The authors present the history of gardening on twenty Colonial Williamsburg sites, focusing on the eighteenth-century gardeners who planted them and the documentary and archaeological research that guided each garden’s re-creation. Detailed plans and captivating photographs identify the plantings and show modern gardeners ways to enjoy the beauty of colonial gardens in their own yards.

**Synopsis**

The Gardens of Colonial Williamsburg is a most inspiring and beautiful book covering the four seasons in Colonial Williamsburg. This book covers not only the history of twenty gardens in the historic district, but who these eighteenth century gardeners were. The archaeological research provides a detailed look at each of the gardens, giving layout plans and detailed list of all the plants used. With the addition of beautiful color photography, this book will provide all gardeners with a source to re-create a eighteenth century garden.

**Book Information**

Hardcover: 168 pages
Publisher: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation; Fourth Printing 2003 edition (January 30, 1995)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0879351586
Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 9.2 x 12.8 inches
Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars (See all reviews (16 customer reviews)

**Customer Reviews**

Very helpful book which reproduces a number of the gardens in CW and govrs a schematic as well as the names, both common and scientific/biological?. The pictures are gorgeous. If you want to achieve the look of a colonial style garden, this is for you.

Having missed the garden tour this spring, I bought this book as a substitute and was not disappointed. It is a beautiful book composed of heavy paper and wonderful colored photos. The
variety of garden plans and the detailed names and descriptions of plantings provide inspiration for any gardener interested in classic American style. I'm sure that I will turn to this book again and again as a preview or follow-up to my trips to Williamsburg.

This is a great book of gardens. When we lived in Virginia, we visited Williamsburg at least once a month and saw these gardens in person as they changed with the seasons. For anyone interested in gardens be it in your back yard or an armchair gardener, this book is it! Now that we live in another state, we occasionally make it out to Williamsburg to enjoy these old haunts again. This book certainly preserves our fond memories of this beautiful colonial town.

This went beyond my expectation, the detail of garden types and plant material was wonderful and somewhat surprising! I am a Gardener and President of our local Garden Club, and writer of a monthly garden column. The pictures were gorgeous and gives any would be or seasoned garden ideas of layout and different looks of plant material together. I would say this would be a constant joy to read and reread as a reference garden book that gives you wonderful designs for the lay out of cutting beds, or vegetable and decorative beds. I will go back to purchase on for my library, since the one I got was a gift.

As other reviewers noted, this book does have beautiful pictures but I felt it is lacking in historical information. They mention digging and finding brick pathways, building foundations, etc but there are almost no pictures of the digging and discovery. They mention different patterns found in the brick pathways in specific gardens but don't show pictures of the original patterns. Many gardens are not currently growing as they did in colonial times but they are presented as historical. I did like seeing the layout of each garden showing current plantings and building locations and the brief history was interesting but lacking the detail I expected. If you are looking for a pretty coffee table book with some basic flower/shrub/tree information this would be a great book for you. If you, like me, are wanting historical detail keep looking.

This book is very helpful for those wanting gardening ideas and layouts as it has several diagrams as is much illustrated with many pictures and drawings. I found it very informative on the history of various houses and gardens in the town as well as giving me ideas for remaking my garden at home.
If you want a Williamsburg garden - this is the book for you. Beautiful photographs and detailed plans for laying out each of the gardens shown. I bought the book for a client who is planning a Williamsburg garden and he loved it.

The Gardens of Colonial Williamsburg Miniature Gardens: Design and create miniature fairy gardens, dish gardens, terrariums and more indoors and out

The Black Doctors of Colonial Lima: Science, Race, and Writing in Colonial and Early Republican Peru

Islands, Islanders and the World: The Colonial and Post-colonial Experience of Eastern Fiji

The Williamsburg Cookbook: Traditional and Contemporary Recipes

Bonds of Alliance: Indigenous and Atlantic Slaveries in New France

Strangers Within the Realm: Cultural Margins of the First British Empire

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Easy Gardens Volume 13 - Bird Sanctuary Plus Butterfly and Hummingbird Gardens

Starter Vegetable Gardens: 24 No-Fail Plans for Small Organic Gardens

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