

The *Traveller*

A Newsletter of the Bartram Trail Conference

Spring, 2007

“William Bartram: An Interdisciplinary Symposium”

A Review of the Auburn University Event

Far from the thickets, streams and swamps of William Bartram’s explorations, investigators shine the spotlight of research on John and William Bartram and their work. Seven of these scholars stepped out of their studies and laboratories to lay out their findings in “William Bartram: An Interdisciplinary Symposium” on October 27, 2006.

Academics, master gardeners, and other followers of Bartram greeted them in a bright, spacious area in the Ralph B. Draughon Library at Auburn University in Alabama. Bartram’s art and manuscripts, displayed around the edges of the room, lent a backdrop to the gathering.

Joel Fry, Curator of Bartram’s Garden in Philadelphia found in Bartram’s botanical correspondence letters to the French ambassador, catalogs of seeds and plants, and records of a shipment from the garden to George Washington. “Bartram’s literary skills, which we know so well from *Travels*, also served him well as he sold his ‘curious plants,’” Fry observed.

When Bill Cahill of Rutgers University looked into Bartram’s botanical correspondence with Henry Muehlenburg of Lancaster, Pennsylvania he concluded that Bartram had his own way of looking at nature. “While encouraging his contemporaries’ efforts to follow Linnaeus in cataloging species,” Cahill noted, “Bartram declined to take up the enterprise himself; Bartram was more interested in natural history and the relationships of species.”



Speakers at the William Bartram Symposium at Auburn University were, left to right; Tom Hallock, Kathryn Braund, Josh Bellin, Stephanie Volmer, Nancy Hoffmann, Joel Fry, William Cahill.

Comparing Bartram’s drafts of *Travels* penned between 1777 and 1783 with the published text of 1791, Nancy Hoffmann (University of Pennsylvania) discovered that the earlier manuscripts contain more vivid descriptions than does *Travels*. Perhaps most striking is the shift in Bartram’s religious terms. Someone, perhaps an edi-

tor, softened Bartram’s expressions of his Quaker view of the world and turned them into a general “Protestant, Episcopal” expression of faith more in tune with the prevailing religion of his target audience.

Scholars and politicians in Bartram’s
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Why You Should Read Bartram's "Report to Dr. Fothergill"

Stephanie Volmer

I want to begin with a confession: I derive more consistent reading pleasure from Bartram's "Report to Dr. Fothergill" than from his *Travels*. No doubt part of my preference may be attributed to readerly idiosyncrasy, but it has prompted me to consider what the "Report" offers readers as compared to *Travels*. I want to share some of my thoughts with you, in the hope that if you haven't yet read the "Report," I can persuade you to do so.

I first became aware of my preference a few years ago, when I read the "Report" and *Travels* back-to-back. What I discovered was that several striking scenes in the "Report" seemed diminished and less engaging in *Travels*. I was surprised. Since Bartram was able to spend more time writing and crafting *Travels*, shouldn't it be uniformly more rich and rewarding than the rough, less digested account of his trip written earlier? What could ac-

count for the difference in my reading experience?

There are a few reasons why the "Report to Dr. Fothergill" might be, as its first editor, Francis Harper said, "fresher." First, Bartram wrote it while he was still on his journey, and thus the events described occurred relatively close to the time of writing. The historical information about its production is a bit uncertain. We know that Bartram wrote the "Report" in two parts, and the best guess is that he sent part 1 to Fothergill in London in autumn of 1774, probably from Florida, and that he sent part 2 to Fothergill in the spring of 1775 from Charleston. The movement of the writing in the "Report" captures the sense of a traveler traveling in ways that *Travels*—written over a longer period of time when Bartram was settled back on the family farm in Kinsessing—could not.

The fact that Bartram wrote the "Report" to Fothergill suggests a second rea-

son why the "Report" might have a greater sense of immediacy and vividness in some places than *Travels*. The sense of an "I" speaking to a "You" emerges in the text, affecting the reader's experience. Bartram no doubt knew that Fothergill would most likely share his "Report" with other naturalists, as was customary. Still, the "Report" was written to a specific person rather than for a large, abstract audience. The voice of the "Report"—while recognizably Bartram's—differs somewhat from the voice in *Travels*, because Bartram's decisions as a writer about tone and narrative structure would have been influenced by his understanding of Fothergill's expectations as a reader.

When Fothergill agreed to sponsor Bartram's trip, he wrote to Bartram with specific instructions for the journey: "Write to me as often as opportunity offers... Letters to me in London, by the post or packet will be sufficient. ... It will be right to keep a little journal, marking the soil, situation, plants in general remarkable animals, where found, and the several particulars relative to them as they cast up." Fothergill also gave specific directions about what kind of comments should accompany Bartram's botanical and zoological specimens and drawings. Fothergill's instructions make clear that one goal of the "Report"—like the goal of natural history writing generally—was to convey a sense of place both through writing about that place and through collecting objects from that place.

