskey Michigan, was responsible for cleaning and repainting the stones. Three large planting beds were cleared and planted them with roses, dahlias, Asiatic lilies, nasturtiums, bachelor’s buttons, and marigolds, marking the implementation of a historic planting plan that has been established by studying period photographs.

Other projects include mowing, establishing an interpretive trail using concrete stepping stones, and admiring the new interpretive shelter that was built on the foundation of the old, nonhistoric, guest cabin. Mary and John Snyder also continued work on the garden base map.

Another work session in August will focus on continued stabilization of sculptures, planting more lilies, and restoring the historic footbridge and signpost. For more information on Ellsworth Rock Garden, please call Mary Graves, Cultural Resource Specialist at Voyageurs National Park, 218-283-9107, extension 6126.

(Photographs courtesy of David Tank, May 2003, and Voyageurs National Park (historic shot circa 1965))

An Italianate Renaissance Masterwork in Georgia

History is in the pathways, God is in the boxwood, and inspired horticulture is a tradition at the Ferrell Gardens at Hills and Dales, an exquisite nineteenth-century Italianate garden tucked away in the southwest corner of the State of Georgia. Initiated in the 1840s by Sarah Ferrell, wife of owner Blount Ferrell, this jewel was recovered, cared for, and enhanced by generations of the Fuller Callaway family, which recently established the Fuller E. Callaway Foundation to preserve the estate into the future and open it to the public.

Ferrell Gardens at Hills and Dales encompasses approximately thirty-four acres that include the gardens, house, and adjoining open space. A master plan, prepared by Robert and Company Associates, is directed at preserving the historic integrity of the house and gardens, as well as sensitively adding selected facilities to enhance and facilitate the property as a historic house and garden museum. A visitor center, parking areas for cars and buses, an additional greenhouse, and the upgrading of several existing structures are anticipated in the plan.

For additional information about the Ferrell Gardens, contact Hillsanddales@mindspring.com or write to the Fuller E. Callaway Foundation, P.O. Box 790, LaGrange, Georgia 30241. A website is planned for the future.

(Article is excerpted from The Newsletter of The Garden Conservancy, Vol. 13, No. 3)
Chicago’s New Docent Program

In 2002, the Chicago Park District and Lincoln Park Conservancy (formerly known as Friends of Lincoln Park) completed a 2.5 million dollar restoration of the Lily Pool in Lincoln Park. Before rededicating this remarkable 3-acre Prairie style landscape, the park district officially renamed this the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool in honor of its designer. Caldwell, a disciple of Jens Jensen, was so committed to this project, which was funded by the WPA in the 1930s, that he cashed in a $300 life insurance policy to purchase the wildflowers that had been eliminated from the budget. After completing an award-winning restoration project, the Chicago Park District and Lincoln Park Conservancy decided to jointly develop a program in which volunteer docents would give interpretive tours of the landscape.

Julia S. Bachrach headed up this endeavor, which involved recruiting 15 volunteers in February, and conducting 6 weeks of training on the site’s history, design, flora and fauna, and the community driven restoration project. This summer, docents are providing free tours on site every Saturday and the third Thursday of every month from 9 am to noon. Tours will be provided through September. Next year, some of the volunteer docents will help direct this program so that additional sites can be added. For more information, contact Julia Bachrach at (312) 742-4698 or julia.bachrach@chicagoparkdistrict.com.

MWC Center For Historic Preservation Awards 2003 Book Prize

The Center for Historic Preservation at Mary Washington College has awarded the 2003 Historic Preservation Book Prize to A Modern Arcadia: Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and the Plan for Forest Hills Gardens by Susan L. Klaus, an independent scholar specializing in urban and landscape history. The book is published by the University of Massachusetts Press in association with the Library of American Landscape History.

In awarding the prize, it was noted that A Modern Arcadia presents an excellent documentation of landscape history and recognizes the integration of planning, landscape architecture and architecture. The book demonstrates that the fundamental ideas for successful suburban design are found in revisiting history. Klaus was commended for her portrayal of the collaborative efforts of diverse design professionals, as well as the financial considerations that go into designing and constructing a planned community. Her book takes the first step in encouraging future landscape history works to consider and expand on preservation planning practices.

