Plant Sale 1991

People listening to National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" on Friday morning, September 14, heard one of New England's best-kept secrets revealed when the Arnold Arboretum's annual horticultural extravaganza was the featured weekend event selection.

The result? A larger than ever crowd (over 2,500 people), undeterred by cool weather and overcast skies, lined up for their chance to acquire some of the unusual plants on sale in the Case Estates barn. Meanwhile, the Arnold Arboretum Associates' "straight sales" table recorded its first purchase at 7:30 a.m., a prelude to the frenzied bidding in the later silent and rare plant auctions.

Members of the various participating plant groups—the Herb, Hosta, Iris, Rhododendron, and Bromeliad societies—joined together with old and new Friends of the Arboretum to make this a special day for the New England "plant community." Almost $46,000 was raised to support the work of the Arnold Arboretum, and our thanks go to everyone who helped to make the event another memorable occasion.

Historic Landscape Maintenance Workshop

Despite the fury of Hurricane Bob on the previous day, Tuesday, August 20 saw eighty-five managers and horticulturists from historic sites across the country—from California, Louisiana, Georgia, and the Midwest to Washington, New York, and New England—travel to the Arnold Arboretum for a three day national workshop. As the first tangible result of the new cooperative agreement between the Arnold Arboretum and the National Park Service, the program included talks covering, "Plants as visual cues in the historic landscape," "Developing a systematic approach to preservation maintenance," and "The evolution of turf management." The program, which included lectures, problem solving discussions, and field workshops, was developed and co-sponsored by the Arboretum, the North Atlantic Region of the National Park Service, and the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

The roster of speakers included Nation Park Service personnel from Washington, D. C., the North Atlantic Region Office, and the Olmsted and Longfellow Historic Sites.

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Why, for many years now, have individuals continued to give major bequests to the Arnold Arboretum? Perhaps they have shared the same belief as the original trustees of the James Arnold estate. In 1872 these three men chose to establish an arboretum at Harvard University, the most pre-eminent institution for scholarship in the country. They believed that by choosing Harvard, their investment in research and teaching would be of the highest quality, all for the benefit of humankind. They hoped too, that others would see their example and so be similarly encouraged to invest in work of exceptional quality. And, indeed, others have.

In 1987 we received a generous bequest from the estate of F. Stanton Deland, Harvard Class of 1936, and long-time friend of the Arnold Arboretum. After discussions with Mrs. Sue Deland and her family last spring, the Arboretum established an endowment in memory of Stan Deland.

Each year the income from this endowment shall be used to make one or more awards, called the Deland Award, to support the research of a graduate student or advanced undergraduate working on the comparative biology of woody plants. Such studies may include ecology, reproductive biology, genetics, physiology, or development. While preference will be given to students enrolled at Harvard, graduate students at other institutions may apply as well.

Preference will also be given to projects that utilize the 5,500 different kinds of woody plants in the living collections of the Arnold Arboretum. We anticipate making the first awards in 1992.

The Deland Fund joins the other endowments which support research here. For many years, Mercer Fellows have joined the permanent staff of the Arboretum to engage in research and study using the library and herbarium collections largely housed in Cambridge. In addition, through generous gifts from the Putnam family, we now award fellowships and research support from the Katherine H. Putnam Fund. Putnam Fellows are chosen for projects that specifically use the Living Collections of the Arboretum. The most recent Putnam Fellow was Professor Michael Dirr from the University of Georgia who spent a sabbatical semester at the arboretum in the spring of 1991.

We deeply appreciate the generosity of these individuals and the far-sighted vision that inspired these gifts to our endowment. More than any other area, critical support for research at the Arboretum will benefit us all for many generations to come.

**SYMPOSIUM**

*American Landscape Design* as a response to the nation's varied topography and rich cultural heritage, as well as present-day issues in conservation and restoration will be explored by landscape designers and architects on Saturday, November 16, in a day-long symposium co-sponsored by the Arnold Arboretum and New York Botanical Garden. Speakers include John Fitzpatrick (Monticello, Virginia), Isabelle C. Greene (Santa Barbara, California), Dan Kiley (Charlotte, Vermont), and Darrell Morrison (University of Georgia). To request a brochure on the program, call (212) 220-8720.
Foretaste of the Future
Which of the plant introductions now being tested in American nurseries will be voted “most likely to succeed?” What are the sources of these new plants, and how do leading nurseries locate and decide among them?

