

## Historic 1719 William Trent House and Garden

15 Market St, Trenton, NJ 08611 ♦ https://www.williamtrenthouse.org/

A green oasis in the midst of a busy city surrounds the house of Trenton's founder, William Trent, which is also the oldest structure in the City of Trenton. It includes an English colonial

kitchen garden, food plants of the Lenape people, an African diaspora garden, a replica bee house, heirloom apple trees, and large shade trees. All illustrate 1720s land management in miniature.

RMGs of Mercer County have cultivated the gardens since 2012 in partnership with the City of Trenton and the Trent House Association. An enthusiastic team of MGs maintains and develops the gardens at Trent House weekly during the growing season. Organic produce not used in programs is donated to Food Pantries.







From 2013 to 2019 Master Gardeners invited area day camps for children's summer programs. These programs presented topics in historic agriculture, pollination, food preservation and more, in multisensory and experiential activities, and the 'camp' program won the International 'Search for Excellence' Award in 2019. Our MG programs were interrupted in 2020 by pandemic restrictions, but resumed in 2021 in partnership with 4H and SNAP-Ed, as the new Lenape and African plantings were developed.

The Gardens are in four quadrants, and contain these varieties of plants, plus more:

**NW** 'Lenape Crops'

**NE**'African
Market
Garden'

**SW** 'Traditional English' **SE** 'Traditional English' **Lenape:** Puhwem corn and Flint corn. Also, Hopi Dye and Mammoth Grey Stripe sunflowers. Connecticut Field pumpkins, beans and squash. There are blueberries and elderberries as well.

**African Market Garden:** Cayenne peppers, Okra, Rose Finn Apple Fingerling potatoes, cheese pumpkins, garlic, beans, purple top white globe turnips.

Traditional English Kitchen Garden: Upland Cress, Red Orach, Good King Henry, London Long cucumbers, Tall Telephone peas (visually similar to 1700s varieties), Broad Windsor fava beans, Jersey Wakefield cabbage Radishes for pods, cardoon, and various herbs (chamomile, thyme, pot marjoram, mint, pot marigold, lavender, orpine, celandine, yarrow, catnip, catmint, wormwood, lemon balm, fennel, chives), gooseberry and red current bushes, elecampane.