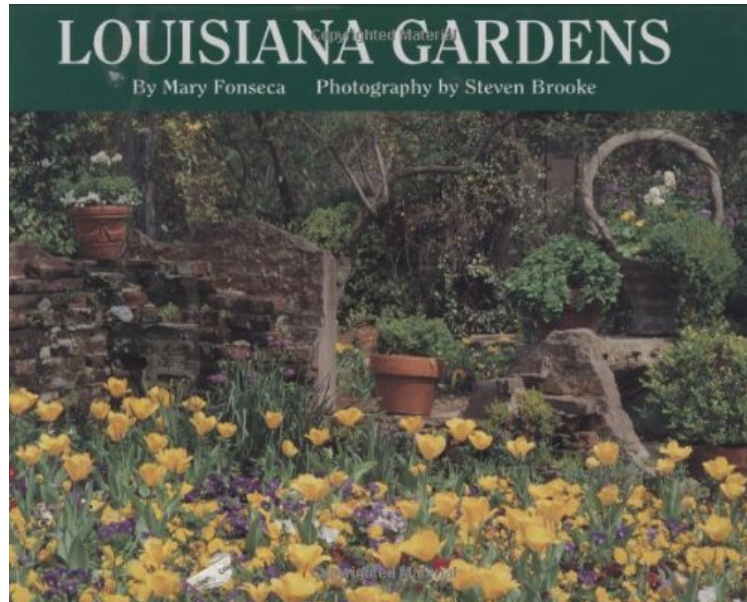


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Louisiana Gardens

Steven Brooke, Mary Fonseca
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#3029172 in Books 1999-05-31 1999-05-31 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.83 x .55 x 11.431, 1.59
#File Name: 156554305X128 pages | File size: 26.Mb

Steven Brooke, Mary Fonseca : Louisiana Gardens before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Louisiana Gardens:

Helpful maps direct readers to every azalea, camellia, and magnolia from Afton Villa Gardens in St. Francisville to Zemurray Gardens in Loranger.

...you can traipse through 29 Bayou State gardens...with a little imagination and a beautiful new book... -- Southern Living Magazine, June, 2000 Louisiana Gardens Takes You To Some Quiet, Green Places The photography of Steven Brooke and the writing of Mary Fonseca combine in a superb collection highlighting gardens across the state in Louisiana Gardens. (Pelican). Featuring lush color shots of blooming plants and meandering trails, the book also offers up history, botanical history and local legends. "Susan and David Barrow modeled the forty-room home they built in 1849, in the gentle hills that roll down to the Mississippi River near St. Francisville, after a chateau they had visited in Tours, in the Loire valley of France. They incorporated David's small ancestral home into the spacious mansion they christened Afton Villa and surrounded it with extensive lawns, terraced gardens, a boxwood maze, and a summerhouse. It was their family home until the Civil War liberated the slaves who built and sustained the plantation gentry's elaborate estates." Too bad the names of the slaves couldn't be included in the description of the St. Francisville landmark. Other area gardens featured in the book are The Capitol Gardens—designed by E.A. "Ned" McIlhenny and completed in 1932, Windrush Gardens at the LSU Rural Life Museum, Rosedown Plantation and Gardens in St. Francisville, the Laurens Henry Cohn Sr. Memorial Arboretum just north of Baton Rouge, the LSU Hilltop Arboretum on Highland Road, and Audubon State Commemorative Area at St. Francisville. Each garden is

described and displayed in plentiful photographs. A list at the back of the book has addresses, hours, cost of admission (many are free) and directions to the gardens. While all the more famous gardens in Louisiana—Hodges Gardens at Many, Zemurray Gardens near Hammond, The American Rose Center near Shreveport, The Jungle Gardens of Avery Island—are given prominent spreads, one of the charms of this book is the overlooked gardens that it features. Many people don't realize that there are fine gardens at City Park and Audubon Park in New Orleans, or that many French Quarter Patios and Parterres are classic studies in small, urban gardens. There's even a small Lianippe chapter at the back of the book that lists additional gardens and nature preserves to explore. It was gratifying to find the Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center listed there with the Centenary College Arboretum, the Longleaf Trail Scenic Byway (in Kisatchie National Forest), the Louisiana Nature Center in New Orleans, the Northlake Nature Center in Covington and many other scenic areas that feature plants and flowers in natural settings. Buy this book now and find out where to go to see beautiful fall plants. Or save it for a Christmas gift so the recipient can use it to plan spring sojourns amid the beautiful blooms of Louisiana. It's a great reference and entertaining reading as well. -- Greg Langley, Books Editor, The Baton Rouge Advocate, June 27, 1999

Now you can traipse through 29 Bayou State gardens in just a few hours, with a little imagination and a beautiful new book, *Louisiana Gardens*. -- Southern Living Magazine, June, 2000

From the Inside Flap

From Afton Villa to Zemurray, twenty-nine of the most beautiful gardens of the Pelican State are captured in a delicate bouquet of fantastic photographs and equally vibrant text. Among the fascinating images are the orange-red Pride of Afton azaleas that originated on the estate and Zemurray's lime-green Chinese cane, which contrasts dramatically with blazing red azaleas. *Louisiana Gardens* contains much more than azaleas, however. It even contains more than traditional gardens. The plantations, arboretums, and parks depicted here will awe and inspire gardeners everywhere--both in and out of Louisiana. Oaklawn Manor, home of Louisiana governor Mike Foster, contains many ancient oaks that were growing there when Columbus discovered America. Louisiana State Arboretum in Ville Platte was the first state-supported arboretum in the United States and contains almost every type of vegetation native to the state. Audubon Park and Zoological Gardens in New Orleans features not only the handiwork of renowned landscape planner John Charles Olmsted, but also a world-class zoo that is home to more than 1,800 animals. For those wishing to see the gardens for themselves, helpful maps, addresses, and telephone numbers direct readers to virtually every azalea, camellia, and magnolia in Louisiana.

Author Mary Fonseca is an award-winning freelance writer who actively promotes touring Louisiana to various clubs, organizations, and travel groups. She is the author of *Pelican's Weekend Getaways in Louisiana*, which has been named a "Best Book" by *Travel Leisure* magazine. Internationally acclaimed architectural photographer Steven Brooke is the author of *Seaside*, *Seaside Postcard Book*, *The Majesty of Natchez*, and *The Majesty of Natchez Postcard Book*. He also is the coauthor of *The Gardens of Florida*. All are published by Pelican.

About the Author Steven Brooke, an internationally acclaimed architectural photographer, received the National Honor Award for Photography from the American Institute of Architects. His beautiful, detailed photographs of Natchez also grace the pages of Pelican's *The Majesty of Natchez Postcard Book*. His other books include *Seaside* and *The Gardens of Florida*, both published by Pelican. An adjunct professor of architectural photography and composition at the University of Miami School of Architecture, Brooke lives with his son in Miami, Florida.

Mary Fonseca, a free-lance writer from New Orleans, actively speaks about touring Louisiana to various clubs, organizations, and travel groups. She has written several cover stories for *Louisiana Life*, including seven pieces of a series entitled