



GLH Article Databases: A Comparison

Suzi Teghtmeyer
Michigan State University Libraries

For years, we plant science librarians have been subscribing to one of the few indexes focused on the garden, horticulture and landscape serial literature, namely EBSCO's **Garden, Landscape and Horticulture Index** (GLH Index). It was the beloved creation of one of our own CBHL members, **Sally Williams**, now retired. This year, **Gale Cengage** introduced its own article database for our field, the **Garden, Landscape and Horticulture Collection** (GLH Collection). Although they share a very similar name, there are distinct differences between them, and deciding which is the better choice for your library and patrons can be a challenge. In this article I will point out some of the key differences I found between the two offerings, and provide some questions that you should answer to help determine which is the better fit.

In order to make the comparisons, I imported the title lists from publisher-provided spreadsheets into a Microsoft Access table. I then created queries to compare their titles, types of publications, coverage dates of indexing and full-text, and so forth. In doing so, I discovered three main differences between the two:

- GLH Index has no full-text content; has greater depth coverage-wise; and has greater than seven times more titles indexed, once the 82 duplicate titles are subtracted out.
- GLH Collection has 94 titles with at least some full-text coverage; has a shorter coverage depth in almost all titles; and has offers far fewer

titles, both indexed and full-text.

From these few facts you may think that GLH Index is the better deal, but the strength of the GLH Collection is in its full-text titles. Full-text items include 22 textbooks and about 62 journals and magazines. Nineteen of the 62 serials have end dates to the full-text, often due to the title ceasing, changing to a new title name, or an embargo. The textbooks are from the **Delmar** (Thompson or Cengage) publishing house and range in copyright date from 1997-2009. It also contains 56 scholarly/peer-reviewed journals and 56 trade/magazine titles, some of each having full text. There is also a small image file, two blog files, and a few newswire indexes. Some serial titles have greater indexing depth than just the full-text offering on that same title.

GHL Index is the larger of the two databases, containing 539 titles consisting of academic journals (168), magazines (276), chapter-level indexing of 70 books, and a small number of pamphlets and reports. Most indexing of all the serials begins at volume 1: issue 1, with the earliest titles beginning in the mid-1960s. As I mentioned, 82 titles appear in both databases, but indexing coverage is not the same. In most cases, EBSCO's GHL Index has the greater depth, often to the initial issue, but about a third of Gale's Collection begins indexing and/or full-text earlier. About 14 of these titles have ceased publication under that name, some of which continue to be indexed under the new name.

To help you narrow the choice of which is better for your patrons, here are some question you should answer:

- Do I have a large enough print collection that can support an index-only database?
- Is my print collection insufficient, or being pared down due to age, space, or deterioration?
- Do my patrons need to find older information as well as more recent information?
- Can I easily acquire articles that I find in an index, or is it too frustrating when unable to fill requests?
- Do I need these full-text textbooks—is there a call for them?

From the President

Susan C. Eubank
Arboretum Librarian
Los Angeles County
Arboretum & Botanic Garden
Arcadia, CA

who likes to read . . . or maybe it was that I could remember almost any story he ever told me . . . Can't remember now . . . During library school I interned at the **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**. I cataloged exhibition catalogs. Then I also worked at **Mills College** as the weekend "librarian"—in-training, I suppose, although there was no one there to train me. I was on my own directly applying what I learned in class. Headly times. I was excited to learn about how to search **Dialog**. I felt superior when I was the only one in my reference services class that knew that all the answers to the questions the instructor had written down were all found in the *World Almanac*. That knowledge was thanks to my Dad who had purchased one every year during my childhood and I, as an obsessive, knowledge freak, actually perused them every year. (He still buys one every year.) Was I on top of the world?

My friend also saw something in me, about wanting to avoid conflict, avoiding the rough and tumble of boisterous conviviality—an introvert, I suppose. Let's put that person in a library with all the other ones. I haven't read *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* by **Susan Cain** (New York : Crown Publishers, ©2012), but I have a feeling I'd fit right in with the bunch, although I'd be very uncomfortable at a party with them. Turns out I've labeled myself as an "occupational extrovert." When I get home I tell my husband, "You speak to the humans for me, please." How has this affected the arc of my career? How is this affecting my current library renovation project? How has this affected the library world in general and CBHL libraries in particular? The reason I say "occupational extrovert" is that I tend to speak up in arenas where I think my opinion is welcome or necessary and I can do a performance at the drop of a hat about anything library-related. Notice "performance." That means me doing the talking as if I were on stage. It's a monologue really, changes with my whim, but the general tendency is some riff on the importance of libraries, books, knowledge, access to knowledge, and how that is all mixed together. Sort of like a presidential column . . .

When I am confronted with cold calling a donor or trying to figure out how to answer the development person's question of "Don't you know anyone who is a potential donor for the library? What about your volunteers as donors?" that introvert kicks in in a serious way. I'm the brand new kindergartener arriving in the middle of the year holding up my construction paper bird that needs to have a Kleenex stuffed inside to make the body 3-D. Where am I going to get a new Kleenex since I used the birdie one since I was crying? I'm the third grader and eighth grader at other new schools; my eighth grade bus co-riders made fun of me because I had lived in the country and wasn't Bakersfield "sophisticated." Now the world of extroverts would just tell me to grow up and do the deed. I can do it, but it won't succeed in the way that someone who loves to do that kind of thing would do. So my latest epiphany was that I could just admit that this task is not my strong suit and ask who on the team (CEO, Director of Development, or me) would like to do the cold call. I was chided by one participant "for trying to get out of it." But the epiphany is such that I'm delegating the task (even up the chain) to the best possible participant to get what we need. No need to turn introverts into incompetent extroverts, especially if my voice gets high and tense.

