



ANNUAL EVENTS

Throughout the year, Colonial Williamsburg offers seasonal vacation packages and special events. For information, visit www.ColonialWilliamsburg.com or call 1-800-HISTORY (1-800-447-8679).

SPRING is an exceptional time to explore gardens in Virginia.

The annual COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG GARDEN SYMPOSIUM (late April/early May) offers a perfect opportunity for interested gardeners to explore a topic in depth. Schedules and other information are available at www.history.org/conted.

Consider visiting during HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK in Virginia (late April). The local Garden Club showcases a variety of Williamsburg gardens and area plantations—some generally not open to the public—offer special programs. For an overview of the statewide offerings visit www.vagardenweek.org.



Step into our garden . . . and take delight in WILLIAMSBURG® products that can enhance your home, garden space, and spots of serenity. For bird baths, fountains, garden ornaments, permanent botanicals, and more, shop www.williamsburgmarketplace.com.

Colonial Williamsburg

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

1-800-HISTORY (1-800-447-8679)

www.history.org

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation is the not-for-profit educational institution that preserves and operates the restored 18th-century capital of Virginia. Williamsburg is located 150 miles south of Washington, D.C., off Interstate 64.

The HISTORIC GARDENS of
Colonial Williamsburg®



WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG'S
HISTORIC GARDENS

Wander through Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area and discover the variety of 18th-century gardens. The 90 acres of gardens and green spaces range from the formal splendor of the Governor's Palace garden to the utilitarian kitchen garden of the James Geddy site to the tranquil Colonial Revival garden at Bassett Hall.



COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG GARDEN PROGRAMS AND TOURS



GARDEN HISTORY WALK explains how Colonial Williamsburg landscape architects and gardeners re-create the gardens in the Historic Area using archaeological and historical documentation. Discover the evolution of the design and interpretation of our gardens and learn what influences the development and design of the landscape and gardens. Find out how we identify and use native and imported plants.

GARDENS OF GENTILITY explores how gardens reflected the lifestyles and ideals of people living in 18th-century Williamsburg. What influenced Williamsburg's gardens prior to 1750? How did gardens signify wealth and status? How did horticulture develop between 1750 and 1800?

MEET THE GARDENER. How does someone maintain and preserve a historic garden? Talk to a landscape volunteer and find out what goes on in the George Reid Garden. It's a perfect opportunity to get answers to your gardening questions.

From mid-March through the Christmas season, guests can explore the **COLONIAL GARDEN AND NURSERY**, an interpretive and sales site across from Bruton Parish Church. Here garden historians use 18th-century gardening techniques and reproduction tools to interpret colonial gardening.

Guests may purchase authentic plants and seeds and other garden-related items offered by Colonial Williamsburg's Products Division.



Key	Garden	Kitchen Gardens	Herbs	Flowers	Fruit Orchard	Pleasure Gardens	Topiary	Arbors & Bowers
1	DR. BARRAUD HOUSE					X	X	
2	BASSETT HALL				X	X		
3	JOHN BLAIR HOUSE		X	X			X	
4	BRACKEN TENEMENT				X	X	X	
5	BRYAN HOUSE					X	X	X
6	CHRISTIANA CAMPBELL'S TAVERN					X	X	X
7	ELIZABETH CARLOS HOUSE				X	X	X	
8	COKE-GARRETT HOUSE			X		X		
9	THE COLONIAL GARDEN AND NURSERY	X	X	X	X			X
10	ALEXANDER CRAIG HOUSE			X	X	X		X
11	CUSTIS TENEMENT			X		X		
12	THOMAS EVERARD HOUSE					X		
13	JAMES GEDDY HOUSE	X	X	X	X			
14	GOVERNOR'S PALACE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
15	ORLANDO JONES HOUSE			X		X	X	X
16	KING'S ARMS TAVERN	X	X	X				X
17	DAVID MORTON HOUSE					X		X
18	PALMER HOUSE				X	X		
19	PASTEUR & GALT APOTHECARY		X					
20	BENJAMIN POWELL HOUSE	X	X	X	X	X		
21	PRENTIS HOUSE		X	X	X	X	X	
22	ALEXANDER PURDIE KITCHEN					X	X	
23	GEORGE REID HOUSE	X	X	X	X			
24	TALIAFERRO-COLE HOUSE			X	X	X		
25	WETHERBURN'S TAVERN	X	X		X			
26	GEORGE WYTHE HOUSE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

See map on following pages.

