



# *The Old Texas Rose*

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## BIBLIOROSA

This issue of the OTR is dedicated to books and bookmen. Of the reviews, some are critical literary reviews, and some are just notices with a description of the book's contents. A later section by your "editorix" contains a list of books not reviewed because either no copy was available, or that work was too horrible for her spinster eyes to contemplate!

My undying gratitude to 2nd VP J. Conrad Tips of Houston for his sparkingly literate contributions -- and my apologies that I shall have to save others for the next number. I am proud also to quote the scholarly authority Dr John C McGregor IV, formerly of the Huntington Botanical Library and Gardens, in tandem with Mrs Raymond Regmund, a hobbyist from Kenedy, Texas. (I think that the juxtaposition points up what I hope the range of our society

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will be.) Mr Joe Woodard, our Executive Council Chairman from Dallas, sent us the list of bookmen, and Mrs R L (Maxine) McFall of Wichita, Kansas, provided us with her "A Casual Bibliography on Old Garden Roses." Dr. MacGregor's "Essential Books For the Serious Student of Old Roses" was superbly helpful. Both the latter form the basis of this issue. Thanks also to Barbara Worl's A Booklist on Old Roses for Bell's Bookstore; see the bookmen list for her address.

It is getting to be time to decide on when and where the 5th Annual Great Rose Hunt will take place! It may be more practical to have several dates this year, and several destinations. I will try to get the December newsletter out early with those choices. If you haven't gone on one of these, they are jolly fun; something of a combination of riding a raid with Jeb Stuart during The War Between the States, and the November offensive on Guadalcanal in WWII!

The December issue will also include Thomas Affleck's rose recommendations circa 1856 for Teas and Noisettes, Conrad's review of several recent and worthy gardening books, a catalogue circa mid 1880s from Savannah re Joe Woodard, and a synthesis of all sorts of rooting techniques from me.

We have another source for old roses; none other than our honorary chaplain, Pat Harrison. Pat is collecting budwood to be grafted now, and should be shipping by 1985. As soon as he gives the word, we will print his address. (The reason he is our chaplain, by the way, is that he fears for our souls on the rose rustles, and says he will pray for us. I don't know whether that means he prays we will not pillage, or that we will not be caught doing it!!!!)

Ethelyn Emery Keays. Old Roses. NY: Macmillan Co, 1935. Repr. with foreword by Leonie Bell, by Earl M Coleman, NY 1978.

In 1928, Dr and Mrs Frederick Love Keays (pronounced Kize) acquired a small estate with a fine old house in Calvert County, Maryland, a remote area in those days, hardly touched by the 19th century, much less the 20th. Their principal residence was in Long Island, where Dr Keays was a prominent and much-loved internist, and "Creek Side" as they chose to call it, was to be their holiday refuge. Relaxation? Little did they know. Around the house were the tattered remains of a once-fine garden and scattered through it great, mounding rose bushes laden with blossoms of a kind they had never seen. Her interest piqued, Mrs Keays found herself with an engrossing new hobby -- or rather, avocation -- which in the next twenty years was to dominate her life and bring her an enduring fame as the author of Old Roses.

As one who had majored in classical studies at Vassar ('95),

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Mrs Keays came well-equipped to her task; she, as Mrs Bell writes in her foreword to the 1978 edition,

... had all the intellectual skills needed to focus on a project of this sort; the instincts of a bird dog for worthy quarry; persistence; a knowledge of the mechanics of research; above all, an easy familiarity with the French language. This was very important because most of the great studies of Rosa were made by Frenchmen. Hers soon became a well-known face at the New York Public Library and the Library of Congress, and probably at other libraries which were within a day's travel from Washington or Long Island.

By 1934, Mrs Keays had produced three major articles for the American Rose Annual as well as the MS for Old Roses, and was just getting into her stride. She was then over sixty years of age. Her scholarly diligence and limpid honesty should be an example to all who seek and attempt to define; on the subject of the most ancient Teas, Chinas, and Noisettes, her word is simply definitive.

