



 **Virginia Executive Mansion**  
1111 East Broad Street,  
Capitol Square

The oldest governor's mansion in the United States built for that purpose was completed in 1813 and is the home to the Commonwealth's governors and their families. Designed by Boston architect Alexander Parris, the mansion, a classic example of Federal-style architecture, is first a comfortable and welcoming family home. In 2022, First Lady Suzanne Youngkin created "The Art Experience" at the Executive Mansion, a changing exhibit of artwork from museums around Virginia highlighting the varied landscapes, themes, and people of the Commonwealth. Outside the house, the historic Gillette Garden is a spot not to be missed. In the 1950s, First Lady Anne Bassett Stanley



employed Charles Gillette to design and install a formal garden suitable for entertaining on the south side of the mansion. This restoration project of the GCV was funded with proceeds from HGW tours. In 2016 the Valentine-Jackson Memorial Garden was established and dedicated to several enslaved families who worked at the mansion in the 1800s. The GCV also worked collaboratively on this effort. Suzanne Youngkin is currently leading a project to open the entrance to this garden so it can be shared with mansion visitors.



 **Kent-Valentine House**  
12 East Franklin Street

The Kent-Valentine House, located on East Franklin Street, is one of the most architecturally significant mansions in downtown Richmond and is distinguished as a National and Virginia Historic Landmark. With the exception of the Executive Mansion in Capitol Square, this is the last house in historic downtown surrounded by trees. The mansion was designed for Mr. and Mrs. Horace Kent in 1845 with an Italianate exterior and Gothic Revival interior. It was modified and enlarged by Mr. and Mrs. Granville Gray Valentine in 1904 when a Greek Revival portico with a Colonial Revival east parlor was added. The Garden Club of Virginia purchased the mansion in 1971, transforming it into the club's headquarters, and home of Historic Garden Week, as a commitment to historic preservation.