Keep Trying For the Children

Why are we librarians in these times? My boss, our CEO, told his librarian friend at **Harvard University** that "it must be the most exciting time possible to be a librarian." Harvard is still working its way through a reorganization that is potentially having career subject specialists transformed instantaneously into generalists. 2013 marks my 30th anniversary as a diploma-carrying M.L.I.S. I got into this because a friend suggested that libraries would be a good place for someone

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Winter at the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden.



Aloe bainseii as sentinel. Susan C. Eubank, photographer

How does this translate into the CBHL world? I would suggest that you settle into yourself and get to know your strengths and figure out who you can ask to help with the things that aren't your strong suit. At work, I have my social advisor, my grammar advisor, and sometimes, someone who can be my front person at the donor parties I have to attend. My strength, besides my library work, is getting folks who are angry with or uncomfortable working with each other to come together during times of need and especially special events. At the last special event the Arboretum had, I was asked at the last moment to help in a task that needed concentrated attention to detail and the ability to cajole someone through the detailed task. I've got that in spades.

I started this column on that horrible day when the folks in the town where *Fine Gardening* is published lost their little children. We all lost those wide eyes and their young sweetness. We lost new gardeners, young botanists and readers, and bright-eyed library customers. First grade is the year they officially become readers and most lose their front teeth. Even though these times can

I was asked at the last moment to help in a task that needed concentrated attention to detail and the ability to cajole someone through the detailed task. I've got that in spades.

be the most challenging in our careers, we must keep at it for those bright-eyed children. Botanic gardens, CBHL's academic library collections, our booksellers and publishers know that the plants and libraries will see us all through. Even as we lose librarians at significant collections the ma-

terials stand waiting for a caregiver to bring them back to life. Even though the way we receive information is being scattered to the winds, the librarians will still gather information and help others to navigate the winds. It's obvious to me through that career arc described above that the customers have become less and less able to navigate those winds. I'm holding everyone's hands now as if they are those wide-eyed first graders on the edge of falling into the world of reading. Keep at it through the struggle for all the first graders.

As our colleague David Lane always closed his column: Please feel free to send feedback in any format to me at: < Susan.Eubank@Arboretum.org >.

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- What type of content do my patrons generally ask for—research or scholarly; general magazines; regional information; all of these?
- How much can I afford to spend on this product?
- Does the overlapping of the 82 titles make it a moot choice as those are the only ones I need?

In the end, I, alas, cannot tell you which article database would be the better one for your library as we have different patron bases, research needs, and we're all over the globe. The subscription price of each will also fluctuate as per the size of your library or organization, and whether or not this is a stand-alone purchase or part of a package. However, here are the links to their title lists, so you can see for yourself which database has the titles that you have the most call for (just scroll down to the title at the following sites):

EBSCO: < <http://www.ebscohost.com/title-lists> >

Gale Cengage: < http://www.gale.cengage.com/title_lists >

I hope that this comparison has helped you in exploring these two article databases. Each has its strengths, and with time, hopefully both will get bigger and gain in depth and coverage. If you would like more information on either of them, the title lists, or details on how I made the comparisons, please feel free to contact me.

In Memoriam

Mary Morris Walker

(April 1, 1923 - October 2, 2012)



Mary Morris Walker, a member of **CBHL** for many years, passed away at her home in Concord, MA on October 2, 2012. Mary was born in Stamford, CT on April 1, 1923, where she spent her youth. She graduated from **Vassar College** in 1944 and went on to earn master's degrees

in geology (**University of Michigan**) and library science (**Simmons College**, 1971). She married and raised three children in various states before settling in Concord. Mary devoted much of her time to developing and maintaining a library for the **New England Wild Flower Society** (NEWFS) in Framingham, MA. In 2011, the reading room at NEWFS was named in her honor.

Mary was actively involved in the **Thoreau Society**, the **Appalachian Mountain Club**, and served as corresponding secretary and president of the **New England Botanical Club** (NEBC). Mary was only the second woman to be elected president of the club. In retirement, Mary traveled to **Anguilla** for many years and developed deep relationships with the people of Anguilla. Mary studied the plants on the island and was the founder of the **Anguilla Flora Project**; she received recognition for this in 1999 from the Anguilla National Trust.

Mary authored or co-authored numerous botanical publications, including "A Guide to Common Plants of Anguilla," "The Vegetation of Anguilla," and "Native Plant Societies of the United States and Canada."

Michigan State University Libraries invites you to share your knowledge, techniques and strategies at the 45th annual meeting of **CBHL** in **MSU** in **East Lansing, Michigan**.