After the Second World War, Dr Keays' health declined and the place was sold to a private club; the house later burned to the ground. But a complete collection of Mrs Keay's roses was presented to the University of Maryland -- the list of them still exists -- eventually, this important and possibly unique assemblage was rooted up and destroyed. Some few of her plants struggle on in the ruins of "Creek Side", as the Rev Mr Seidel reported in the Rose Letters for May and August, 1977, and May, 1978, but fewer each year. Mrs Keays died in 1961. How happy she must have been to know that her work had been taken up by a new generation of enthusiasts, all of them in a sense her children.

J. Conrad Tips, 2nd VP

Graham Stuart Thomas. The Old Shrub Roses. London: J M Dent & Sons, Ltd. rev ed 1979.

Mention this Britisher's name amidst a group of old rose fanciers and they will begin to murmur and kowtow. And with good reason -- Mr Thomas is worshipful! He can garden, paint, research, and most importantly, write. The accolade in this latter department is generally accorded to Dean S Reynolds Hole, founder of the Royal National Rose Society, who was both inspired and enthusiastic; but after reading Thomas' article describing Bourbons in The Rose, one really wished to eat these lovelies with a spoon rather than grow them!

This book is his best-known of many fine ones, including: Colour in the Winter Garden (1961), Great Gardens of Britain (1979), Plants For Ground Cover (1977), Perennial Garden Plants (1977), Shrub Roses of Today (1974), and Climbing Roses Old And New (1978).

Of particular merit is Thomas' first chapter of this book, "A Personal Approach," which describes how he came to love old roses and appreciate their garden value. He tells (as Dean Hole once did) of his seduction by two artful ladies: "... the exquisitely fragrant Gallica Belle de Crecy," which was planted near "the incomparable white hybrid Damask Madame Hardy. I lost my heart to them during the first flowering week ...." he confesses.

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This chapter ranks only below Ethelyn Keay's introduction and first chapter in Old Roses (reviewed above) and that only because her articulate plea for preservation is American in provenance.

After I have praised Mr Thomas to the Heavens, I must then proceed to imprecate the publishers, for this "bible of old rose lovers" is a mess. One assumes the revisions is what threw it off. Part of the problem is the inclusion of Dr C C Hurst's notes on rose morphology -- a noble work -- but it should have been a separate book, and its conclusions summarized by Thomas. The plates are confused; some have no names, or the names are difficult to locate. The last chapter on "Further Gleanings" are additional to the text. Would that Dent had not decided to "po' boy," and had started over from scratch.

But one does forgive the confusion, for the content is indeed marvelous. Like Bach's music, Thomas "contains multitudes." I look upon its drawbacks as one does a touch of powdery mildew upon a well-loved, everblooming climber.

Pamela Puryear, Ed.

Xenia Field. Colorful World of Roses. London: ?  
1969.

This book was offered through the American Garden Guild Book Club (no longer in existence) in 1970 or '71, and because it was about roses, I could not resist buying it. I don't know exactly how to explain its hold on me, except that the photographs are so fascinating -- so many of older roses, and used in so many ways.

The author was raised in a famous Berkshire garden, and her father with Lionel de Rothschild were famous azalea breeders. She is currently an English magistrate, and interested in prison reform in that country. The line in her foreword that won me over was, "Words can perhaps be found to portray the hard brilliance of 'Super Star' and the lavishness of 'Peace', but to convey the feeling of the rich ivory texture of nineteenth century 'Boule de Neige' is beyond even the poets."

Mrs Field covers all the aspects of rose growing, which you find in so many books; she also explains budding roses: when and how; but through it all she refers to the older roses and how to use them. I guess I was not prepared for so much on the older types in a general work on roses.

This is the kind of book you can pick up and page through when your ride is running late, or take to the doctor's office for the inevitable wait, or to have on a bedside table. It's super for the times one needs the sweetness of roses!

The excellent pictures are what make this a beautiful book. Some are in color (colour!), and others black and white. My favorites are of shrub roses in soft colors in a herbaceous border, weeping standards of 'Dorothy Perkins,' a 'Climbing Mme Caroline Testout' on a pergola, the pillar roses of Queen Mary's garden, training 'Albertine' and 'Cl. Mme Alfred Carrière' to a framework, and many more. These photographs and ideas are what make this my favorite book on roses.

