



Pay a summer visit to Celia Thaxter's garden

SPECIAL TO THE BEACH NEWS

SEACOAST | Anyone interested in restored historic gardens and heirloom flowers may want to consider visiting Celia Thaxter's Island Garden on Appledore Island, located in the Isles of Shoals just off the coast of New Hampshire.

In the final year (1894) of her life, Celia Thaxter published her most famous book, "An Island Garden." The garden was reconstructed in 1977 by Dr. John Kingsbury, the founder and first director of the Shoals Marine Laboratory (SML), which operates on Appledore Island as a partnership between the University of New Hampshire and Cornell University.

Lying six miles offshore, Appledore is a splendid 95-acre island — the largest of the Isles of Shoals' archipelago — in the Gulf of Maine. Celia Thaxter's garden is open for public tours offered through SML.

Due to the fragile nature of the island environment, public access to Appledore Island is limited. Local volunteers maintain the garden and offer garden tours to the public on Wednesdays only, from the end of June through August.



Visitors will enjoy the exuberant color that captivated seaside resort hotel guests in the 1800s, and also hosted many famous artists, musicians and literati more than a century ago.

The tour size is limited, and reservations are required. The total cost for the full-day tour is \$60 per person, and includes round-trip boat transportation from Seabrook to the island. All proceeds from these public tours go into the SML student scholarship fund.

SML has built an international reputation for excellence in providing rigorous hands-on marine science field experience for undergraduates and also offers summer courses for high school students, as well as adult and family education courses.

For more information about the tours or the Shoals Marine Laboratory, or to make reservations, call the SML office at Cornell University, (607) 255-3717; for an informational brochure, visit Celia's Garden Caretakers, Mark and Pam Boutilier at Appledore Arbor, located at 255 Atlantic Avenue in North Hampton, or call them at (603) 964-4486.

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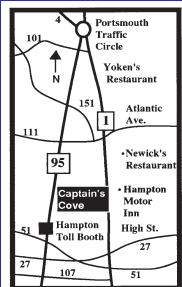
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