

Raleigh Register

Official Newsletter of the Historic Resources and Museum Program



Raleigh
Parks

Volume 39

SPRING 2024

919.996.4772

Raleighnc.gov/museums

Administrator's Letter

Hello again from the HRM Program! Spring is certainly in the air at our sites with many bulbs, shrubs, and trees waking from their winter nap. We invite you to take advantage of this weather and come out to visit us. This issue of the *Raleigh Register* focuses on gardening, the ancient craft carefully cultivating diverse plants, trees, and shrubs. What better place to consider gardening than our historic sites, museums, and attractions where the diversity of cultural landscapes as well as our events, exhibits, and programs can warm any heart. Where else can you take a train ride at Pullen, enjoy the new exhibit at the COR Museum, ride the carousel at Chavis, and tour the house and gardens at Mordecai all in the same day? When exploring you may even find a singular fig tree at the Pope House Museum or a hand grafted Raleigh Daylily outside Borden Building. Indeed, we encourage you to visit all our sites this spring and enjoy all that our program has to offer. As always, feel free to drop me a line sometime to tell me what you think of the new newsletter format or just to chat. I am always interested in ways we can make our programs better and for feedback.



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Chair's Letter

Every now and then in order to duck the chore of cutting grass, I get the idea in my head to start a conservation garden. A conservation garden replaces hard surfaces or turf grass of a traditional lawn with native plants. A conservation garden also promotes and preserves native species and provides wildlife habitat. I do not have to look far for a good model and blueprint of an exquisite conservation garden because nestled away in the Midtown North section of Raleigh lies one of Raleigh's most hidden treasures, the Joslin Garden. William and Mary Coker Joslin believed that parks and greenways are a large part of what makes Raleigh a vibrant and healthy place to live.

Consisting of over four acres of rolling hills and gardens overflowing with streams, walking trails, and a collection of rare and native plants, the Joslin Garden was designed and tended by the late William and Mary Coker Joslin from 1950 until 2016. The City of Raleigh in partnership with the City of Oaks Foundation manages the breathtaking park. The Joslins spent more than 60 years as good stewards of their land. Mary and William built bridges over the stream, planted many rare and native plants, grew all types of vegetables and fruits, and created perennial beds, a formal garden, a scuppernong arbor and several areas devoted to North Carolina native wildflowers. The garden is truly a vision too see. Well, I guess it never hurts to dream of a beautiful conservation garden like the Joslins. Now, back to the chore of cutting grass.



Audrey Morgan
 Chair
 HRM Advisory Board

Cover Photograph:
Photograph of Evelyn Pope in a garden, September 1960

Follow Us

Check our social media for the newest additions of upcoming events at all of our sites!



