



- 1 *Oryza sativa* (Rice)
- 2 *Olea europaea* (Olive)
- 3 *Rosa* (Hedge roses)*
- 4 *Ficus carica* (Fig)
- 5 Citrus (Orange)
- 6 *Rapanea officinalis* (Rappany)
- 7 *Forsythia vulgaris* (Banyan Flower)
- 8 *Panicum gracillimum* (Panicum)
- 9 *Struthiola* (Sage)*
- 10 *Moracella* (Mulleberry)
- 11 *Cassipouira hirsutum** (Cotton)

The Sider's Garden plant collection is based on plant lists from the original Treatise Garden and plants found mentioned in letters from the Scarborough estate.

* Denotes plants mentioned by the Scarborough Siders.

THE SISTERS' GARDEN

The Sisters' Garden recognizes the horticultural contributions of Julia and Charlotte Scarbrough, daughters of William Scarbrough, and the plantings of the Trustee Garden established in Savannah in 1734.

*“Every thing
has grown so
much that it
has the
appearance
of a
Wilderness
of
Flowers.”*

- Description of Julia Scarbrough Barnsley's garden at Scarbrough House, 1839.

As enthusiastic horticulturalists, Julia Scarbrough and her husband Godfrey Barnsley collected plants from various regions of the world. In the 1830s, during their residency of Scarbrough House, Julia and Godfrey introduced a variety of flora from their notable collection to the grounds. Historical records indicate the presence of mulberry trees, dahlias, balsams, and the ornate “Bird of Paradise.” The Barnsleys later founded a loftier botanical site at “Woodlands,” now known as “Barnsley Gardens,” in Adairsville, GA.

Julia's sister Charlotte Scarbrough was one of the first self-trained female entomologists in the United States. Chiefly she focused on insects that damaged the cotton plant, i.e. the boll weevil*, but she had other interests as well. Field sketches drawn by Charlotte reveal a fascination with butterflies and moths, and the vegetation to which they were attracted. Plants selected from Charlotte's sketches (such as the gaillardia) have been included in the Sisters' Garden.

The first large-scale garden in Savannah was the Trustee Garden, established by James Oglethorpe on the easternmost 10 acres of the colony. The garden provided food for the colony but was primarily an economic investment for the colonists and their backers in England. Mulberry trees, for example, were planted in hopes of establishing a silk culture in the colony (silk worms thrive on the trees' leaves). The colony's backers, however, mistakenly believed that Georgia was a subtropical environment instead of a climate of varied temperature changes, so many of the plants failed to thrive. Some of the more fruitful experiments are plants featured in the Sisters' Garden: citrus, pomegranate, figs, olives, and rice.

*Boll weevil traps are used in cotton fields across Georgia to guard against infestation. Ships of the Sea has the only boll weevil trap in Chatham County.