Bartram's imperative to collect natural objects points to a third characteristic of the "Report" that sets it apart from *Travels*. The "Report" was written in direct relation to botanical samples and other

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A Comparison of *Travels* and the Report to Fothergill

Report to Dr. Fothergill

Thus having time before Night, I hasted on my Botanical excursions round about the Camp: Observing when decending the Hills to cross the Crick, a very agreeable fragrant smell like cloves defused about us in the air, the whole company being affected by it, I immediately concluded it must arise from some Vegitable, being bruised by the horses feet, I therefore designed to go in quest of it as soon as we came to camp; accordingly, I cross't the Creek and began to assend the Hills, having attained a considerable hight, the Hills pretty steep, my feet suddenly slid from under me; I catch't hold of the sweet *Calyconthus*, that stretched out a friendly bow to my relief, however in the scuffle to save myself I discovered the lovely subject of my reserches, by the figure of the leaf & Root took it to be a Species of *Cariophyllata*, but as I could find no flower or part of fructification whereby to fix its tribe or family, I judged from the fragrance & clove like scent of the Root. (Library of America, p. 447)

Travels

Before we left the waters of Broad River, having encamped in the evening on one of its considerable branches, and left my companions, to retire, as usual, on botanical researches, on ascending a steep rocky hill, I accidentally discovered a new species of *caryophyllata* (*geum odoratissimum*); on reaching to a shrub my foot slipped, and, in recovering myself, I tore up some of the plants, whose roots filled the air with animating scents of cloves and spicy perfumes. (Library of America, pp. 59-60)

Stephanie Vollmer is the Managing Editor for *Raritan Quarterly* and a doctoral candidate in the English Department at Rutgers University. She specializes in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century American Literature. She is interested in considering William's writing in relation to that culture of transatlantic exchange.

President's Notes

Bartram Trail Conference to Meet Near Mobile, Alabama

*Kathryn H. Braund
President, Bartram Trail Conference*

Get ready to float! Yes, fellow travelers, our long anticipated jaunt to explore the Tensaw delta is just months away. This coming fall, the Bartram Trail Conference will convene for our biennial meeting in Baldwin County, Alabama. In addition to the site of Robert Farmar's plantation, where Bartram stopped on his tour, most Bartram readers will recall that the area, now Stockton, Alabama, is the site of one of Bartram's most amazing botanical discoveries, the *Oenothera Grandiflora*, Bartram's evening primrose, which he described as "gilded with the richest golden yellow. . . perhaps the most pompous and brilliant herbaceous plant yet known to exist." Like Bartram, we will meet with the friendly local population, enjoy their hospitality and canoe in the Mobile-Tensaw delta on the appropriately named Bartram Canoe Trail, established by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Among American river systems, the Mobile-Tensaw delta is second only to the Mississippi delta in size and boasts over fifty rare or endangered plant and animal species. Nearly half of the delta's 250,000 acres are publicly owned and managed, making this not only one of the most diverse and beautiful landscapes in the South, but one of the most accessible. To whet your appetite, visit <http://www.bartramcanoe-trail.com>.

In addition to outdoor exploration, we will also have a slate of speakers and plenty of great food and fellowship. Our main meeting venue will be the 5 Rivers Delta Center, an incredible new facility for outdoor recreation and education, located at Bartram's Landing, the new terminus of the Bartram Canoe Trail.

I have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of our hosts, including the Baldwin County Archives and the Alabama State Lands Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Baldwin County and the Alabama State

Lands Division have provided a model for wetlands conservation and some of the most dedicated conservationists around are hard at work preserving and making the delta available for modern travelers.

Conference details, including speakers, will be announced in the coming months. Meanwhile, mark your calendar: October 26–28.

And speaking of dates, it is that time of year again for all of us to pay our BTC dues: a mere \$20. Your dues support printing and distribution of the newsletter, cover the costs of our website and help us sponsor Bartram events. We also welcome special donations to our Fothergill Award Fund in honor or memory of friends or family. The Fothergill supports new Bartram research and I hope that you all will consider making a contribution to that effort. ❖

Upcoming Events

April 18: Earth Day on the Alabama Bartram Trail, Taska Recreation Area. Tuskegee National Forest, off Interstate 85 between Auburn and Tuskegee, Alabama.

May 14–August 20: "Bartram's Journey: the 1775 Journey of William Bartram to Western North Carolina." Mountain Heritage Center, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina.