The Center for Historic Preservation was established at Mary Washington College in 1979 to support the college’s undergraduate curriculum in historic preservation and to sponsor outreach activities at the regional, national and international levels. For more information about the Historic Preservation Book Prize or the Center, call (540) 654-1041.

1999 Borderlands Proceedings

The 1999 Alliance meeting proceedings, Borderlands: The Shared Canadian and U.S. Experience of Landscape, are still available. The publication includes essays and case studies covering the following subjects: Federal Conservation in the U.S. and Canada, Place and Policy, Conservation Applications, Trends in Borderlands. The National Park Service and the Alliance funded this publication which was edited by conference organizer Nancy Pollock-Ellwand and produced by the Heritage Resources Centre at the University of Waterloo, Canada. Copies are available to presenters and attendees for free (+ $5.00 shipping and handling) or at $15 US/$20 CAN to others. They can be purchased by contacting Camille Fife, Alliance President, through our website at www.ahlp.org or by email at Westerlygp@aol.com. They may also be purchased through the Heritage Resources Centre, hrc@fes.uwaterloo.ca.
Membership Report
The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation would like to welcome the following new members who have joined since January 1, 2003:

Jane Roy Brown of Massachusetts is the Editor of the Journal of the England Garden History Society. In the Midwest, Jo Ann Nathan is the Director of the Jens Jensen Legacy Project in Chicago. Denise Wiles Adams is a free-lance writer who will have a book on American heirloom ornamental plants published in the spring 2004 (Timberline Press). Denise lives in Virginia. New Canadian members are David Waterman, Shannon Baker, and Karen Bannister, all with the firm of ESG International-Stantec of Ontario. Marilyn Havelka is with the Museum-Ruthven Park National Historic Site in Cayuga, Ontario. Three new members joined from the National Park Service: Tonia Horton, Historical Landscape Architect in the Alaska Support Office and Carol Ahlgren (Architectural Historian) and Susan Vincent (Community Planner) of the Midwest Regional Office. Carolyn Schaffer and Charlotte J. Fox are from California; Ms. Shaffer is with Dudek & Associates, Inc. in Anaheim and Ms. Fox is President of the Temecula Valley Historical Society. At the Alliance meeting in Frederick, Maryland, the following new members joined the Alliance: Jennifer Bunting Hallock with EHT Traceries in Washington, DC, Frank McGarry (rejoining) with MapConnects of Ontario, and Dan Vivian with the National Register program in Washington.

Please personally welcome these members the first chance you get! And, thanks go out to our current members who asked these people to join the Alliance and to all of you who are renewing your memberships this spring. Membership Coordinator Sherda Williams and Treasurer Nick Weeks appreciate your timely response.

Members that had not stayed current with their membership were sent a final notification in February, before their names were removed from our database in April. Secretary Tina Bishop is updating the membership directory, which will arrive in your mailbox in late July.

Questions about membership can be directed to Sherda Williams via email (Sherda.Williams@nps.gov) or by telephone at 402-514-9330 (day) or 402-455-6430 (night).

Member News
Julia S. Bachrach was selected as the recipient of the 2003 National Literary Award by the National Recreation and Park Association for her book The City in a Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago’s Parks.

Shannon Baker, Karen Bannister and David Waverman are part of a team of research specialists and landscape architects from ESG International-Stantec that has been working on the adaptive reuse of the 4.3 acre MacDonald homestead, at 121 Centre Street in Thornhill, Ontario. Home to J.E.H. MacDonald (1873-1932), one of the founding members of the Group of 7. The site was where he painted his garden, in 1916, that was to become one of the icons of Canadian art, “The Tangled Garden”. The team has meticulously researched the history of the property in order to determine the location, layout, aspect and content of the original garden, and is currently preparing a detailed masterplan for recreation of the garden and adaptive reuse of the property.

