

## Suggestions for Further Reading

A list of sources on André Michaux for general readers  
Also visit [www.michaux.org](http://www.michaux.org) on the internet

### Biography

Deleuze, J. P. F. Memoirs of the Life and botanical Travels of André Michaux. edited with an introduction, notes and supplementary study materials by Charlie Williams. Charlotte, NC: Forebears Press for the André Michaux International Symposium, 2002.

*Primary source material, this is the earliest account of Michaux's life written by a contemporary and originally published in French in 1804. This reprint includes both the original French, an early English translation, added notes, map, bibliography and a chronology of Michaux in North America.*

Savage, Henry Jr. and Elizabeth J. Savage. André and François André Michaux. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1986.

*The only full-length biography, a simply invaluable beginning for future research. A detailed study of the lives of both Michauxs drawn from many primary sources. The careers of Michaux father and son interlock so seamlessly that many casual observers have believed that they are the same individual. This carefully annotated work covers the full careers of both men. The bibliography is outstanding.*

### Michaux in Collective Biographies

Eifert, Virginia. Tall Trees and Far Horizons, Adventures and Discoveries of Early Botanists in America. New York: Dodd, Mead, 1965.

*"Michaux and the Spanish Conspiracy" is an exciting account of Michaux's life centering on his involvement in the "Genet Affair" of 1793.*

Fishman, Gail. Journeys Through Paradise, Pioneering Naturalists in the Southeast. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2000.

*A modern naturalist recounts Michaux's story as she travels to some of the same localities in the southeast Michaux visited two hundred years earlier.*

Jewett, Frances L. and Clare L. McCausland: Wilderness Treasure. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1964.

*Includes separate chapters on André Michaux and his son François André; the reading level is appropriate for middle school & high school.*

Savage, Henry Jr. Lost Heritage. New York: William Morrow & Co., 1970.

*One long, stirring chapter is devoted to André Michaux and his son.*

### Michaux's Place in the History of Plant Exploration

Coats, Alice M. The Plant Hunters. New York: McGraw Hill, 1969.

*Michaux is included in this history of plant exploration around the world.*

Duval, Marguerite. The King's Garden. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1982.

*Michaux in the context of three centuries of French plant exploration.*

Johnson, Lady Bird and Carlton B. Lees. Wildflowers Across America. New York: Abbeville Press, 1988.

*The chapter on plant explorers of North America briefly mentions Michaux.*

Kastner, Joseph. A Species of Eternity. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1977.

*Briefly highlights the Michaux-Jefferson connection.*

Petersen, Ronald H. New World Botany: Columbus to Darwin. Ruggell [Liechtenstein]: Königstein, Germany: A.R.G. Ganter Verlag, Distributed by Koelz Scientific Books, 2001.

*Michaux is included in this sweeping history.*

Peattie, Donald Culross. Green Laurels, the Lives and Achievements of the Great Naturalists. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1936.

*Grand natural history writing in the old style. Captures the spirit of the French botanist, but a few of the details given here have been corrected by later researchers.*

Reveal, James. Gentle Conquest, The Botanical Discovery of North America.

Washington: Starwood Publishing, 1992.

*Michaux in the context of the botanical exploration of all North America. The illustrations, from the collections of the Library of Congress, are magnificent.*

Spongberg, Stephen A. A Reunion of Trees. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1990.

*Includes an analysis of Michaux's work by a leading contemporary scholar.*

### Useful Special Sources

Cothran, James R. Gardens of Historic Charleston. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1995.

*Describes Michaux's contributions to gardens and places his Charleston nursery garden in the larger context of Charleston's illustrious gardening history.*

DeConde, Alexander. Entangling Alliances, Politics and Diplomacy under George Washington. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1958.

*An examination of the "Genet Conspiracy" in the context of US diplomacy in the 1790's.*

Ewan, Joseph. Classica Botanica Americana Vol. 3. André Michaux. Flora Boreali-Americana. New York: Hafner Press, 1974. Reprint, facsimile of the 1803 edition.