WHAT'S IN BLOOM IN WILLIAMSBURG

JANUARY

Blooms: Sasanqua Camellia; Wintersweet; Witch Hazel

Berries: Gold-dust Tree; Hollies

FEBRUARY

Blooms: Japanese Camellia; Flowering Quince

MARCH

Blooms: Daffodils and other spring bulbs; Carolina Yellow Jasmine; Forsythia; Cornelian Cherry; Redbud; Shadblow; Early-blooming fruit trees

APRIL

Blooms: Tulips and other spring bulbs; Bleeding Heart, Columbine, and other perennials; Azaleas; Forsythia; Mountain Laurel; Flowering Dogwood; Fruit Trees; Lilac; Red Buckeye; Redbud; Shadbush

MAY

Blooms: Iris, Oriental Poppies, Peonies, and other perennials; Rosemary, Chives, Garden Sage, and other herbs; Carolina Sweet Shrub; Flowering Dogwood; Oak-leaved Hydrangea; Old Roses; Red Buckeye

JUNE

Blooms: Daylily, Garden Phlox, Stokes' Aster, and other perennials; Hollyhocks, Lavender, Yarrow, and other herbs; American Wisteria; Catalpa; Mock Orange; Pomegranate; Rose of Sharon; Southern Magnolia; Sweet Bay Magnolia

JULY

Blooms: Garden Phlox, Stokes' Aster, Yarrow, and other perennials; Chaste Tree; Crape Myrtle; Golden Rain Tree; Oak-leaved Hydrangea; Rose of Sharon; Southern Magnolia; Trumpet Vine

AUGUST

Blooms: Asters, Coneflowers, Yarrow, and other perennials; Chaste Tree, Crape Myrtle; Oak-leaved Hydrangea; Rose of Sharon; Southern Magnolia; Trumpet Vine

SEPTEMBER

Blooms: Goldenrod, Joe-Pye Weed, Obedient Plant, Turtlehead, and other perennials; Crape Myrtle

Berries: American Beautyberry; Bittersweet; Flowering Dogwood; Pomegranate Fruit; Rose Hips

OCTOBER

Blooms: Chrysanthemum

Berries: American Beautyberry; Arbutus; Bittersweet; Firethorn; Flowering Dogwood; Hollies; Pomegranate Fruit; Rose Hips

