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

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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.

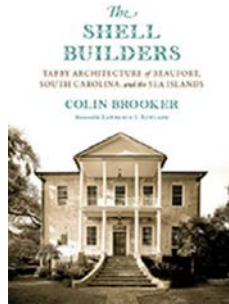
Some of Royston’s landscape works are Estates Reservoir, Santa Clara Civic Center Park, Stanford Linear Accelerator Campus, Central Park, St. Mary’s Square, and Sunriver. The 1963 New Orleans Louisiana Lemann Home features a Royston garden composed of a courtyard, oak trees, a garden in the back, and 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

Colin Brooker
Columbia: University of
South Carolina, 2020
ISBN: 9781643360713
296 p. \$39.99 (Hbk)



Traveling through the Sea Islands from Beaufort to the ocean towns of Florida, I was intrigued by the historic structures I saw—houses, churches, barns, and meeting houses. What was it that builders, community citizens, and others used to erect these strange old places? Certainly it was not felled trees, it was not bricks, it was not cement, and cement blocks...What was it?

Finding and reading Colin Brooker's book *The Shell Builders: Tabby Architecture of Beaufort, South Carolina and the Sea Islands*, I learned of a new type of building material named Tabby. "A coastal concrete, comprising a mixture of lime, sand, water, and oyster shells. Tabby, itself, has a storied history stretching back to Iberian, Caribbean, Spanish American, and even African roots—brought to the United States by adventurers, merchants, military engineers, planters, and the enslaved" (*Back cover hardback edition*).

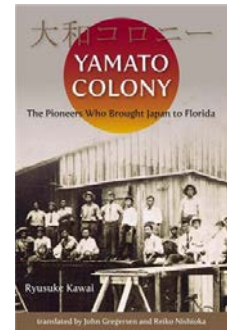
Through years of study and travel, Colin Brooker shows his determination to find and document Tabby as a significant construction material. He helps us to see its history in the structures of homes, churches, and memorial sites in our country and abroad. Through his book, we may become joyful recipients of his in depth domestic and international construction research.

The Shell Builders: Tabby Architecture of Beaufort, South Carolina, and the Sea Islands is an amazing research volume that will delight and enlighten readers who have a passion for design and artistic development amid the coastal regions of South Carolina and beyond. This volume has 10 Chapters, an Epilogue, an Appendix 249, Notes 255, a Select Bibliography 281, and an Index 295. Recommended for academic, public, architectural, and archival libraries.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

Yamato Colony: The Pioneers Who Brought Japan to Florida

Ryusuke Kawai
Translated by John Gregersen
and Reiko Nishioka
Gainesville: University Press
of Florida, 2020
ISBN: 9780813068107
208 p. \$19.95 (Pbk)



Years ago on a trip to southern Florida, it was my pleasure to visit the [Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens](#) in Delray Beach, Florida. I was awed by the tours of the beautiful gardens and the museum and my participation in the tea ceremony. After reading Ryusuke Kawai's delightful story of the man who donated the land for the gardens and museum, Sukeji Morikami, I wish I had learned more about him that day.

In *Yamato Colony: The Pioneers Who Brought Japan to Florida* written by Ryusuke Kawai there is an illuminating record of one man's determination to create an agriculture colony open to Japanese people who were recruited from Japan to live, work, and make a new home in Florida. A belief in the opportunities available to farm, build productive lives, and become financially successful drew the new workers from Japan to the Yamato Colony in Delray Beach. The research into the lives and work of the colonists in the Delray Beach's farms explains the personal and historical challenges faced by the development of the farming projects. Additionally local, statewide and national politics brought challenges of the time period into focus, beginning in 1903 and going forward.

Kawai's colorful and entertaining narrative, centered on the life of Sukeji Morikami and translated by John Gregersen and Reika Nishioka, is an inspiring historical research project. Equally rewarding is following the determination of Mr. Morikami to donate land. Add to this the unfolding of the beautiful Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach, Florida.

Recommended for public, academic, and art history libraries. See Postscript on pages 173-181, Bibliography 183-186, Index 187-189, and Authors index on page 190. See black and white illustrations and photos throughout.

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