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Field Guide to the Wildflowers of Georgia and Surrounding States

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Not surprisingly, white resistance to and anger over the rise of African American political leaders is featured in several essays and is largely what powered the political career of Wade Hampton, who would soon prove to be a major force in the successful dismantling of Reconstruction. However, as Lewie Reece points out in his 2003 essay, "Righteous Lives: A Comparative Study of the South Carolina Scalawag Leadership during Reconstruction," native white Southerners could work cooperatively and positively with African Americans. Unfortunately, a combination of racism, Democratic opposition to Republicans, and anger at federal control as manifested by Reconstruction policies, helped overthrow South Carolina's brief, promising experiment in racial equality.

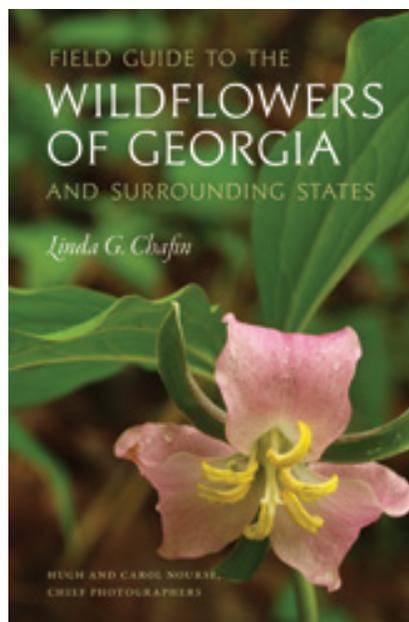
One of the main personalities involved in the overthrow of Reconstruction was Wade Hampton, the subject of two essays ("Wade Hampton and the Rise of One-Party Racial Orthodoxy in South Carolina" published by Richard M. Gergel in 1971 and "Wade Hampton: Conflicted Leader of the Conservative Democracy?" published by Fritz Hamer in 2007). Mention of Hampton also appears in other essays. While Hampton alone cannot be said to be the sole cause of the end of Reconstruction, his cynical use of populist political techniques, cooptation of African Americans by claiming to represent their interests, and his use of the Red Shirt militia gangs to intimidate opponents and, especially, African Americans, and political dirty tricks to ensure Republican office holders were fatally weakened, makes for discouraging reading. Political dirty tricks included such actions as locking Republican state office holders out of their offices, decreasing the number of polling places, and intimidating African Americans into joining the Democratic Party (201,202, and 204).

The growing weakness of Republican political office holders is manifest in the sad story of "Governor Chamberlain and the End of Reconstruction" by Robert J. Moore (1977). Chamberlain was a northern "carpetbagger" from Massachusetts, a white abolitionist who had served as an officer in an African American Union regiment. Unfortunately, his political power and will to resist the machinations of Wade Hampton and his supporters were not strong and the ambivalent results of the gubernatorial election of 1876 meant that South Carolina had two governors in office at once (256). Also, Chamberlain was no longer able to count on federal support. On April 11, 1877 Chamberlain finally gave up the struggle to remain in power: "The drama of Reconstruction closed with undramatic compliance by southern Republicans to the nation's loss of will to enforce majority rule in South Carolina" (254).

South Carolina in the Civil War and Reconstruction Eras: Essays from the Proceedings of the South Carolina Historical Association would fit in well with academic and large public library collections featuring Civil War and Reconstruction, and Southern history.

Tim Dodge
Auburn University

Field Guide to the Wildflowers of Georgia and Surrounding States by Chafin, Linda G. Hugh and Carol Nourse, Photographers. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2016. ISBN 978-0-8203-4868-1. \$32.95 paperback. 488 p.



The work is about beautiful wildflowers Georgia and the southern states South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Florida, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, and North Carolina. The author, Linda G. Chafin is a Georgia State Botanical Garden expert employee in botany. Further masterpieces by the photographers Hugh and Carol Nourse include *Favorite Wildflower Walks in Georgia* and *The State Botanical Garden of Georgia*.

The content comprises Contents, Acknowledgments, Introduction, Who Can Use This Guide?, What Is a Wildflower?, Wildflower Conservation, How This Guide Is Organized, Natural Communities in Georgia, Best Places and Months to See Wildflowers in Georgia, A Few Words about Pronouncing Plant Names, How to Read the Species Descriptions, Species Descriptions, Color Thumbnails: White, Yellow, Orange, Red and Maroon, Pink, Magenta, and Lavender, Blue to Bluish-Purple, Purple and Violet, Green and Brown, Glossary, References, Image Credits, and Index. The work reveals seven hundred seventy stunning wildflowers and five hundred thirty flowers along roads and woods and in parks in Georgia and close states readers can learn to recognize and enjoy. The writing style is dynamic.

The tour de force is divided into sections dicots wildflowers having two seeds and monocots having one seed. Each description of the flowers discloses a bright alluring photograph, where the wildflower is located, the length of the stalks, and the length of the leaves. Additionally covered are size, color, and look of flowers. More data is on when blossoming and fruit occurs. The descriptions end with a mention of a related delightful

flower divulging its appearance and location. Within the two sections, eight hundred twenty six richly colorful pictures illustrate to readers the vivid liveliness of the wildflowers. Thirty eight gray in color pages within the two sections give further details on the wildflowers. A helpful glossary defines eighty eight words. There are sixty six references.