Note: ESG International was recently purchased by Stantec Consulting. New contact information is as follows: Shannon Baker and Karen Bannister Stantec Consulting 361 Southgate Drive Guelph, Ontario N1G 3M5, Canada Tel: 519-836-6050

Charles A. Birnbaum has won the Samuel H. Kress Rome Prize Fellowship from the American Academy in Rome, the leading American overseas center for independent study and advanced research in the arts and humanities.

Charles will take up residence at the American Academy in Rome, Italy, in February 2004, as part of a community of 33 Rome Prize winners in the arts and humanities. His study topic is “The American Academy Experience as a Progenitor of a Nature-Culture Stewardship Ethic.” The American Academy in Rome was established in 1894, by a group of prominent Americans, whose goal was to provide an opportunity for American artists and scholars to study in the ancient city of Rome. To learn more about this proposal or the Academy visit their website at: www.aarome.org.

Nancy J. Brown is now part of the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation as a result of the recent realignment that took place in the Northeast Region of the National Park Service. She will still be physically located in the Philadelphia office, and continue in her role as co-coordinate of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory for the region.

Contact information:
Nancy J. Brown, ASLA National Park Service - Northeast Region Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation 200 Chestnut St., Third Floor, Philadelphia PA 19106 Phone: 215.597.8863 - Fax: 215.597.0932

Please personally welcome these members the first chance you get! And, thanks go out to our current members who asked these people to join the Alliance and to all of you who are renewing your memberships this spring. Membership Coordinator Sherda Williams and Treasurer Nick Weeks appreciate your timely response.
Congratulations to Scott Kunst whose business, Old House Gardens, celebrated its 10th anniversary! Perhaps you saw him planting bulbs with Martha Stewart on national TV? Check out OHG’s website (www.oldhousegardens.com) and their beautiful new catalog for a dazzling array of antique bulbs.

Christopher J. Seeger has sent the following updated contact information:
Christopher J. Seeger  
Extension Landscape Architect and Asst. Professor  
Department of Landscape Architecture  
Iowa State University  
Ames, IA 50011  
P)515-294-3648  
F)515-294-2348  
cjseeger@iastate.edu

Upcoming Events
June 29, 2003-September 1, 2003  A Genius for Place (Library of American Landscape History Exhibition), The George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film, Rochester, N.Y  
For more information see the Library’s website at: http://www.lalh.org/exGenius.html.

September 25-27, 2003  “A Genius and His Legacy: Frederick Law Olmsted in the South,” the 14th Conference on Restoring Southern Gardens and Landscapes held at Old Salem, Inc. For further information contact Kay Bergey, (336)721-7378; bergeymk@wfu.edu.; or write her at Drawer F, Salem Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27108.

The conference will focus on a number of key issues that will affect historic preservation for years to come. For more information, see the conference website at www.nthpconference.org/

September - November, 2003  The National Preservation Institute will be conducting numerous seminars in historic preservation and cultural resource management. Please contact the institute at www.npi.org, 703.765.0100, or info@npi.org for more information.

Call for Papers due December 20, 2002. See the ASLA website (www.asla.org) for more information.

A National Conference in celebration of the evolution and maturation of American campus landscapes. For more information contact Chris Panos or call 718.549.3200

This forum will explore the challenges that preservation faces in documenting, assessing, and protecting America’s changing cultural landscapes.

Below: Annual meeting participants at Sky Meadows State Park.

Kapi'olani Park is distinct among urban parks in the United States. Unlike parks established through the American political process, Kapi'olani Park was created as a private preserve for the court of a reigning monarch when Honolulu was part of the Kingdom of Hawaii. The origins and historical development of Honolulu’s “Central Park” are analyzed in this book by Robert R. Weyeneth of the University of South Carolina.

The book begins with a contextual chapter that locates Kapi'olani Park within the history of urban parks in the United States. Subsequent chapters examine how changing—and sometimes clashing—recreational, political, economical and social interests have substantially altered the appearance of Kapi'olani Park over the last 125 years. Weyeneth’s text is framed by rich illustrations and charming sidebar articles contributed by designer MacKinnon Simpson. Proceeds from Kapi'olani Park: A History will benefit the Kapiolani Park Preservation Society.