This year's theme is "A Study in Green: Horticultural and Botanical Educations for all Ages." We invite you to submit your presentation ideas on how you teach and share your resources, collections, websites and garden information with patrons, both in person and virtually. Alternatively, how do you keep yourself and your staff on top of 'all things library' out there—the databases, the print to e-only resources, the books, the blogs, the technology and how to use it? Now is an ideal time to share with the rest of us your methods that work for you, your staff and your patrons.

Our presentation room has the latest MS Office software and Internet connections. The presentations committee will try to accommodate as many presenters as possible within the time constraints of the conference.

Please send me the following:

To: < suzirt@gmail.com >

Subject line: CBHL 2013 - Presentation abstract

Body of the email

Name: / Presentation title: / Abstract: / Presentation length:

If you have questions, please ask!!—**Suzi Tegtmeyer**, CBHL 2nd V.P., Membership Manager and Annual Meeting Host

Members' News East

Compiled by Shelly Kilroy, Librarian
Peter M. Wege Library
Frederik Meijer Gardens
Grand Rapids, Michigan

David Sleasman
Library & Information Services Coordinator
Longwood Gardens
Kennett Square, PA

The Longwood Library and Information Services team is happy to welcome **Judy Stevenson** as our Archivist. Judy will lead Longwood's efforts to improve the collecting and control of our institutional history.

Most recently Judy served as the Archivist in the **Pictorial Collections Department** at the **Hagley Museum and Library**. She held that position for the past four years. She served as the department's authority for arranging, describing, housing, and cataloging archival collections that include photographic and audio-visual materials as well as objects. Through her work at Hagley she is well-versed in the history of the **Brandywine Valley** and the **du Pont** family, and intimately familiar with the pre-1954 photographs and papers of **Pierre S. du Pont** and **Longwood Gardens**.

During her work at Hagley, she engaged in outreach opportunities, including writing monthly articles for the Library blog, speaking about collections, and submitting general-interest content and images to Hagley's **Facebook**, **Twitter**, and **Tumblr** accounts. Judy also spearheaded an initiative to implement the Archivists' Toolkit database to manage archival collections efficiently and co-chaired the **Library Disaster Response Team**.

Judy will report to **David Sleasman**, LIS Coordinator. Judy can be reached at 610-388-5331 or < jstevenson@longwoodgardens.org >

Leora Siegel, Director
Lenhardt Library
Chicago Botanic Garden
Glencoe, IL



40th Anniversary Exhibition
Celebrates Garden History
Friday, November 16, 2012 -
Sunday, February 10, 2013

This has been a landmark year for the **Chicago Botanic Garden**, which is celebrating 40 years of educating visitors about plants and the natural world. Over the past four decades, the Garden has grown from a simple idea to a living museum

with more than 2.4 million plants and featuring numerous classes, youth programs, art exhibitions and more.

The **Garden Turns 40: Documenting Our Past, Planning for the Future** takes a look at the evolution of the **Chicago Botanic Garden**. From groundbreaking in 1965 to the opening of the **Grunsfeld Children's Growing Garden** in 2012, the exhibition will give visitors a closer look at how the Garden went from an undeveloped parcel of land owned by the **Forest Preserve District of Cook County** to the landmark it is today.

Highlights of the exhibition include an 1890 book of minutes and records of the **Chicago Horticultural Society**; issues of the member magazine, *Garden Talks*, from as far back as the 1940s; a Japanese-style design used to develop the **Zigzag Bridge** in the **Elizabeth Hubert Mallott Japanese Garden**; and early photos.

Robin Everly, Branch Librarian
Botany-Horticulture Library
Smithsonian Institution Libraries
Washington, DC



The Florida endemic Asimina rugelii B.L. Rob. was listed as *Endangered* in 1986 under the name *Deeringothamnus rugelii* (B.L. Rob.) Small. *Rugel's pawpaw* is known only from Volusia Co., Florida, and is at risk of extinction from habitat loss, fire suppression, and successional change. Illustration from Small, *Addisonia* 15: pl. 489. 1930.

Avoiding Extinction: Contemporary Approaches to Conservation Science is the symposium topic for the **11th Smithsonian Botanical Symposium**, hosted by the **Department of Botany** and the **United States Botanic Garden**. This symposium will highlight past efforts and new threats to conservation goals, as well as new approaches underway that promise to safeguard biodiversity both here in the U.S. and around the world. The invited speakers will cover a wide range of endangered organisms, with a special focus on plants, to illustrate the challenges of modern-day conservation science in a rapidly changing world.

Smithsonian Botanical Symposium

April 19-20, 2013
Washington, D.C.

< <http://botany.si.edu/sbs/> >

Members' News West

Compiled by Beth Brand
Librarian, Schilling Library
Desert Botanical Garden
Phoenix, Arizona

Barney Lipscomb
Leonhardt Chair of Texas Botany
Botanical Research Institute of Texas
Fort Worth, Texas

BRIT Press publishes *Flora of Virginia* and
Not a Century Too Soon



The Botanical Research Institute of Texas Press has just published the new *Flora of Virginia* (1,572 pp). Until now, Virginia has only had one flora, *Flora Virginica*, the last edition of which was published in 1762, exactly 250 years ago. The **Flora of Virginia Project** is a partnership with Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Botanical Associates, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Virginia Academy of Science, and Virginia Native Plant Society.