October 26–28: 2007 biennial meeting of the Bartram Trail Conference, to be held in Baldwin County, Alabama, just east of Mobile. (See the President's Notes for more information)

The Traveller is the newsletter of the Bartram Trail Conference.

Jim Kautz, *Editor*
Brad Sanders, *Publisher*

"William Bartram: an Interdisciplinary Symposium." continued from page 1

world bandied many theories of the origins the American Indians, observed Kathryn Braund. James Adair, for example, proposed in the 1760s that the Indians descended from the "Ten Lost Tribes of Israel," while Bernard Romans thought they were indigenous. Kathryn's study of Bartram led her to conclude that Bartram avoided a dogmatic approach to the question. He saw no signs of European architecture among the Indian nations that he visited. He did, however, hold that the Mississippian mounds were built by peoples other than the tribes of his day.

Other speakers included Joshua Bellin, Tom Hallock, and Stephanie Volmer, whose articles in this newsletter show highlights of their presentations. More complete results of the investigations of the symposium scholars will be found in the forthcoming volumes of the *William Bartram's Manuscripts*, edited by Thomas Hallock and Nancy E. Hoffmann (see page 8).

Sponsors of the symposium were:

- The Auburn University Center for the Arts and Humanities
- The Alabama Humanities Foundation
- The Auburn University Departments of History and English
- The Auburn University libraries; and
- The Bartram Trail Conference. ❖

The Georgia Bartram Trail

John Ray

Since November 2005 the Chattooga River Trail has been hard to use because a new bridge is being built across the Chattooga on US Hwy. 76. This closed the southern trailhead. The bridge is now finished, and the southern trailhead is opened back up. The new bridge across the Chattooga is veneered in stone to look like a CCC bridge.

We are working on clearing the trail for the increased use that will be coming with the US 76 bridge completion and

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Art, Appalachia, and William Bartram

When the organization Catch the Spirit of Appalachia was searching for a special person to honor in its “Eyes on Appalachia” public art series, its Board of Directors chose William Bartram as the subject and Doreyl Ammons Cain as the artist.

Born and raised in the Blue Ridge

Mountains of western North Carolina, Doreyl grew up drawing birds in the dirt of the mountain roads around her home. She went on to receive her first art award while in the third grade, an art scholarship from the University of South Carolina, and a master’s in Biological/Medical illustration.



Working in California, she pursued her career in drawing for publications in anatomy, physiology, and microbiology for which she repeatedly earned awards. But her works include far more than bones, cells, and bacteria. Her lively, imaginative pastels show clusters of birds, a cabin in the woods, and scenes of Cherokee life. City scenes, still-lives, and cloudy images from the world of dreams fill her galleries, as well.

After returning to North Carolina she co-founded Catch the Spirit of Appalachia, Inc., a not-for-profit organization dedicated to honoring the heritage and creativity of all people. She and her sister, Amy Garza, author and storyteller, have facilitated creativity workshops and performed storytelling and spontaneous visual art for children and adults in schools and colleges. Doreyl’s spontaneous art murals are found in museums and public places throughout the world. In 2005 she won a place in the Kennedy Promotions Best of North Carolina Artists & Artisans book series.

When Doreyl took up the task of drawing Bartram, she researched his writings and the Bartram literature. Inspiration led to a four-by-three scene in which the explorer is sketching a Flat Spired, Three Toothed, Land Snail. Set in a paper birch forest in the southern Appalachians, the naturalist-artist is surrounded by Fireweed, Bluets, Common Blue Violet, Mountain Laurel, Sand Myrtle, Flame Azalea, Wood Lily, Devil’s Bit and Woodland Sunflower

Readers may learn more about Doreyl Ammons Cain at her website, www.PastelArt.SeatofYourPants.org. Information on Catch the Spirit of Appalachia is available at www.spiritofappalachia.org. ❖

William Bartram, explorer, naturalist, and artist, continues to excite painters, photographers and other creators of graphics.

In this edition and last fall’s, we have featured three such paintings.

If a reader knows of art portraying Bartram or inspired by him, please send your information to the editor at jrkautz@earthlink.net or 204 Weatherstone Parkway, Marietta, Georgia 30068.

Bartram and Indian Medicine

Joshua David Bellin
La Roche College

In his final book, *The World We Used to Live In: Remembering the Powers of the Medicine Men* (2006), the Sioux activist Vine Deloria, Jr. protested the burgeoning array of Euro-American peddlers, preachers, and poets capitalizing on an ever more lucrative commerce in Indian healing. “Nothing seems to stem the tide of abuse and misuse of Indian ceremonies,” Deloria wrote. “The consumer society is indeed consuming everything in its path” (xvii). The practice of non-Natives consuming Indian “medicine” has a lengthy history, dating back to the founding of the first colonies in the Americas. It is to William Bartram’s era, however, that we can trace the origins of the modern packaging of Indian medicine for non-Indian persons.