Mrs Raymond Regmund, "Sis",  
new member Kenedy, Texas



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S Millar Gault & Patrick M Synge. The Dictionary of Roses in Color.  
NY: Grosset & Dunlap, 1971, repr. 1981.

Have you ever stood, indecisive, before the ice cream counter at Baskin-Robbins? This book contains many more than their mere 31 flavors -- actually there are 506 lovely color plates which form the raison d'etre of this work. The series is a part of a project conceived by the Royal Horticulture Society of Great Britain, and the roses were photographed at their gardens at Wisley (Surrey), the Royal National Rose Society gardens at St Albans, plus other elite neighborhoods like the Harkness nursery (Hertfordshire), Sissinghurst Castle (Kent), Hidcote Manor (Gloucestershire), and the Great Park, Windsor! Here are page after page of unbelievable roses, the kinds you know are real, but that would look more comfortable, as it were, atop your great-granny's hat! The first sections on history, care, &c, and the later alphabetical dictionary proper with information on each cultivar, are all well and good, but the color plates contain perhaps the best depiction of old roses en masse. Buy it or steal it, but get it!

Pam

Georgia Torrey Drennan. Everblooming Roses. NY: Duffield & Co, 1912.

Some years ago at the ARS library I found a book the author and title of which were altogether unknown to me. Never had I seen either mentioned in a footnote or bibliography or catalogue. I was, I admit it, a little piqued. The literature in English I know reasonably well and have at least a nodding acquaintance with it in French, but Everblooming Roses -- or, to be more exact, Everblooming Roses for the Outdoor Garden of the Amateur: Their Culture, Description, Care, Nativity, Parentage, with Authentic Guides to the Selection of Everblooming Varieties of Roses, and when one has said that, surely one has said it all? -- was a new experience. And a fascinating one. How, I wondered had this little jewel escaped notice? Later, of course, I learned that Mrs Drennan is something of a cult figure amongst those with a taste for old roses, and a heroine to historians of Southern gardens. I know of no better source for information on the plants used in the Nineteenth Century in the gardens of the lower and middle South. I assume the location, because Mrs Drennan was far too great a lady of the Old School to tell us exactly in what place she made her garden. Wherever she lived, Mrs Drennan knew her stuff: Teas, Hybrid Teas, Hybrid Perpetuals, Bourbons, Polyanthas; roses for hedges, arbors, and esplanier; roses traditionally used in graveyards; and perhaps best of all -- lists. Not just lists, you understand: long, long lists with painstaking descriptions of hundreds of roses. This information is invaluable. Well, as the lady herself wrote:

... in naming and describing everblooming roses with accuracy and in giving rules for their culture, I feel sure of making it as plain to amateurs as it is well-known to me that they are the most available and beautiful roses for the home garden North and South.

And she wasn't fooling.

Conrad Tips



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Robert Buist. Rose Manual. Repr. of the 1844 edition by Earl M Coleman, NY, 1978.

This pleasant little book is a practical work by a Scot emigré to Philadelphia in 1828 who established a nursery there. His pragmatic approach was directed towards the Victorian ladies of 1844, and one comes away with the impression that Buist would like them to be less passively decorative, and would like their home grounds to be more so:

While it has been my object to produce a manual adapted to the wants of every rose fancier, I have been especially anxious to make the task of selection an easier one to my fair patronesses ....

Indeed, he considered the rose garden a place where "healthful employment and innocent pleasures wait to greet them."

Buist divides his descriptions into the June-flowering and the ever-blooming sorts. His disgust at the practice of some nurserymen at re-naming an old rose to sell at an inflated price was evident, and honesty prompts him to state when a commercial cultivar is "of a very inferior character." A sample description aptly illustrates Buist's discrimination of rose virtue; in noting the Tea, "Gigantesque, for size of flower, deserves its name, but deficiency in form detracts from that merit, yet its pale flesh-colored flowers are very showy." A very logical, original work, I infinitely prefer this to the (to me) rightly-abused contemporary Mrs Catherine Gore -- her ten children and Léonie Bell may have loved her, but I can't. The Book of Roses, or The Rose Fancier's Manual (1838) (also reprinted by Coleman) is a muddle of an already confusing subject, and as Buist covers much the same ground in America, one may readily and thankfully fore-go the lady and her French dependents.