Collections Corner: Plants of All Kinds

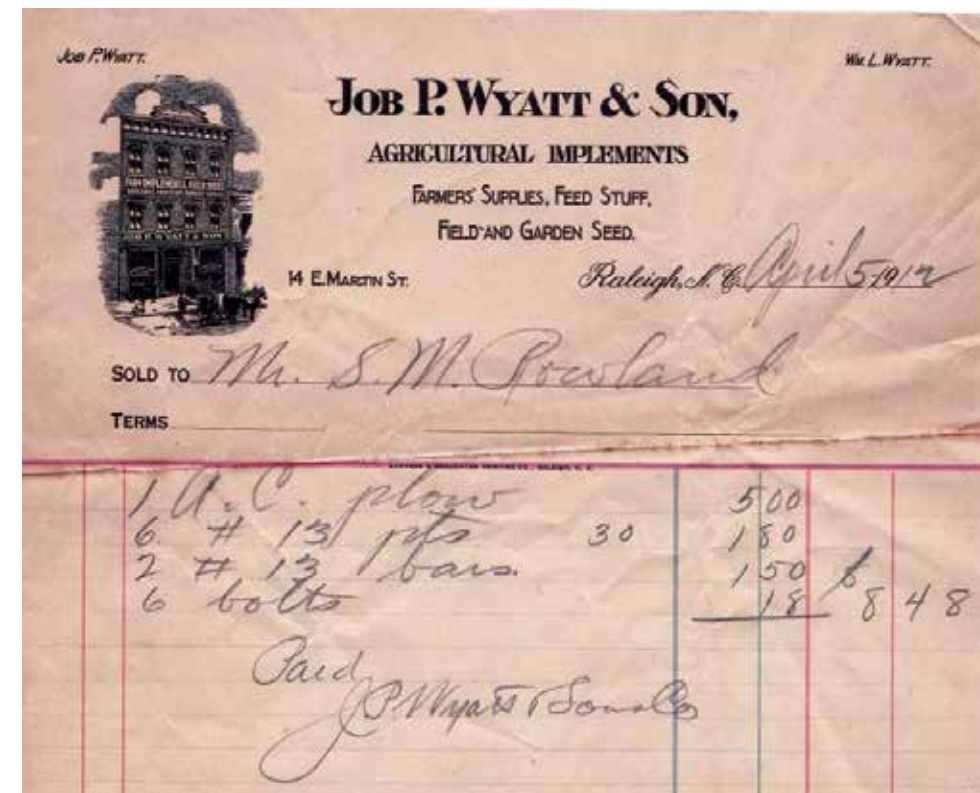
Ainsley Powell, Curator of Collections



Home of the Month award sign, after 1963



Transparency slide of Raleigh's Rose Garden, late 1980s



Bill of sale for plow and other parts, April 5, 1912



Catalog for Fallon's to send flower gifts, 1963



Program for The Raleigh Council of Garden Clubs, 1967

Latta University Historic Park Grand Opening

Joshua Ingersoll, Historic Sites Manager

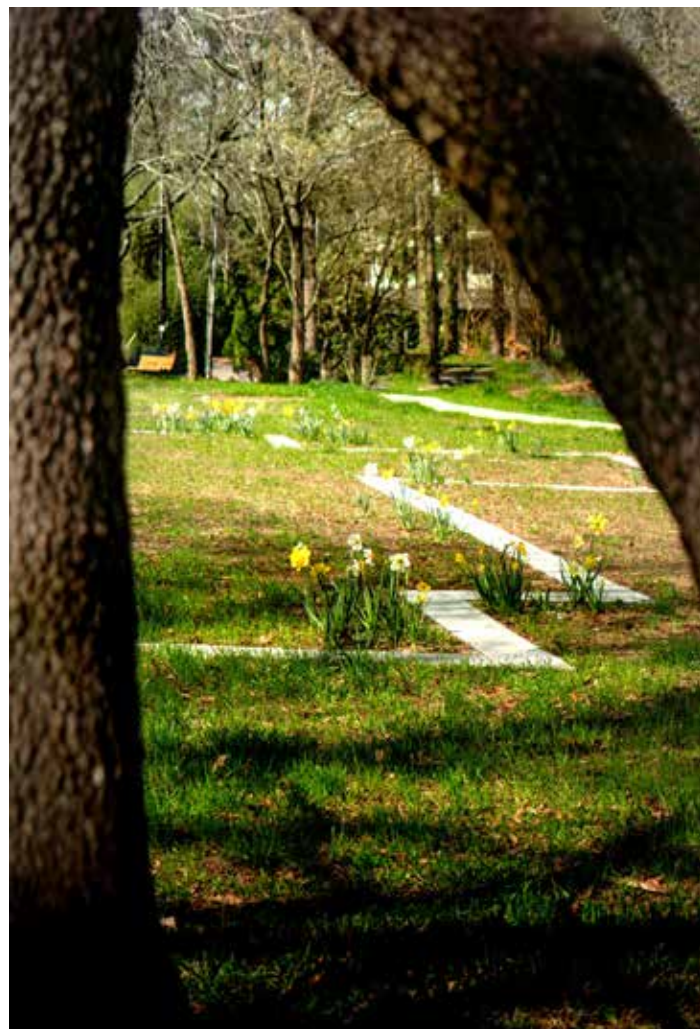
The HRM Program is very pleased to announce the grand opening of Latta University Historic Park on April 20th at 4 pm. This opening is the culmination of several years of planning and the efforts of countless members of the community and City of Raleigh staff.

In 2020, the City of Raleigh developed a Master Plan which called for taking a mostly open grass lot, and turning it into a place for walking, reflection, and learning about the Latta legacy. The implementation of the design would be done in three phases; construction for Phase 1 began in 2023 and is now complete.

As part of the opening ceremony, visitors will be able to walk the newly constructed walkway through the park, read the interpretive signage telling the history of the property, visit the granite foundation of the original Latta House, as well as attend a ribbon cutting ceremony. We invite everyone to join us for this historic event.



