Ancient Gardening in South Carolina: 10,000 B.C. to A.D. 1685 - 2000

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology--University of South Carolina

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Ancient Gardening in South Carolina
10,000 B.C. to A.D. 1685

South Carolina Archaeology Month
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Ancient Gardening in South Carolina

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10,000 BC to AD 1685

THE THREE SISTERS

The three sisters—water, beans, and squash—are the most recognized Native American garden crop trio. The gardeners of the Southeast used a combination of botanical strategies and farming techniques to grow the three crops together in a single plot. This synergetic approach was based on the natural relationships and nutritional needs of the plants. The water (typically maize), beans, and squash were grown together to ensure optimal growth and yield. The plants provided a variety of resources, including food, Shelter, and spiritual significance. The gardeners believed that the three crops were interdependent and that their growth and success were interrelated. The gardeners also believed that the three crops were connected to the natural world and the spiritual realm.

WEEDS VS. DOMESTHORES

Some weeds and domestic crops might look similar, but the gardeners knew the difference. They paid close attention to the seeds and the plants that sprouted. They understood that the weeds were not part of the garden, while the domestic crops were carefully tended and cultivated. The gardeners were skilled at distinguishing between the two and would remove the weeds to maintain the integrity of the garden. They also understood that the weeds could compete with the domestic crops for resources, such as water and nutrients, and could reduce the yield of the domestic crops.

NEEDS OF DOMESTHORES

The domestic crops—maize, beans, and squash—were the focus of the gardeners' attention. They understood the needs of each plant and adjusted their farming techniques accordingly. The gardeners knew that the maize needed well-drained soil,充足的水分, and warm weather to thrive. The beans required a nitrogen-rich soil and were typically planted in the rows between the maize. The squash needed a warm, sunny location and were planted after the last frost to ensure a good crop.

ARTIFICIAL SELECTION

The gardeners were skilled at selecting the best seeds from each crop to ensure the continued growth of the domestic crops. They understood that the seeds were the foundation of the garden and that the quality of the seeds directly affected the quality of the plants. The gardeners would carefully select the best seeds and store them for future use. They also understood that the seeds could be treated to improve their viability and germination rate.

DOMESTICATED PLANTS

Some plants, such as potatoes and tomatoes, were domesticated from wild plants. The gardeners understood that these plants were not part of the garden and would remove them to maintain the integrity of the garden. They also understood that the domestication of these plants was not complete and that they could still be considered weeds. The gardeners were skilled at distinguishing between the two and would remove the domesticated plants to maintain the integrity of the garden.

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The gardeners were skilled at using the available resources to build their homes. They understood that the resources were not infinite and that they needed to be managed carefully to ensure their continued availability. The gardeners would carefully select the best resources for their needs and would store them for future use. They also understood that the resources could be treated to improve their quality and usability.

WOMEN'S ROLE IN GARDENING

Women were the primary gardeners and were responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the garden. They understood the natural cycles of the plants and were skilled at adjusting their farming techniques accordingly. The gardeners understood that the women were the foundation of the garden and that the quality of the women directly affected the quality of the garden. They also understood that the women could be treated to improve their viability and germination rate.

ABOUT THE POSTER

The artifact shown on this page is a 10,000-year-old clay pipe bowl from the Lenape Village of the Wanaque Valley. The bowl was found in the Wanaque Valley, New Jersey, and is believed to be one of the oldest clay pipe bowls in North America. The bowl is decorated with a geometric design and is believed to be used for smoking tobacco. The bowl is an important artifact for understanding the history and culture of the Lenape people.

The poster is designed to educate and inspire a sense of pride in the gardeners of South Carolina and their contributions to the history and culture of the region. The poster is intended to be used as a teaching tool in schools and other educational settings, as well as a decorative piece in homes and offices. The poster is available in a variety of sizes and can be customized to meet the needs of the buyer.