The *Flora of Virginia* describes approximately 3,200 taxa in 200 families and features 1,400 captioned, scaled, and botanically accurate illustrations. Introductory material includes essays on the natural history and vegetation of Virginia and a historical account of botanical exploration in the state, as well as a key to the vascular plant families represented in the Flora. A glossary, bibliography, and comprehensive index are also provided.

"This flora—the first offered for Virginia in exactly 250 years—is a complete guide for learning about the plants of Virginia, whether a wildflower from a weedy roadside, a shrub from a coastal dune, or a tree from a deep Appalachian hollow. Scientists, educators, students, and professional field biologists will put this manual to great use, allowing a broader understanding of our natural world. With that knowledge will come the desire to make sound conservation decisions and the ability to do so. This work will prove to be a critical tool for the conservation and protection of Virginia's most important vegetation and rarest plants. It will allow us to soundly manage our natural resources and carefully develop our lands. And ultimately, this flora will engender a more profound connection with our plants and thus a deeper appreciation of their beauty, complexity, and value to Virginia's future generations."

Order your copy at < <http://www.brit.org/brit-press/>

[books/virginia](#) >.

Brandy Kuhl, Head Librarian
San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum
Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture
San Francisco, California

New Grant to Support Children's Services

I am very pleased to report that SFBGS has again received a \$75,000 capacity-building grant from the **S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation** to support youth education services provided by the Library and the Youth Education Program. These funds support our wonderful Assistant Librarian **Lia Thomas** and her work with (among other things) our Children's Collection and children's services and programs, including our recently offered circulation privileges to members and SFUSD teachers.

Funds will also make possible the acquisition of new children's books and teacher resources and new shelving in the children's area. We will be launching a pilot **Summer Reading Program** next year as well. Circulation privileges have been popular with SFUSD teachers, prompting us to extend the service to all San Francisco Pre-K through 12 teachers. We have not had as many members sign up as anticipated but plan to increase marketing and awareness of the service.

New Art Exhibit Featuring California Native Plants

From January through April the Library will host **Ernest Clayton California Wildflower Images: Prints of Botanical Art from the mid-20th Century**. Ernest Clayton painted a series of nearly 200 watercolors of the California native plants that he saw on his many walks around Marin County in the period from 1938 to 1952. During his botanical outings his granddaughters, who have organized this exhibit of prints of his artwork, often accompanied him. The collection of work by Mr. Clayton was purchased by the **San Francisco Public Library** prior to his death.

The images in the Clayton exhibit reveal a talented artist who enjoyed and closely observed the native flora growing in the area around his home in San Anselmo. Presented in a style reminiscent of the arts and crafts tradition of the early 20th century, the paintings go beyond the usual stylized images of that era and present pictures that are vivid and naturalistic combining the observations of a botanist with the aesthetics of a skilled artist. The fifty giclée prints in the exhibit include images of many well known and valued native plants—California buckeye, matilija poppy, trillium, shooting star to name a few. Each is painted individually like a portrait and all are the same size, making it an attractive and cohesive collection.

Visit online at < <http://www.sfbotanicalgarden.org/library/> >.

Book Reviews

Compiled by
Patricia Jonas, Book Review Editor
New York, New York

My year often begins with a rereading of a slight classic first published in Czech in 1929 by **Karel Čapek**, a writer with an already established literary reputation and a little garden in Prague. *The Gardener's Year* (New York: Modern Library, 2002. 144 pages. ISBN 9780375759482) is one of those books with a great beginning: "There are several different ways to lay out a little garden; the best way is to get a gardener." It is the perfect year-end cocktail of merriment and reflection, but as I read my out-of-print copy of the University of Wisconsin Press edition, I realized that one of Čapek's great pleasures and mine in December and January has been greatly diminished: "The gardener himself hibernates under glass in a heated room, buried up to the neck, not in manure or brushwood, but in garden catalogues and circulars, books and pamphlets . . ." Although there is a great deal to be said for online catalogs, it is impossible to be buried up to the neck in them. Many of the smallest specialty nurseries and growers don't do online catalogs and many more—faced with the harsh arithmetic of today's business—have closed their doors.

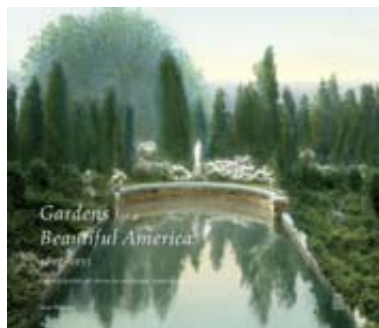


Drawing by Josef Čapek from The Gardener's Year.

Thankfully, even with ebooks proliferating, we can still be buried up to the neck in printed books. Photographer **Frances Benjamin Johnston** and Karel Čapek

were contemporaries, although Johnston was born twenty-six years earlier and died fourteen years later than Čapek. One of Johnston's lecture subjects was "Problems of the Small Garden," but most of the private gardens she photographed required the professional gardeners Čapek recommended, but certainly never hired—enjoying gardening as much as he did.

Gardens for a Beautiful America features a selection of images from the digitized collection of Frances Benjamin Johnston's lantern slides in the **Library of Congress** < <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/fbj/search/?co=fbj&sp=1&st=gallery&q=j717+lantern&so=asc&sb=id> > and so here we have the best of both worlds.



