



**THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022 10 A.M. TO 5 P.M.**

Join us in celebrating the 200th birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted, the “father” of architectural landscape and urban public parks. Stroll through the neighborhood of historic West Freemason in Downtown Norfolk. Bound by the breezes of the Elizabeth River to the west and south, and once almost destroyed by the British in the Revolutionary War, surviving West Freemason showcases many of Norfolk’s pre-Civil War structures now backlit by the glow of surrounding modern life. Original cobblestone streets will lead visitors to beautiful homes, and gorgeous gardens.

**TOUR CHAIRS**

- **Meg Forsberg & Jessica LeBrie**  
norfolk@vagardenweek.org

**TOUR CO-CHAIRS**

- **Donna Henderson & Mary Keogh**
- @historicgardenweeknorfolk
- @historicgardenweeknorfolk

**TOUR HEADQUARTERS**

- **College Place Triangle Park, West Freemason** Bounded by College Place, College Cross and Yarmouth Street  
GPS Address: 255 College Cross, Norfolk, VA 23510



**TICKETS**

- **\$35** pp
- Sold online and in advance at VAGardenWeek.org
- **\$45** pp on tour day at Tour Headquarters, Triangle Park, credit card only. No tickets sold at homes or for individual homes

**FACILITIES**

- Tour Headquarters, d’Art Center, Norfolk Botanical Garden, Chrysler Museum of Art, MacArthur Center Mall, Hunter House Victorian Museum and Virginia Zoo

**PARKING**

- Street Parking very limited. Carpooling recommended.
- Fully automated city parking garages located at: 215 W. York St., 11613 Mason St. and 112 W. City Hall Ave.

- Credit card and cash
- Additional parking available at the Chrysler Museum, 1 Memorial Place

**LUNCH**

- **The Restaurant at Four Eleven York**  
409 W. York St. Innovative local fine dining in a charming setting – indoor and outdoor seating. Open especially for Historic Garden Week for lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reservations recommended (757) 963-7000

**SPECIAL ACTIVITY**

- **d’Art Center**, 740 Boush St. Consistent with Frederick Law Olmsted’s belief that beautiful spaces should be accessible to all, the exhibition space is open to the public and includes “Flourish,” a national juried exhibition featuring botanical and floral 2D and 3D artworks. HGW visitors are invited to attend the opening reception after the tour concludes, from **5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**



**IMPORTANT**

Walking tour with uneven cobblestone streets and brick sidewalks. Tours may involve stairs, as well.

**NEW TO HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK!**

First time a property has been featured

**TICKET INCLUDES ADMISSION TO THE FOLLOWING 4 PRIVATE PROPERTIES, 5 PRIVATE GARDENS, AND 4 ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES, A TOTAL OF 13 SITES:**

**300 Dunmore Street**

Once unique in historic West Freemason, this traditional, spacious brick six- bedroom, three-story townhouse was built in 1991 by a prominent architect who lived in the area and continued the revitalization of the beloved Downtown neighborhood. Replacing the old warehouses and civic buildings of the past, these beautiful row houses sport facades of white pillars and American flags that are now the popular backdrop for many local graduation, engagement, and wedding photos. The light and bright interior of the home features high ceilings and distinctive architectural elements, most notably, the decorative faux-tin design in the formal dining room. Most importantly to the owners, it acts as the setting for many family gatherings for their six children and their families. *Judge Bruce and Nancy Wilcox, owners*

**304, 306, and 308 Botetourt Street (Gardens Only)**

A stone patio leads into a backyard and front garden, where a hatch for a 1,000-bottle wine cellar is hidden in the patio decking. *Drs. Katherine and Graham Watson, owners*

Peek over the front garden gates into three individually owned West Freemason townhouse gardens all resplendent in spring foliage and color. In the spirit of Frederick Law Olmsted, well known for his design of public and urban parks, these petite, but lovely, gardens take advantage of calm river breezes and marina views. They are decorated with brimming containers and plantings that provide much needed color and respite from busy city living. Visitors are encouraged to walk around back to the “mews” behind the lots to continue the garden exploration. Summer vegetables wait to sprout and raised platforms allow for more room for spring blooming bulbs.

