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## Robert Royston

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of truth. Whether a journey into antiquity or into current political turmoil, the new title we have here is one that stands out like a lighthouse beacon on a sandy beach. *Remembering the Memphis Massacre: An American Story* caught my eye and led me to prepare to be shocked, saddened, and enlightened about an historical moment in our American History.

“The trouble started late on April 30, 1866. Sparked by verbal sparring between white city police officers and a group of black men recently mustered out of the Union army, a wave of violence erupted, escalating within hours to mass murder and mayhem” (Introduction, p.1). “By the time the streets cleared on May 3, at least forty-six African American men, women, and children and two white men lay dead...Every African American church and schoolhouse was destroyed, hundreds of homes and businesses were burglarized and burned and white assailants raped at least five black women” (Introduction, p.1).

Susan Eva O’Donovan and Beverly Green Bond, editors of this collection of writings, explained “we needed to convey the message that what happened in Memphis was a national story and how in many respects—it remains an on-going story” (Introduction, p.5). With over 12 essays and 19+ black and white illustrations, O’Donovan and Bond, provide enlightening views on the history of the Memphis Massacre and its American story.

Recommended for public and academic libraries, historical societies, and theological literature collections. See the Acknowledgements, p. 205, Contributors, p. 207, and an Index from p. 211 to 216.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

### **Robert Royston**

Reuben M. Rainey and  
JC Miller  
Athens: University of  
Georgia Press, 2020  
ISBN: 9780820357317  
274 p. \$26.95 (Pbk)



This work is about Robert Royston who created landscapes in New Orleans, California, Malaysia, Canada, Australia, Chile, Japan, and many other loca-

tions. The author, Reuben M. Rainey, was a professor at University of Virginia and is an executive of the University of Virginia Architecture School’s Center for Design and Health. Mr. Rainey has a Master of Landscape Architecture from University of Virginia. Books by Mr. Rainey include *Architecture as Medicine: The UF Health Shands Cancer Hospital, A Case Study an A-School Monograph* and *Half My World: The Garden of Anne Spencer, A History and Guide*. The author, JC Miller, is a landscape architect with Vallier Design Associates in California and worked with Robert Royston. Mr. Miller teaches at University of California at Los Angeles. Another book by Mr. Rainey and Mr. Miller is *Modern Public Gardens: Robert Royston and the Suburban Park*.

The book includes Acknowledgments, sixteen chapters, an index, fourteen pages of Notes, and Chronology of the Royston Firm from 1940-1941 to 2009-present. The preface is by Robin Karson. The overview shares a detailed biography of Robert Royston’s life. Royston was a landscaper for parks, colleges, neighborhoods, schools, homes, businesses, apartments, and cemeteries.

Some of Royston’s landscape works are Estates Reservoir, Santa Clara Civic Center Park, Stanford Linear Accelerator Campus, Central Park, St. Mary’s Square, and Sunriver. The 1963 New Orleans Louisiana Lemann Home features a Royston garden composed of a courtyard, oak trees, a garden in the back, and a water display. Royston got his start as a landscaper with Thomas Church from 1940-1941.

In depth, color and black and white photographs of the landscaping of Royston abound in the book. The work consists of forty-nine of Royston’s landscaping plans, models, and diagrams. Royston’s landscape work can be found in *Sunset, House & Garden, House Beautiful, Architectural Record*, and *Arts & Architecture*. The recommended audience is anyone interested in Robert Royston or landscaping. This well-researched work on Robert Royston is appropriate for both academic and public libraries collections.

Melinda F. Matthews, University of Louisiana at Monroe

### **The Shell Builders: Tabby Architecture of Beaufort, South Carolina, and the Sea Islands**