Gardens for a Beautiful America, 1895-1935 by Sam Watters, in association with the Library of Congress. New York: Acanthus Press, 2012. 378 pages, 300 illustrations including 250 plates and 3 gatefolds. ISBN 9780926494152.

*Reviewed by Robin A. Everly, Branch Librarian
Botany-Horticulture Library, Smithsonian Institution Libraries*

Gardens for a Beautiful America presents, in all their glory, the hand-colored glass slide photographs of **Frances Benjamin Johnston** (1864-1952). It is a big beautiful pictorial book, yet scholarly and well researched. Johnston was one of the earliest among professional American women photographers. She trained as an artist in Paris, studied photography at the Smithsonian and began her career doing portrait and news photography. Her focus turned to gardens and historic houses and she became an advocate of Progressive movements like **City Beautiful** and historic preservationism.

Mr. Watters has written a short biography of Johnston and a fascinating chapter on the history of garden photography during this period; and then allows the lovely reproduction of 250 hand-colored lantern slides (out of a collection of more than 1,100) to tell the story of American gardens over a forty-year period. The presentation of the photographs is divided into five sections: Gardens of the East, Gardens of the West (California), Gardens for City and Suburb, Gardens of the Old World and Gardens of the South. Johnston created the slides for her lectures and the Library of Congress acquired them in 1953 from her estate. They were not cataloged and had few identifying labels or dates. So for five years, in anticipation of writing this book, Mr. Watters researched dates; identified gardens and houses and their locations; and assisted with the cataloging of the collection. The amount of work he put into writing this book shows. He provides

approximately 65 pages of extensive notes to figures and plates, an inventory of Johnston's personal garden book collection, endnotes, and a bibliography.

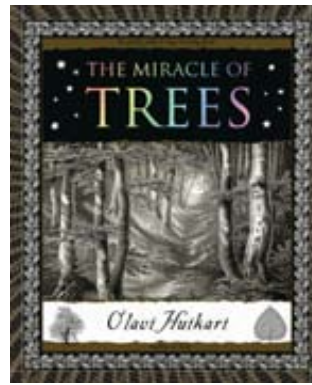
Reading this book and learning more about Frances Benjamin Johnston has made me want to learn more about this period in America's garden history. I recommend this book to everyone whose collection deals with modern American garden history and who may be near locations represented in the book. Doing a quick search in **OCLC WorldCat**, I notice the book is held equally among botanical gardens and art libraries.

I offer a Mast Brothers chocolate bar to the first CBHL member who identifies where this black and white photograph by Johnston appeared and how it is connected to CBHL.



City experiment in gardening. Photograph by Frances Benjamin Johnston.

With the gardener's long view, Čapek writes: "I once planted some birches saying: 'Here there will be a grove of birches; and here in this corner a mighty ancient oak will stand.' And I also planted a little seedling oak, but two years have passed, and still there is not a mighty ancient oak, nor are those birches yet a centenary birch grove in which fairies would like to dance. Of course, I shall wait some years yet; we gardeners have immense patience. I have a cedar of Lebanon on my lawn almost as big as I am; according to experts a cedar can grow to a height of three hundred feet and to a width of fifty feet. Well, I should like to see it when it reaches the prescribed height and width; it really would be only fair if I lived as long in good health and, so to speak, reaped the reward of my labours. In the meantime it has grown a good ten inches; well—we must wait."



The Miracle of Trees by Olavi Huikari. New York: Walker Books, 2012. 64 pages, b&w illustrations. ISBN 9780802777898. \$12.00. Hardcover.

*Reviewed by
Susan Swisher
Librarian
Holden Arboretum*

"Together We Stand" is the motto on the cover of this beautiful little book celebrating the most majestic of Earth's life forms. Author Olavi Huikari is an expert on trees and forestry and former head of the Department of Forestry at the University of Helsinki, Finland. His goal is to "illuminate the essence of a tree, its parts, purposes and dynamic changes, and the way its life is interwoven into the very definition of what it means to be human."

This book is physically small, but it is packed with illustrations from rare old engravings and specially commissioned drawings and is a treasure trove of historical, botanical, and scientific information about trees. Each of twenty-six topics is covered in one page of text and one page of illustrations or charts. Chapters include: What is a Tree?, Inside a Leaf, The Bark of a Tree, Can Trees Feel Pain?, Can a Tree See?, Musical Trees, Climate Change, and more. This simple format contains an impressive breadth and depth of scientific information. Each chapter is easily read and understood so that the entire book delivers a thorough grounding in the biology, chemistry, anatomy, and value of trees. Print on the charts is occasionally too small but that does not diminish the pleasure or knowledge to be gathered from this book.

In the chapter "On Market Gardeners," Čapek writes: "There are certainly some people who, when reading these instructive meditations, will say indignantly: 'What! this man here talks of every uneatable root, but he never mentions carrots, cucumbers, kohlrabi or savoys' . . . In reply to this charge I say that in one of the numerous phases of my life I also ruled over some beds of carrots and savoys, of lettuce and kohlrabi; I did it certainly out of a feeling of romanticism, wanting to indulge in the illusion of being a farmer. In due time it was obvious that I must crunch every day one hundred and twenty radishes, because nobody else in the house would eat them; the next day I was drowning in savoys, and then the orgies of kohlrabi followed, which were terribly stringy."