*The introduction to this reprint of Michaux's FLORA has a wealth of detail. The late Joseph Ewan was the most important scholar of botanical history active in the late twentieth century. This is his most extensive writing on André Michaux.*

Kuralt, Charles. "Tribute to the Noted French botanist André Michaux." Grandfather Mountain, Linville, NC, August 28, 1994. On the www at [www.grandfather.com](http://www.grandfather.com)

*Full text of the stirring speech Kuralt delivered at the bicentennial celebration of Michaux's 1794 climb of Grandfather Mountain.*

MacPhail, Ian. André and Francois-André Michaux; the Sterling Morton Library Bibliographies in Botany and Horticulture I. Lisle, IL: Morton Arboretum, 1981.

*A bibliography of all editions of all books by the Michauxs issued prior to 1900. Precise descriptions useful for rare book buyers.*

Taylor, Walter and Eliane Norman. André Michaux in Florida, an Eighteenth-Century Botanical Journey.

Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2002.

*Translates and examines Michaux's 1788 Florida journey in detail. The historical background, Michaux's routes of travel and his plant discoveries are carefully examined. Also translates the portion of Michaux's journal after his shipwreck on the coast of Holland in 1796 until its last entries in Paris in 1797 and several letters from Michaux to colleagues in France.*

### Selected Magazine Articles Since 1990

Bagby, Milton. "The Path of Michaux's Passion." Kiawah Island Legends, the Magazine of Gracious Living. (2001):

67-75.

*Reviews Michaux's career with special emphasis on his contributions to lowcountry gardens. Color and halftone illustrations include a detail of P.J. Redoute's drawing of Pinckneya from the Michaux Flora.*

Dudney, Mark. "The Yellowwood, Tennessee's Bicentennial Tree." Tennessee Living in the Cumberlands. (Spring-Summer 1995) 32-34.

*Tennessee chooses the yellowwood tree Michaux discovered near the Cumberland River in 1796 as the state's bicentennial tree in 1996.*

Fulcher, Bob. "Michaux, Muir and Gray on the Roan." Tennessee Conservationist. (September-October 1998), found on the www at [www.state.tn.us/environment/](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/)

*Reinterprets the route of Michaux's explorations on Roan Mountain and links Michaux's 18<sup>th</sup> century explorations to 19<sup>th</sup> century visits by naturalist John Muir and botanist Asa Gray.*

Hodge, Alan. "Botanist of the New World." Our State, down home in North Carolina 70, No. 11 (April 2003): 25-26.

*Highlights Michaux's extensive NC travels and the discovery of the bigleaf magnolia. Reports on the 2002 symposium sponsored by the AMIS consortium.*

Ingham, Vickie L. "Southern Imports, Horticultural Legacy of André Michaux." Southern Accents 13, No. 8 (October 1990): 74-80.

*Examination of some of the plants Michaux is credited with introducing into southern gardens. Color illustrations.*

Loewer, Peter. "André Michaux in the Carolinas." Carolina Gardener 7, No. 2 (September-October 1994): 13-17.

*Overview of Michaux's career. Reports the planned celebration on the bicentennial of his climb to the summit of Grandfather Mountain, NC in 1794. Color illustrations of some of his plant discoveries.*

Price, Susan Davis. "The French Connection." American Gardener 78, No. 3 (May-June 1999): 38-42.

*Describes the careers of Michaux father and son, color illustrations.*

Rembert, David Jr. "Carolina's French Connection." South Carolina Wildlife 41, No. 2 (March 1994): 46-49.

*The leading botanical historian of SC describes Michaux's career. This article includes a partial list of the plants Michaux discovered in SC. and has color illustrations.*

Shannon, Margaret. "Hard Botanizing: Michaux's Arduous Georgia Travels." Tipularia, a Botanical Magazine Published by the Georgia Botanical Society. 9 (1994): 31-36.