Pam

Trevor Griffiths. My World of Old Roses. Christchurch & London: Whitcoulls, 1983.

"Naiaao!" My one and only Maori word aptly describes this contribution from New Zealand's leading old rose grower. (It means "beautiful", is pronounced nye-oh, and is the given name of a famous New Zealand mystery writer!) Dr. MacGregor sums this book up as "a glossy four color treatment of over 600 old roses and rose species with brief descriptions ...."

No professional models these! Indeed, there are some fine views of aphids, blackspot, wind scald, and mildew, but the color is good, and the pictures are well composed. Mr Griffiths is a careful researcher and has assembled a fine collection, and he cautiously states his doubts of mis-named or questionable old lovelies.

The only serpent in this old rosarians' Eden is that one may look but not touch: rules forbid importation from that country.

Pam



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Beverly Dobson. The Combined List, 1983. Available from the author at 215 Harriman Road, Irvington, NY 10533

Dr MacGregor recommends the old rose student using Modern Roses 8 as "indispensable." That is, if you are independently wealthy!!! For \$3.50 plus postage, one may order this booklet, which has almost all the same information, with some obvious boo-boos corrected, and with the sources of the cultivar included. This is one of those things you don't know how mankind ever limped along without in times past!

Pam

Peter Beales and Keith Money. Georgian and Regency Roses, Early Victorian Roses, Late Victorian Roses, and Edwardian Roses. Norwich, Eng: Jarrold & Sons, Ltd., 1977-79.

Those of us who live and garden in the more temperate areas of the nation would do well to consider the advantages of growing the old Teas and Chinas. They seem to feel the heat less than do, for instance, the Hybrid Teas, and are certainly less prone to the diseases which proliferate in the tropical climate of the Upper Gulf Coast. They are graceful in habit, the foliage is shapely and prettily-colored, and the blooms are tenderly beautiful to those who detest the garish tones of the modern rose. Nothing, of course, is perfect: there are some who dislike the manner in which the roses nod -- to me, an additional charm -- and it is true that the fuller blooms will ball irritatingly in our humidity. I for instance have never yet induced Manan Cochet and White Cochet to open a perfect bloom here in Houston, but I know they are magnificent in South Texas and make vast, bosomy shrubs if allowed to follow their own instincts.

Here are the old favorites: a superb plate of Rosa chinensis mutabilis and no wonder it was called the Butterfly Rose when I was a boy! Then there are "Catherine Mermet", "Glorie de Dijon", "Sombreuil" -- all in excellent color. And here are many roses which I think will be unfamiliar to most of us: "Comtesse du Cayla", 1902, semi-double, copper-pink, orange and vermillion, the flowers handsomely set off by the dusky foliage; "Mme. Berkeley", 1899, double, deep salmon-pink and cerise, particularly floriferous; "Archiduc Joseph", 1878, double, flesh with undertones of orange, purple and russet, perfumed; "Mme Laurette Messimy", 1887, semi-double, golden yellow and deep pink, of tidy habit and rain tolerant -- well, I would go on but that I fear the wrath of our honorable editorix, who sneaks softly but carries a big pencil. ( And is a lousey typist! -- ED)

These little books are a marvelous value -- \$1.50 each when I got my copies from Barbara Worl last year -- and hardly a flaw. Of course there is bound to be controversy about the dating of certain plants and some of us may think this plate or that a bit highly colored (Lady Hillingdon, for me a soft apricot with gold shadings is shown here as a gorgeous orange-yellow), but all this is of no importance. But one question remains: where are we to find these roses?