Perhaps you are more sensible about the extent of your planting, so don't let Čapek keep you from the joys of vegetable gardening or the good advice to be gleaned from *Vegetable Gardening the Colonial Williamsburg Way*. And don't delay. As Čapek reminds us: "The gardener's autumn begins in March; with the first faded snowdrop."

Vegetable Gardening the Colonial Williamsburg Way: 18th-Century Methods for Today's Organic Gardeners, by Wesley Greene and photography by Barbara Temple Lombardi. New York: Rodale, 2012. 256 pages, illustrated. ISBN 9781609611620. \$30.00. Hardcover.

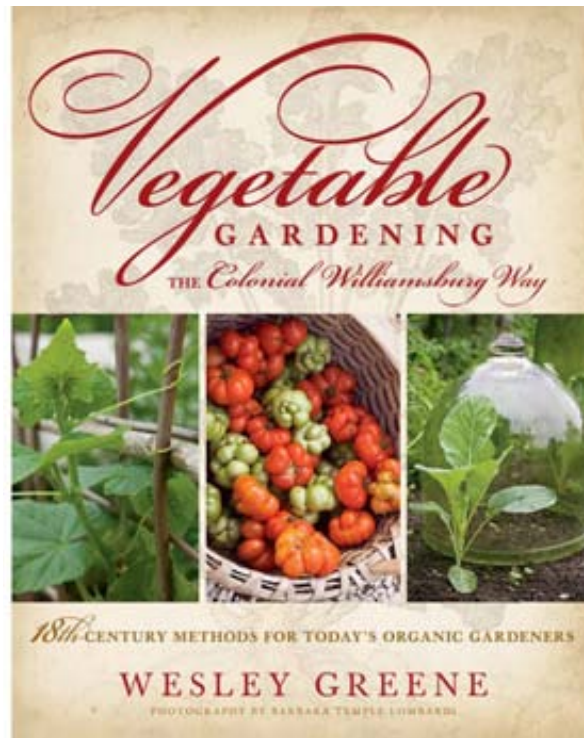
Reviewed by Suzi Tegtmeyer, Librarian, Michigan State University

Vegetable Gardening the Colonial Williamsburg Way is a joyful book to curl up and devour during the winter months. It will educate, inspire, and allow you time to seek out seeds or slips of vegetables grown in Williamsburg so you can plant your own colonial garden.

The introduction provides a concise history of challenges confronting the earliest American colonial vegetable gardeners. John Randolph, royal attorney general of the Williamsburg Colony, wrote the first book on gardening in America: *A Treatise on Gardening*. Although Randolph probably wrote this before 1775, a 1793 edition lives on, but no copies of earlier editions remain. Randolph heavily cited mid-eighteenth century British gardening publications in his writing, and, most importantly, included adaptations for Virginia climate, soils, and pest management.

Today, the gardeners of the Williamsburg Historic Area emulate cultivation methods described in Randolph's *Treatise*, modifying techniques and methods only when absolutely necessary. Author Wesley Greene is research historian and Historic Trades Gardener at Williamsburg. Employing the same or similar tools and cultivation techniques, he grows the same types of vegetables and even the same varieties (or comparable heirloom varieties) mentioned by Randolph. The greatest deviance from historic practice involves watering the gardens. Virginia's climate requires supplemental water to keep the vegetables alive and producing well. In many letters of the day, water was described as the greatest limiting factor to vegetable abundance, and the key reason why smaller homeowners relied on the markets to provide vegetables as it was impossible to keep a garden watered enough.

The first eight chapters of this book describe vegetable gardening by family, including cabbages, salad greens, cucumbers and melons, tomatoes and peppers, and so forth. Almost all specific vegetable entries have four distinct sections:



- There is a concise history: the vegetable's original mention, where it was grown in the Old World, and how and when it was introduced to the New World.
- "The Williamsburg Gardener's Assistant" describes how the vegetable is presently cultivated, tended, harvested and its pests controlled and special needs addressed.
- "Essentials" are indispensable facts on the vegetable: Planting, Spacing, For Best Growth, Harvesting, To Save Pure Seed, Collecting and Storing Seed, and Seed Viability.
- "Seed Varieties" includes "Varieties listed in 18th-century Virginia" and "Heirloom varieties for the modern gardener." For some vegetables this section is very short or nonexistent because the vegetables were not named in early literature.

"Of Luxuries and Oddities" (Chapter 9) describes the cultivation of artichoke, cardoon, celery, celeriac, and asparagus. These were either grown only by the wealthy or introduced to the Americas late in the eighteenth century. "Growing under Cover" (Chapter 10) illustrates the construction and use of hotbeds. I found "Growing Sticks" (Chapter 11) personally intriguing as I'd never learned about this practice. "Growing sticks is an ancient art that has long provided building material, firewood, tool handles, brooms and many, many other useful items." (p. 235). For those in need of many sticks, a gardener can follow the guidelines for pollarding: trees are heavily pruned five to ten feet up in order to produce a cluster of suckers or sticks at the knob end of the cut branches. Over the next two to five years, the sticks grow and are harvested as they reach the right size. The authors warn that coppicing or pollarding landscape and urban trees is viewed today as "topping" or "wanton butchery" and may not be worth the ire of one's neighbors.