For such a movement to arise, it was necessary for whites to imagine Indian medicine not simply as a cure for *physical* ailments, but as a means of tapping into the Indians’ *cultural* vitality. Thus when physicians such as Bartram’s correspondent Benjamin Smith Barton asked eagerly, “What treasures of medicine may not be expected from a people, who although destitute of the lights of science, have discovered the properties of some of the most inestimable medicines with which we are acquainted?” (xv), his mania for Indian medicine originated in the primitivist notion, articulated by another Bartram colleague, Benjamin Rush, that the Indians were free of the diseases that plagued white communities: “may we not look for a season when fevers, the natural diseases of the human body, will be

Joshua Bellin teaches American and Native American literature, pre-1900. He first encountered Bartram in graduate school, in the mid-90s. “I guess what fascinated me about him,” he says, “was his attempt to listen to the Indians’ voices instead of merely talking to himself, as was characteristic of most Euro-Americans who wrote about Indians during his time.”

lost in an inundation of artificial diseases, brought on by the modish practices of civilization?” (276). By consuming Indian medicine, such men reasoned, Euro-Americans would inherit the cultural health of those they displaced.

This quest for Indian medicine is evident in Bartram’s *Travels* (1791). Most flagrantly, there is the example of the naturalist as “PUC PUGGY, or the Flower hunter” (163), adopted by the Seminoles and given “unlimited permission to travel over the country for the purpose of collecting flowers, medicinal plants, &c.” (163). In a parallel episode, Bartram writes of his having been welcomed by another native community: “the king in particular complimented me, (saying that I was as one of his own children or people,) and should be protected accordingly, while I remained with them; adding, ‘Our whole country is before you, where you may range about at pleasure, gather physic plants and flowers, and every other production’...” (201). Such license pays off when Bartram stumbles across a veritable Cherokee Eden: “a vast expanse of green meadows and strawberry fields” (288) wherein “young, innocent Cherokee virgins” were “busy gathering the rich fragrant fruit. . . . The sylvan scene of primitive innocence was enchanting, and perhaps too enticing for hearty young men long to continue idle spectators. In fine,” Bartram concludes, “we accepted a basket, sat down and regaled ourselves on the delicious fruit, encircled by the whole assembly of the innocent jocose sylvan nymphs” (289–90). In each of these episodes, Bartram’s consumption of Indian medicine serves the purpose of naturalizing him, in the various senses of the word “naturalize”: “to bring into conformity with nature,” “to adapt or accustom to a place,” and “to confer upon an alien the rights and privileges of a citizen.” These real or fanciful encounters, that is, provide Bartram not only with the Indians’ approval but with a rejuvenated, “Indian” self identified with the spirit, or spirits, of the land.

Bartram’s participation in the Euro-American fantasy of Indian medicine might lead us to doubt his reliability as a source on southeastern Indian peoples. But I think a more productive way to read this aspect of his writings is to recognize that American identities necessarily emerged from a mutual if contentious process of cultural transfer, where both Indians and whites were re-created through means of the other. And in turn, such a recognition requires that we perceive Indian peoples not as many of Bartram’s time (and our own) do—as relics to be consumed and discarded—but as peoples who played a vital role in the history and literature of the land. ❖

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The Georgia Bartram Trail,

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the spring hiking season. You can drive to both ends of the trail so the Chattooga River Trail makes a nice 11 mile day hike or overnight backpacking trip. If you want to see more of the River you can start in NC on the Bad Creek Trail in the Ellicott Rock Wilderness area and hike to Hwy. US 76 for 40 miles. Part of this hike would be on the old Bartram Trail in SC while 9.3 mi. would be on the GA Bartram Trail. If you plan your trip properly you can camp along the river every night.

You will see some amazing views of river. If you are lucky you might see a deer cross the river. I have seen two crossing recently and it is a wonderful sight.

For information about the trails see: www.geocities.com/j3hnr3y ❖

William Bartram, Artist

Thomas Hallock

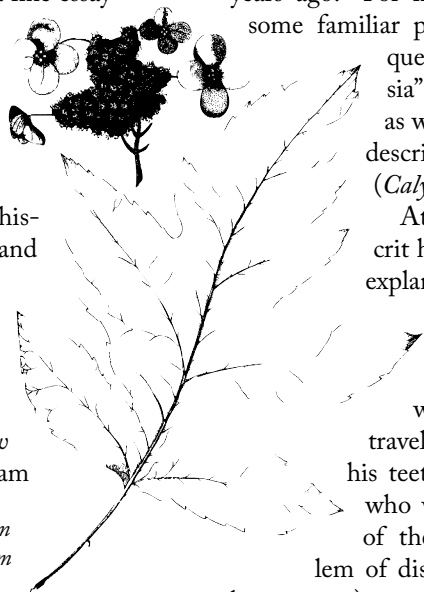
The following article springs from the presentation that Tom Hallock gave at the Bartram Symposium at Auburn University, October 27, 2006.