NOVEMBER

Blooms: Sasanqua Camellia; Chrysanthemum; Witch Hazel

Berries: American Beautyberry; Bittersweet; Firethorn; Hollies; Rose Hips

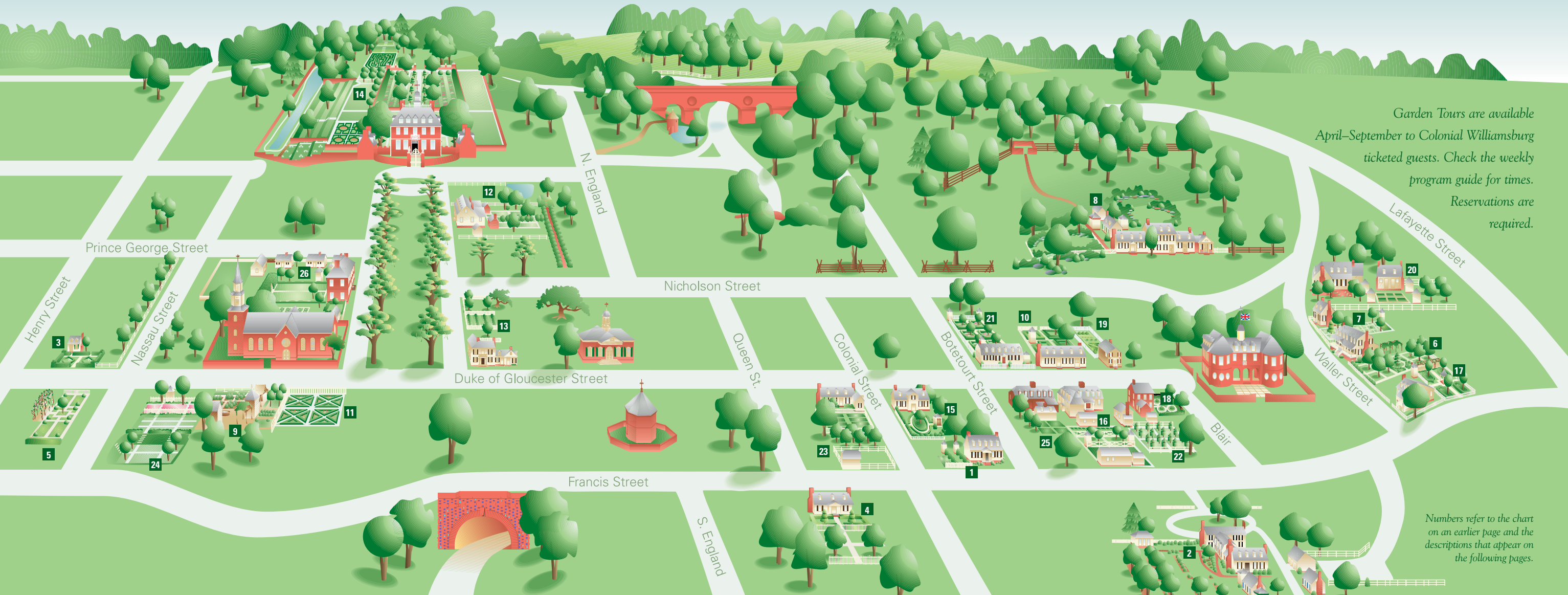
DECEMBER

Blooms: Sasanqua Camellia; Witch Hazel

Berries: American Beautyberry; Bayberry; Bittersweet; Eastern Red Cedar; Firethorn; Hollies; Indian Currant; Rose Hips; Washington Hawthorn



Whatever the season, YOU'LL DISCOVER GARDEN TREASURES
 NESTLED BEHIND THE HOMES, SHOPS, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG'S HISTORIC AREA.



Garden Tours are available April–September to Colonial Williamsburg ticketed guests. Check the weekly program guide for times. Reservations are required.

Numbers refer to the chart on an earlier page and the descriptions that appear on the following pages.



The gloriously restored Anglo-Dutch gardens of the Governor's Palace owe their accuracy to extensive research. Using broad outlines uncovered by archaeological excavations during the 1930s and filling in details shown in an 18th-century copper-plate engraving, Colonial Williamsburg's landscape architects and gardeners have re-created spaces clearly meant to emphasize the power of colonial government. During the 18th century, such formal, ornamental gardens were signs of wealth and a level of leisure greater than most of Williamsburg's residents. Today, the gardens reflect Colonial Williamsburg's ongoing research to produce historically accurate gardens that reflect the variety of 18th-century lifestyles and present a more historically accurate landscape.

Consequently, a stroll through the Historic Area will take you through many utilitarian gardens. Fruits, vegetables, and herbs grown in the town's kitchen gardens provided a bounty of edible items. Native and "exotic" plants grown by the colonists have been identified, collected, and planted in Williamsburg's gardens. Ongoing research continues to provide more information about 18th-century Williamsburg's gardens, allowing Colonial Williamsburg landscape staff to find more period plants, particularly vegetables and flowers, and place them in the appropriate gardens. Historical authenticity sometimes involves studying modern interpretations. When the restoration of Williamsburg began in the mid-1920s, the Colonial Revival movement had popularized highly formal gardens similar to those at the Governor's Palace. While living at Bassett Hall, the Rockefellers' Williamsburg residence, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller constructed a beautiful formal garden. Part of the Foundation's comprehensive renovation and restoration of Bassett Hall, completed in December 2002, included the re-creation of Mrs. Rockefeller's 1940s Colonial Revival gardens.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG'S HISTORIC GARDENS

1 Dr. Barraud House—The reconstructed garden incorporates three small, formal spaces and a natural, or wild, garden. Archaeological investigations on the site revealed foundations of several outbuildings, elaborate storm drains, brick pavements, and marl walks. In fact, the marl walks in the garden were some of the best preserved in Williamsburg, giving a clear indication of the garden's original layout.

