

June 24, 2019

Dear Friend,

Is there anything more glorious than a Scottish garden in bloom?

From rare and exotic blossoms set against the dramatic backdrop of the rocky coastline to kitchen gardens lined with herbs and botanicals for use in one of Scotland's newest crops, small-batch gin, this issue of our member magazine will provide you plenty of inspiration for a summertime visit.

The issue also highlights fruits of a different kind – the many remarkable and inspiring conservation projects that you (yes, you!) have made possible over the past few years. Flipping through its pages, I was thrilled to see so many initiatives supported by NTSUSA, including installations of contemporary sculpture at J.M. Barrie's birthplace (p. 8) and Glencoe (p. 20) and repairs to the Preston Mill waterwheel (p. 10), an *Outlander* fan favorite. I hope that you will be proud and excited to read the update on efforts to protect Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Hill House (p. 28), which reopened to public and critical acclaim earlier this month.

Whether you have supported this work as an NTSUSA member, by attending one of our American lectures or events, or by responding to our Annual Appeal, your generosity is making a real difference for today's visitors and for future generations. *Thank you.*

I am happy to share that we will be partnering with Scottish Heritage USA to bring the Trust's Head of Archaeology to the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in July. Derek Alexander will be lecturing on his recent excavations at Glencoe and Glenshiel (p. 7) in North Carolina and in New England. (Visit www.ntsusa.org for details.) Derek's work on the Culzean caves, ideal for hiding smuggled goods during the late 17th and 18th centuries, is detailed on page 72.

Finally, if you are interested in exploring Scotland's spectacular designed landscapes beyond the pages of this magazine, please consider joining NTSUSA on our tour of Scotland's West Coast gardens in May 2020. We'll be stopping at Arduaine, Crarae, and Brodick (p. 4), among other unforgettable places. Please reach out to me at kbridier@ntsusa.org for more information on the tour or with comments or suggestions at any time.

With all best wishes,



Kirstin Bridier
Executive Director