While co-editing *William Bartram's Manuscripts* (see page 8), two things struck me. The first thing was the extent of horticultural work that Bartram did. Our image of Billy Bartram as “slack-er” or “hippy” or pie-in-the-sky idealist really has kept us from recognizing his contributions to the family business. The archive contains ample record of his hard work as a horticulturalist—plant lists, orders sent to customers, catalogues, and much more. Many of these records say little to the untrained eye, but continued scholarship by Joel Fry and others surely will help us appreciate this overlooked aspect of William's life.

The second area, more to my immediate interests, is the art. Anyone who reads this newsletter probably knows about Joseph Ewan's fine (but, sadly, out of print) edition *William Bartram's Drawings*. And most any volume about Bartram offers at least of smattering of illustrations. Yet with the exception of a fine essay by Charlotte Porter (“The Drawings of William Bartram, Naturalist...,” *Archives of Natural History* 16:3, pp. 289–303) and research by the art historians Amy Meyers and Michael Gaudio, little has been said about Bartram as an artist.

The problem may be the archive itself. Few people realize *how much* William Bartram

Hydrangea quercifolia, from *Travels of William Bartram*



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drew. Over thirty early “watercolors” survive in the collections of the Earl of Derby at Knowsley Hall. The British Museum (Natural History) holds the drawings reprinted by Ewan as well as some more recent discoveries. The American Philological Society in Philadelphia has many later illustrations (mostly done for Benjamin Smith Barton's *Elements of Botany*) and a few true gems. But the collections are scattered and many works were sent to parts far and wide in Bartram's own day. Lost drawings were (or may have been) sent to Jane Colden and J. F. Gronovius in the 1750s; to the Dutchess of Portland and Collinson in the 1760s; to Thomas Pennant in the 1790s — the list goes on. Who knows what else may be out there?

Last October's symposium on William Bartram, graciously hosted by Kathryn Holland Braund and her friends at Auburn University, gave us an opportunity to discuss the achievements of a scientific artist. I had the good fortune to talk more formally about the evolution of Bartram's aesthetic. My question has always been, “why do people today seek out the plants and places that he described two hundred years ago?” For inspiration, I turned to some familiar pen-and-inks—the frequently reprinted “Colocasia” and “Alachua Savanna,” as well as the drawings and descriptions of Bartram's *Ixia* (*Calydorea caelestina*).

At the risk of going lit-crit here, let me trot out the explanation that I offered at Auburn. Bartram's art reaches us today because his illustrations were originally meant to travel great distances. He cut his teeth working for patrons who were on the other side of the Atlantic. This problem of dislocation (for lack of a better term) set up a drama, or tension, that defined his later and more compelling works. By training, Bartram came to vividly render what was new to science in Europe, yet he also conveyed what it felt like to *experience* that specimen in



Ixia from *Travels* — from docsouth digital edition of *Bartram*

America. The context of a colonial naturalist helps explain the intensity of his following today. Bartram nuts like me pick up on the distinguishing characters of a given specimen; because he was to “populate,” or locate himself, in the drawings done for an audience elsewhere, we still feel the connection—not just to the plant or person, but to the artist himself.

That's my quick attempt to explain Bartram's ongoing appeal. And as both an academic and card-carrying members of the fan club, it's my best attempt to explain the “Billy and Me” response from both the head and the gut. A longer version of this talk (with scholarly obfuscation held to a minimum!) appears in a forthcoming collection of essays, *A Keener Perception: Ecocritical Studies in American Art History*, edited by Alan Braddock and Christoph Irmscher, and forthcoming from the University of Alabama Press.

But a quick promo. Can we keep the interest in Bartram's art alive? Maybe the time is right for a retrospective? If so, that seems like a worthwhile effort for members of the BTC! ❖

Clermont Huger Lee (1914–2006)

Elliott Edwards

The Bartram Trail Conference lost one of its oldest and most stalwart leaders on June 14, 2006. Clermont Huger Lee, II, 92, of Savannah died at the Fraser Health Center on Hilton Head. One of the earliest women active in landscape architecture in Georgia, where she was known as the foremost expert in recreating historic landscapes in mid-twentieth-century Savannah, Clermont Lee was the first field director of the Bartram Trail Society in south Georgia, and held membership in the Bartram Trail Conference.