Original bricks from the Latta House were incorporated into the park design, including this sign which stands at the entrance along Parker Street



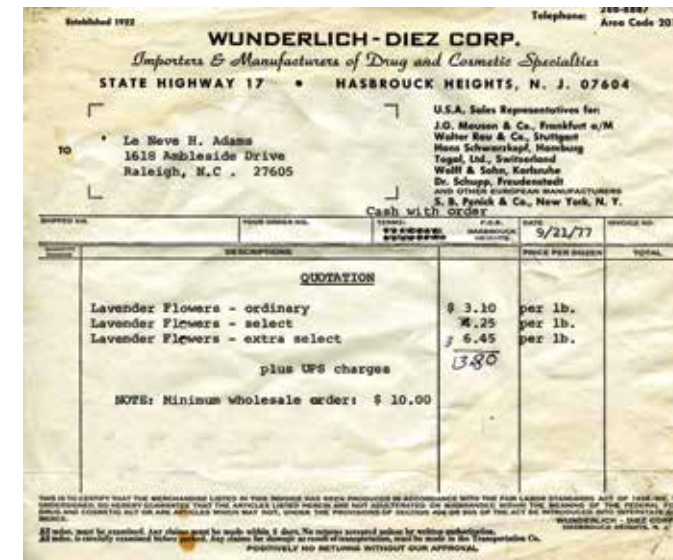
Granite outline showing the Latta House footprint.



The Ellen Mordecai Garden

This excerpt is from a ca. 1975 presentation about the Ellen Mordecai Garden at Mordecai Historic Park.

"The 1830 garden at Mordecai House is a reconstruction of one described by Ellen Mordecai in *Gleanings From Long Ago*. Before anything was even put on paper, members of the Mordecai Square Historical Society visited historic gardens [and] did extensive research... It took a year for the garden to become a reality. The volunteer chairman worked five half days a week from July 1973 until July 1974 in addition to the hours that Parks and Recreation gave... The formal opening of the Ellen Mordecai Garden was May 5, 1974, attended by the Director of Parks and Recreation, the Mayor and interested friends... The purpose of the garden is to share with the public a garden which is representative of a plantation kitchen garden, specifically 1830... Another purpose is to grow plants... which are unusual for today's gardens such as beebalm and lavender – an education for all ages."



This receipt from September 21, 1977 indicates just some of the purchases for the Mordecai garden. Courtesy of Capital Area Preservation, Inc.



Mordecai Gardens - Mordecai Plantation - Raleigh, N. C.

This postcard from 1975, which was photographed by Robert Lee Doane, illustrates the organized space of the Mordecai Garden.

Upcoming Events

Away with the Fairies

Saturday, April 13
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Mordecai Historic Park

Enter a market full of fairies, dragons, and more at this family event. Wear your best fantasy attire to enjoy free crafts and activities, find the perfect handmade treasures, and learn about local children's programs - all while enjoying great food and fun.

Timely Connections Lecture Series

Thursday, April 18
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
City of Raleigh Museum

Dr. Kathleen DuVal will be at the museum giving a presentation on the Roanoke colony and Native Americans.

Project REACH OUT

Friday, April 19
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Moore Square

Project REACH OUT is a collective of organizations convening at Moore Square that are aimed at assisting vulnerable populations with immediate and long-term solutions.

Latta University Historic Park Opening

Saturday, April 20
4 p.m.
Latta University Historic Park

Join us for the official opening of Raleigh's newest historic site. This event will include speakers from the City of Raleigh, Latta descendants, and local community leaders. The event will culminate with an official ribbon cutting for the recently installed walking path, interpretive signage, and granite outline of the Latta House.

Earth Day Extravaganza at Moore Square

Sunday, April 21
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Moore Square

The all-day event featuring activities and vendors starts with an Earth Day Fun Run with Fleet Feet Raleigh-Morrisville at 8 a.m., Restorative Flow Yoga from YogaSix at 9 a.m., a Community Cleanup at 10 a.m., and a showing of Wall-E in the park at 3:30.

Diamond Days Exhibit Opening

Thursday, April 25
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
City of Raleigh Museum

Come to the museum and enjoy hot dogs, popcorn and beer while checking out our newest exhibit on the history of baseball in Raleigh!

Annual Heirloom Plant Sale

Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27
8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Mordecai Historic Park

Celebrate Earth Day at Mordecai Historic Park and get your gardens started for the season! Heirloom varieties of plants are started from seed by the Mordecai Historic Park gardeners. Plants will include tomatoes, peppers, squash, herbs, and much more.

Children's Day

Friday, April 26
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Moore Square

This event is intended for children of all ages pre-school to seniors. We all have an inner child and stories have a way of awakening the magic in all of us. Come enjoy a fun-filled day of storytelling for all.

Adult Recess Festival

Saturday, April 27
3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Fred Fletcher Park

Join Let's Get Social Raleigh and Raleigh Parks for the Second Annual Adult Recess at Fletcher Park! Enjoy games, arts and crafts, food trucks, and shop with local Black-owned businesses, while making new friends.