*Follows and interprets Michaux's journal accounts of his travels in Georgia in 1787 and 1791 with a brief mention of the 1788 journey.*

### **André Michaux's North American Journal**

Michaux, André. "Journal de mon Voyage." Portions of the Journal of André Michaux, Botanist, Written During His Travels in the United States and Canada, 1785 to 1796. With an Introduction and Explanatory Notes; by C.S.

Sargent. Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society 26, No. 129 (January to July 1889).

*This is in the original French with English introduction and footnotes. Most of the footnotes are concerned with plant identification. This is the only complete publication of Michaux's extant American journals. All of André Michaux's journals have never been completely translated into English and published.*

*"Portions" in the title of this source is somewhat misleading. This is the entire extant journal. The original handwritten copies are archived at the American Philosophical Society Library in Philadelphia. The original journals were donated to the society in 1824 by Michaux's son François-André.*

### **Excerpts From Michaux's Journal in English Translation**

Michaux, André. "Journal of André Michaux 1793-96" translated and edited by Reuben Gold Thwaites in Early Western Travels 1748-1846 Vol. 3. Cleveland: 1906. Reprint, AMS Press, NY, 1966.

*English translation of the portions of Michaux's journal describing his trips into Kentucky. Even with the omissions, this is very valuable. Users should nonetheless beware that Michaux's sojourn in Philadelphia after his return from Kentucky in December 1793 is not included here, nor are any of Michaux's 1794 travels. All of the 1795-96 journey is translated. Some of the information given in footnotes by Thwaites has been revised by others, notably by Samuel Cole Williams in his study of Michaux's travels in Tennessee.*

Branch, Michael and Daniel Philippon eds. The Height of Our Mountains, Nature Writing from Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains and Shenandoah Valley. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998.

*Translates a small portion of Michaux's journal from western VA.*

Dugger, Shepherd H. The Balsam Groves of Grandfather Mountain. Boone, N.C: [Reprint], 1934.

*Translates Michaux's journal account of his 1794 visit to NC including the celebrated climb of Grandfather Mountain and visits to Salisbury and Fayetteville. Some plant data is edited out of this otherwise excellent translation.*

Rankin, Richard ed. North Carolina Nature Writing, Four Centuries of Personal Narratives and Descriptions. Winston-Salem, NC: John F. Blair, 1996.

*Translates small excerpts from Michaux's journal accounts from NC.*

Seaborn, Margaret M. ed. André Michaux's Journeys in Oconee County, South Carolina in 1787 and 1788. Walhalla, SC: Oconee County Library, 1976.

*Translates and annotates portions of Michaux's journal describing his initial visits to the southern frontier. Follows the interpretation of C.S. Sargent regarding Michaux's discovery of the rare plant *Shortia galacifolia*. Seaborn's translations are the basis for the reinterpretation of the discovery of *Shortia* published in the botanical journal *CASTANEA* by R. Zahner and S.M. Jones in 1983.*

Taylor, David. South Carolina Natural History Writing. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998.

*Reprints an exciting portion of Seaborn's translation of Michaux's journal.*

Taylor, Walter and Eliane Norman. André Michaux in Florida, an Eighteenth-Century Botanical Journey. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2002.

*Translates and examines Michaux's Florida journey of 1788 in detail. His routes of travel and plant discoveries are carefully examined. Also translates the portion of Michaux's journal after his shipwreck on the coast of Holland in 1796 until its last entries in Paris in 1797 and several letters from Michaux to colleagues in France.*

Williams, Samuel Cole. Early Travels in the Tennessee Country. Johnson City, TN: Watauga Press, 1928.

*Uses the translation of Thwaites (1906, 1966) for Michaux's 1793-1796 journeys in TN, but provides fresh, and sometimes corrective annotations. Williams takes no notice of Michaux's journey in 1789.*

#### Internet Site

**<http://www.michaux.org>** The internet site established for the André Michaux International Symposium in 2002 and continued by the André Michaux International Society in North America.

*A wealth of biographical information, plant lists, photographs and links to other sites.*

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Compiled by Charlie Williams, Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County, NC 2004