



GRACE ARENTS



POE MUSEUM



MARY WASHINGTON HOUSE



BELLE GROVE

How to Visit Virginia's Historic Gardens

The gardens are listed here alphabetically. Numbers are keyed to the Virginia map. All of the gardens listed in this directory are operated and maintained locally. All are open to the public, but some have seasonal closings, and hours vary for each site. It is a good idea to contact the gardens directly to inquire about hours before visiting.



KENT-VALENTINE HOUSE



GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

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PRINTED 2016. MOST PHOTOS BY ROGER FOLEY.

THE RESTORED HISTORIC *Gardens of Virginia*



GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA



The majesty of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello outside Charlottesville, the simple spire of Fincastle Presbyterian Church in rural Botetourt County, the sweeping terraced views of James Madison's Montpelier and the white-fenced cottage garden where George Washington's mother spent her last years—the Garden Club of Virginia has restored and continues to restore a vital segment of Virginia's splendid landscape.

The Garden Club of Virginia is an active association of 47 member clubs, whose members together form a group of more than 3,300 community and civic leaders. The mission of the Garden Club is to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage. The success of this last goal has made the Garden Club of Virginia synonymous with garden restoration in the commonwealth and in the nation.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Garden Club of America have both recognized the Garden Club of Virginia with awards for excellence in restoration and preservation.

While there is great variation in the types of gardens and landscapes undertaken by the Garden Club, some basic principles apply to all of them. Each garden must be open to the public on a regular basis. The property's governing body requests help from the Garden Club and must both approve the project and agree to maintain it. From the beginning, the Garden Club of Virginia has engaged professional landscape architects to plan and oversee the restorations. From the beginning, also, it has made every effort to hold to the highest standards of historic preservation. Where the property and the level of documentation warrant it, landscapes may be restored to a specific period; in some cases a setting suitable for a historic building may be provided; in other cases a simplification of the historic scene or the preservation of layered changes to a landscape over time may be more appropriate.



BELMONT

KENMORE

The Gardens of Virginia

RESTORED BY THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA WITH FUNDING FROM HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK TOURS

Bacon's Castle 1

A RARE EXAMPLE OF JACOBEAN ARCHITECTURE. GARDEN RESTORED TO 1680S FORM BASED ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE. SURRY.

Belle Grove 2

EARLY NINETEENTH-CENTURY MANSION AND GROUNDS. MIDDLETOWN.

Belmont 3

ARTIST'S GARDENS RETURNED TO THE SPLENDOR OF THE 1920S AND 1930S. FREDERICKSBURG.

Bruton Parish Church 4

ANCIENT BURIAL GROUND RESTORED WITH NEW WALKS AND PLANTINGS. WILLIAMSBURG.

Burwell-Morgan Mill 5

PARK SETTING FOR OLDEST OPERABLE MERCHANT MILL IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY. MILLWOOD.

Centre Hill Mansion 6

GREEK REVIVAL HOUSE AMIDST REPLANTED GROUNDS. PETERSBURG.

Christ Church-Lancaster 7

SIMPLY LANDSCAPED CHURCH YARD AND GROUNDS INCLUDE A CEDAR-LINED WALK. IRVINGTON.

Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History 8

RESTORATION OF SUTHERLIN HOUSE'S PERIMETER FENCE TO ORIGINAL APPEARANCE. DANVILLE.

Executive Mansion Capitol Square 9

RESTORATION OF 1953 DESIGN BY CHARLES GILLETTE. RICHMOND.

Fincastle Presbyterian Church 10

NINETEENTH-CENTURY CHURCH RESTORED WITH APPROPRIATE PLANTINGS. FINCASTLE.

Grace Arents Garden at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden 11

VICTORIAN-STYLE GARDEN RESTORED BASED ON ORIGINAL EARLY-1900S DESIGN. RICHMOND.

Green Spring Gardens 12

RESTORATION OF THE STONE WALL, PLANTING BEDS, AND OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE ORIGINAL 1942 BEATRIX FARRAND DESIGN. ALEXANDRIA.

Historic Henry County Courthouse 13

COURTYARD SETTING SUITABLE FOR 1824 CLASSICAL COURTHOUSE ENCASED IN A 1929 ADDITION. MARTINSVILLE.

Historic Portsmouth Courthouse 14

BRICK COURTYARD SETTING SUITABLE FOR 1846 COURTHOUSE. PORTSMOUTH.

Hollins University 15

RESTORATION OF 1930S BEALE GARDEN TO HONOR ALUMNA LUCY PRESTON BEALE. ROANOKE.

John Handley High School 16

ENHANCEMENT OF THE PARK-LIKE SETTING OF VIRGINIA'S ONLY PRIVATELY ENDOWED PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL. WINCHESTER.

Kenmore 17

BUILT IN THE 1770S BY FIELDING AND BETTY WASHINGTON LEWIS. FREDERICKSBURG.

Kent-Valentine House 18

HEADQUARTERS FOR THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA AND HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK. RICHMOND.

Ker Place 19

FEDERAL STYLE HOUSE WITH LONG GARDEN WALK AND ARBOR. ONANCOCK.