**The Old Public Library 345 West Freemason Street**

An extravagant structure for any time, the grand Beaux Arts building built in 1904 on West Freemason began its long life as Norfolk’s first free public library, but is now a private residence. Funded by a grant from Andrew Carnegie and built on land donated by the children of William Selden to honor their father, this impressive stone edifice pays homage to its literary beginnings. Upon entering the front door, visitors will discover Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom. Names of classical authors are etched on Lion’s head cornices. Various writers’ busts are nestled in the atrium arches including one of William Shakespeare, located at the top of a grand marble staircase. After viewing the interior, modernized for today’s comforts and lifestyles, allow time for a stroll around the charming urban patio. *Patty Letchworth, owner*

**The Inn at Four Eleven York 411 York Street**

Formerly a privately-owned Queen Anne Victorian row house, built in the 1890s and converted into a bed and breakfast in the early 2000s, the building underwent another transformation in 2019 when it became the home of Four Eleven York. Exuding a graceful charm that is exhibited by its neutral color palette, the Inn uses its spaces carefully and cleverly. Lovers of architecture will appreciate the tall windows and vintage fireplace mantles, but those seeking modern luxuries will note the heated bathroom floors, and contemporary design touches throughout. Outdoor dining is made special with potted specimens, native trees, and various climbing vines on the patio.

**403 and 407 West Bute Street (Garden Only)**

Meander through a stunning professionally landscaped terrace garden under draping, fragrant wisteria, and stroll by the original carriage house (built of reclaimed materials and used as an artist studio in the past) and down the shared drive. Note the ornate double-tiered cast iron back porch and fence accentuated by the Italianate beauty, built in 1890.

**352 West Freemason Street**

Constructed in the 1890s, this historic brick home has had many callings. Now a private residence, it was once an apartment and housed a shop in the full English basement. A previous owner’s mother was a prominent New York-based interior designer who suggested leaving the exposed brick, ceiling joists, and beautiful 14-inch thick original walls exposed during a recent renovation. Lovely hand-oiled Russian white oak flooring was cut and fumed in Siberia, and terracotta tile was reclaimed from a French farmhouse. A focal point of the kitchen is a panoramic window and glass door with views of blooming jasmine.

**257 West Bute Street**

Step into a space full of European Old-world charm and Italianate style. Designed by the owners and renovated by a prominent Norfolk builder, romance and serenity are conveyed through architectural elements

and careful attention to color and detail. Visitors will pass through twelve-foot tall doors, glancing at the mirrored reflection of three chandeliers on the way to the professionally landscaped carriage garden replete with a hand-painted mural, lush greenery, and limestone lion's head fountain.

*Caroline and Mike McCartney, owners*

**Hunter House  
240 West Freemason Street**

Built in 1894, by the Hunter family, this two-story Victorian home and garden serves as a perfect example of Victorian decorative arts, furniture, and architecture. Usually open to the public for a fee, the Hunter House Victorian Museum included in the tour is proud to be part of the Garden Club of Virginia's Historic Garden Week. As will be all featured properties, it will be decorated with spectacular floral arrangements by local GCV clubs.

**Norfolk Botanical Garden  
6700 Azalea Garden Road**

In 1938 Frederic Heutte, a young horticulturalist, and Thomas Thompson, Norfolk city manager, were given 150 acres to establish a city azalea garden. By 1942 the garden displayed nearly 5,000 azaleas, 75 landscaped acres, and five miles of walking trails. Today, the 175-acre botanical garden is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and run by a private non-profit. Home to more than 60 gardens that can be viewed by tram, boat or foot, it boasts 15 miles of paths. Gardens include cultivated and wild native and exotic plants in themed gardens such as the largest rose garden on the East Coast, a butterfly garden and house, Japanese garden and a Colonial garden.

**Virginia Zoological Park  
3500 Granby Street**

Encompassing 53 acres of established historic Southern magnolias, live oaks and other specimens, the park is located just four miles from this year's tour area and is the site of many formal and abstract gardens. Dating back to 1901, zoo horticulture has had a special place at this location, supporting and showcasing animal habitats with native, ornamental and exotic plants. A few of the present theme gardens include fruit orchards, shade gardens, rain gardens, an African vegetable garden and handicap-accessible gardens. The horticultural center includes a formal garden of roses, annuals and perennials.

**PLACES OF INTEREST**

**The Hermitage Museum and Gardens, 7637 North Shore Rd.**

Formerly home to the Sloane family, this early 20th century Arts-and-Crafts estate is located on the shore of the Lafayette River. Features a nationally recognized art collection and grounds, which include semi-formal gardens, forest, and wetlands. No charge with tour ticket.

**Moses Myers House,  
331 Bank St.**

Federal-style house c.1792 built for a prominent Jewish-American family. First generation furnishings include Gilbert Stuart portraits of Moses and Eliza Myers. Garden renovated by GCV using proceeds from Historic Garden Week tours. Open especially for HGW visitors on Norfolk's tour day.



Photo courtesy of Catherine Fulton

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