



# Medicinal Garden Cultivates History




Richard Porcher, Ph.D. studies the flowers in the garden named after his great-uncle, Francis Porcher.

to help Southerners who were suffering from the lack of medical supplies available, Porcher had a longer view of its use beyond the immediate needs of the Confederates. Not all the book is directed at medicinal uses either, she says. It's like an almanac of sorts with directions for everything from making lye soap and dyes from plants to producing brandy.

The germ of the idea for the medicinal garden came from the landscape architect, Bill Eubanks (of Urban Edge Studio in Mount Pleasant), of the Drug Discovery Building who recommended it as a nice addition. Greenberg loved the idea and wanted to tie it into MUSC's history.

"He wanted to make the connection to Dr. Porcher and looking at our future with the Drug Discovery Building and looking for new drugs and new therapies. This garden is a tribute to what we have always done, which is to innovate medicine. We were doing that in 1863 when this book came out with Dr. Porcher, and we're still doing it today. One hundred fifty years

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"It's a fascinating piece of history. With the garden, it all comes full circle in seeing how those plants are being used today."

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