Conrad Tips, 2nd VP  
Houston



## RETAIL BOOK SOURCES

Elizabeth Woodburn  
Booknoll Farm  
Hopewell, NJ 08522  
609-466-0522

new & used, spec. roses & violets

Capability's Books For Gardeners  
Rt 1 Box 114 -- Highway 46  
Deer Park, WI 54007  
New

International Scholarly Book  
Services

Dept H  
P O Box 1632  
Beaverton, OR 97075

And their reprint press:  
Timber Press  
(same address)

Ian Jackson  
P O Box 9075  
Berkeley, CA 94709  
Used

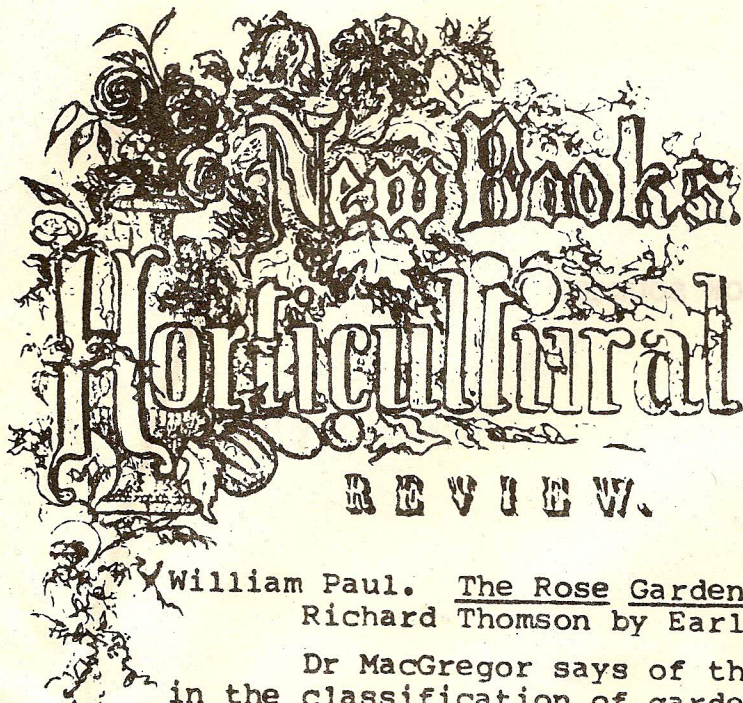
Ms Barara Worl  
Bell's Book Store  
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Palo Alto, CA 94301  
New & Used - roses

Edwin A Menninger  
Hort. Books  
P O Box 107  
Stuart, FL 33494  
Mostly new

Beth L Bibby Books  
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Gold Hill, OR 97525  
\$2 subscription

Warren F Broderick Books  
695 4th Avenue/ PO Box 124  
Lansingburgh, NY 12182  
New & used





William Paul. The Rose Garden. London: 1848. Repr with foreword by Richard Thomson by Earl M Coleman, 1978.

Dr MacGregor says of this work that it was ahead of its time in the classification of garden roses, and that the descriptions therein are "exact." The cultivation section was good, and the author, a noted nurseryman at "Cheshunt" in England, described several thousand cultivars! Because of the popularity of this book, it went through ten editions from 1848 to 1903, but the older lavish illustrations were updated to new introductions. Dr MacGregor concludes by advocating this book as essential.

Henry B Ellwanger. The Rose. NY, 1882. Repr with foreword by Edith Schurr, Coleman, 1979.

This is the partner of the famous nursery of Ellwanger & Barry at Mount Hope, New York. The roses herein described are the horticultural luminaries of the latter part of the 19th century, and he is especially heavy in hybrid perpetuals and teas. One word of warning for those of you like myself who adore all shades of mauve, purple, and related shades: Ellwanger has many derogatory remarks to make of these, and on a good many, I'm glad to say that time has proved him wrong! He hasn't the same hang-up on the crimson and maroon shades.

Roy E Shepherd. The History of the Rose. NY: McMillan Co, 1954 (also repr by Coleman)

This major rose work is the geneology of the modern rose. Mr Shepherd begins with the species in each class and tells how they were bred and interbred, describing many cultivars in each section. Besides a general index, in the back there is also an index of rose names, including the species under "Rosa"; a very worthy addition. The few black and white picture are good, but make no attempt to cover every class. One might characterize this as Alfred Rehder explained and described!