2 Bassett Hall—This 18th-century house served as the Williamsburg home of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller Jr. during the early years of the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg. As part of recent renovations, the gardens have been re-created as they appeared in the 1940s. Three original outbuildings flank the east side of large flowerbeds that are planted with bulbs in the spring and mums in the fall. A boxwood vista leads from the teahouse to the woodlands in the distance.



3 John Blair House—Through much of his life, John Blair Sr. kept a diary in which he recorded his love of gardening. In May 1751, he had loaned Peyton Randolph his gardener, of whom "Mrs. Randolph gave a fine account." Landscape architect Arthur A. Shurcliff chose to design the kitchen dooryard as a small herb garden, reminiscent of the "physick" gardens popular in the 17th century. The parterres are filled with fragrant herbs.

4 Bracken Tenement—The street fence reflects the break indicated on the Frenchman's Map, an 18th-century billeting map of Williamsburg. The garden design has been kept simple with a small parterre immediately to the rear of the house. Yaupon has been used in three different ways here—as enclosing hedge, as topiary accents, and in free-growing screen.

5 Bryan House—An arbor covered with trumpet honeysuckle and American wisteria offers a splendid view of the carefully trimmed boxwood parterres. This Colonial Revival garden was based on garden patterns depicted on Claude Joseph Sauthier's maps of North Carolina towns of about 1769. Sauthier, a French landscape gardener who came to North Carolina in 1767, surveyed and drew plans for several of that colony's towns.

6 Christiana Campbell's Tavern—Arthur A. Shurcliff's successor, Alden Hopkins, designed a beautiful Colonial Revival garden beside the tavern. Its geometric pattern features nine planting beds with a tiered topiary yaupon holly in the central circle. Flowering dogwoods, oak leaf hydrangeas, and red cedars create seasonal interest.

7 Elizabeth Carlos House—The pleasure garden is a typical four-square pattern employing a wellhouse as focal point. The wellhead is not precisely in the center of the space, but offset to allow the central path to pass in front of the well. A carefully trimmed hedge of yaupon holly surrounds the otherwise symmetrical garden.

8 Coke-Garrett House—The Coke-Garrett House was described in the 18th century as a "long frame house" with "beautiful gardens surround[ing] the estate." Today, stately evergreens, nut trees, and old boxwood enclose the area behind the house and lead down a grassy ramp to a flower border on the lower garden level.

9 The Colonial Garden and Nursery—The garden displays many rare and unusual varieties of heirloom vegetables as well as a collection of heirloom roses and fruits. It features a botanic garden of North American and European herbaceous plants and an herb garden with examples of culinary, medicinal, and household herbs used by the colonists.

10 Alexander Craig House—Gardens and outbuildings were mentioned in the recorded deeds for this original house. Today the pleasure garden with seasonal color provides an attractive foreground to the orchard's fruit trees, pleached arbors, and the original brickbat paths.

11 Custis Tenement—Because of the scarcity of archaeological evidence of a colonial-period garden on this site, landscape architect Arthur A. Shurcliff again turned to Claude Joseph Sauthier's 18th-century maps for a pattern and style for the present garden. The parterre garden, partially enclosed by English boxwood, features formal paths made of crushed shell and brick.

12 Thomas Everard House—The pleasure garden behind the house is filled with mature English boxwood. Analysis suggests that the oldest were planted about 1830.

13 James Geddy House—Among the items listed in the inventory made at the time of James Geddy Sr.'s death in 1774 were "3 potting pots, 1 garden water pot and 4 water pales." As tradesmen, the Geddys were probably not doing extensive gardening, but the presence of garden implements indicates at least some effort, most likely the cultivation of vegetables and herbs.