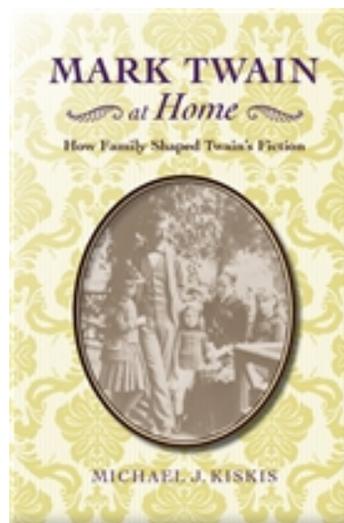
A handy map shows the percentage of wildflowers in Georgia that are located in the states of Texas, Kentucky, Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee, Virginia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama, too. Another map makes known Georgia's physiographic provinces. Eleven methods are listed to stop damage to wildflowers. Associations promoting Georgia wildflowers are Riverkeepers, Nature Conservancy, Georgia Native Plant Society, Coastal Wildscapes, and Georgia Botanical Society. Kindly, an invitation is extended to become members of the Georgia Botanical Society at <http://www.gabotsoc.org>

Gorgeous Color Thumbnails are thirty nine beautiful vibrantly colored small photographs of the wildflowers for readers to know the names of the flowers. There are two hundred and one pictures of white wildflowers, one hundred twenty five pictures of yellow flowers, fourteen pictures of orange wildflowers, and one hundred fifteen pictures of red and maroon wildflowers. Others are one hundred thirty two photographs of pink, magenta, and lavender wildflowers, fifty three blue to bluish-purple wildflowers, seventy one purple and violet wildflowers, and sixty five green and brown wildflowers. The definition of wildflower is supplied as a plant bearing flowers not aided by humans.

The monograph makes known a list of top thirty eight locations and times to visit wildflowers in Georgia like Cloudland Canyon State park, Sittons Gulch Trail, Dade County, late Mar-late Apr. The great work shares fascinating information about the dazzling wildflowers. Wildflowers include herbs, shrubs, and vines with flowers. Wildflowers from Europe that came to America are Queen Anne's Lace and the cornflower. Along roads are common camphor weed, beefsteak plant, and cat's ear. More intriguing, hot and cold weather and bodies of water cause wildflowers. Wildflowers that thrive in the sunlight are sunflowers, goldenrods, and milkweeds. What's more, unsurpassed in beauty are milkweeds, butterfly weed, and milkvines. Spring ephemerals wild geraniums, trout lilies, and mandarins are only vibrantly blossoming in the spring. Around one hundred types of rose wildflowers in Georgia consist of cherries, plums, blackberries, wild strawberries, and hawthorns. Academic and public libraries should own the book because of its perfect coverage of wildflowers in Georgia and adjoining states. The treasured book enchanting with magnificently exquisite scenic wildflowers is a most excellent tourist attraction for Georgia and neighboring states.

Melinda F. Matthews
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Mark Twain at Home How Family Shaped Twain's Fiction by Michael J. Kiskis. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2016. ISBN 978-0-8173-1915-1 (cloth); 978-0-8173-8990-1 (ebook). \$44.95. 128 p.



My personal memories of the man, Mark Twain, Samuel Langhorne Clemens (1835 – 1910), led me to describe him as a humorist. Through his humor, wit and wordsmithing, he brought Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer to me and my classmates in elementary school days. He led us to want to live the adventurous and rebellious lives of his fictional characters. We wanted to build a raft and brave the wild rivers. We wanted to play all day and ignore school work and chores. To me, Twain portrayed children in his stories as wanting to abandon the comforts/discomforts of a family life and home, seek adventure, befriend those who were friendless, run away from home and explore the world.

Reading Michael Kiskis' book, *Mark Twain at Home How Family Shaped Twain's Fiction*, I came to see why Kiskis' research led him to see significant family dynamics that impacted Twain's characters. Kiskis tells us that Twain's life might be seen as a tragic one given as he says "Twain was a child of a loveless marriage and experienced a home life as a child over which hovered the constant specter of violence." (dustcover) Additionally, Twain's home life as an adult "was shattered by the deaths of three of his four children and of his wife, Livy (Olivia Langdon Clements)". (dustcover) Kiskis suggests that reflecting upon personal experiences possibly affected Twain's creation of the characters in his writings. Covering Twain's most significant writings, Kiskis helps us to examine them from a perspective of familial memories and remembrances.

Dr. Michael Kiskis, a professor at Elmira College in Binghamton, New York was known as a scholar of Mark Twain, having dedicated most of his academic life to study and research of Twain. A true tragedy that Kiskis passed away on May 8, 2011, at age 56. His students and others have written memorial praise to him. <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/star-gazette/obituary.aspx?pid=151129739>