Alfred Rehder. Manual of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs. NY: McMillan Co, 1927, rev. 1940.

For serious students of rose geneology, this is The Source. Dr Rehder was a guiding light at Arnold Arboretum, and this was his life's work. Every species is listed here, its synonymous cultivars, and all the taxonomic literature ever written -- beginning with Linnaneus. For those of you who want to hob & nob with Jacquin, Thory, Lindley, and Roxburgh, this tome is for you!



Gordon Edwards. Wild and Old Garden Roses. NY: Macmillan, 1975.

This hobbyist from Sussex dedicated this book to G S Thomas, whose disciple he seems to be. Mr Edwards' virtue is that he has grown most of the species and old roses offered for sale in Britain, and that he is primarily interested in their garden value. This is not another secondary source, paraphrasing other works! Edwards indeed goes to the primary sources -- the roses themselves. And he will advise the reader if a rose has not performed well or been as decorative as advertised. Naturally, horticulture is a science, but most practitioners like myself do not engage in it for that aspect, but for the love of old roses and the joy in growing them. The subjectivity in this field is obvious on comparing any two color descriptions of old roses by acknowledged experts!

There are several sets of color plates, but I liked the line drawings by Denys Baker much better: like Leonie Bell, that artist captured not just the shape but the "character" of old rose "sitters."

Pam

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BOOKS NOT REVIEWED FOR VARIOUS REASONS

Edward A Bunyard. Old Garden Roses. NY: Coleman, 1978, with foreword by Beverly Dobson. -- a good book, but I was too lazy

William Robert Prince. Prince's Manual Of Roses. 1978 repr of the 1846 edition.

Thomas Rivers. The Rose Amateur's Guide. 1978 Coleman repr of the 1846 edition. -- both the above are worthy, but I was too lazy.

Samuel Brown Parsons. Parsons On The Rose. 1882 edition repr. -- a popular guide in America ca. 1860-1918.

-- all of the following I couldn't locate:

Nancy Steen. The Charm of Old Roses. 1966 repr by Sweetbriar. -- old rose garden in New Zealand

Gertrude Jekyll and Edward Mawley. Roses For English Gardens. recent repr *Antique Collectors Club (Suffolk) 1982, of 1902 ed. - good!*

Francis Parkman. The Book of Roses. 1866. The great American historian's work on his hobby

Richard Thomson. Old Roses For Modern Gardens.

Henry Curtis. Beauties of the Rose. Sweetbriar repr of 1850s ed.



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Nancy Lindsay. The Shrub Rose List. Palo Alto: Sweetbriar Press, 1978.

The exquisite Alba "Great Maiden's Blush" is the first rose I can remember from my earliest childhood, with its shadowy grey-green thickets heavy-laden with opulent mother-of-pearl blossoms. Its rich fragrance still evokes the old brown house dreaming in a jungle of old-fashioned roses. Roses scrambling up the gnarled apples, cascading down again in perfumed foam. Roses all about the crumbling tawny-grey stone or faded brick walls. Roses up to the eaves, pushing urgently through the ancient lead guttering and into the gabled attic-rooms. Roses in a surging profusion of iridescent colour, whose scent drifted capriciously on the elfin summer breezes wide and far, as it drifts into my memory now.

The author of that *mémoire* was Nancy Lindsay and the "old brown house" was Sutton Courtney, the residence of Harry Lindsay and his famous wife, Norah. She was a great personality, an original, who "dressed mostly in tinsel and leopard skins and baroque pearls and emeralds," wrote her niece Lady Diana Cooper. When Norah Lindsay died Sir Henry Channon, heartbroken, noted in his diary:

She was one of the most brilliant, fanciful, and altogether amazing of women. Her wit was extravagant, her conversation an ecstasy, her garden the finest in England, her appearance exotic to a degree. She had Renaissance hair, tight lips, treacherous eyes, but she was a fine friend, a lover of poetry, and a worshipper and begetter of beauty. Everything she touched sprang to life, and Sutton Courtney ... was a terrestrial paradise.