"No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden." —THOMAS JEFFERSON

14 Governor's Palace—The complex of gardens, spread over 10 acres, resembles English country estates during the reign of King William III and Queen Mary II. Three original features from the 18th century remain: the ice mount, the falling gardens (terraces), and canal.

15 Orlando Jones House—The presence of a garden is based on the 1745 advertisement in the *Virginia Gazette* that indicates the existence of one at that time. The garden designed in 1939 by landscape architect Arthur A. Shurcliff has remained almost unchanged since that time. It features American boxwood topiary and an American hornbeam aerial hedge.

16 King's Arms Tavern—The work yard has been designed as an outdoor dining area. Boxwood, cherry laurels, and American hollies have been assembled to provide an evergreen bower around and over the area. An arbor completes the picture, providing deep shade in the summer. In the kitchen garden, the crosswalks meet at a round bed planted with chokeberry, which is edged on the outside with cordoned fruit trees.

17 David Morton House—The position of the house and outbuildings, as shown on the Frenchman's Map and substantiated by archaeological excavations, was the determining factor in re-creating the garden. The symmetrical formal garden features boxwood parterres, a covered well and pump, and an arbor covered with muscadine grapes.

18 Palmer House—Tucked beside the historic home is a symmetrical pleasure garden designed around a central sundial. Oyster shell pathways define four circular beds planted with perennial bulbs and shade-loving perennials. Surrounded by boxwood hedges, the garden offers passersby a secluded spot in which to spend a lazy afternoon.

19 Pasteur & Galt Apothecary—Although there is a reference that Dr. Galt loved flowers and grew opium poppies, advertisements in the *Virginia Gazette* reveal that the two doctors relied primarily on exotic imports from Europe to soothe the body and mind. At home, individuals would have grown herbs or collected them from the countryside. The "simples" seen in the garden today are representative of herbs known and used in the colony during this period.

20 Benjamin Powell House—The Powell garden illustrates the axial arrangement of garden spaces typical of colonial site development. Behind the small pleasure garden and separated by the work yard is a kitchen garden featuring vegetables in season.

21 Prentis House—The property is an excellent example of the fullest degree of garden development within the confines of a typical one-half-acre lot. The pleasure garden, behind the service yard, has been designed with six parterres edged in yaupon holly. The simple kitchen garden parallels the pleasure garden on the east, and a small orchard near the back street is balanced by the stable and paddock at the rear of the site.



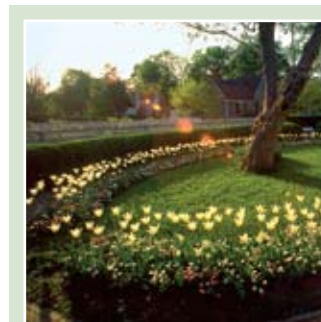
22 Alexander Purdie—The Purdie work yard is dominated by a variety of outbuildings, or dependencies. The pleasure garden features a simple four-square design with 16 identically sheared yaupon topiaries within four turf panels defined by brick crosswalks. Plants of seasonal interest include shadblow trees, pomegranates, and oak-leaf hydrangeas.

23 George Reid House—The Reid House is unique in being set back from the front property line by eight feet. The lot has four sections: a service yard directly behind the house; a kitchen garden featuring heirloom flowers, vegetables, and herbs; an orchard; and a paddock with a stable fronting on Francis Street.

24 Taliaferro-Cole House—Thomas Crease, a gardener in 18th-century Williamsburg, lived on this site for a total of 35 years. The topography of the site is largely unchanged from his time. The garden consists of three separate rectangular areas enclosed by fencing, each planted for a different purpose.

25 Wetherburn's Tavern—Behind the kitchen and adjacent outbuildings is a simple square kitchen garden with a central path. The contents of a well on the site, examined during archaeological investigations, were found to include the stones, seeds, and other remains of several common fruits and vegetables.

26 George Wythe House—Surviving letters reveal that Wythe was interested in fruit culture, but his wife apparently was in charge of the kitchen garden. Today a kitchen garden, orchard, and the service yard with dependencies flank each side of the pleasure garden. A pleached American hornbeam arbor terminates the main garden path.



See map on previous page for locations of these gardens.