In the early 1950s, Lee began her long and continuing involvement in historic landscapes when Mills B. Lane, Jr., president of the Citizens and Southern Bank, hired her to renovate five historic Savannah squares and to make improvements of many historic district residential properties owned by the Lane family in downtown Savannah. Her work was meticulously researched, with a particular focus on formal English and American gardens of the antebellum period.

In addition to her work on the gardens of the Owens-Thomas House on Oglethorpe Square in Savannah, Clermont Lee's new design and planting plans for historic buildings in the city included the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace, the Andrew Low House, and the Green-Meldrim mansion. Outside the confines of Savannah, she consulted on the Chief Vann residence and the New Echota Cherokee capital in north Georgia for the Georgia Historical Commission.

She was a member of American Society of Landscape Architects and a board member of the Southeast Chapter of the ASLA and the original Georgia State Landscape Architecture Examining Board. In addition, she served on the boards of Historic Savannah Foundation, Inc., the Savannah Public Library, Savannah Science Museum, The Georgia Conservancy, and the Savannah Academy of Lifelong Learning, the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society, Inc., the Georgia Historical Society, the Pendleton, South Carolina Historic Foundation, Inc, the

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Recent Writing on William Bartram

Books

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“My Exploration of the Bartram Trail”

Members Are Invited to Submit Stories

Many of our readers regularly search out and explore sites that Bartram described. They find mats of glorious flowers; they also find housing developments and even cities.

In future editions of *The Traveller* we want to feature articles, written by members of the Bartram Trail Conference, on their “discoveries” along the trail. We invite you to send us an article, about 700 words long, on a site that you visited.

- How did you find it?

- Who was on the journey?
- What did you see?
- What did you learn?

A team of Bartram Trail Conference members will select articles for printing in *The Traveller*.

Send your articles to *The Traveller* editor Jim Kautz by email at jrkautz@earthlink.net

or, to 204 Weatherstone Pkwy. Marietta, Georgia. Deadline for submissions to the Fall edition is July 31. ♦

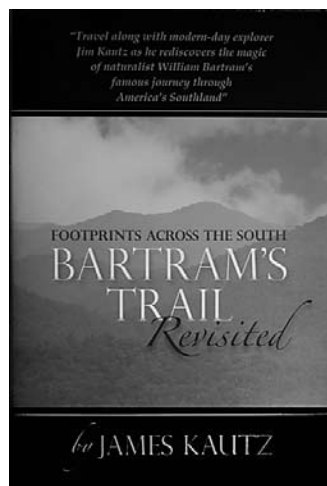
Bartram Book Named As a Finalist

The Kennesaw State University Press has announced that its recent publication, *Footprints Across the South: Bartram's Trail Revisited*, has been named a finalist for the 2007 Book of the Year Awards by *ForeWord* magazine.

In *Footprints Across the South: Bartram's Trail Revisited*, author James Kautz travels the path of William Bartram. Using observations, research, and stories, Kautz compares the conditions at the time of the nation's founding with the social and natural environment of today. In the course of five years, he traveled across seven states, tramped trails, paddled and motored rivers and streams, and interviewed dozens of residents, scientists, and community leaders in revisiting Bartram's Trail.

More than 1,400 books were entered in 59 categories from prestigious independent presses like those at MIT, the University of Georgia, Oxford University, and Cambridge University, among others. Winners will be announced at this summer's BookExpo America Convention in New York City.

Since its inception in 2004, The KSU Press has published nearly twenty books and journals. Copies of *Footprints Across the South: Bartram's Trail Revisited* can be purchased online at www.kennesaw.edu/kspress. ❖



2007 Fothergill Award

Joel T. Fry, the Curator of Bartram's Garden, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is the recipient of the 2007 Fothergill Award. The Fothergill Award, named after Bartram's patron John Fothergill, has been awarded annually since 2001 to qualified scholars working on some aspect of Bartram's eighteenth-century world. The award this year is for \$1000.

Fry is the acknowledged expert on Bartram family botany and is the author of "An International Catalogue of North American Trees and Shrubs: The Bartram Broadside, 1783," *The Journal of Garden History*, vol. 16, no. 1 (1996), p. 3-66 (available through the Bartram's Garden gift shop) and "John Bartram and His Garden: Would John Bartram Recognize His Garden Today?" in Nancy E. Hoffmann and John C. Van Horne, eds.

America's Curious Botanist: A Tercentennial Reappraisal of John Bartram 1699-1777. Philadelphia: The American Philosophical Society, 2004, p. 155-183.