Timely Connections Lecture Series

Thursday, May 2
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
City of Raleigh Museum

Lesa Redmond will be conducting a presentation on Black higher education in Raleigh, from slavery to freedom.

Mental Health Awareness First Friday Event

Friday, May 3
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
City of Raleigh Museum

The museum will have therapy dogs from Helping Paw International, crafts, print outs on mental health toolboxes and information on mental health resources. Local author and artist, Lord Phly, will be set up with copies of his new children's book called *A Time To Fly*.

Marbles Bike Rodeo

Saturday, May 4
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Moore Square

Bring your bike, trike and helmet and get rolling! There will be obstacle courses, bike safety, art on the move, and bike bling for all ages and skill levels. This is a free event.

Upcoming Events

Matriarchs of Mordecai

Saturday, May 11
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Mordecai Historic Park

Join us as we explore the lives of the women who lived and worked at Mordecai. Activities will include a special park tour centered on women's stories, hands-on crafts, and more!

Mother's Day Tea at the Museum

Saturday, May 11
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
City of Raleigh Museum

Celebrate Mother's Day with the City of Raleigh Museum with a tea party, snacks, music and crafts!

Women's History Trolley Tour

Saturday, May 11
1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m.
Historic Raleigh Trolley

Hop on the Historic Raleigh Trolley for a special tour celebrating the influential women who shaped Raleigh's history. Explore their stories throughout Raleigh, from the women who broke barriers in North Carolina politics to those who fought for equality during the Civil Rights Movement.

Timely Connections Lecture Series

Thursday, May 16
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
City of Raleigh Museum

Explore one of Raleigh's oldest African American neighborhoods with Dr. Alicia McGill. McGill will discuss the Oberlin Community and preservation of its cemetery.

International Children's Day

Saturday, June 1
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
City of Raleigh Museum

The Friends of the City of Raleigh Museum in collaboration with Artist Studio Project are hosting the 2nd Annual International Children's Day. This event is intended for children of all ages pre-school to seniors. We all have an inner child and stories have a way of awakening the magic in all of us. Come enjoy a fun-filled day of storytelling, dancing, music, crafts and more for the whole family.

Drag Story Hour for Adults

Friday, June 7
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
City of Raleigh Museum

To celebrate Pride month, the Friends of the City of Raleigh Museum will be hosting a special Drag Story Hour that is geared towards adults!

World Refugee Day

Saturday, June 8
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Moore Square

Celebrate World Refugee Day at our family-friendly event highlighting and celebrating the resilience of our immigrant and refugee neighbors. Enjoy vendors, performances, and field games for all ages. Join us in raising awareness and connecting with our diverse community.

Pride Ride – LGBTQ+ History Trolley Tour

Sunday, June 9
1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m.
Historic Raleigh Trolley

Join us for the Historic Raleigh Trolley's Pride Ride, celebrating Raleigh's LGBTQ+ history! This tour will highlight historic locations, neighborhoods, businesses, churches, and other points of interest throughout the city as they pertain to the city's LGBTQ+ community.

Juneteenth at Mordecai

Saturday, June 15
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Mordecai Historic Park

Celebrate Juneteenth at Mordecai Historic Park with hands-on activities and more and learn about the history of this important day.

Juneteenth Third Ward Walking Tour

June 15 and 16
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Dr. M.T. Pope House Museum

Explore one of Raleigh's oldest and most influential Black neighborhoods! Located by Shaw University, the Third Ward was a thriving community of culture, enterprise, and education. This tour is free, but registration is required.

Raleigh Retro Game Expo

Saturday, June 15
12 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Moore Square

We have an incredible lineup of gaming and geek vendors, LIVE music, and food trucks. We'll also have retro and modern free play gaming stations set up to play. All ages welcome and it's FREE!

Historic Resources and Museum Program

In July 2012, Raleigh City Council created the Historic Resources and Museum Program, hereinafter the HRM Program, with the express purpose of protecting and programming identified cultural, museum, and historic resources within the City of Raleigh.

The HRM Program manages operations and programs at:

- Borden Building and Stone Circle at Fletcher Park
- City of Raleigh Museum
- Fred Fletcher Amphitheater at Fletcher Park
- John Chavis Memorial Park Carousel – Conservation
- John P. "Top" Greene Community Center
- Latta University Historic Park
- Moore Square
- Mordecai Historic Park
- Pope House Museum
- Pullen Park Historic Attractions
- Raleigh Trolleys
- Tucker House

Additionally, The HRM Program manages an artifact collection consisting of more than 27,000 fine and decorative material culture objects.

Tucker House
418 N Person Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

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Raleigh Register

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