In Killing Ground, John Huddleston embarks on a photographic odyssey through the modern-day landscape of the Civil War. He pairs historical images of the conflict from sixty-two battle sites across the nation—battlefield scenes, soldiers living and dead, prisoners of war, civilians, and slaves—with his own color photographs of the same locations a century and a half later, always taken at the same time of year, often at the same hour of the day. Sometimes Huddleston’s lens reveals a department store or fast-food restaurant carelessly built on hallowed ground; other images depict overgrown fields or well-manicured parks. When contrasted with their mid-nineteenth-century counterparts, these indelible images challenge the meaning of place in American culture and the evolving legacy of the Civil War in our national memory.


Americans have long been fascinated by the Upland South, a regional band of great natural beauty and a rich, archaic cultural landscape that runs from Virginia and North Carolina west through Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and their bordering states. Celebrated in novels, movies, and other media for its distinctive culture, the region is home to a way of life grounded in the singular character of its people. In The Upland South, the geographer Terry Jordan-Bychkov explores the region through an analysis of its traditional cultural landscape. Seen through Jordan-Bychkov’s eyes, the built environment and its artifacts—houses, barns, town plans, graveyards, church structure, fences, and the like—reveal much about the nature and distribution of Upland South life and culture. This informative and richly illustrated book about a distinctive region in America is sure to be a welcome addition to the literature of the South, for scholars and general readers alike.


Israeli landscape architects have been integral to their country’s development, designing places that have become symbolic icons of the nation (among them, Valley of the Destroyed Communities at Yad Vashem, Haas-Sherover Promenade in Jerusalem, Ben Gurion’s gravesite at Sde Boker, Yarkon Park of Tel Aviv), as well as all of Israel’s national parks, university campuses, most kibbutzim, and even entire cities. Yet despite their unique contribution to the nation’s identity, their work is largely unknown outside Israel. Dreaming Gardens is a pioneering work that provides, for the first time, a framework for understanding the contributions of landscape architecture in the creation of Israel. The development of the landscape architecture profession in Israel paralleled the development of the state, as immigrants brought skills and ideas from the Diaspora, creating a unique opportunity for designers to help shape their national identity. Helphand’s clear writing, complemented by copious color illustrations, charts the shifting attitudes of this singular culture toward its land, landscapes, communities, and nation.

Remember to visit our website: www.ahlp.org
Application for Membership

The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation

Membership is open to individuals and organizations with a commitment to landscape preservation. Complete this form and return it with a check payable to Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation, c/o Tina Bishop, 3037 West 24th Street, Denver, CO 80211

Membership Information (as you would like it to appear in the directory)

☐ New Member  ☐ Renewal

Name       Title

Organization

Address

City     State/Province  Zip

Phone       Fax  E-mail

☐ Individual $30/$35 CAN
☐ Student $15/$17 CAN
☐ Library $25/$30 CAN (receives newsletter/mailings; not eligible for full benefits)
☐ Institutional $75/$85 CAN (full benefits for 3 members who share 1 mailing at the same address)

Current Projects/Interests

(10 words or less for directory)

☐ Check here if you do not want your name to appear in the directory

About the Alliance

The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation is an interdisciplinary professional organization which provides a forum for communication and exchange of information among its members. It is dedicated to the preservation and conservation of historic landscapes in all their variety from formal gardens to public parks to rural expanses.

The Alliance was founded in 1978 when a small group of people from diverse backgrounds met at New Harmony, Indiana, to share their mutual interests and concerns about the growing fields of landscape preservation. From this initial symposium came recognition of the need for increased communication and understanding regarding historic landscapes and a commitment to the interdisciplinary nature of the field.

Alliance News

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Front and back cover illustrations courtesy of
Massachusetts Horticultural Society Library, from J.C. London’s Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum (1838)