Joel's project is the development of a botanical index for the two volume collection of William Bartram's manuscripts being collected and edited by Tom Hallock and Nancy Hoffmann. Their work will be published by the University of Georgia Press. Joel is responsible for identifying and cross referencing all plant names that appear in the work (those used by Bartram, scientific name, common names, etc.) in order to assist readers and scholars. The BTC believes that this will be a significant contribution to Bartram studies and eagerly awaits the publication of *William Bartram's Manuscripts*, complete with a comprehensive botanical index. ❖

Bartram Manuscripts Project

Thomas Hallock and Nancy E. Hoffmann
co-editors, *William Bartram's Manuscripts*

Progress continues on *William Bartram's Manuscripts*, two volumes forthcoming with the University of Georgia Press. Co-editors Thomas Hallock and Nancy E. Hoffmann are delighted to recognize the support of McLean Contributionship of the Library Company of Philadelphia, the John Bartram Association, and the Fothergill Award of the BTC.

Volume One, "A Life in Letters," offers a healthy selection of the correspondence to, from, and principally about William Bartram. Volume Two, "A Life in Nature," offers primary sources with introductions

by leading scholars in the field: Nancy E. Hoffmann on the draft of *Travels*; Joel T. Fry on the "Commonplace Book" and other botanic matters; Laurel Ode Schneider on the philosophical essays; Kerry Walters on Bartram's anti-slavery tract; Bill Cahill on Bartram's correspondence with Henry Muhlenberg; Michael Gaudio on the later illustrations; and Elizabeth Fairhead on the "Diary." Both volumes will be richly illustrated.

Accessible and authoritative, these volumes will belong on the bookshelf of any Bartram fan.

The University of Georgia Press will publish the volumes. ❖

Recent Writing on William Bartram,
continued from page 7

Articles

Bayers, Peter L., "Evolution and the Politics of the Early United States in William Bartram's *Travels* (1791)," *English Language Notes*, 2003 Mar; 40 (3): 38-49.

*Hall, John C. "William Bartram: First Scientist of Alabama," *Alabama Heritage* 2004 (72): 24-33.

continued on page 10

Clermont Huger Lee,
continued from page 7

Georgia Botanical Society, and the Savannah chapter of the League of Women Voters.

Clermont Lee not only paved the way for women to enter landscape architecture, but her landscape work also has a lasting impact on the quality of Savannah's historically protected landscape environment.

Bartram Trail Conference Members

Speed and Beth Rogers

Speed Rogers, MD has lived with William Bartram almost as long as he can remember. And he and his wife Beth have maintained an active membership in the Bartram Trail Conference from its early days.

"I grew up in Gainesville, Florida (on the edge of Payne's Prairie)," says Speed. "I read the *Travels* with great interest as an adolescent—and since."

His father's experience furthered Speed's absorption with Bartram. As chair of the biology department at the University of Florida, the elder Rogers had assisted Francis Harper in his Florida research of the landmark Naturalists Edition of *Travels*.

Speed was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan; his wife Beth in Detroit. Both hold Bachelor of Arts degrees from the University of Michigan. Speed earned his Doctor of Medicine from that university's medical school. In 1986 Speed retired from the Ford Hospital in Detroit and took up residence in Brevard, North Carolina.

Besides their memberships in the Bartram Trail Conference and the North Carolina Bartram Trail Society, Speed is an environmental activist and Beth works in community services.

Three facets of Bartram's legacy appeal to Speed and Beth: the explorer's love of nature and philosophy, his significance as a source of historical and ethnological information, and his importance to American science.

They have attended "almost all, if not all" of the biennial meetings of the Conference, ranging from Fontana Lake in North Carolina to Mobile, Alabama and Gainesville, Florida.

Chuck Spornick

Chuck Spornick stood beside Bob Greene at Warwoman Dell in the forest near Clayton, Georgia and read the Bartram Trail marker. "Who was William

Bartram and what is the Bartram Trail?" he asked. His answer came when he returned home and read what was to become the first of thousands of pages about the explorer and his world.

An avid whitewater kayaker, Chuck paddles the roaring streams in the Southeast, including the Chattooga along the Georgia-South Carolina border, the Locust Fork in Alabama, and the Nantahala in North Carolina. Along the way, he enjoys outdoor photography. His passion for Bartram and the outdoors led to his collaboration with Bob Greene and Allan Cattier to write *An Outdoor Guide to Bartram's Travels* (University of Georgia Press, 2003).

Born in East Chicago, Indiana (south side of Chicago), Charles Spornick earned a B.A. from Indiana University, a Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame in History, and a MLS from Indiana University.