Lee Hall 20

1859 ITALIANATE MANOR HOUSE AND GROUNDS. NEWPORT NEWS.

Mary Washington House 21

HOME AND COTTAGE GARDEN OF GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MOTHER. FREDERICKSBURG.

Mary Washington Monument 22

MONUMENT MARKING MARY WASHINGTON'S GRAVE IN LANDSCAPE SETTING. FREDERICKSBURG.

Maymont 23

LANDSCAPE EXPRESSES THE SPLENDOR OF THE AMERICAN GILDED AGE. RICHMOND.

Monticello 24

SURROUNDED BY GARDENS RESTORED TO JEFFERSON'S OWN 1807 PLAN. CHARLOTTESVILLE.

Montpelier 25

RESTORATION OF DUPONT-ERA GARDEN ON THE SITE OF JAMES MADISON'S ORIGINAL TERRACED GARDEN. MONTEPELIER STATION.

Moses Myers House 26

GARDEN SETTING FOR FINE FEDERAL PERIOD HOUSE OF PROMINENT JEWISH FAMILY. NORFOLK.

Mount Vernon 27

HOME OF GEORGE WASHINGTON ON THE POTOMAC WITH RESTORED BOWLING GREEN. MOUNT VERNON.

Oatlands 28

BUILT BY GEORGE CARTER IN THE EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY, SURROUNDED BY TERRACED GARDENS. LEESBURG.

Poe Museum 29

RESTORATION OF THE GROUNDS INCLUDING THE ENCHANTED GARDEN. RICHMOND.

Point of Honor 30

RESTORED LANDSCAPE FOR FEDERAL PERIOD HOUSE. LYNCHBURG.

Poplar Forest* 31

RESTORATION OF LANDSCAPE FEATURES AT THOMAS JEFFERSON'S COUNTRY RETREAT. FOREST.

Smith's Fort Plantation 32

LANDSCAPE SETTING FOR EARLY EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY HOUSE. SURRY.

St. John's Mews 33

RICHLY PLANTED OLD CITY ALLEY WITH CAST IRON PAVILION. RICHMOND.

**Property currently undergoing restoration.*

State Arboretum of Virginia-Blandly Experimental Farm 34

RESTORATION OF A ONE-HALF MILE LONG STONE WALL ALONG THE HISTORIC DOGWOOD WALK. BOYCE.

Stratford Hall 35

BIRTHPLACE OF ROBERT E. LEE WITH RESTORED GARDEN. STRATFORD.

Sweet Briar College 36

EARLY NINETEENTH-CENTURY SWEET BRIAR HOUSE AND GROUNDS, HOME OF THE COLLEGE'S PRESIDENT. SWEET BRIAR.

University of Virginia 37

TEN PAVILION GARDENS ENCLOSED BY SERPENTINE WALLS AND NORTH FORE-COURT OF ROTUNDA. CHARLOTTESVILLE.

Washington and Lee University 38

LEE CHAPEL GROUNDS. LEXINGTON.

Wilton 39

EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY GEORGIAN HOUSE WITH TERRACED GARDENS. RICHMOND.

Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library 40

INTRICATE GARDEN OF TERRACES AND PARTERRE GARDENS. STAUNTON.



A Hundred Years of Conserving Virginia's Beauty

For nearly a century, the Garden Club of Virginia has been committed to preserving the beauty of Virginia for all to enjoy. Garden Club of Virginia members were early leaders in conservation and environmental concerns. The Conservation Committee, the club's first, focuses on the natural and historic resources of the commonwealth and presents awards to recognize achievements in conservation. Workshops and forums take a balanced look at environmental issues within Virginia.

The recently established fellowship supports the study of the conservation of natural resources, environmental studies or cultural practices that make an impact on Virginia.

Appealing to a broad range of members and the public, the Garden Club sponsors events including flower shows, horticulture workshops and flower-arranging seminars.



HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK

Historic Garden Week

The Garden Club of Virginia's restorations are funded largely with proceeds from Historic Garden Week in Virginia, an eight-day statewide open house of private homes and gardens and public landmarks, from the Atlantic to the Appalachians. During the last week in April each year, more than 30,000 tourists from all over America and from many foreign countries travel to Virginia for this outstanding event.

In 1929, the young organization decided to open private houses and gardens to raise money to restore the garden and grounds at Kenmore in Fredericksburg.

Members of all clubs cooperated to make it an astounding success, bringing in more than \$14,000 for the first garden restoration. Since then, Historic Garden Week in Virginia has enabled the Garden Club of Virginia to restore gardens at more than 40 historic properties. Additionally, tour proceeds provide graduate level research fellowships for building comprehensive and ongoing records of historic gardens and landscapes in Virginia. In celebration of the GCV 2020 centennial, the GCV will renew its support of Virginia State Parks.

Historic Garden Week is headquartered at the Kent-Valentine House, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. Visit vagardenweek.org; email historicgardenweek@gmail.com; or telephone (804) 644-7776. An extensive guidebook is available in early February each year and is online at vagardenweek.org.