In conclusion, *Vegetable Gardening the Colonial Williamsburg Way* serves multiple purposes in a library collection: as a history text, an heirloom variety guide, and as a cultivation manual. But best of all, it's a pleasure to read and absorb the lessons Greene and Randolph provide.

On the Web

JSTOR for Individual Scholars, Edible Flowers and Tree Bark, and Singapore's Gardens by the Bay

Stanley Johnston, Mentor, Ohio

A goodly number of years ago **Connie Wolf** advocated the participation of CBHL member libraries in making sure that significant portions of the botanical and horticultural journal holdings were scanned for posterity as part of the **JSTOR** project. Unfortunately, due to the high membership fees, only those of our members at major institutions or with access to some public library systems have been able to access these online scans of early articles. Now, however, the **JSTOR Register and Read** program < <http://about.jstor.org/rr> > gives limited free access (three articles every two weeks) to independent scholars. The only problem is, try as I might, I could not find a way to register for the program on the site. If any of you have better luck finding the registration, please email the location to me and I will include it in the next column.

A couple of sites that may be of interest for those involved with organic gardening are **The Dirt Doctor**:

Howard Garrett < <http://www.dirtdoctor.com/> > which includes a wealth of material in a searchable library of organic information, research, blogs, videos, and information on Garrett's books and articles, as well as an online community, and **OrganicGardenInfo.com** < <http://www.organicgardeninfo.com/> > which includes sections on soils, vegetables, insects, and lunar gardening.

Given the organic gardener's concerns over chemical pest control, **EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention** < <http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/ocspp.html> > will be of interest with its link to the text of the **Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act** and other regulatory statutes, and its information on the **Office of Pesticide Programs**. Another major pest management resource is **Radcliffe's International Pest Management World Textbook** < <http://ipmworld.umn.edu/> > maintained by Professors **Edward B. Radcliffe** and **William D. Hutchison** of the **Department of Entomology in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences of the University of Minnesota**.

Seed Germination Database < <http://www.backyardgardener.com/tm.html> > was originally published by the **Thompson and Morgan Successful Seed Raising Guide** which is now out of print, but has been put online by **Backyardgardener.com**.

The Botanical Society of America < <http://www.botany.org/> > is the site of the society founded in 1893 to further the study of botany in America. It includes

Charlotte Tancin, Librarian Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

Hunt Institute presents
What We Collect: Recent Art Acquisitions, 2007–2012
22 March–30 June 2013

This selection of recent acquisitions to the Art Department of the **Hunt Institute**, from the early 19th century through the present, will be placed in the context of the Institute's collection practices and the history of botanical illustration. Whether working alongside botanists for scientific and horticultural publications or preparing artworks for collectors, galleries or commercial use, artists throughout the centuries have added their individual perspectives to portraying plants and have made lasting contributions to the botanical record and the history of art.

Images of plants, sometimes including details and cross-sections, will appeal to the generalist attracted to the contemplative beauty of plants, the naturalist interested in the intricacy of plant structure or the artist inspired by the inherent design in nature. These artworks have been used to illustrate floras, monographs, scientific or horticultural journals or have been prepared for exhibitions. Included will be original illustrations for an early-19th-century botanical handbook and its contemporary, the field guide; a 19th-century classroom wall chart and the modern text book; a 20th-century seed packet and a booklet on seedling identification; a 20th-century monograph on the mistletoe genus and a journal article on marine fungi; drawings and watercolors illustrated by research botany professors; independent projects on floras of a region, native and medicinal plants and plants and their pollinators; and recent botanical artworks by artists previously represented in Hunt Institute's International Exhibition of Art & Illustration. Mediums represented are watercolor on paper and vellum; ink, graphite and charcoal drawing; printmaking techniques: copper etching, wood engraving, vitreography and nature printing; and gelatin silver photography.

The artists working before 1900 include **Panrace Bessa** (1772–1846), **Sydenham Edwards** (1769?–1819), **Will Kilburn** (1745–1818), **James Sowerby** (1757–1822), **William Jackson Hooker** (1785–1865), **W. A. Meyn** (19th-century), **Powe** (18th-century) and **Christian Schkuhr** (1741–1811). The contemporary artists featured include **Bobbie Angell**, **Wendy Brockman**, **John Cody**, **Felicity Rose Cole**, **Carolyn Crawford**, **Paul Dobe** (1880–1965), **John Doughty**, **Beverly Duncan**, **Josephine Elwes Ewes**, **Alison Gianangeli**, **Janice Glimm-Lacy**, **Audrey Hardcastle**, **Lizzie Harper**, **Christina Hart-Davies**, **Lyn Hayden**, **Richard Homala** (1934–2009), **Brigitte Kohlmeyer**, **Job Kuijt**, **Donelda LaBrake**, **Peter Loewer**, **Rogers McVaugh** (1912–2009), **Susan G. Monden**, **Cindy Nelson-Nold** (1957–2009), **Susan Ogilvy**, **Kandis Phillips**, **Alfred Putz** (1892–1966), **Mary Rankin**, **Thomas Reaume**, **Eugeni Sierra-Ráfols** (1919–1999), **Eva Stockhaus**, **Jessica Tcherepnine**, **Julia Trickey**, **Denise Walser Kolar**, **John Wilkinson** and **Sun Yingbao**.