Chuck is a librarian by profession. As Director for Collection Management for Emory University's Robert W. Woodruff Library, he heads the unit that is responsible for building the library collection for Emory's main library.

When he thinks of Bartram, he recalls the naturalist's letter (1796) to his dear friend Lachlan McIntosh in which Bartram writes that he had considered another trip to the southeast but that, given his age (56), he had decided against it. He told McIntosh: "I however still enjoy the various scenes and occurrences of my long pilgrimage through your southern Territories and the Floridas traveling over again in Idea." Chuck says, "I... [also] often continue to enjoy the 'scenes and occurrences' of hiking in the mountains, canoeing spring runs in Florida, walking through downtown Charleston 'traveling over again in Idea.'"

Charles Spornick is Treasurer for the Bartram Trail Conference. He has attended every biennial meetings of the BTC since the Gainesville gathering in October of 2001. ❖

North Carolina Bartram Trail: Update

Work continues on the North Carolina Bartram Trail.

Ina Warren reports that the North Carolina Bartram Trail Society hosted four college work groups in the fall:

- the Outdoor Club from Piedmont College (Demorest, GA) did a one-day workhike and a week-long alternative fall break with a about a dozen students from Warren Wilson College (Swannanoa, NC);
- a full work day with fifty students from the Inter-Fraternity Council at Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, NC) and;
- a day with the Wilderness Education Immersion class from Brevard College (Brevard, NC).

These groups upgraded a tenuous section along a rocky slope near Tessentee Creek and cleared an area overtaken with privet to install a Monarch Waystation. They also separated milkweed seeds from a bushel basket of milkweed pods for an education team project.

Ina says, "Anyone who feels that the youth of today are *headed off in a hand basket* are encouraged to read the six page report of the college groups, complete with color photos at the NCBTS website at www.ncbartramtrail.org."

More workhikes with college student groups are lined up for the spring. Anyone wishing to have their group involved a special workhike should contact BTS President Tim Warren at btworkhikes@hotmail.com or through the website at info@ncbartramtrail.org

The society received a \$4,000 Adopt-A-Trail Grant from the NC Trails System to install boardwalks across wet seepages on the BT. This project involves placing over a dozen walkways, 16' and 20' in length, some with handrails, on three different sections of the trail.

Other NCBTS activities included a showing of "An Inconvenient Truth" at the Cashiers Community Library on Saturday, February 24. ❖

The Traveller
c/o Anne Hurst
138 N Chaparral Dr
Hull, GA 30646

Why You Should Read Bartram's "Report to Dr. Fothergill," continued from page 2

natural objects that Bartram collected and prepared for Fothergill. Fothergill could examine these samples and objects while reading the "Report." Thus the "Report" was part of a dynamic between text and object that was crucial to natural investigations—a dynamic that was less evident in the published *Travels*, which was written for a mass audience and which did not accompany actual objects.

The "Report" was written for its own purpose, but to some degree it has become simply background to the published *Travels*. By comparing the "Report" with *Travels*, we learn of Bartram's strength as a writer: he was adept at adapting various textual forms for his own expressive goals. In the "Report," in *Travels*, on specimen sheets and drawings, Bartram searched for ways to render the experience of being in the natural world. Only by considering the range of his writings can we fully appreciate his great achievements as a writer and as a sensitive observer of nature.

Recent Writing on William Bartram, continued from page 7

*Hallock, Thomas, "Narrative, Nature, and Cultural Contact in John Bartram's Observations," in Hoffmann, Nancy E. (ed.); Van Horne, John C. (ed.); *America's Curious Botanist: A Tercentennial Reappraisal of John Bartram, 1699-1777*. Philadelphia, PA: American Philosophical Society, 2004, 107-25.

*Hallock, Thomas, "'On the Borders of a New World': Ecology, Frontier Plots, and Imperial Elegy in William Bartram's *Travels*," *South Atlantic Review*, 2001 Fall; 66 (4): 109-33.

Iannini, Christopher, "The Vertigo of Circum-Caribbean Empire: William Bartram's Florida," *Mississippi Quarterly: The Journal of Southern Cultures*, 2003-2004 Winter; 57 (1): 147-55.

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Oeland, Glen. "A Naturalist's Vision of Frontier America: William Bartram." *National Geographic*, March, 2001, pp. 104-125.

Peacock, James, "Who Was John Bartram? Literary and Epistolary Representations of the Quaker," *Symbiosis: A Journal of Anglo-American Literary Relations* 2005, April, 9 (1): 29-43.

Sivis, Matthew Wynn, "William Bartram's *Travels* and the Rhetoric of Ecological Communities," *Isle: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*, 2004 Winter, 11 (1): 57-70.

* Member of The Bartram Trail Conference