In the spacious days before the First War, she gathered about her the prettiest girls in Society and all the brilliant young men. They loved her: "the place of all others for romance and gathering rosebuds and making hay and jumping over the moon was Sutton Courtney," remembered Lady Diana, "flowers literally overflowed everything and drifted off into a wilderness." The glory of the place was the walled garden, made of course for vegetables, and transformed into an only slightly controlled, waist-high sea of blossom. They were grown not in conventional herbaceous borders but in the large rectangular spaces intended by the 16th century builders for other more utilitarian purposes. And just to make life more interesting, Mrs Lindsay took up garden design. She liked flowers in great drifts of opalescent color, the groupings strengthened by clumps of old roses and modulation of tone achieved with silver-leaved plants. The secret, of course, was to use allied and related colors -- mauve, lavender, white, blue, pink, and a few sparks of scarlet, and to deploy rather few blooms against a great deal of grey foliage. Her plantings had an air of rapturous spontaneity which, between the wars, was much admired. Certain of her characteristic effects have become accepted practice in the finer gardens.

Unlike her mother, Miss Lindsay was seldom praised for her charm. In fact she seems to have been (as they say) difficult. G S Thomas for one detested her, and the feeling was mutual -- this I have on good authority -- and she riled the National Trust people

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Lindsay, cont.

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to madness. Managing somehow to involve herself in the transfer of Major Johnston's Hidcote Manor to the Trust, she made a perfect beast of herself. Her mother had been the Major's dearest woman friend -- their letters indicate the relationship was very warm indeed, I am told -- and Miss Lindsay elected to adopt the decayed old gentleman, letting it be known that only she knew his wishes and his mind. The atmosphere rapidly became sultry. Questions were asked about the whereabouts of certain rare plants. A palpable aura of snittishness descended upon the once-tranquil groves of Hidcote. The good Major at this juncture removed to his estate in France, not being so senile that he didn't know how to git when the gittin was good. The whole dismal business evolved into one of those really first-rate horticultural scandals which so enliven the British gardening scene.

Ah, well, which of us is perfect? Miss Lindsay was a brilliant plantswoman, and made a number of important discoveries in the course of her expeditions to the middle east. Her mother's collection was maintained and expanded, and this brings me at last to the catalogue. High time. As I understand the matter, the List was found after Miss Lindsay's death, and a copy was sent to Gordon Rowley, who relayed it to Barbara Worl, who prepared it for publication. In it are described 300-odd roses, species and antique, but not in any scientific way. Miss Lindsay in fact chose to write little love poems to her darlings, which sounds repellent; yet somehow she brought it off. Extravagant, certainly, but one must remember that she was writing solely for her own delight. True, she had an aristocratic disdain for the boring little niceties of punctuation, and her misspellings were almost a work of art. Her howlers -- I remember most fondly the reference to Mr Arnold Arboretum -- were often gorgeous! There is talk of an illustrated edition of the List and a biography, and I hope it comes about; I should like to know more about her. "The Lindsays had no money," wrote Lady Diana, "and Sutton did not survive. The moment came when there was not enough money to control the flowers, which rose and submerged the house." Picturesque, and perhaps in a sense, true.

Curious readers will enjoy Miss Lindsay's two articles in the 1957 Annual of the RNRS, the first of which I have quoted above. Alice Fulleron wrote an account of a plant-hunting expedition to the Middle East To Persia For Flowers, published by Oxford in 1938 -- the "Nancy" is Miss Lindsay. Those interested in the flora of the area will enjoy reading the above in conjunction with Victoria Sackville-West's Pasenger To Teheran (London: Hogarth, 1926), and Twelve Days (NY: Doubleday, Doran, 1928) and her long article in The Legacy of Persia (Oxford, 1968). The Rainbow Comes and Goes, the first volume of Lady Diana's autobiography, was published in this country by Houghton-Mifflin in 1958; Sir Henry's diary was brought out by Weidenfeld & Nicholson in 1967. Apart from Alvilde Lees-Milne's brief piece in The National Trust Year Book 1977-78, the somewhat mysterious Major Johnston has received curiously little attention from scholars. He was discreet to the point of obscurantism; he may have had a good deal to be private about.

Conrad Tips



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