Join Steven Frowine, Director of Horticultural Research and Information at White Flower Farm in Litchfield, Connecticut, for a thought-provoking slide-lecture titled, “Distinctive Plants for the Year 2000” to find out how new plants are found, tested, and evaluated. This is a rare opportunity to preview plant treasures from Britain, Europe, and the Far East that have yet to enter the commercial pipeline.

The lecture is open to the public and will be held at the Hunnewell Visitor Center from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, November 7. The fee is $12 for members and $15 for non-members.

Architecture and the Garden
Beginning on January 8 for three Wednesday evenings a special lecture series discusses relationships between the development of architecture (house) and the site (garden).

Gary R. Hildebrand, Landscape architect, Graduate School of Design will help us to develop an understanding for some of the ways in which we presently envision the connection between building and landscape in Understanding Types.

Architectural Historian Judith B. Tankard traces the development of the Arts and Crafts Style of small enclosed Garden exemplified in the work of Lorimer in Scotland and Lutyens and Jekyll in England.

Diane Kostial McGuire examines the work of Beatrix Farrand and her distillation of the best of European style for use in the American landscape.

Call (617) 524-1718 for registration information.

Landscape Maintenance Workshop
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Arnold Arboretum staff presented several lectures, using the Jamaica Plain site as an example of an historic landscape. Guest speakers included Dr. Michael Dirr, Scott G. Kunst, Rudi Favretti, Dr. Martin Petrovic, and Paul Rogers.

As a result of this popular workshop (many would-be registrants had to be turned away due to space limitations), the Arnold Arboretum will begin development of a bibliography for historic landscape preservation and will work with the National Park Service to design a curriculum that will permit working professionals to increase their expertise in landscape preservation practices.

Ornamental garden gate at Wodenethe, the residence of H.W. Sargent, Esq. (circa 1856)
George Pride

George H. Pride, the Associate Horticulturist at the Arnold Arboretum from 1967 to 1978, died of a heart attack on Sunday 21, July at the age of 79 years. Many of our members will remember George not only for the classes he taught and the horticultural information he dispensed so freely, but also for initiating the Arboretum’s Friends organization in the early seventies and for hosting the “Meet the Staff” and “Meet the Friends” presentations at the Case Estates.

Born in Westbrook, Maine, George graduated from North High School in Worcester in 1930 and from Clark University in 1936, also receiving a Master’s Degree from that institution in 1941.

From 1937 to 1967 he taught biology at Senior High School in Worcester. George travelled widely and brought back seeds from many other gardens to the Arboretum. He had an excellent talent in photography and developed an outstanding series of botanical travelogues. He was always in demand as a lecturer.

George’s interests in terms of plants was wide ranging, but he showed a distinct favoritism towards bulbs and perennials, doing extensive hybridization with iris, hemerocallis, lillies, gladiolus, amaryllis, and orchids. Many of the daylilies he hybridized while living at the Case Estates are still growing along the Wellesley Street stone wall. George also did extensive planting of the rock garden adjacent to the Red School House.

In 1976 George was instrumental in bringing the then young Roy Lancaster to the United States to address a meeting of the American Rock Garden Society. In his “thank you” letter to George, Roy noted: “You are a mine of information and I cannot think that you have an equivalent in Great Britain nor a peer in your own country.”

NEW ARRIVALS in the Bookstore for Today’s Gardens

A Natural History of Trees by Donald Culross Peattie, 2 volumes. Reprint of an eloquent and informative classic of natural history.

Eastern and Central North America $18.95; member’s price, $17.06. Western North America, $16.95, member’s price, $15.20.

Indian Herbalogy of North America by Alma R. Hutchens. The definitive illustrated guide to more than two hundred native medicinal plants and their uses. $17.00; member’s price, $15.30.

Northeast Gardening by Elvin McDonald. A practical guide that speaks directly to the considerations of New Englanders. $35.00; member’s price, $31.50.

American Wildflowers 1992 Engagement Calendar. Abbeville Press in association with the National Wildflower Research Center. Striking photography from across the country of wildflowers in their natural habitats. $11.95; member’s price, $10.76.

The Bookstore is open daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stop by or call (617) 524-1718 for mail order information.