

GARDEN - *Continued*

The tree's "pinkness" is evident early in February when the branches take on a rich rosiness. The flower buds begin to expand and give more color depth to the tree. Then, flowers appear, only a tantalizing few at first, then a general haze. Finally, each tree is an explosion of flowers that might remind you of a cotton candy cone at the fair. The first of March they are in their full glory...PINK! Later, leaves are a rich yellow-green and of a size that permits lots of breezes to play about during the summer. Cherry bark is easy to identify. It has a series of very visible lenticels on the bark. These are pores through which gases are exchanged. They often look like horizontal lines.

The two center beds are separated by a lovely grassy plot. It is a visual resting spot. A pair of large pots with Citrus draws attention to the pool with four spraying jets. More citrus in pots are around the perimeter. These are all under planted with various annuals such as Sweet Alyssum and Nemesia. Walk along a brick path towards the house and then look back toward the garden. This is the view the owners have every day, and night also, as it is lighted for evening pleasure.

Each cherry bed is edged with Boxwood (*Buxus* sp.). Nostalgic flowers of violets and pansies are held within. At the south side of the garden a Pecan tree from the parking lot is borrowed scenery and gives a bit of shade. The plantings along the Creeping Fig (*Ficus pumila*) covered wall present layers. A line of *Camellia japonica* is faced with dwarf Azaleas. Interspersed are variegated Hydrangeas, Fatsia and Painted Ferns. The Boxwood border in this bed relates it to the other beds. A Spirea and Sago Palm in the corner finish the bed. The statue is beautifully placed to center on the Sago palm.

All along the back wall with the circle opening, Arachnid ferns soften the walkway. At the corner with the Sabal palm, a yellow flowering Lady Banksia Rose grows up and over the iron gate. Other plantings in the small bed are Fatsia, Sasanqua, and Variegated Ivy. The larger bed with the teak bench towards the parking lot contains two old Gardenias, pots on the wall, *Azalea indica*, Var. Hydrangea, Tassel Fern, and Dwarf Mondo under a Japanese Maple, Var. Pitt and *Camellia japonica*.

The view of St. Philips church is a bonus; its tall steeple accented with an Italian Cypress from the garden next door. This north wall has two fireplaces. Each was in a building that was the kitchen house. Between them is a sturdy support network for climbing roses. It has an elegant decorative center terminal, reminiscent of the top of the back iron gate. A clump of African Iris (*Dietes* sp.) grows along the base. A small bed near the house has a *Camellia japonica* along with *C. sasanqua*, *Daphne odora*, Var. Pitt and *Agapanthus*. A rose arches above the wall from the neighbors garden. The patio uses the traditional bluestone surface often seen in Charleston.