Rumex obtusifolius leaf
[*Rumex obtusifolius* Linnaeus, *Polygonaceae*], watercolor on paper by Julia Trickey, 2006, 55 × 36.5 cm, HI Art accession no. 7755, © 2006 Julia Trickey, All Rights Reserved.

Please contact Curator of Art **Lugene B. Bruno** < lbruno@andrew.cmu.edu > with any questions about the exhibition.

Open House 2013

In conjunction with **What We Collect: Recent Art Acquisitions, 2007–2012**, the Hunt Institute will hold its annual Open House on 23 and 24 June. We will offer talks, tours and opportunities to meet one-on-one with our staff to ask questions and see items in the collections. On 23 June Curator of Art Lugene B. Bruno will present "Botanical wall charts" about the Hunt Institute's collection of instructional wall charts that were produced in Europe and circulated around the world from the late 19th to the early 20th centuries. On 24 June in "From field to folio: Stories behind botanical publications" Assistant Librarian **Jeannette McDevitt** will display some of Hunt Institute's special items and speak about the dramas, disasters and absurdities that went on behind the scenes before these beautiful books could come to fruition. A schedule of events will be available on our Web site < <http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/> >.

information on the society, its activities, and publications (including free downloadable copies of its **Botany for the Next Millennium** < <http://www.botany.org/bsa/millen/> > and **Careers in Botany** < <http://www.botany.org/bsa/careers/> >), botanical news, and botanical job openings.

6 of America's Coolest Trees < <http://sierraclub.typepad.com/explore/2012/08/6-of-americas-coolest-trees.html> > features images of some of America's best-known trees in the wild including the General Sherman redwood.

This issue's garden that I had never heard of is the **Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Garden** < <http://www.hcp4.net/mercero/index.htm> > in Humble, Texas. It began as a 14.5 acre tract of natural land purchased by **Charles and Thelma Mercer** in the 1940's, who cleared the land and planted it with their favorite plants and trees. In 1974, they sold it to Harris County with the stipulation it would grow and be maintained as an educational and horticultural facility. It has now been expanded to cover 325 acres.

Edible flowers have long been a feature of receptions at garden clubs and botanical gardens. With that in mind, here are a few web sites detailing the edible and also inedible varieties: **42 Flowers You Can Eat** < <http://www.treehugger.com/green-food/42-flowers-you-can-eat.html> > , **Edible Flowers Chart** < <http://homecooking.about.com/library/weekly/blflowers.htm> > , and **Thompson and Morgan's Edible Plant Guide** < <http://www.thompson-morgan.com/edible-flowers> > .

Less often discussed, and never used on the reception circuit, is edible tree bark—mainly because only the inner bark can be used from trees—which will likely kill the tree. The topic is discussed in **Tim MacWelch's Can You Really Eat Bark?** < <http://survival.outdoorlife.com/blogs/survivalist/2011/11/survival-foods-can-you-really-eat-tree-bark> > .

The final site for this issue is **Gardens by the Bay** < <http://www.gardensbythebay.com.sg/en/home.html> > a collection of gardens and structures erected by **Singapore** as a tourist attraction, a meeting space, and an educational venue. Two glasshouses contain the **Flower Dome**, concentrating on Mediterranean plants, and the **Cloud Forest**. There are also a number of outside gardens including the **Heritage Garden** featuring plants related to the history of Singapore, all of which are dominated by the **Super Tree Groves** featuring seven-story steel tree sculptures covered with plantings. Another view of the project can be found at **Growing Singapore's \$1-Billion Artificial Garden Utopia** < <http://blogs.artinfo.com/object-lessons/2012/06/19/growing-singapores-1-billion-artificial-garden-utopia/> > .

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

compiled by Rita M. Hassert

April 10-13, 2013

ACRL 2013 Conference, Indianapolis.
"Imagine, Innovate, Inspire"
< <http://conference.acrl.org> >

April 14-20, 2013

National Library Week

April 17-20, 2013

Museums and the Web 2013, Portland.
< <http://www.archimuse.com/conferences/mw.html> >

April 21-27, 2013

Preservation Week. Pass It On
< <http://www.atyourlibrary.org/passiton> >

April 24-27, 2013

EBHL Annual Meeting, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
< <http://www.kew.org/ebhl/home.htm> >

May 7-11, 2013

CBHL 45th Annual Meeting, East Lansing, Michigan.
< <http://www.cbhl.net> >

May 20-24, 2013

APGA 2013 Annual Conference, Phoenix.
< <http://www.publicgardens.org> >

June 9-11, 2013

SLA 2013 Annual Conference, San Diego.
< <http://www.sla.org> >

June 27-July 2, 2013

ALA Annual Meeting, Chicago.
"Transforming Our Libraries, Ourselves"
< <http://www.ala.org> >

July 27-31, 2013

Botany 2013, New Orleans.
"Celebrating Diversity!"
< <http://www.2013.botanyconference.org> >



CBHL Newsletter, c/o Stacy Stoldt, Secretary
Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.
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